

PUBLIC NOTICE



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East

Receipt of Preliminary Request for Amendment 1 of Site Certificate

Summary:

Date Notice Issued: May 22, 2023

Please note, this notice is to provide early notification of this amendment request. There is no comment period associated with this phase of review.

Site Certificate Amendment Request:

- Expand the site boundary and micrositing corridors by 75,000 acres and 11,000 acres, respectively.
- Construct up to 40 additional wind turbines.
- Modify design of electrical collection system.
- Expand Battery Energy Storage System capacity.
- Realign transmission routes.
- Expand access roads and project substation.
- Add a new temporary construction yard.
- Extend the construction completion deadline by 3 years.

Facility Location: Morrow and Umatilla County, approximately 16 miles northeast of Heppner.

Review Process: Type A Review Process

Introduction: On May 16, 2023, the Oregon Department of Energy (Department or staff), staff to the Energy Facility Siting Council (Council or EFSC), received preliminary Request for Amendment 1 for the Site Certificate for Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East (pRFA1). This notice is being provided in accordance with OAR 345-027-0360(2).

Approved Facility Description: Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East (Facility) is an approved, but not-yet-constructed, 200-megawatt (MW) wind energy generation facility. The Facility is approved to include up to 66 wind turbines, up to 32 miles of two overhead, parallel 230 kV transmission lines, and other related and supporting facilities to be located within an approximately 4,582-acre site boundary in Umatilla and Morrow Counties.

Requested Amendment: In pRFA1, the Certificate Holder seeks authorization to:

- Expand the site boundary by approximately 75,000 acres, to 79,424 acres.

- Expand the micrositing corridor by approximately 11,000 acres, to 15,341 acres
- Construct up to 40 additional turbines for a total of up to 106 turbines with a maximum blade-tip height of 499.7 feet and a combined generating capacity of up to 300 MW.
- Modify electrical collection system to consist of approximately 94.7 miles of underground line.
- Expand Battery Energy Storage Capacity by 10-MW, for a total of 30 MW.
- Realign proposed transmission lines along two newly proposed routes that partially overlap with previously approved corridors.
- Add 44 miles of new access roads, for a total of 64 miles.
- Expand project substation to accommodate new generating capacity.
- Add a new temporary construction yard with up to 60 acres of temporary disturbance area.
- Extend the construction completion deadline by 3 years, from May 24, 2023, to May 24, 2026.

Facility Location: Morrow and Umatilla County, approximately 16 miles northeast of Heppner. A map of the facility site boundary is attached to this notice. Detailed maps are included in the preliminary request, available at: <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WREFE.aspx>. Additional mapping tools are available on the Department's online mapping tool at <https://tinyurl.com/EFSCmap>.

EFSC Review Process:

Overview: The site certificate amendment process is a consolidated, comprehensive siting process. The certificate holder must demonstrate that the facility, with the proposed amendment request, meets all applicable EFSC standards established under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 469.501 and set forth in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapters 345, Division 22, 24 and 27 as well as all other applicable Oregon statutes, rules and standards.

Preliminary Request for Amendment: The current phase consists of staff reviewing the amendment request, along with applicable state agencies, local government and tribal governments to ensure there is information

adequate for Council to make findings or impose conditions on all applicable Council standards.

Complete Request for Amendment: Under OAR 345-027-0363(5), an amendment is complete when the Department finds that the certificate holder has submitted information adequate for the Council to make findings or impose conditions on all applicable Council standards.

Draft Proposed Order: 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 amendment request as well as comments received from state agencies, local governments and tribal governments. The DPO will include recommended findings of facts, conclusions or law and conditions.

Issuance of the DPO will initiate a public comment period. Under Type A review, in addition to the written public comment period there will be a public hearing which includes an opportunity for oral comments. At that time, to preserve your right to request a 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.

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 conclusion of the DPO comment period, the Department must issue a Proposed Order, staff's second recommendation to EFSC. Changes made from the DPO to the Proposed Order are based on the comments of the Council and any other comments made before the close of the public comment period.

Contested Case: To determine that a request justifies a contested case, the Council must find that the request raises a significant issue of fact or law that may affect the Council's determination that the facility, with changes proposed by the amendment, meets the applicable laws and Council standards.

Final Order: Following a contested case proceeding, or the Proposed Order if there is no 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/Siting-Standards.aspx>

Receipt of this Notice: You are receiving this notice for one or more of the following reasons:

1. You own property within or adjacent to (within 500 feet) the property on which the project is located. You will automatically receive all future notices on this facility.
2. You have requested to receive paper notices related to this facility. If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please contact the Department.
3. You have previously signed up via GovDelivery/ClickDimensions or by contacting ODOE to receive notices related to this 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 Christopher M. Clark, Senior Siting Analyst, at the phone, email address or mailing address listed in this notice.

Christopher M. Clark, Senior Siting Analyst
Oregon Department of Energy
550 Capitol Street NE, 1st Floor
Salem, OR 97301
Email: christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov
Phone: (503) 871-7254

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 the facility and a copy of the preliminary request are available online at:
<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/facilities-safety/facilities/Pages/WREFE.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 related to 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 Christopher Clark at the address above.

3) In hardcopy: The preliminary request and other project documents are available for public inspection at:

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

Please contact Christopher Clark if you wish to arrange a time to review the Documents. 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 Nancy Hatch at 503-428-7905, toll-free in Oregon at 800-221-8035, or by email at: nancy.hatch@energy.oregon.gov.

Figure 1: Facility Location and Site Boundary for Request for Amendment 1

