

PUBLIC NOTICE

Golden Hills Wind Project

Request for Comments on the Complete Request for Amendment 5
and Draft Proposed Order,
and Notice on the Draft Proposed Order Public Hearing

Summary

Date Notice Issued: July 13, 2018

Request: Request for Amendment 5 (RFA5) of the site certificate to allow certificate holder flexibility in final wind turbine type and meteorological tower selection, changes in temporary access road and crane path design, and amendment of site certificate conditions.

Facility Location: Northern Sherman County
(facility has not been constructed)

Public hearing on the complete request for amendment and the draft proposed order:

Date: August 23, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Boardman City Hall
200 City Center Circle
Boardman, OR 97818

Call-in: 1-877-873-8017

Passcode: 799345#

Comment Deadline: August 23, 2018 (close of the public hearing)

Description of Approved Facility:

The Golden Hills Wind Project (Golden Hills or facility) is an approved, but not yet constructed, 400-megawatt, wind-energy generation facility. The facility, as approved in the fourth amended site certificate, would include up to 125 wind turbines as well as related or supporting facilities, including: a power collection system, a substation, a 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line, meteorological towers, supervisory control and data acquisition system, operations and maintenance facility, access roads, and temporary laydown areas. The current deadline to begin construction is June 18, 2020 and the deadline to complete construction is June 18, 2021.

Location of Approved Facility:

The Golden Hills Wind Project is approved to be located in Sherman County, between the cities of Wasco and Moro, both east and west of U.S. Highway 97. The approved facility has not been constructed. A map of the facility is included at the end of this notice.

Proposed Changes in Request for Amendment 5:

The certificate holder requests to amend its site certificate to allow flexibility in its final facility design, including larger wind turbine types that would increase maximum turbine blade tip height from 518 to 650 feet; increase the maximum turbine hub height from 312 to 404 feet; reduce minimum aboveground blade tip clearance from 65 to 46 feet; increase the height of meteorological towers from 312 to 404 feet; allow for expansion of temporary access roads from 40 to 100 feet; and, remove subsection (e) from condition PRE-DC-01 (which restricts the maximum combined weight of metals contained within turbine towers).

The certificate holder is not proposing to add area to the site boundary or micro-siting corridors.

Comment Period and Public Hearing:

Written comments on RFA5 and the draft proposed order must be received by the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) **by the close of the August 23, 2018 public hearing**, and must be submitted in writing by mail, email, hand-delivery or fax per below:

Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst
Oregon Department of Energy
550 Capitol Street NE, 1st Floor
Salem, OR 97301
Email: sarah.esterson@oregon.gov
Fax: 503-373-7806

Written or oral comments may be provided at the public hearing. The Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) will not accept comments on RFA5 or the draft proposed order after the close of the record of the draft proposed order public hearing.

To be eligible to participate in a contested case on RFA5, a person must raise an issue either in person at the public hearing or in a written comment received by ODOE before the record closes on August 23, 2018 at the conclusion of the public hearing.

Please note:

All comments submitted to ODOE may be disclosed to the public, subject to Oregon Public Records Laws (ORS Chapter 192). Public comments may be available on the ODOE webpage for the Golden Hills facility as an attachment to the proposed order.

Comment submission does not register your contact information to receive future notices. If you would like to receive notices for this facility or any other EFSC facility, and have not already done so, please follow the information in this notice to subscribe to the GovDelivery email notification list.

EFSC Review Process:

After EFSC has reviewed ODOE's draft proposed order and considered all comments received on the record of the public hearing, as described in this notice, ODOE will issue a proposed order. The proposed order shall recommend approval, modification, or denial of the fifth amended site certificate.

Upon issuance of the proposed order, ODOE will issue a notice of an opportunity to request a contested case to all persons who commented on the record of the public hearing of the draft proposed order. This includes all individuals who submitted written comments to ODOE and all individuals who commented in person at the public hearing. Contested case requests must be submitted in writing to ODOE by a specified deadline that is contained within the notice.

Only those individuals who commented on the record, either in writing or in person at the public hearing, may request a contested case. To properly raise an issue in a request for a contested case proceeding, the issue must be within the jurisdiction of EFSC and must be raised with sufficient specificity to afford the decision maker an opportunity to respond to the issue. The issue must raise a significant issue of fact or law that may affect EFSC's determination that the facility, with the change proposed by the amendment, meets applicable laws and EFSC standards included in Chapter 345 divisions 22, 23, and 24.

For more information related to the Proposed Order process and Requests for Contested Case under Type A Review – please reference [Oregon Administrative Rule 345-027-0071](#).

For more information relating to EFSC standards, please visit:
<http://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/Siting-Standards.aspx>

Receipt of this Notice:

Please note that you may be receiving this notice for multiple reasons:

1. You own property within or adjacent to (within 500 feet) the site boundary. You will automatically receive all future notices on this facility.
2. You have previously signed up via GovDelivery or by contacting ODOE to receive notices related to the Golden Hills Wind Project or all EFSC project-related notices. You will automatically receive all future notices per your request or GovDelivery choices, unless you unsubscribe via GovDelivery or by contacting ODOE.

More Information:

Please contact Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst, at the email address or mailing address listed above. More information about the facility and updates on the review process is available using any of the following options.

1) Oregon Department of Energy's webpage:

More details on Golden Hills Wind Project, including the certificate holder's Request for Amendment 5 and the ODOE's draft proposed order, are available online at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/GHW.aspx>

Additional resources to help you participate in the state siting process can be found at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/pages/default.aspx>

2) Updates by email/mail:

Subscribe to GovDelivery, a self-managed, automated email system that sends notices and updates on the Golden Hills Wind Project as well as any or all other energy facilities and events under EFSC jurisdiction. For more information, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/EFSC-email>.

To receive notices by U.S. Mail, please contact Sarah Esterson.

3) In hardcopy:

Hard copies of Request for Amendment 5 and the ODOE's draft proposed order are available for public inspection at:

Oregon Department of Energy
550 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Accessibility information:

The Oregon Department of Energy is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. If you require any special physical or language accommodations, or need information in an alternate format, please contact Esther Kooistra at 503-378-3895, toll-free in Oregon at 800-221-8035, or email to esther.kooistra@oregon.gov.

