

Oregon Department of **ENERGY**

Energy Facility Siting Council Meeting

The Sage Center
101 Olson Road
Boardman

March 19-20, 2026



Thursday Opening Items:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Announcements

Announcements

- Reminder to Council and anyone addressing the Council:
 - State your full name clearly at the start of your comment or question
 - Do not use the speakerphone feature, as it will create feedback
- You may sign up for email notices by clicking the link on the agenda or the Council webpage
- You can access the online mapping tool and any documents by visiting our website



Announcements Continued

- Please silence your cell phones
- Please use the “Raise Your Hand” feature in Webex to speak during the public comment period, or press *3 to raise your hand if you are participating by telephone.
- Energy Facility Council meetings shall be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner where everyone is allowed to state their positions at the appropriate times consistent with Council rules and procedures. Willful accusatory, offensive, insulting, threatening, insolent, or slanderous comments which disrupt the Council meeting are not acceptable. Pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule 345-011-0080, any person who engages in unacceptable conduct which disrupts the meeting may be expelled.

Agenda Item A

Public Hearing

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 – Public Hearing

Chase McVeigh-Walker, Senior Siting Analyst

March 19, 2026

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

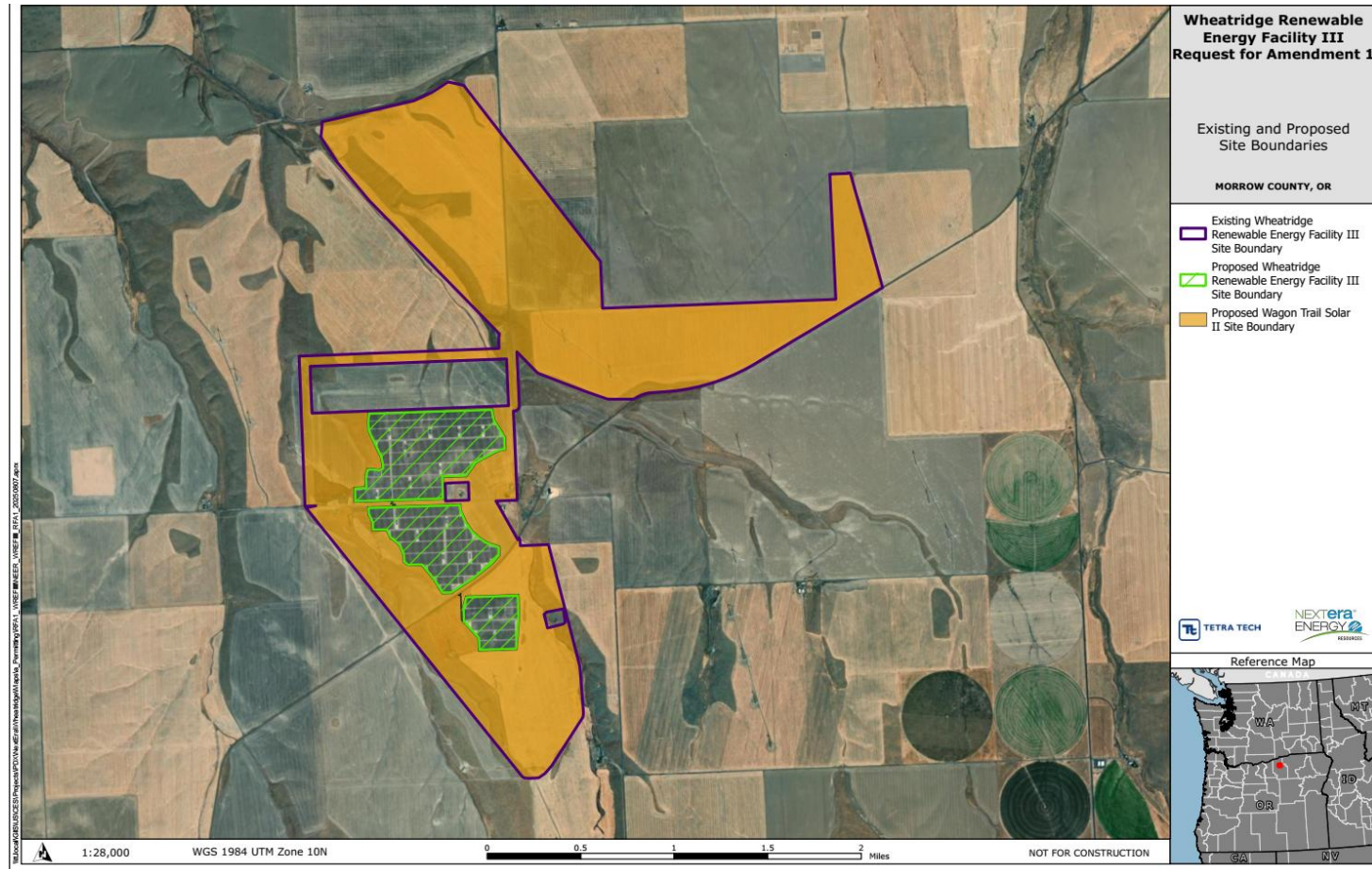
Public Hearing Overview

- Overview of Proposed Amendment & Proposed Order – Chase McVeigh-Walker, Senior Siting Analyst
- Hearing Overview – Todd Cornett, Presiding Officer
- Public Hearing & Oral Testimony – Todd Cornett, Presiding Officer
 - Certificate Holder
 - Public
 - Council

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

Existing Facility Overview

- **Certificate Holder**: Wheatridge Solar Energy Center, LLC, a project-specific LLC wholly owned by NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (parent company)
- **Operational Facility**: 50-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic power generation facility, with related or supporting facilities,
- **Location/Site Boundary**: Morrow County, within a 2,294 acre site boundary; approx. 5 miles NE of Lexington and 7 miles NW of Heppner.

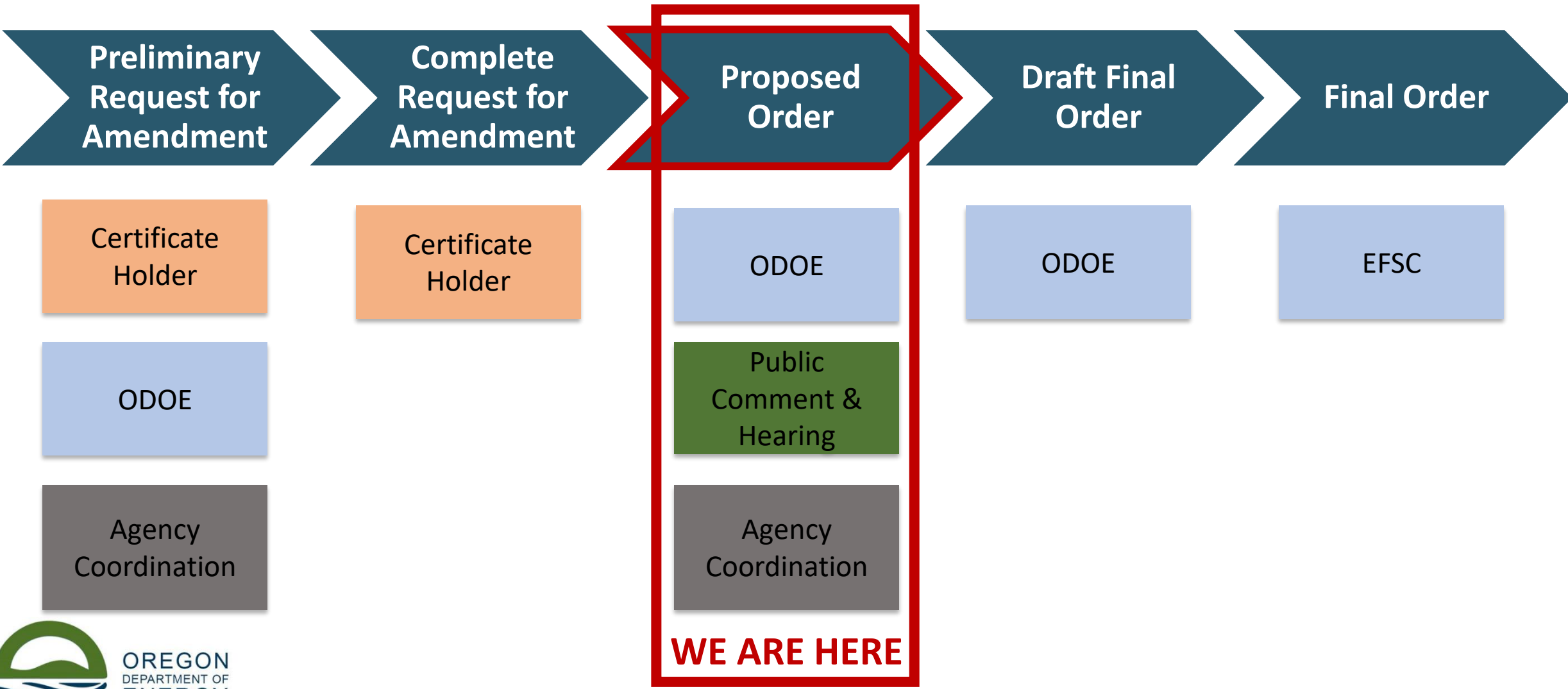


Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

Proposed Amendment Overview

1. Split the operational facility and remaining approved unbuilt portions of the facility into two separate site certificates; each with its own site boundary and certificate holder.
 - Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Site Certificate: 50 MW solar facility located on 359 acres.
 - Wagon Trail Solar II Site Certificate: remaining, approved unbuilt 100 MWs of solar photovoltaic power generation components located on 1,935 acres.
2. Extend the construction completion deadline for Wagon Trail Solar II by three years from November 22, 2025 to November 22, 2028.
3. Amend site certificate conditions to be consistent with the site certificate split.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Amendment Process



