

# PUBLIC NOTICE



## Extended Public Comment Period on Notice of Intent for Bonanza Energy Facility

### Summary

Date Issued: October 29, 2020

Proposal: Between 150 and 300 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation facility occupying approximately 1,851 acres of private land. The approximately 2,733-acre site boundary is zoned for agricultural use and forest use.

Location: Klamath County, southeast of Bonanza

Extended Public Comment Deadline: November 30, 2020

Public Informational Meeting: Occurred on October 13, 2020; See page 2 for details.

Preliminary Application for Site Certificate - Anticipated Date of Receipt: February 2021

### 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 Hecate Energy Bonanza LLC (applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of Hecate Energy NAF LLC, that it intends to submit a preliminary application for site certificate (pASC) to construct and operate the Bonanza 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 extended the initial 30-day NOI public comment period (September 29 through October 29, 2020) and is accepting public comments through November 30, 2020. The extended public comment period (October 29 through November 30, 2020) provides a 30-day extension for interested individuals to submit comments to the Department related to the NOI.

### Proposed Facility Description

The Bonanza Energy Facility would have a generating capacity between 150 MW and 300 MW, depending

on the solar module technology selected at final design. The solar array would be constructed on approximately 1,851 acres (2.89 square miles).

Proposed related or supporting facilities include collector lines, power conversion stations (inverters and transformers), an onsite facility substation, 500 kilovolt (kV) generation-tie transmission line, point of interconnection, operations and maintenance building, service roads and gated access points, access roads, and construction areas, as well as an up to 1,100 MW battery storage system. The battery storage system components would be housed in up to 11 separate enclosed structures that would be 600 feet in length by 600 feet in width and up to 30 feet in height, which is equivalent to 3.95 million square feet or 91 acres. The site boundary encompasses approximately 2,733 acres. More detailed information is 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 Klamath County, southeast of Bonanza. A map of the proposed facility site boundary is attached to this notice. More maps are available in NOI Attachment G, and the Department maintains an online mapping program where the proposed facility site and regional location can be viewed via hyperlink: <https://arcg.is/1Gf8CK>.

### 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, Hecate Energy Bonanza 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 EFSC process. The first is the public comment period on the NOI, which is currently open. The Department issued Public Notice of the NOI on September 29, 2020, noticing of a 30-day public comment period extending from September 29 through October 29, 2020 and of a public informational meeting conducted by the Department and applicant on October 13, 2020. The NOI public comment period is extended from October 29 to November 30, 2020 to allow additional opportunity for interested individuals to submit comments on the NOI. Audio and video recording from the October 13, 2020 Informational Meeting, along with agenda and presentation information, are available on the Department's project webpage for the proposed facility (see More Information for hyperlinks). Informational meetings provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions about the proposed facility and review process.

Another public informational meeting will be held after the application is determined to be complete. After the release of the Department's draft proposed order, a public hearing will be held that will provide an opportunity for the public to provide oral testimony on the proposed facility.

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 extends the first public comment period in the EFSC process to provide an additional 30-days for submission of comments on the NOI to the Department, from October 29 through November 30, 2020.

### **Comment Period and Informational Meeting**

Public comments on the NOI are encouraged to help the applicant identify issues and concerns early in the process.

Comments on the NOI are due by November 30, 2020, and must be submitted in writing by U.S. mail, e-mail, or by fax. Please send comments to:

Katie Clifford, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capital Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: 503-302-0267  
Fax: 503-373-7806  
Email: [katie.clifford@oregon.gov](mailto:katie.clifford@oregon.gov)

The informational meeting was held on October 13, 2020 at 5:30 pm via WebEx. All comments received at the informational meeting were recorded, provided to the applicant, and are maintained by the Department as part of the administrative record for the siting process.

**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:

1. You own property within or adjacent to (within 500 feet) the property on which the 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.
3. You provided written or email comment.

### **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 Katie Clifford.

#### **1) ODOE's webpage**

More details on the Bonanza Energy Facility, including the NOI, NOI Information Meeting materials (audio/video, presentations, and agenda) are available online at:

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

Resources describing the State Siting Process, including "Oregonians Guide to Siting and Oversight of Energy Facilities" are available at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/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:

[www.tinyurl.com/ODOE-EFSC](http://www.tinyurl.com/ODOE-EFSC).

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

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

Hard copies of the NOI are available for public inspection at the following location at no cost. Hard copies will be provided at reasonable cost upon request to ODOE.

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 [michiko.mata@oregon.gov](mailto:michiko.mata@oregon.gov).

