

# PUBLIC NOTICE



## Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II

### Request for Comments on Request for Amendment 1 and Draft Proposed Order

#### Summary

Date Notice Issued: October 12, 2020

Amendment Request: Wheatridge Wind II, LLC seeks approval to split 550 megawatts (MW) of previously approved wind and solar facility components and site boundary into three facilities, under individual site certificates, resulting in an amended and two new site certificates.

Facility Location (Existing): Morrow and Umatilla counties

Type B Amendment Review: This amendment request is being processed under Type B review which, in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 345, Division 27, does not include a public hearing or opportunity for contested case proceeding.

Written Comment Deadline: November 6, 2020 (5:00 p.m. PST)

#### Description of Facility (Under Construction/Approved):

The Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II is approved to include up to 550 MW of wind and solar energy facility components within a 12,432 acre site boundary expanding across Morrow and Umatilla counties. The facility is approved to be developed in phases. The first phase, currently under construction, includes 200 MW of wind energy facility components (80 wind turbines and related or supporting facilities) in Morrow County, with commercial operation anticipated in late October 2020. Approved facility components not yet constructed include 200 MW of wind energy facility components (up to 66 wind turbines) and 150 MW of solar facility components (use or occupy up to 900 acres), or any combination of wind and solar facility components not exceeding 350 MW. Remaining approved wind facility components must be constructed by May 2023; solar facility components must be constructed by November 2025.

#### Description of Requested Amendment:

Wheatridge Wind II, LLC (certificate holder) seeks Energy Facility Siting Council (Council) approval of an amendment to the Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II (WREFII) site certificate. Request for Amendment 1 (RFA1) seeks Council approval to split 550 megawatts (MW) of previously approved wind and solar facility components and site boundary into three facilities, under individual site certificates, resulting in an amended and two new site certificates.

The three facilities would include WREFII as a 200 MW wind facility within a 7,850 acre site boundary in Morrow County - under existing certificate holder ownership; Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility III (WREFIII) would be a 150 MW solar facility within a 2,294 acre site boundary in Morrow County - under new certificate holder ownership, Wheatridge Solar Energy Center, LLC; and, Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East (WREFE) would be a 200 MW wind facility within a 4,582 acre site boundary in Umatilla and Morrow counties - under new certificate holder ownership, Wheatridge Wind East, LLC.

The new certificate holders for WREFIII and WREFE are wholly-owned subsidiaries of the existing certificate holder owner, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. WREFII and WREFIII would share related or supporting facility components; all three facility would have areas of overlapping site boundaries.

**Facility Location (Existing and Proposed):** The existing WREFII site boundary extends across Morrow and Umatilla counties, south of Interstate 84 and northeast of Lexington. The proposed amended WREFII and WREFIII site boundaries would be located entirely in Morrow County, bisected by Oregon Highway 207, approximately 5 miles northwest of Lexington and 7 miles northwest of Heppner. The proposed amended WREFE site boundary would extend across Morrow and Umatilla counties, with wind facility components located in Umatilla County, approximately 16 miles northwest of Heppner, and a transmission line corridor extending from the wind facility components in Umatilla County to the WREFII

collector substation in Morrow County. Maps presenting the proposed amended site boundaries and regional location of WREFII, WREFIII and WREFE are provided at the end of this notice. For detailed maps, please see Figures 1 through 4 in RFA1 on the Department's website at: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WREF-II.aspx>, or visit our online mapping tool at <https://tinyurl.com/EFSCmap>.

**Comment Period:** Written comments on RFA1 and the Draft Proposed Order must be received by the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) **by 5 p.m. PST on November 6, 2020** and must be submitted in writing by mail, email or faxed per below:

Sarah Esterson, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301  
Email: [sarah.esteron@oregon.gov](mailto:sarah.esteron@oregon.gov)  
Phone: 503-373-7945  
Fax: 503-373-7806

To raise an issue on the record of the Draft Proposed Order on RFA1, a person must raise the issue in a written comment received by ODOE before the comment deadline.

The Council will not accept or consider public comments on RFA1 or on the Draft Proposed Order after the written comment deadline that closes the record on the Draft Proposed Order.

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 WREFII 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 ClickDimensions email notification list as described on Page 3.

**EFSC Review Process:** The amendment request is being processed as a "Type B" amendment, per OAR 345-027-0368 and -0372. After ODOE has considered

all comments received on or before the November 6, 2020 comment deadline for the Draft Proposed Order, as described in this notice, ODOE will issue a Proposed Order. The Proposed Order shall recommend approval, modification, or denial of the amendment request. ODOE will issue, concurrently, a notice of the Proposed Order and Proposed Order.

EFSC, may adopt, modify or reject the proposed order based on the considerations described in OAR 345-027-0375. In a written final order, EFSC shall either grant or deny issuance of an amended and two original site certificates.