WE ARE HERE



Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

Proposed Order (Select Issues)

Proposed Order recommends Council find that the changes proposed in RFA1 would not result in new or different impacts not previously evaluated by Council for the following Council standards:

- **Structural Standard**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.C., pg. 26-29)
- **Land Use**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.E., pg. 38-43)
- **Protected Areas**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.F., pg. 43-47)
- **Threatened and Endangered Species**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.I., pg. 62-64)
- **Scenic Resources**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.J., pg. 64-66)
- **Historic, Cultural and Archaeological Resources**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.K., pg. 67-69)
- **Recreation**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.L., pg. 69-71)
- **Waste Minimization**
OAR 345-022-0020 - (Section III.O., pg. 98-100)
- **Siting Standards for Transmission Lines**
- (Section III.P., pg. 100-101)
- **Water Rights OAR 690 Divisions 310 and 380**
- (Section IV.C.2., pg. 114-115)

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

GENERAL STANDARD OF REVIEW: OAR 345-022-0000 (Section III.A., pg. 18-21)

- Recommended Amended General Standard Condition 2 (GEN-GS-02) would reflect the extension of the construction completion deadline for Wagon Trail Solar II Facility from November 22, 2025 to November 22, 2028.
- Recommended Amended General Standard Condition 1 (GEN-GS-01) would remove ambiguity in construction commencement for the Wagon Trail Solar II, which was satisfied for the approved facility in 2021.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

Proposed Order (Select Issues)

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERTISE: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.B., pg. 21-26)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - Proposed new certificate holder is Wagon Trail Energy Center, LLC, a project specific LLC wholly owned by NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (parent company or NEER).
 - Wagon Trail Energy Center, LLC relies upon the organizational expertise and experience of NEER to meet the standard.
 - NEER affirms new Certificate holder will have access to sufficient resources and expertise to construct, own, operate, and maintain the Facility.
 - NEER's Oregon subsidiaries (certificate holders) have received two recorded citations within the last three years.
- Recommended Amended Organizational Expertise Condition 6 (GEN-OE-02) would require incidents and potential site certificate violations to be reported with an evaluation of the root cause of the issue and any corrective actions, and authorize Council to adjust the facility decommissioning estimate contingency, depending on the severity of the issue and adequacy of the corrective action, in the event it is no longer adequate for site restoration.



Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

SOIL PROTECTION: OAR 345-022-0022 (Section III.D., pg. 29-37)

- Recommended Amended Soil Protection Condition 1 (CON-SP-01) would authorize the Department to require changes to the Erosion Sediment Control Plan (ESCP), not limited to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality or certificate holder/their contractor, if determined needed to protect soils during construction.

These changes are reflected in recommended Soil Protection Condition 8 (PRE-SP-04) and 9 (GEN-SP-01).

- Recommended Amended Soil Protection Condition 3 (PRE-SP-01) to remove an erroneous reference to DEQ approval of a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC).

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

RETIREMENT AND FINANCIAL ASSURANCE: OAR 345-022-0050 (Section III.G., pg. 47-53)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - Decommissioning cost estimate for the Wagon Trail Solar II Facility of \$9,474,000, in fourth quarter 2025 dollars, is satisfactory to restore the site to a useful, non-hazardous condition.
 - New certificate holder demonstrates a likely ability to obtain a bond or letter of credit based on financial assurance letter from Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America and its affiliates (Travelers) stating it would be favorable to providing the bond with an estimated value of approximately \$10,000,000.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT: OAR 345-022-0060 (Section III.H., pg. 54-62)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - Permanent habitat impacts within the WTSII site boundary include 1.3, <0.1, and 54 acres of Category 2, 3 and 4.
 - A draft Habitat Mitigation Plan (HMP) presents a mitigation obligation of 56 acres based on a 2:1 acreage ratio for Category 2 impacts; and, 1:1 acreage ratio for Category 3 and 4 impacts.
 - Certificate holder indicates they have an executed conservation easement covering the habitat mitigation area.
 - The Department recommends Council find that the draft HMP satisfies the requirements of the standard.
- Recommended Deletion of Fish and Wildlife Condition 4 (PRE-FW-02) which required short- and long-term monitoring for raptor nests and Washington Ground Squirrels, which are not necessary to minimize potential impacts associated with construction and operation of the WTSII facility.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

PUBLIC SERVICES: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.M., pg. 71-85)

- Recommended Amended Public Services Condition 24 (GEN-PS-04) and 25 (OPR-PS-05) would require identification of water quantity and source and demonstration of legal ability to obtain quantity from the source during both construction and operation.
- Recommended Deletion of Public Services Condition 5 (GEN-PS-01) and Public Services Condition 9 (PRE-SP-04) based on inapplicability.
- Recommended Deletion of Public Services Condition that contained duplicate requirements now covered by the Wildfire Mitigation Plans (deleted condition include Public Services Condition 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21).

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND RISK MITIGATION: OAR 345-022-0115 (Section III.N., pg. 85-98)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - The site has high wildfire risk during summer and fire seasons; and moderate wildfire risk in winter/wetter months.
 - Wildlife-urban interface includes the adjacent Naval Weapons System Training Facility.
 - There are four residences and agricultural structures located within or near the southern portion of the WTSII facility site boundary.
- Recommended New Conditions for the Wildfire Prevention and Risk Mitigation Standard which would require the finalization and implementation of a Construction and Operational Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP).

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

NOISE CONTROL REGULATION: OAR 340-035-0035 (Section IV.A., pg. 101-111)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - There are no noise sensitive receptors (NSRs) located near WTSII Facility site boundary.
 - The potential for NSRs to be impacted by construction-related noise is extremely limited.
- Recommended Deletion of Noise Control Condition 1 (CON-NC-01) based on inapplicability.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Proposed Order (Select Issues)

REMOVAL FILL LAW: OAR 141-085-0500 – 0785 (Section IV.B., pg. 112-113)

- Recommended new findings of fact:
 - The WTSII site boundary was previously evaluated and determined not to contain wetlands or waters of the state.
 - The Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) previous concurrence letter and field survey results have expired.
 - It is not likely that wetlands or WOS will be present today within the WTSII facility.
- Recommended New Removal Fill Condition 1 (PRE-RF-01) to address any potential changes in hydrology or designation at the WTSII facility, by requiring preconstruction desktop analysis to determine if or where any newly identified wetlands or waters of the state are located, and a delineation to determine if there would be any impacts.

Agenda Item A

Public Hearing

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 – Public Hearing

**Presiding Officer – Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting /
Council Secretary**

March 19, 2026

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Public Hearing

- The Public Notice on the Proposed Order initiated the public comment period on RFA1 and established hearing.
- Oral comments may be submitted during the hearing
- Written comments may be submitted until **5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on April 3, 2026.**

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1

Public Hearing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A person who contends Council should reject a request to amend a site certificate or that Council in its final order should reject or revise certain aspects of a Department proposed order for a site certificate amendment must:
 - Comment in person or in writing prior to the close of the public comment period;
 - Raise their issues with sufficient specificity to afford the Council, the Department, and the certificate holder an adequate opportunity to respond to the issue(s).
- To raise an issue with sufficient specificity, a person must, in their comment,
 - Identify the recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law or conditions of approval identified in the proposed order to which they object,
 - Specify the Council standard or other applicable state and local requirements on which their objection is based, and
 - Present facts or statements supporting that objection; and
- If a comment is not made with sufficient specificity, the Council will not make any changes in its final order based on that comment.

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Public Hearing

Comment Review Process

- All timely comments submitted during the public comment period will be subject to the following process:
 - The certificate holder must provide a written response to written and verbal comments on the request for amendment or the proposed order;
 - The Department can choose, but is not required to respond to written or verbal comments on the request for amendment or the proposed order;
 - Reviewing agencies and members of the public may submit written replies to the responses to their own respective comments
 - The certificate holder and Department may submit a sur-reply to the replies
- Participants to the public comment process may request more time to submit their response, reply, and sur-reply to the Council or Council Chair, who shall grant the extension on a showing of good cause.



Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Public Hearing

WRITTEN COMMENTS

- Written comments may be submitted until the close of the Public Comment Period on **April 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time**. Written comments may be submitted:
- Via online siting comment portal:
<https://odoe.powerappsportals.us/en-US/SitingPublicComment/>
- Via email: chase.mcveigh-walker@energy.oregon.gov
- Hand delivery or mail to: Oregon Department of Energy; 550 Capitol St. NE; Salem, OR, 97301



Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III Request for Amendment 1 Public Hearing

ORDER OF ORAL COMMENTS

1. Certificate Holder (testimony or additions to record)
2. Members of the Public (will be called on in the following order):
 - Oral in-person testimony
 - Oral testimony via WebEx
 - Oral testimony via phone

There is a seven-minute limit on oral comments. Council or Presiding Officer may ask clarifying questions.

3. Members of Council
4. Certificate Holder (response to comments)

How to Raise Your Hand in Webex:

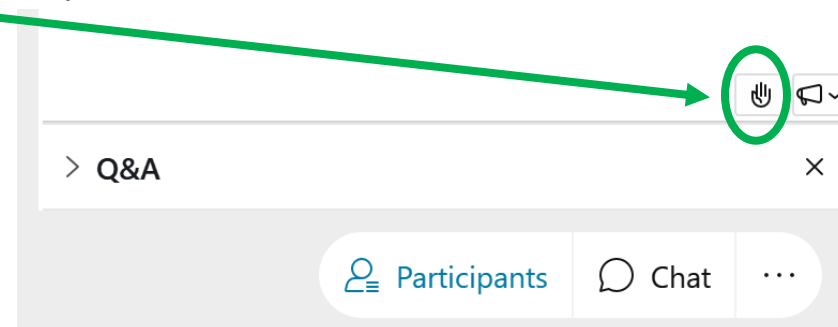
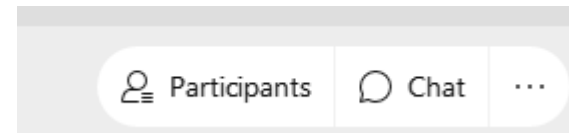
Webinar Participants

The bottom right of the main window is a set of icons:

Click on “Participants”

The bottom right of the participant window is a hand icon, click on the hand:

Clicking on it again will lower your hand.



Phone Participants

Press *3 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand.

Press *3 again on your telephone keypad to lower your hand.

Agenda Item B

Informational Meeting

Well Springs Solar Facility Notice of Intent Public Informational Meeting

Chris Clark, Senior Siting Analyst

March 19, 2026

Agenda

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
6:15 pm	Proposed Facility Information	Well Springs Solar LLC (applicant)/MN8 Energy Development Company LLC (parent company)
6:15 pm	Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Program	Christopher M. Clark, Senior Siting Analyst
6:30 pm	Q&A, and Comments	All

Place holder for applicant slides

Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Program

Who We Are

Oversees review, decision-making, and compliance for most large-scale energy-generating facilities and infrastructure in Oregon.

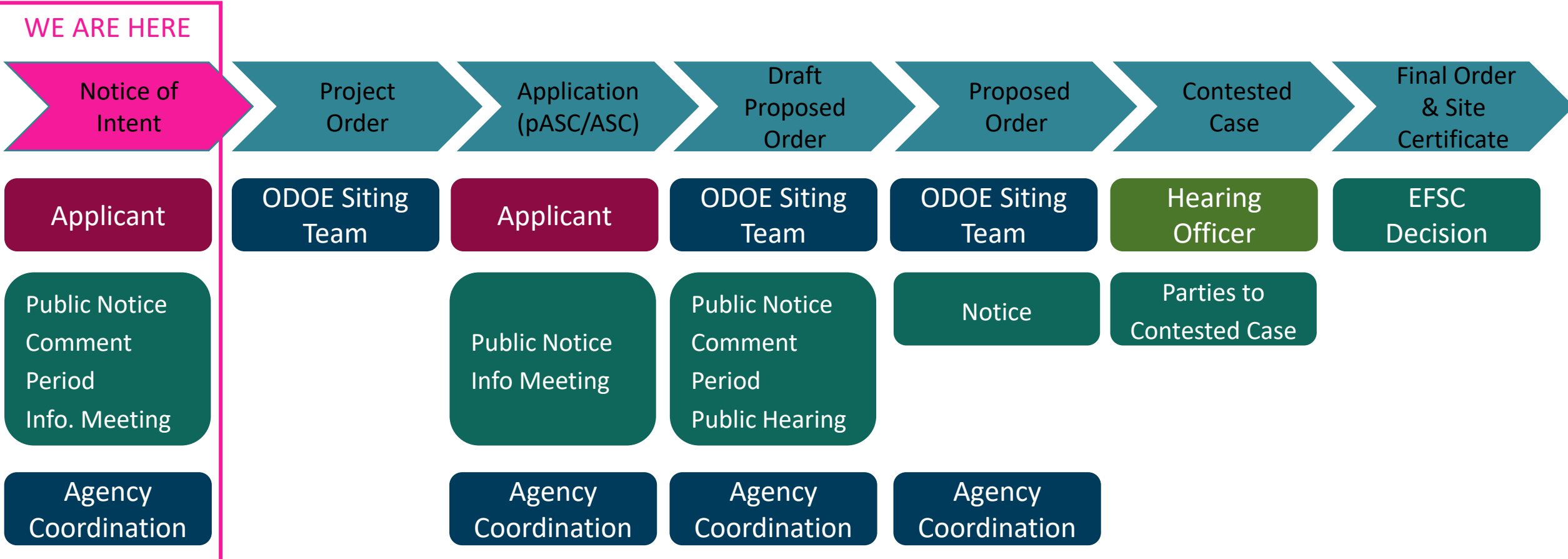
- Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) is the decision-making authority.
- Oregon Department of Energy's (ODOE) Siting Division serves as staff to EFSC.

What We Do

Consolidated process between state agencies and local government:

- Eliminates duplication, consolidates timelines, decisions, and judicial review
- Reviews proposal for compliance with applicable standards, laws, and rules.
- Provides opportunities for public participation and comment.
- Coordinates review and solicits input from reviewing agencies, local governments, and tribal governments.

Application Process for Site Certificate



Energy Facility Siting Standards

- General Standard of Review
 - Organizational Expertise
 - Structural Standard
 - Soil Protection
 - Land Use
 - Protected Areas
 - Retirement and Financial Assurance
 - Fish and Wildlife Habitat
 - Threatened and Endangered Species
 - Scenic Resources
 - Historic, Cultural and Archaeological
- Resources
 - Recreation
 - Public Services
 - Waste Minimization
 - Wildfire Prevention and Risk Mitigation
 - Noise
 - Wetlands/WOS
 - Siting Standards for Transmission Lines
 - Need Standard

Commenting on a Notice of Intent

When: February 4 to March 26, 2026, at 5 p.m. Pacific Time (deadline)

What: Provide detailed/specific comments related to the proposed facility and risks or impacts to resources protected by an EFSC standard.

Why: Issues and impacts identified in comments provide information for consideration in establishing studies and applicable requirements, and can result in inclusion of important information, evaluation and mitigation in a preliminary Application for Site Certificate/Application for Site Certificate

How: See next slide

How to Submit Comments

Comments can be submitted in writing:

- At this meeting
- Via mail to ODOE's Salem office
- Via email to Siting Analyst at: christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov
- Through our comment portal available at:
<https://odoe.powerappsportals.us/en-US/SitingPublicComment/>

Additional details on how to comment can be found in the Public Notice and on the facility webpage:

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WSS.aspx>

What happens to your comments?

- Provided to applicant for review/consideration
- Evaluated by the ODOE; discussed with reviewing agencies, tribal governments and special advisory group (local government), as applicable, to establish requirements
- If comments identify issues or resources within EFSC jurisdiction, provide sufficient detail, and are not already existing requirements, the Project Order may require an evaluation or study related to the comment.

