PUBLIC NOTICE
West End Solar Project
Complete Application for Site Certificate and Public Informational Meeting

Summary:
Date Notice Issued: September 28, 2022

Proposal: A 50-megawatt (MW) solar energy facility, not to exceed 99 MW.

Location: Northwest Umatilla County

Remote Public Informational Meeting: Monday, October 10, 2022 at 5:30 P.M., PDT

Date of Filing of Complete Application: September 28, 2022

Description of Proposed Facility: The West End Solar Project (proposed facility), proposed by EE West End Solar, LLC (applicant), a subsidiary of Eurus Energy America Corporation, would consist of solar photovoltaic energy generation components with a nominal generating capacity of approximately 50 MWs and would include related or supporting facilities within a site boundary of 324 acres. The application for this proposed facility is processed under the Council’s rules for Expedited Review of Small Capacity Facilities because it would have a generating capacity less than 100 MW.

The solar array would include up to approximately 180,000 solar modules supported by approximately 33,000 posts and connected to inverters and transformers.

Related or supporting facilities include an approximately 70 MW lithium-ion energy storage system, approximately 15 miles of 34.5-kV collector line system, one collector substation and one switchyard substation. Other related or supporting facilities include an Operations and Maintenance enclosure, a site access road and driveway, internal access roads, and construction staging areas. The proposed facility would connect to one of three existing transmission lines that are capable of providing interconnection; either the Bonneville Power Administration’s McNary to Roundup 230-kilovolt (kV) line, or PacifiCorp’s Pendleton to Hermiston 69-kV line which both cross over the site boundary, or the Umatilla Electric Cooperative 115-kV line which parallels the eastern edge of the proposed site boundary. More detailed information about the proposed energy facility and the related or supporting facilities is available in ASC Exhibit B.

Project Location: The proposed facility site would be located in northwestern Umatilla County, approximately one mile southeast of the city limits of Hermiston, Oregon and one mile north of the city limits of Stanfield, Oregon.

Maps of the proposed facility are included at the end of this notice. Specific locational maps can be found in ASC Exhibit C at: https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WES.aspx and on the Oregon Department of Energy’s (ODOE or Department) online mapping tool at: https://tinyurl.com/EFSCmap.

Public Informational Meeting: The Department will hold a remote public informational meeting with the applicant, via WebEx and teleconference, to provide information about the proposed facility and the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) siting process; participation details are provided below. The Department and applicant representatives will be available after the presentation to answer specific questions. This meeting will be recorded and posted on the project page a few days after the meeting.

WebEx/Teleconference Information Meeting
Date and time: Monday, October 10, 2022 at 5:30 P.M., PDT
Location: WebEx or Teleconference
Webex link: https://odoe.webex.com/odoe/onstage/g.php?MTID=e109b01b03125e370825211fa74020340
Webex Event Number: 2336 218 6607
Webex Event Password: Logging in from Computer: EFSC
Teleconference: +1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Teleconference Access code: 2336 218 6607

The public informational meeting is not a public hearing and will not include public testimony or on-the-record public comments. Opportunity for written
or oral testimony will be provided at a later date – during the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) public comment period and public hearing – following issuance of the DPO, as described below.

**EFSC Review Process:**

**Overview**
The site certificate process is a consolidated, comprehensive siting process. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed facility meets all EFSC standards established under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 469.501 and set forth in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapters 345, Division 22 and 24, as well as all other applicable Oregon statutes, rules and standards. The Department Siting Division serves as staff to EFSC and conducts the application review process.

The proposed facility would occupy up to 324 acres on Exclusive Farm Use zoned land, including approximately 238 acres of high-value farmland under ORS 195.300(10)(f) because of the location within the designated Columbia Valley American Viticulture Area (AVA). As such, the proposed facility must receive approval from EFSC of a site certificate prior to construction. The facility site does not include high-value farmland as defined under ORS 195.300(10)(a) (soils) or ORS 195.300(10)(c) (water rights).

**Expedited Review**
On December 4, 2020, the Department received a Request for Expedited Review for a Small Capacity Facility from the applicant because the proposed facility would generate less than 100 MW, and on December 17, 2020 the Department notified the applicant that the request was granted. Under the expedited review process, an applicant is not required to submit a Notice of Intent and the Department issues the project order after the applicant submits a preliminary application for site certificate (pASC).

