# **PUBLIC NOTICE**



#### Summary

Date Issued: July 22 and August 1, 2020

<u>Proposal</u>: 400 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation facility occupying approximately 3,650 acres of agricultural-use (A-2) zoned land

Location: Lake County, east of Christmas Valley

Public Comment Deadline: September 4, 2020

<u>Preliminary Application for Site Certificate -</u> <u>Anticipated Date of Receipt</u>: October 2020

## Introduction

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE or Department), staff to the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC or Council), received a Notice of Intent (NOI) from Archway Solar Energy LLC (applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of Invenergy Solar Development North America LLC, that it intends to submit a preliminary application for site certificate (pASC) to construct and operate the Archway Solar Energy Facility, a proposed PV solar energy generation facility. Under Oregon law, the applicant must obtain a site certificate from EFSC prior to construction and operation of the proposed facility. The Department is accepting public comments on the NOI from July 22 through September 4, 2020.

## **Proposed Facility Description**

The Archway Solar Energy Facility would include up to 400 MW of solar PV energy generation components (solar modules, trackers, posts, cabling, inverters and transformers) to cover or occupy up to 3,650 acres, within an approximately 4,300 acre site boundary.

Proposed related or supporting facilities include lithium-ion of flow battery storage systems; power collection system and collection substation; point of interconnection 500 kilovolt (kV) substation; operation and maintenance building; 500 kV transmission line; internal roads; and temporary construction staging areas. More detailed information in available in NOI Exhibit B (see hyperlink to Department's project webpage in More Information below).

## **Proposed Facility Location**

The proposed facility would be located in Lake County, southeast of Christmas Valley. A map of the proposed facility site boundary is attached to this notice. More maps are available in NOI Attachment 2; the Department maintains an online mapping program where the proposed facility site and regional location can be viewed via hyperlink: <u>https://arcg.is/1Gf8CK</u>.

## **EFSC Review Process**

The review of an application for site certificate (ASC) is a consolidated, comprehensive process where the Department requests comments from state and local agencies, tribal governments and the general public throughout the process, and concurrently reviews other permits necessary for the proposed facility. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed facility meets EFSC standards established under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 469.501 and set forth in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapters 345, divisions 22 and 24, as well as all other applicable Oregon statutes, rules and standards. The Department serves as staff to EFSC and conducts the ASC review process.

Pursuant to ORS 469.504(4), an applicant must elect to demonstrate compliance with the statewide planning goals by either obtaining local land use approval from the affected local government(s) or through EFSC's determination of compliance. At this time, Archway Solar Energy LLC intends to satisfy the Council's Land Use standard (OAR 345-022-0030) by seeking an EFSC determination under ORS 469.504(1)(b).

## **Public Participation**

There are several opportunities for public participation and comment during the NOI and ASC review process. During the NOI and ASC phase, there are opportunities for the general public to provide written comments to the Department and attend informational meetings, if scheduled by the Department. In addition, during the ASC phase, following issuance of a draft proposed order, there is an opportunity for the general public to provide written comments to the Department and provide oral comments to the Council and Hearing Officer at a public hearing in the vicinity of the site of the proposed facility, where opportunities for in-person and remote participation would be provided.

The purpose of NOI and ASC informational meetings is for the Department and applicant to provide information about the proposed facility and EFSC review process to the general public, which differs from a public hearing, where the purpose is to provide the general public an opportunity to provide oral comments to the Council and Hearing Officer on the ASC and DPO. The Department will provide notice of all future public informational meetings and hearings.

## **Notice of Intent**

The NOI provides notice to the Department and the public that the applicant intends to submit an ASC in the future. The NOI contains preliminary information about the proposed facility and provides an opportunity for the public, state and local governments and Tribal governments to comment on the NOI.

This Public Notice initiates the first public comment period in the EFSC process, extending from July 22 through September 4, 2020. In accordance with OAR 345-015-0110(2)(f), interested persons may request an informational meeting by contacting the Department representative listed below in this notice, where any public meetings would be conducted in accordance with policies and guidelines for social distancing and safety of the public and staff in place at the time.

## **Public Comment Period**

Comments on the NOI are due by September 4, 2020, and must be submitted in writing by U.S. mail, e-mail, or by fax. Please send comments to:

> Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst Oregon Department of Energy 550 Capital Street NE Salem, OR 97301 Phone: 503-373-7945 Fax: 503-373-7806 Email: <u>sarah.esterson@oregon.gov</u>

**Please Note:** The submission of comments does not automatically register your contact information to receive notices. If you would like to receive notices for this proposed facility or any other EFSC project, and have not already done so, please follow the instructions in the next section.

## **Receipt of this Notice:**

You are receiving this notice because:

- You own property within or adjacent to (within 500 feet) the property for which proposed facility would be located. You will automatically receive all future EFSC notices for this facility if the site boundary remains the same.
- 2. You have previously signed up via ClickDimensions to receive notices on this facility, or all facilities.

## **More Information**

More information about the proposed facility and the review process are available using any of the following options. If you need more information, please contact Sarah Esterson.

## 1) ODOE's webpage

More details on the Archway Solar Energy Facility, including the NOI, are available online at: <u>https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-</u> <u>safety/facilities/Pages/ASE.aspx</u> Resources describing the State Siting Process, including "Oregonians Guide to Siting and Oversight of Energy Facilities" are available at:

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilitiessafety/facilities/Pages/default.aspx

## 2) Updates by Email/Mail

Subscribe to ClickDimensions for email updates on the proposed facility or other energy facilities under Council jurisdiction. ClickDimensions is an automated email system that allows interested members of the public to manage subscriptions to information received about ODOE projects and events. For more information, please visit: <u>http://tinyurl.com/EFSC-email</u>.

To receive notices by U.S. Mail, please contact Sarah Esterson and request to be added to the paper notice list.

## 3) In hardcopy

Hard copies of the NOI are available for public review at:

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

Please contact the Department to arrange viewing of hard copies of the NOI.

## 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 <u>michiko.mata@oregon.gov</u>.