Helpful Resource Links

Energy Facility Siting Website: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/default.aspx>

EFSC Public Guide: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Documents/Fact-Sheets/EFSC-Public-Guide.pdf>

EFSC Siting Standards: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/Siting-Standards.aspx>

ORESA Mapping Tool: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/ORESA.aspx>

Facilities Under EFSC: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/Facilities-Under-EFSC.aspx>

EFSC Comment Portal: <https://odoe.powerappsportals.us/en-US/SitingPublicComment/>

ODOE Project Webpage

<https://www.Oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Page-WSS.aspx>

Oregon Department of Energy / Energy Facilities & Safety / Facilities / Well Springs Solar Project

Well Springs Solar Project

- ENERGY FACILITY SITING COUNCIL
- ENERGY FACILITIES
- FACILITIES UNDER REVIEW
 - SIGLOW CANYON WIND FARM
 - SOAPMAN COAL PLANT
 - SUCKLEY SOLAR FACILITY
 - CARTY GENERATING STATION
 - CASCADE RENEWABLE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
 - DESCHUTES SOLAR AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM FACILITY
 - HEFFNER WIND PROJECT
 - KLAMATH FALLS ENERGY CENTER
 - LEANING JUNIPER IS WIND POWER FACILITY
 - MUDDY CREEK ENERGY PARK
 - SAGOLE BUTTE ENERGY FACILITY
 - SPEEDWAY ENERGY FACILITY
 - SUMMIT RIDGE RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY
 - SUNRISE SOLAR AND STORAGE PROJECTS
 - UMATILLA-MORROW COUNTY CONNECT PROJECT
 - WHEAT RIDGE RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY II
 - YELLOW ROSEBUSH ENERGY CENTER
 - Well Springs Solar Project**
- FACILITY SITING IN OREGON

Site Description: Well Springs Solar Project is a proposed 750-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic power generation facility, with related or supporting facilities including a 500 MW battery energy storage system. The proposed site includes approximately 7,365 acres (11.5 sq. mi.) of privately owned land zoned Exclusive Farm Use in Morrow County.

Status:
Under Review/Proposed. On December 22, 2025, the Oregon Department of Energy (Department) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) to file an Application for a Site Certificate (ASC) for Well Springs Solar Project (proposed facility).

The public comment period on the NOI is from February 4 to March 26, 2026. Comments are encouraged to help the Department and the applicant identify issues and concerns early in the process. **Comments must be received by 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time (PT) on March 26, 2026**, to be considered in the development of the Project Order. More information about how to submit comments is provided in the Public Notice posted below.

The Department will host a public informational meeting on the NOI to provide additional opportunities for the public to learn about the proposed facility and the state siting review process, provide written or oral comments, and ask questions.

Public Information Meeting:
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026
Start Time: 6:15 p.m. Pacific Time (PT)
In Person: SAGE Event Center
101 Olson Road
Boardman, OR 97818

You may also participate in the public meeting online or by phone:
Join online:
<https://tinyurl.com/2k9sp6ds>
Webinar Number: 2660 692 4545
Webinar Password: EFSC (3372 from phones and video systems)

Please use your full name to sign in to help staff manage public comments.

Join by phone:
Phone Number: +1-650-479-3208
Access code: 2660 692 4545

The public information meeting is not a public hearing and will not include public testimony or on the record public comments. Opportunity for written or oral testimony will be provided at a later date – during the draft proposed order (DPO) public comment period and public hearing – following issuance of the DPO as described below. This informational meeting will be recorded and posted on the Department's project webpage after the meeting.

Location:
Morrow County, approximately 5 miles northwest of the town of Ione. [PDF Map](#) | [Online Map](#)

Applicant/Certificate holder:
Well Springs Solar LLC a subsidiary of MNS Energy Development Company LLC
ODOE contact: [Chris Clark](#)
Applicant/Certificate holder contact: [Sarah Polachek](#)

Project Timeline

Notice of Intent	01/02/2026
Public Notice of Notice of Intent	02/04/2026

Contact the Facility Siting Team:

503-378-4040
800-221-8035
energy.siting@oregon.gov

Sign Up For Email Updates

- Siting Standards
- Siting Process
- Siting Rules & Statutes
- Siting Docket - Online Comments Made to Date

About the Site Certificate Process

- Site Certificate Process Flowchart
- Expedited Review Process Flowchart

EXHIBIT FILES REFERENCE

- Exhibit A: Applicant Information
- Exhibit B: Project Description
- Exhibit C: Property Location and Maps
- Exhibit D: Organizational Information
- Exhibit E: Permits Required
- Exhibit F: Property Ownership
- Exhibit G: Materials Analysis
- Exhibit H: Geology and Soil Stability
- Exhibit I: Soils
- Exhibit J: Wetlands
- Exhibit K: Land Use
- Exhibit L: Protected Areas
- Exhibit M: Financial Analysis
- Exhibit N: Non-generating Facility Information
- Exhibit O: Water Requirements
- Exhibit P: Fish Wildlife Habitat
- Exhibit Q: Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals
- Exhibit R: Scenic/Aesthetic Values
- Exhibit S: Cultural Resources
- Exhibit T: Recreational Facilities
- Exhibit U: Public Services
- Exhibit V: Waste Minimization
- Exhibit W: Site Restoration
- Exhibit X: Noise
- Exhibit Y: Carbon Dioxide Emissions
- Exhibit Z: Cooling Towers
- Exhibit AA: EMFs – Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Exhibit BB: Other Information
- Exhibit CC: Additional Statutes Rules Ordinances
- Exhibit DD: Other Specific Standards



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

ORESA Mapping Tool Landing Page

Explore Data: View EFSC facilities layers, browse, download, and interact with map layers

Get a Report: Create a map layer to evaluate potential project locations, view contact information for relevant regulatory bodies

Learn: Learn more about the ORESA tool, how to was created, the data that drives the different layers and find more Oregon Explorer resources through the Oregon Explorer Natural Resources Digital Library: [Tools](#) | [Oregon Explorer](#)




Welcome ×

Welcome to the Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment Tool


The ORESA tool is an interactive application that allows users to review data and input potential project characteristics in order to get a coarse level perspective of potential land use, military, natural resources and other considerations.

Explore Data




Browse, download, and interact with map layers

Get a Report




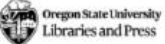



Land use considerations and contact information for your area of interest

Learn



Learn about siting procedures, incentives, and processes for military coordination

US DOD-OLDCC Grant Disclaimer: This deliverable was prepared under contract with the Oregon Department of Energy, with financial support from the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, Department of Defense. The content reflects the grant objectives and efforts of Oregon Department of Energy and its project partners, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.



Close

We will call on you

In Person: Please complete a comment card with your name and contact information and hand it in to ODOE staff

Q&A Session & Comments

Webinar Participants: At the bottom right of the main window is a set of icons.

Click on “Participants”



Click on the hand icon in bottom right or the participant window

Clicking on it again will lower your hand



Phone Participants: We will call on you

Press *3 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand

Press *3 again on your telephone keypad to lower your hand



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ENERGY



Thank you

Email questions to: christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov

RECESS UNTIL
TOMORROW
AT 9:00



Oregon Department of **ENERGY**

Energy Facility Siting Council Meeting

The Sage Center
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March 19-20, 2026



Friday Opening Items:

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- Announcements

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Agenda Item C

Action Item & Information Item

Consent Calendar

- January and February 2026 Council Meeting Minutes
- Council Secretary Report - Todd Cornett, Council Secretary

March 20, 2026

Compliance Incident Updates

Facility	Issue	Status
Trojan Nuclear Plant	Security	Closed
Stateline Wind Project	Fallen Blade Bolt	Closed

Agenda Item D

Public Hearing

Tribal Communication Rulemaking Public Hearing

Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting / Council Secretary

March 20, 2026

Tribal Communication Rulemaking Public Hearing

Agenda Overview

- Review of projected timeline for rulemaking
- Background and overview of proposed rule language
- Opportunity for public to make comments
 - In-person testimony (Please fill out a comment card)
 - Testimony via WebEx
 - Testimony via phone

Note: There will not be any Q&A offered at this hearing, however any questions related to this rulemaking can be directed to Tom Jackman at tom.jackman@energy.oregon.gov.

Tribal Communication Rulemaking Public Hearing

Timeline

Event	Date
Informal rulemaking initiated by Council	Sept 20, 2024
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking filed with Sec of State	February 18, 2026
Public hearing	March 20, 2026
Public comment ends	March 31, 2026
Presentation of proposed rule language to Council for final consideration	TBD (Likely April 2026)

Tribal Communication Rulemaking Public Hearing

Goals

- Purpose of this rulemaking is to encourage early communication between developers and the federally recognized Tribes of Oregon.
- The purpose of this early communication is to better protect Tribal resources, and to streamline the siting process by reducing the need for modifications or mitigation measures that are introduced later in the process, when it is more expensive to do so.
- Most developers already engage in early communication, but this rulemaking formalizes this process

How to Raise Your Hand in Webex

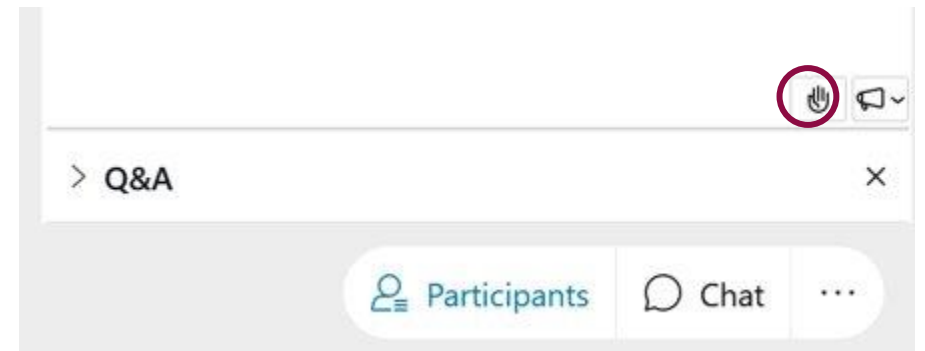
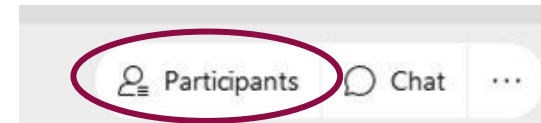
Phone Participants