**Preliminary Application and Project Order**
The Department received the pASC on November 5, 2021. Under OAR 345-015-0190(1), on January 3, 2022 the Department determined the pASC to be incomplete and issued requests for additional information (RAIs). The Department has been reviewing applicant responses to RAIs and issued additional RAIs in order to determine the application complete. Pursuant to ORS 469.370(10), OAR 345-015-0160, and OAR 345-015-0300(3) the Department issued a project order on February 10, 2022, which specified the state statutes and administrative rules, and local and state laws, regulations, ordinances and other requirements applicable to the application.

**Complete Application**
On September 19, 2022 the Department determined that the pASC was complete. An Application for Site Certificate (ASC) is complete when the Department finds that an applicant has submitted information adequate for the Council to make findings or impose conditions for all applicable Council standards. The ASC is located on the project page as described in this Notice and is available for review. The applicant filed the complete ASC on September 28, 2022.

**Draft Proposed Order**
The Department is currently preparing the DPO. This document is staff’s initial recommendation to EFSC, who are the final decision makers, on whether or not each applicable standard is met. The DPO will include staff’s analysis of the ASC, based on the Department’s review of the ASC as well as comments received from state and local agencies, Tribal governments, and Umatilla County Board of Commissioners as the Special Advisory Group. The DPO will include recommended findings of facts, conclusions of law, and site certificate conditions of approval.

Issuance of the DPO will initiate a public comment period; in addition, a public hearing will be scheduled to occur in the vicinity of the proposed facility. At that time, to preserve your right to participate in the contested case proceeding and any subsequent appeal of EFSC’s decision, you must comment during the public comment period on the DPO, either orally at the public hearing or in writing during the comment period. The Department anticipates issuing the DPO in October 2022. The Department will issue notice of the public hearing and comment period when it issues the DPO. As described above, the October 10, 2022 public information meeting is not a public hearing.

Following the conclusion of the comment period on the DPO, EFSC will review the DPO and all submitted comments and provide their comments to the Department.
Proposed Order
Following the Council’s meeting to review the DPO, the Department must issue a Proposed Order. Changes made from the DPO to the Proposed Order are based on the comments of the Council, public or agency comments made before the close of the record of the public hearing, and any applicant responses to the DPO comments.

Contested Case
The contested case proceeding is a mandatory step in the application process and is led by an independent Hearing Officer appointed by EFSC. Any person who commented on the record of the DPO may request to participate in the contested case. However, a person will only be granted party status to participate if the issue(s) raised is associated with a standard under Council’s jurisdiction and the issue(s) was raised with sufficient specificity to afford EFSC, the Department, and the applicant an opportunity to respond to the issue(s).

Final Order
Following a contested case proceeding the Council shall issue a Final Order either approving or denying the proposed facility.

For more information, please visit: http://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WES.aspx

More Information:
Please contact Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst, at the email address or mailing address listed below.

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More information about the proposed facility and updates on the review process is available using any of the following options.

1) Oregon Department of Energy’s webpage:
The complete ASC and additional details regarding the proposed facility may be found at: https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WES.aspx

Additional resources to help you participate 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 the West End Solar Project as well as any or all other energy facilities and events under EFSC jurisdiction. For more information, please visit: www.tinyurl.com/ODOE-EFSC.

To receive notices by U.S. Mail, please contact Kellen Tardaewether.

3) In hardcopy:
Hard copies of the proposed West End Solar Project ASC are available for public inspection at the following location at no cost:
Oregon Department of Energy
550 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
Please contact Kellen Tardaewether to arrange viewing of hard copies of the ASC; hard copies will be provided at a reasonable cost upon request to the Department.

Accessibility information:
The Oregon Department of Energy is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. For the review of the application or attendance at the information meeting, if you require any special physical or language accommodations, or need information in an alternate format, please contact Nancy Hatch at 503-428-7905, toll-free in Oregon at 800-221-8035, or email to nancy.hatch@energy.oregon.gov. For any other accommodation needed to attend the public informational meeting, please contact the Department as soon as possible so we may provide the accommodation.
Figure 1: Proposed West End Solar Project Site Boundary and Regional Vicinity Map