

# PUBLIC NOTICE



## Montague Wind Power Facility

### Request for Comments on Request for Amendment 5 and Draft Proposed Order

#### Summary:

Date Notice Issued: June 26, 2020

Request: Montague Wind Power Facility, LLC (certificate holder) seeks Energy Facility Siting Council (Council) approval of a fifth amendment to the Montague Wind Power Facility site certificate. Request for Amendment 5 (RFA5) seeks Council approval to split previously approved facility components into three site certificates for the following: Montague Wind Power Facility (201 megawatt (MW) wind), Mongue Solar Facility (162 MW solar), and Oregon Trail Solar Facility (41 MW wind and solar) - to be owned by individual limited liability companies created by the current certificate holder owner, Avangrid Renewables, LLC. RFA5 also seeks Council approval to reduce site boundary; increase solar micrositing area; construct and operate new equipment; use an alternative route for a transmission line segment; and, modify site certificate conditions.

Facility Location: Northeastern Gilliam County

Review Process: This amendment request is subject to Type A review in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 345 Division 27.

Based upon review of the complete RFA5 received on May 29, 2020, the Department issued a draft proposed order (DPO) on June 26, 2020, initiating a 27-day public comment period on RFA5 and the DPO on RFA5. Written comments may be submitted per the instructions in this notice. The Council will conduct a public hearing during a regularly scheduled Council meeting with both remote and in-person participation options. Remote participation will be provided via teleconference/webinar and in-person at a location in the vicinity of the facility, as provided in this notice.

***The Oregon Department of Energy will hold the in-person portion of the public hearing according to policies and guidelines for social distancing and safety of the public and staff in place at the time of the hearing. ODOE will update the project webpage in advance of the hearing with these details.***

#### Public Hearing

**Date:** July 23, 2020

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Veteran's Memorial Hall  
120 S. Main Street  
Condon, Oregon 97823

**Call-in:** 1-408-418-9388

**Passcode:** 129 756 1453

**Login:** <https://odoe.webex.com/odoe/onstage/g.php?MTID=e16e7af398b092a2ad092e3f6d22afb38>

*ODOE strongly recommends participating remotely via webinar, if possible. When you join, please use your full name to sign in to help staff manage public comments. Additional information will be provided at the hearing about how to provide an oral comment using webinar features.*

The Department will provide a brief presentation at the beginning of the hearing. For more information, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/EFSC-meetings>, where the meeting agenda will be posted no later than July 16, 2020.

Comment Deadline: July 23, 2020 at the close of the public hearing, unless extended by Council

**Description of Facility (Operational/Approved):** The Montague Wind Power Facility is an approved 404 megawatt (MW) wind and solar energy generation facility, to be developed in phases (Phase 1 and Phase 2). Phase 1 includes 56 wind turbines (201 MW) and related or supporting facilities, and commenced commercial operation in October 2019. Phase 2 is approved to include up to 81 wind turbines or up to 1,189 acres of solar photovoltaic energy generation equipment, or a combination of wind and solar equipment, totaling 203 MW, and related or supporting facilities. Construction of Phase 2 must commence on or before August 30, 2022.

**Facility Location:** Montague Wind Power Facility is located within a site boundary containing 47,056 acres on private land in northeast Gilliam County, within 5 miles south of the City of Arlington, within 1

mile north of the community of Olex and located on both sides of Highway 19.

For detailed maps, please see Figures 1-5 in RFA5 on the [Department's website](#), or visit our online mapping tool at <https://tinyurl.com/EFSCmap>.

**Proposed Changes in Request for Amendment 5:**

The certificate holder seeks Council approval for the following site certificate changes: split existing site certificate into one amended site certificate for Montague Wind Facility (201 MW; 56 wind turbines) and two original site certificates for facilities named Montague Solar Facility (162 MW; up to 1,496 acres of solar photovoltaic energy generation equipment) and Oregon Trail Solar Facility (41 MW; up to 16 wind turbines or 1,228 acres of solar photovoltaic energy generation equipment, or any combination not to exceed 41 MW), to be owned by limited liability companies created by Avangrid Renewables, LLC, the existing certificate holder owner.

The amendment request also seeks approval to reduce site boundary area from 47,056 to 42,946 acres; expand solar micrositing area from 1,189 to 2,725 acres (includes a "reasons" exception request to the statewide policy embodied in Goal 3, *Agricultural Lands*); construction and operation of a new switching station (includes circuit breakers, switches, and other auxiliary equipment) on a 2-acre site to link Montague Solar Facility to the Phase 1 collector substation (Montague Wind substation); approval to use an alternative route for a segment of previously approved 230 kV transmission line; and, administrative and substantive site certificate condition amendments.

**Comment Period and Public Hearing:** Written comments on RFA5 and the Draft Proposed Order must be received by the Oregon Department of Energy **by July 23, 2020 at the close of the record of the public hearing**, and must be submitted in writing by mail, email, hand-delivery, or fax to:

Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301  
Email: [sarah.esterson@oregon.gov](mailto:sarah.esterson@oregon.gov)  
Fax: 503-373-7806; Phone: 503-385-6128

**Written or oral comments may be submitted at the public hearing. EFSC will not accept or consider comments on RFA5 or the Draft Proposed Order on RFA5 after July 23, 2020 at the close of the public hearing.**

To raise an issue on the record of the public hearing, a person must raise an issue either in person at the public hearing or in a written comment submitted after the date of the notice of the public hearing and received by ODOE before the record closes on July 23, 2020 at the end 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 Montague Wind Power Facility as an attachment to the Proposed Order on RFA5, to be issued at a later date.

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 ClickDimensions email notification list.

**EFSC Review Process:** After EFSC has reviewed the 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 deadline that will be specified within that notice.

Failure to raise an issue in person or in writing prior to the close of the record of the public hearing precludes the Council's consideration of whether to grant that person's subsequent contested case

request. Failure to raise an issue with sufficient specificity to afford the Council, the Department, and the certificate holder an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes Council from considering whether that issue justifies a contested case proceeding. To raise an issue with sufficient specificity, a person must present facts, on the record of the public hearing, that support the person's position on the issue.

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 EFSC, the Department and the certificate holder 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 OAR 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, see [Oregon Administrative Rule 345-027-0371](#).

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 property on which the facility is located. You will automatically receive all future notices on this facility.
2. You have requested to receive paper notices on the Montague Wind Power Facility. If you wish to be removed from this mailing lists, please contact Sarah Esterson.
3. You have previously signed up via GovDelivery/ClickDimensions or by contacting ODOE to receive notices related to the Montague Wind Power Facility or all EFSC project-related notices. You will automatically receive all future notices per your request, unless you unsubscribe via ClickDimensions or by contacting ODOE.

#### **More Information:**

Please contact Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst, at the email address or mailing address listed in this notice. 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 Montague Wind Power Facility including the certificate holder's pRFA5, Type B Review Amendment Determination Request, ODOE's Type A Review Determination, complete RFA5, and ODOE's Draft Proposed Order are available online at: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/MWP.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 ClickDimensions, a self-managed, automated email system that sends notices and updates on Montague Wind Power Facility 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 DPO on RFA5 are available for public inspection at:

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

Please contact Sarah Esterson if you wish to arrange a time to inspect the RFA or DPO. Hard copies will be provided at reasonable cost upon request to the Department.

#### **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 Michiko Mata at 503-378-3895, toll-free in Oregon at 800-221-8035, or email to [michiko.mata@oregon.gov](mailto:michiko.mata@oregon.gov).

Figure 1: Proposed Site Boundaries of New Split Site Certificates