- Press *3 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand
- Press *3 again on your telephone keypad to lower your hand

Webinar Participants

The bottom right of the main window is a set of icons:

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- Click on the hand
- Click on it again to lower your hand



Agenda Item E

Transfer Hearing and Action Item

Leaning Juniper IIB Wind Power Facility - Public Hearing on Request for Amendment 4 to Transfer Site Certificate; Council Review of Draft Final Order

**Chase McVeigh-Walker, Senior Siting Analyst
Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting / Council Secretary**

March 20, 2026

Facility Overview

Certificate Holder:	Leaning Juniper II, LLC
Parent Company:	Avangrid Power, LLC
Type of Facility:	111 MW wind facility, 74 wind turbines (operational)
Location:	Gilliam County

Request for Transfer of Site Certificate Ownership

Certificate Holder: Leaning Juniper II, LLC

New Certificate Holder: Leaning Juniper 2B, LLC

New Certificate Holder Parent Company: Avangrid Power, LLC

Site Certificate Transfer Process

OAR 345-027-0400

New Owner is lawfully entitled to possession or control of the site

- Avangrid Power, LLC affirmed transfer and assignment of assets to new LLC
- Avangrid Power, LLC's General Counsel confirmed new LLC will abide by terms and conditions of site certificate

Organizational Expertise

- New owner is project specific LLC > relies on parent company

Retirement and Financial Assurance

- Letter provided from Liberty Mutual on behalf of new LLC (\$20m assurance)

Agenda Item I

Public Hearing

Leaning Juniper IIB Wind Power Facility – Public Hearing on Request for Amendment 4 to Transfer Site Certificate

Presiding Officer – Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting / Council Secretary

March 20, 2026

How to Raise Your Hand in Webex

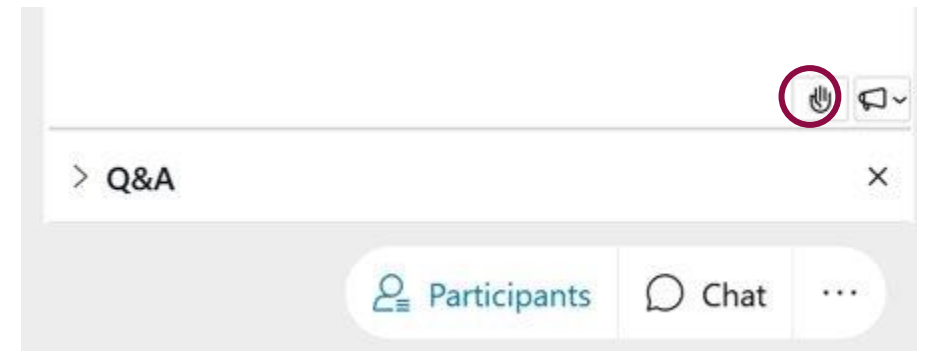
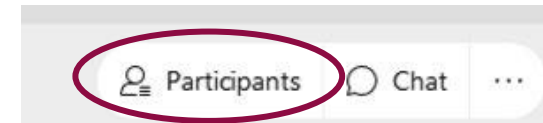
Phone Participants

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Webinar Participants

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Council Options

Option 1 Recommended

Approve the request for transfer, as recommended by staff

Option 2

Approve the request for transfer, with changes

Option 3

Deny the request for transfer, with specific reasons



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Council Deliberation

Agenda Item F

Public Comment

Items Closed for Public Comment

- Biglow Canyon Wind Project Amendment 4

Items Closed for Oral Public Comment

- Tribal Communications Rulemaking
- Leaning Juniper IIB Amendment 4

Time Limit

- 7 Minutes per commentor

How to Raise Your Hand in Webex

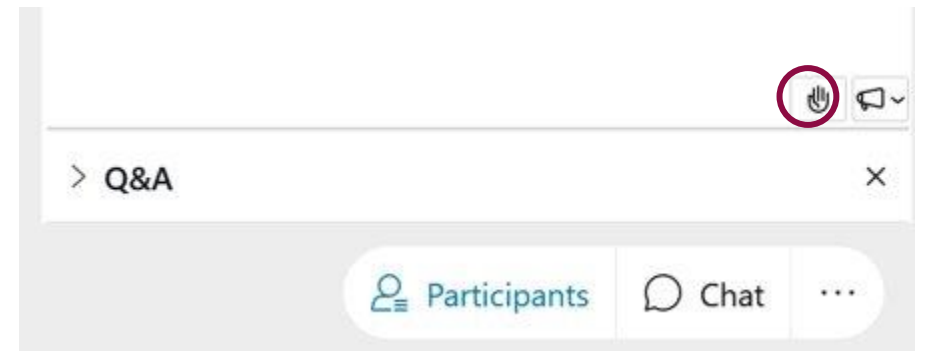
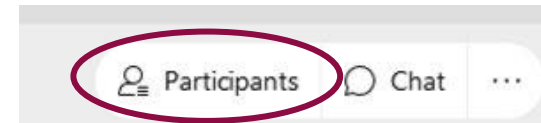
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BREAK

Agenda Item G

Possible Action Item

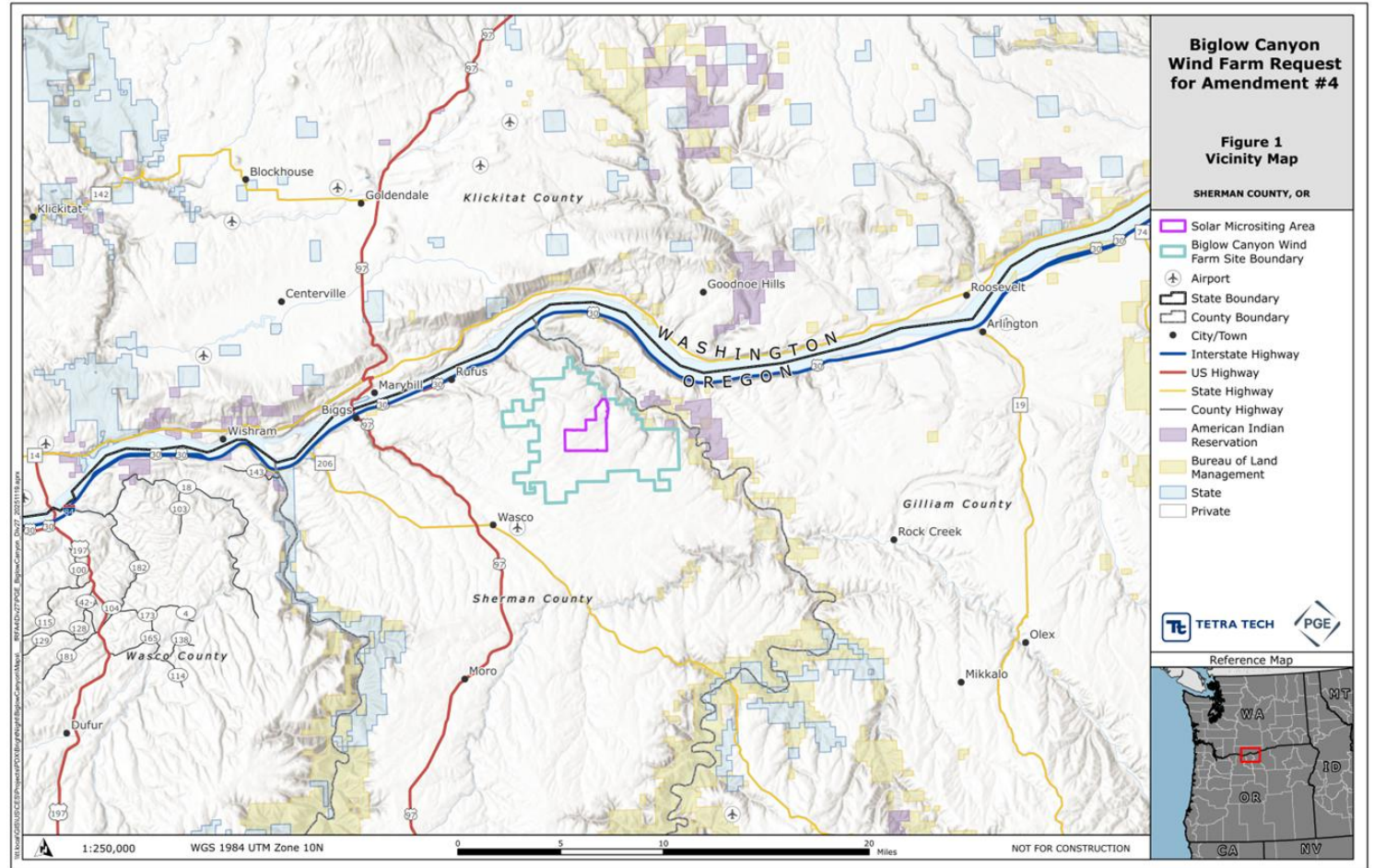
Biglow Canyon Wind Project – Council Review of the Draft Final Order on Amendment 4