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 (existing and proposed) site boundaries are located. You will automatically receive all future notices on this facility.
2. You have requested to receive paper notices on the Wheatridge Wind Energy Facility or Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II. 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 Wheatridge Wind Energy Facility or Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II 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 phone, email address or mailing address or phone number 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 Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II, including RFA1 and the Draft Proposed Order are available online at:  
<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WREF-II.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 Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility II as well as any or all other energy facilities and events under EFSC jurisdiction. For more information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/ODOE-EFSC>.

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

### **3) In hardcopy:**

Hard copies of RFA1 and the Draft Proposed Order on RFA1 are available for public inspection at following location at no cost. Hard copies will be provided at reasonable cost upon request to the Department:

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

Please contact Sarah Esterson if you wish to arrange a time to inspect RFA1 or the Draft Proposed Order.

### **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 WREFII Site Boundary

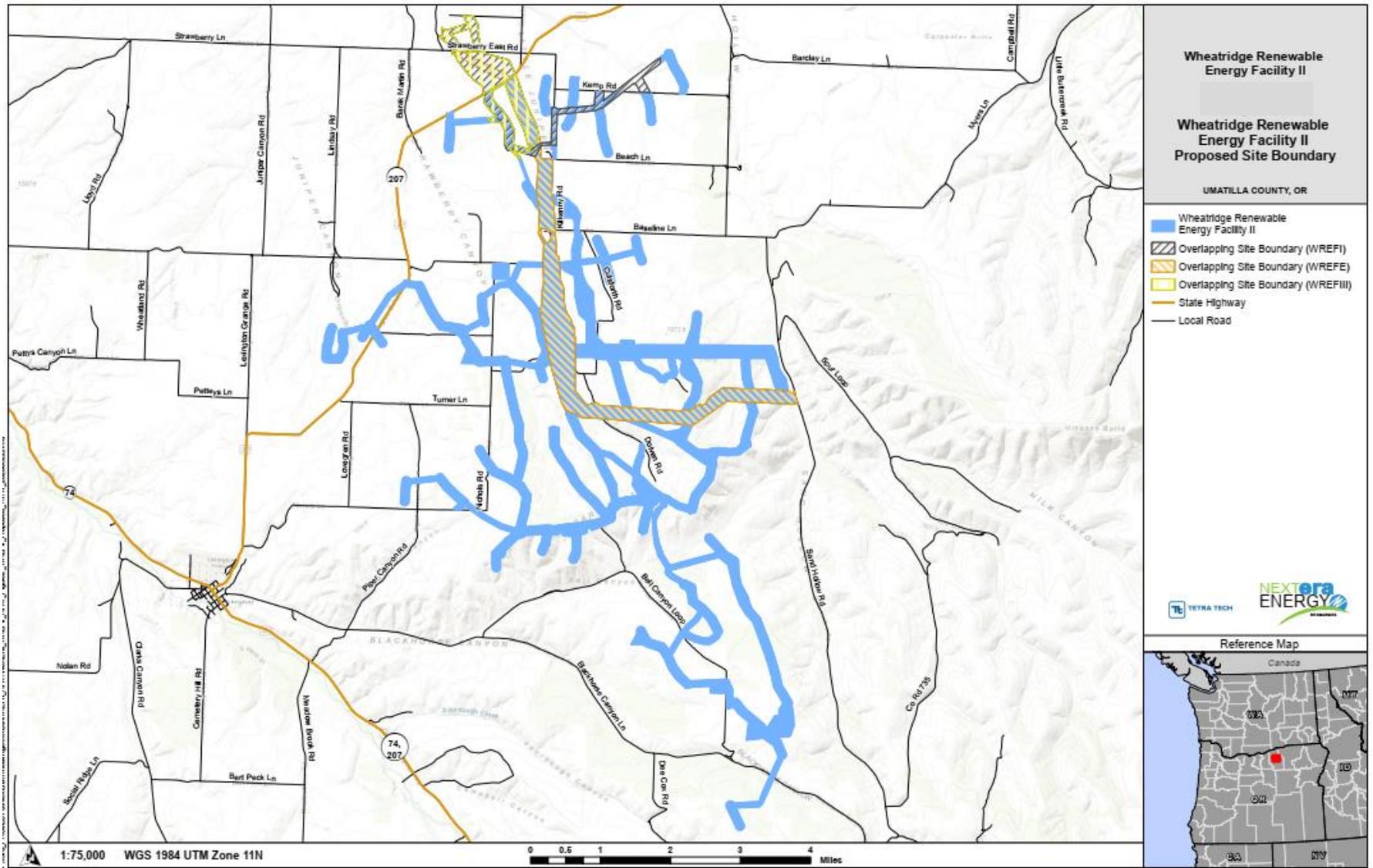


Figure 2: Proposed WREFIII Site Boundary