Chris Clark, Senior Siting Analyst

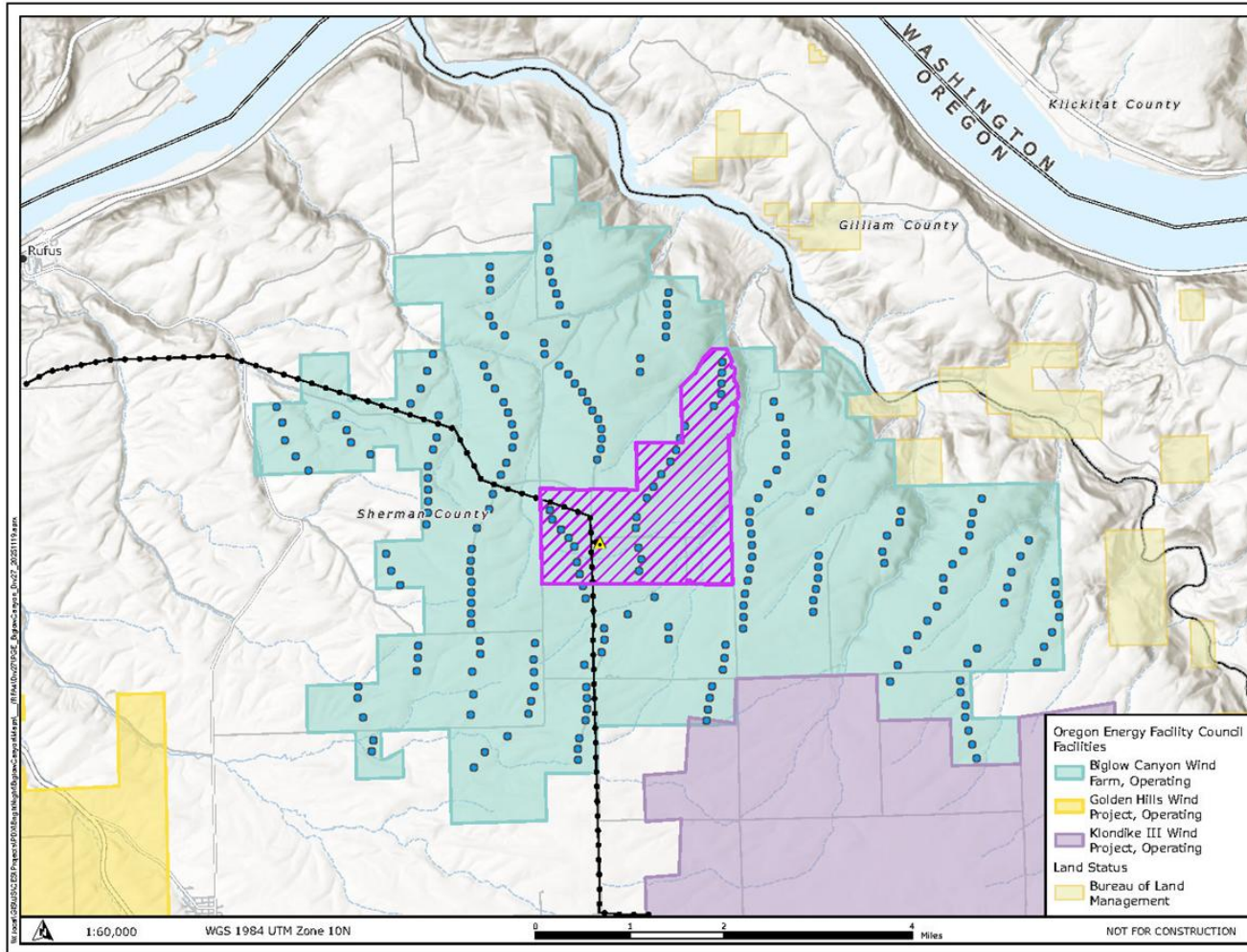
March 20, 2026

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm RFA4 Existing Facility Overview

- **Certificate Holder:** Portland General Electric Company
- **Operational Facility:** 450-MW wind power generation facility, with 217 turbines and related and supporting facilities.
- **Location/Site Boundary:** Sherman County, in 25,000-acre (39 sq. mi.) site boundary approx. 2 miles NE of Wasco.



Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4 Proposed Amendment Overview



Energy Facilities

- 125-MW solar photovoltaic facility occupying up to 1,445 acres (2.25 sq. mi.)
- 500-MWh Battery Energy Storage System

Related or supporting facilities

- 34.5 kV electrical collection system
- Collector substation
- 230-kV transmission line
- Operations and Maintenance Building
- 10.5 miles of access roads
- Perimeter fencing, gates, etc

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4 Amendment Process

Preliminary
Request for
Amendment

Complete
Request for
Amendment

Proposed
Order

Draft Final
Order

Final Order

Certificate
Holder

Certificate
Holder

ODOE

ODOE

EFSC

ODOE

Public
Comment &
Hearing

Agency
Coordination

Agency
Coordination

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Comment Review Process

Date		
January 30, 2026	Deadline for Public Comments on Proposed Order and RFA4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 Written Comments Received <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 Unique Commenters • 10 Oral Comments at Jan 15 Hearing • 71 Issues Identified by Department
February 13, 2026	Deadline for Department and Certificate Holder to respond to Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department provided response identifying issues • Certificate holder responded to individual commenters
February 27, 2026	Deadline for Commenters to reply to Department and Certificate Holder Responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Replies received (3 commenters and certificate holder)
March 6, 2026	Deadline for Certificate Holder and Department to Sur-Reply to Commenter Replies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate holder sur-replied to all commenters

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Draft Final Order recommends that existing conditions of approval, or new or amended “standard” conditions are adequate to ensure the facility, with the proposed changes, continues to comply with the following standards:

- Structural Standard (Section III.C., pg. 46 - 60)
- Protected Areas (Section III.F., pg. 147 - 157)
- Retirement and Financial Assurance (Section III.G., pg. 157 - 168)
- Threatened and Endangered Species (Section III.I., pg. 186 - 189)
- Scenic Resources (Section III.J., pg. 189 - 196)
- Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources (Section III.K., pg. 196 - 203)
- Recreation (Section III.L., pg. 203 - 208)
- Waste Minimization (Section III.O., pg. 235 - 240)
- Siting Standards For Transmission Lines (Section III.P., pg. 240 - 245)
- Noise Control Regulations (Section IV.A., pg. 245 - 254)
- Water Rights (Section IV.C., pg. 257 - 260)
- Removal-Fill (Section IV.B., pg. 254 - 257)

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

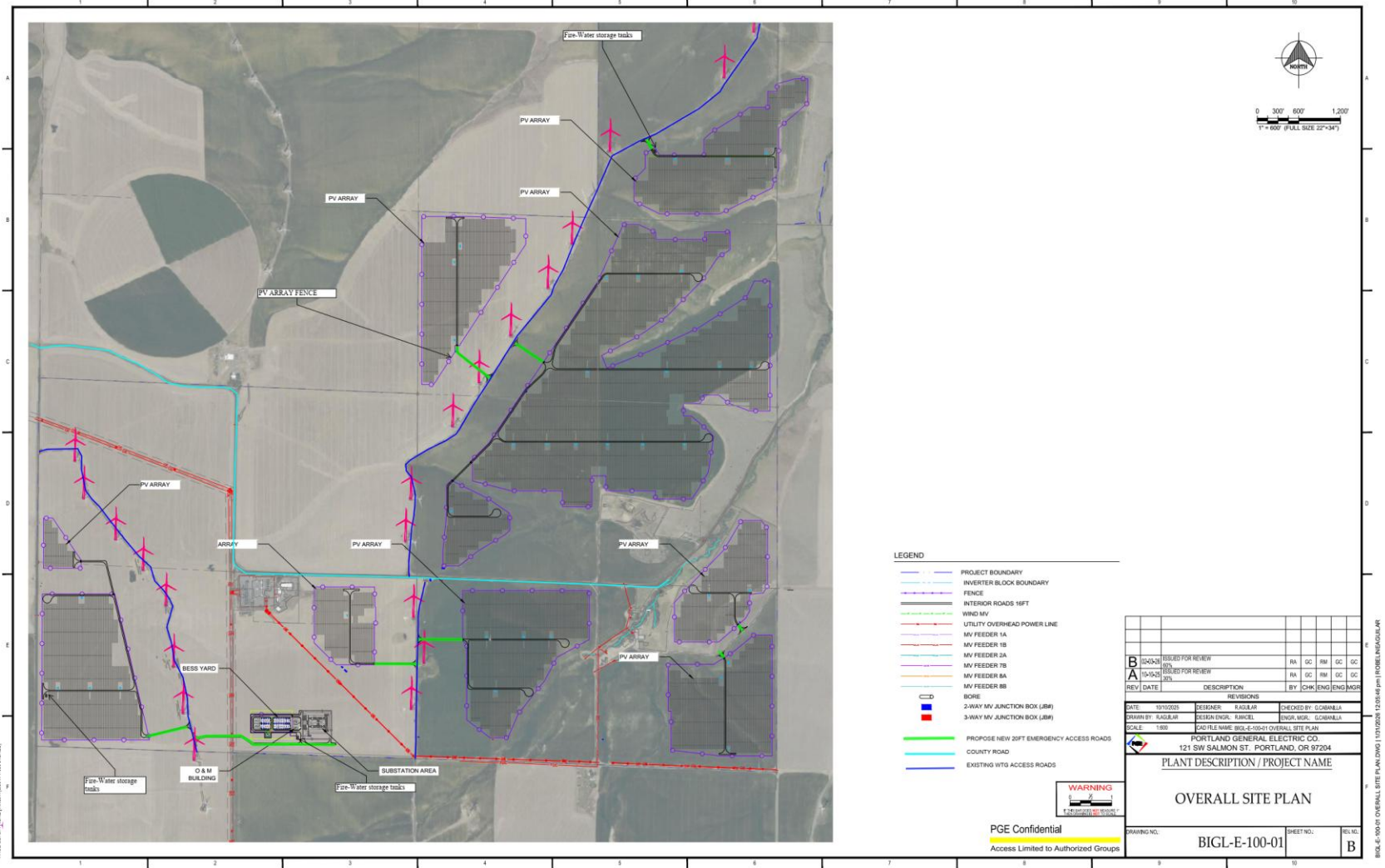
Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue GS-06/WF-04 (Certificate Holder): Request for revision of proposed road dimension width, from 20 to 16 feet

- Certificate holder requested to clarify that certain new facility access roads would be 16 feet rather than 20 feet. The 20-foot standard was based on representations that all newly constructed roads would comply with 2022 Oregon Fire Code Requirements.
- Certificate holder provided additional information that only roads between existing access roads and solar array gates would be used for emergency access (no firefighting expected to occur within array fencelines).
- Based on feedback from North Sherman RFPD Fire Chief, Department recommends Council authorize the change in road dimension.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4 Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue GS-06/WF-04 (Certificate Holder): Request for revision of proposed road dimension width, from 20 to 16 feet



Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue SS-01 (Certificate Holder): Request for flexibility to conduct ground disturbing activities on areas with steep slopes with engineer review

- Certificate holder requested flexibility to conduct ground disturbing activities on areas with steep slopes with engineer review.
- Limitation in Proposed Order based on hazard areas along Biglow Canyon and its tributaries, and in County Natural Hazard Combining Zone.
- Certificate holder provided map showing 20 percent slopes in isolated areas that do not pose risk of erosion if properly graded.
- Recommended Amended Condition 68 revised to grant additional flexibility outside of County Natural Hazard Combining Zone (Issue SS-01).

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue SS-01 (Certificate Holder): Request for flexibility to conduct ground disturbing activities on areas with steep slopes with engineer review

Recommended Amended Condition 68: The certificate holder shall design, engineer and construct the solar facility to avoid dangers to human safety presented by non-seismic hazards. ~~As used in this condition, “non-seismic hazards”, including~~ but not limited to, settlement, landslides, flooding, and erosion, and collapsible soils. Ground disturbing activities are not permitted in areas within Sherman County’s Natural Hazard Combining Zone, nNo ground disturbing activity may occur in areas where slopes exceeding ing 20 percent.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue SP-04/WF-09/WF-10: Vegetation height limits under WMP

- Department evaluated several comments related to the recommendation that vegetation within the solar facility and along the perimeter fencelines be maintained at 1-3” during fire season to mitigate fire risk.
 - Colton McCullough requested that the recommendation be required for life of the facility (Issue WF-09).
 - Sherman County Weed Department (SCWD) requested that standard be increased to 4 to 8” to support erosion control and bunchgrass viability (Issue SP-04).
 - Certificate holder requested that 10-12” height standard be maintained year-round (Issue WF-10).
- Through comment review process, most commenters agreed that it is important to balance fire mitigation with erosion control when determining vegetation standards and that 4” minimum standard is appropriate.
- Department recommends that Sherman County Weed Department recommendation be adopted.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue SP-04/WF-09/WF-10: Vegetation height limits under WMP

Department has added the following language to Appendix F of the draft Comprehensive Revegetation and Soil Management Plan:

Vegetation Height and Clearance

- Vegetation within and adjacent to the Solar Components will be maintained as follows:
 - During the dry season (June to October), vegetation height will be limited to 4 to 8 inches. Vegetation will be mowed to a height of 4 inches prior to June of each year.
 - Outside of the dry season (November to May), vegetation will be maintained at a maximum height of less than 12 inches,
 - ~~with a~~ no minimum vertical clearance of 12 inches from all electrical and mechanical equipment will be maintained at all times.
- Vegetation exceeding ~~this~~ the heights listed above will be mowed or removed ~~prior to local~~ in accordance with any ODF- or County-issued fire restrictions.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue LU-11/LU-13 (Oregon Wheat Growers League): Recommendations on Community Investment Plan

- Oregon Wheat Growers' League (OWGL) made several comments related to the Community Investment Plan provided to support certificate holder's request for a Goal 3 exception.
- In response to comments Department recommends that:
 - OWGL representative be added to the selection committee
 - Agrivoltaics research be removed from "pre-screened" list so that additional coordination with producers may occur. Agrivoltaics projects still eligible for funding through regular selection process.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue FW-03 (Certificate Holder): Flexibility on ground clearing activities in Category 2 Habitat

- Proposed Order requires all initial vegetation clearing in Category 2 Habitat to occur outside of critical period for ground nesting birds (April 15 – September 1).
- Certificate holder requested additional flexibility if clearance surveys are conducted
- Based on consultation with ODFW on efficacy of clearance surveys, Department recommends the restriction in ground disturbing activities be maintained.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue HCA-02 (Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon): Adequacy of archaeological monitoring and protective measures

- Proposed Order recommended tribal monitor be required on site if ground disturbing activities occurred within 20 meters of known NRHP eligible or likely eligible historic, cultural, or archaeological site or object.
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs requested that monitor or qualified archaeologist be required during all ground-disturbing activities based on potential for additional sites or objects at site.
- Department recommends Recommended Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Condition 2 (GEN-HC-03) be revised consistent with CTWS recommendation, but with allowance for monitoring scope and duration to be reduced if determined appropriate by ODOE and CTWS.

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue HCA-02 (Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon):
Adequacy of archaeological monitoring and protective measures

Recommended Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Condition 2 (GEN-HC-03) :

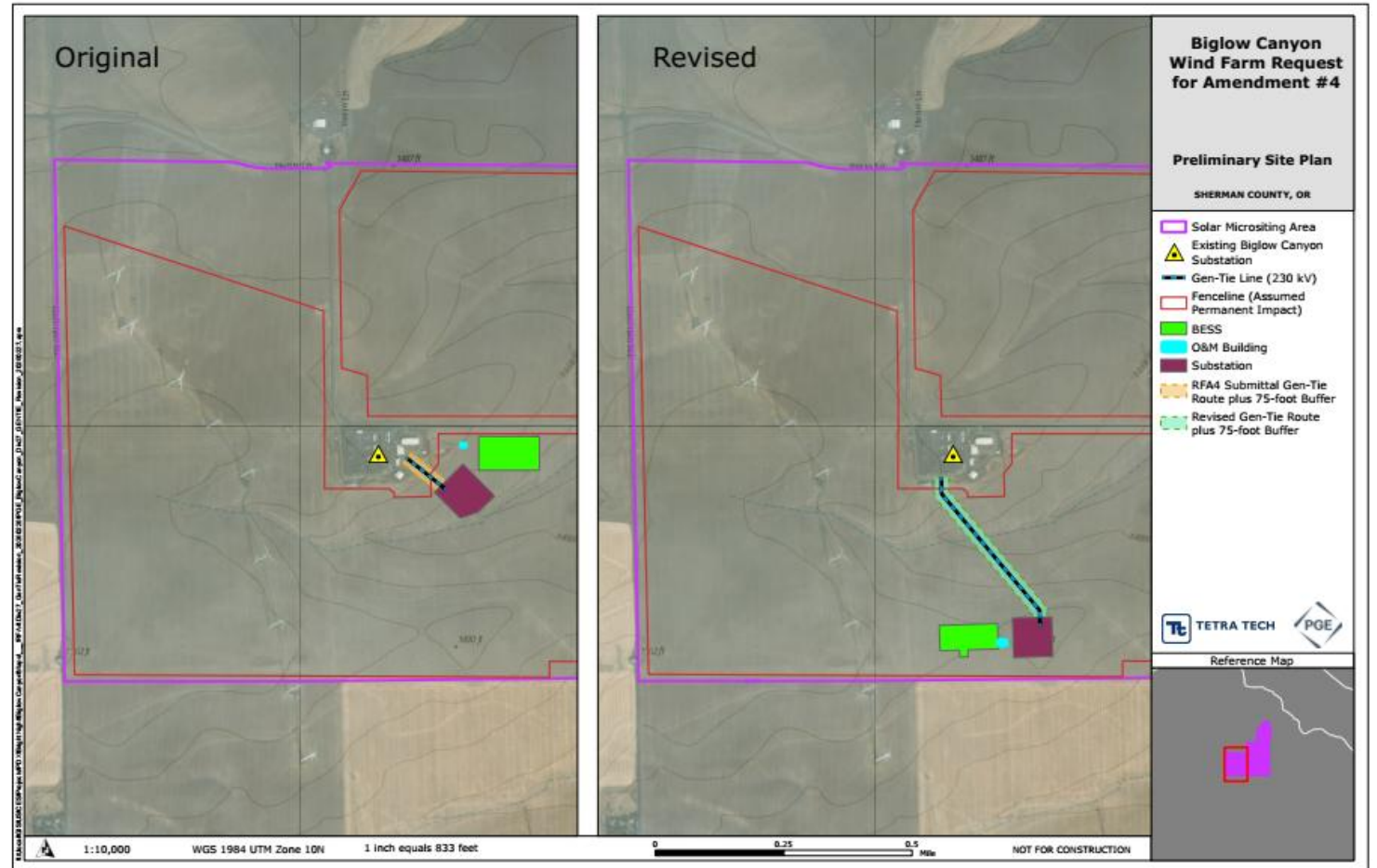
~~Prior to construction activities that occur within the 20-meter avoidance buffer for archaeological sites (35SH00188, BSP 1 S02BSP 1 S10, and BSP 1 S12) and archaeological isolate (BSP 1 I04), the certificate holder must submit to the Department for approval, in consultation with SHPO, a Cultural Resources Monitoring Plan demonstrating that an Oregon Qualified Archaeologist or Tribal Cultural Resource Monitor will be onsite during ground disturbing activities associated with the resources listed in this condition at the site. The plan may include exceptions to monitoring scope and frequency, subject to approval by the Department, in consultation with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The certificate holder shall adhere to the measures approved in the Cultural Resources Monitoring Plan.~~

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue TL-01: Request for additional flexibility in transmission line siting

- Certificate holder requested changes to recommended Amended Condition 119 to provide additional flexibility in transmission line siting.
- Certificate holder explained that a new location for substation and battery energy storage system (BESS) was identified to avoid low elevation areas, better align with existing infrastructure, and improve constructability and operability, and resilience.



Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, RFA4

Draft Final Order Review (Select Issues)

Issue HCA-02 (Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon):
Adequacy of archaeological monitoring and protective measures

- Department recommends the Proposed Order and draft Amended Site Certificate be amended to accommodate a new substation location.
- Site certificate conditions require an updated site plan, acoustic modeling, retirement estimate, and other resource studies to be provided prior to construction.

Council Options

Option 1 Recommended

Approve RFA4
and adopt
draft Final
Order as Final
Order

Option 2

Approve RFA4
and adopt
draft Final
Order, with
changes

Option 3

Deny RFA4 and
issue a Final
Order with
denial
reasoning



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Council Deliberation



**Working
Lunch
Break**

Agenda Item H

Action Item

Klamath Cogeneration Project Request for Amendment 6

Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting / Council Secretary

March 20, 2026

Project Overview

- Operational 535 MW natural-gas fired, combined cycle cogeneration facility.
- Approved in August 1997.
- Located approximately 3 miles SW of the City of Klamath Falls
- Parent company is Avangrid Renewables

Amendment 6 Proposal

~~“KCP HRSG boiler blowdown shall be used as makeup water to the cooling tower. KCP cooling tower blowdown shall be reduced by automating the chemical treatment and blowdown system to allow the cooling tower to operate at the highest practical number of cycles of concentration discharged to the City of Klamath Falls’ Wastewater Treatment Plant as described in the Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit issued by the City of Klamath Falls to Certificate Holder.” (ASC, F-3, V-3)~~

Applicable Rule Language

OAR 345-027-0367

- Public hearing in the vicinity of the amendment location is the default
- Council or Council Chair may waive the in the vicinity hearing if it is determined to be unnecessary:
 - Amendment has a limited scope
 - There is a forecasted lack of interest in the amendment
 - There is a public health and safety risk

Analysis

The Department has determined the in the vicinity public hearing to be unnecessary because:

- Scope of the amendment is limited to a partial to change to a single condition
- Because the facility has been operational for approximately 29 years, there is a forecasted lack of public interested in the amendment

Council Options

Option 1

Waive the in
the vicinity
public hearing

Option 2

Do not waive
the in the
vicinity public
hearing

Agenda Item I

Action Items

Appointment of Hearing Officers for Future Contested Cases Proceedings

- Umatilla Morrow County Connect Project
- Heppner Wind Energy Project
- Klamath Falls Energy Center
- Sunrise Solar and Storage Project
- Buckley Solar Facility
- Cascade Renewable Transmission System
- Deschutes Solar and Battery Energy Storage System Facility

Todd Cornett, Assistant Director for Siting / Council Secretary

March 20, 2026

Oregon Office of Administrative Hearings

- Provides an independent and impartial forum for citizens and businesses to dispute state agency actions.
- 65 professional administrative law judges (ALJ) for approximately 70 state agencies.
- ODOE/EFSC is one of the few agencies not required to utilize OAH.
- Entered into agreement with OAH in 2017 based on their expertise in contested cases and the number of ALJ's who could serve as Hearing Officers for EFSC.

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Joe Allen (UMCC and Buckley Solar ASCs)

- **Education:** B.A. in Business Administration (University of La Verne) and J.D (Trinity Law School)
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge since 2007, presiding over due process hearings for Oregon Department of Education.
- **Professional Involvement:** National Judicial College's Annual Dividing the Waters Program

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Kate Triana (Heppner Wind Energy Project ASC)

- **Education:** B.A. in Psychology (Colorado State University) and J.D (Willamette University)
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge since 2013, presiding contested case proceedings for numerous state agencies.
- **Professional Involvement:** Oregon State Bar

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Bradley Schmidt (Klamath Falls Energy Center ASC)

- **Education:** J.D. from Brigham Young University's J. Reuben Clark Law School.
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge with Oregon's Office of Administrative Hearings since 2018, handling complex contested cases.
- **Expertise:** Specializes in professional licensing, regulatory, and resource management issues requiring advanced administrative law knowledge.

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Samantha Fair (Sunrise Solar and Storage Project ASC)

- **Education:** B.S. in Biology (Reed College) and J.D. (Lewis and Clark's Northwestern School of Law)
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge since 2007, presiding over contested cases for multiple Oregon state agencies.
- **Professional Involvement:** Oregon State Bar

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Jennifer Rackstraw (Cascade Renewable Transmission System)

- **Education:** B.A. in Anthropology (University of Georgia) and J.D. (Lewis & Clark Law School).
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge since 2003, presiding over contested cases for multiple Oregon state agencies.
- **Professional Involvement:** Member of Oregon State Bar's Administrative and Disability Law sections; former Executive Committee member.

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Dove Gutman (Muddy Creek Energy Park)

- **Education:** BA. Marketing (University of Oregon) and J.D. (Willamette University).
- **Experience:** Administrative Law Judge since 2003, presiding over contested cases for multiple Oregon state agencies.
- **Professional Involvement:** Oregon State Bar

Staff Recommended Hearing Officer

ALJ Elibeth Jarry (Deschutes Solar and Battery ASC)

- **Education:** J.D. from Indiana University Maurer School of Law; member of Oregon State Bar.
- **Experience:** ALJ with Oregon's Office of Administrative Hearings since 2009, presiding over diverse contested cases for multiple state agencies.
- **Leadership Roles:** Former Lead Child Support ALJ (2013–2021), interim presiding ALJ, and currently a specially appointed ALJ for Portland Fire & Police Disability and Retirement cases.

Council Options

Option 1 Recommended

Appoint the
seven hearing
officers

Option 2

Appoint some
but not all
seven hearing
officers

Option 3

Do not
appoint any of
the seven
hearing
officers



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Council Deliberation

ADJOURN

