

Deschutes Solar and BESS

Notice of Intent

Public Information Meeting

Maupin Civic Center, Maupin, OR

March 27, 2025

Oral Public Commenters & Comment Summary

Name of Commenter	Address	Comment Summary
Ken Chitwood	79434 Hwy 216 No city or zip listed	In support of the project.
Tara Aschoff	53228 Reservation Road Maupin, OR 97037	Expressed concerns about onsite water use and impacts to water reserved for irrigation; impacts of windstorms to the facility; impacts of construction worker housing. Expressed concerns about impacts to habitat, and of the adequacy of onsite and local firefighting equipment to be able to respond to a wildfire within or near the site.
Delson Suppah Sr.	PO Box 325 Warm Springs, OR 97761	Requested more coordination with CTWS on the project. Expressed concerns about the type of materials used in the battery energy storage system. Concerns about potential impacts to traditional foods and first foods animals and plants in project area that are important to the CTWS.
Paula Latasa	206 Elrod Ave No city or zip listed	Inquired as to whether the applicant has considered agrovoltaics for the site.
Constance Lee	None listed	Resident of Juniper Flat. Expressed concerns that their energy bill has increased after recent energy facilities have been built – believes that energy facilities are being built locally, with energy being sent to the Portland area, but increasing local costs. Expressed concerns about wildfire risk from the facility, and that there isn't an amount of defensible space that would minimize risk. Expressed concerns that this project would decrease their property value while increasing their property taxes and insurance rates.
Jean Hulbert	59021 Finnegan Road Grass Valley OR 97029	No comment

Name of Commenter	Address	Comment Summary
Elizabeth Turner	PO Box 434 No city or zip listed	Worked for 15 years with Wasco County and has concerns about the Goal 3 exception. Identified that ODOE's presentation did not identify agricultural impacts as a key issue, but that it should. Inquired as to why subject matter experts from other agencies, like ODFW and ODAg, were not present to help inform the public about the type of issues/questions they should be asking. Expressed concerns that the project is more about financial gain, than any real concern that the U.S. needs energy resources.
Mike Alldrott Iron Workers Local 29	145 West Water Street Lexington, OR 97839	Supports the project for the opportunities for work/apprenticeships.
Margaret Holmes Tibbets	1513 Fishtail Maupin, OR	Is part of the Lloyd Woodside Ranch – located in the SW portion of Juniper Flat. Is an underlying landowner for the project site. Land within her property is very rocky, with little water. Over time, the area has gotten drier. Viability of ranching has been reduced significantly – in 1978, there were 6 families that used the land for grazing. By 1992, there was only 1 family, with 192 heads of cattle remaining.
Richard E Dodge	78888 Walters Road Maupin, OR 97037	In support of the project.
Isaac Yanez	52237 Reservation Road Maupin, OR 97037	Is an underlying landowner for the project site; land has not been farmed in 25-40 years.
Garth Bachman IBEW Local 48	15937 NE Airport Way Portland, OR 97230	In support of project; it would provide opportunities for electrical technicians and apprenticeships.
Randy Davis IBEW Local 48	15937 NE Airport Way Portland, OR 97230	No comment
Bill Cameron	80163 Pioneer Street Wamic, OR 97063	Written comment on comment card in support of proposed project
Henry Watson		Expressed concerns about the project, where it could be as close as 150 feet from his property line.
Donald Kruger		Stated that Juniper Flat is a remarkable area. Expressed concerns about the Goal 3 exception – inquiring about how a solar facility could possibly be sited in EFU land when it is impossible to get approval to build something like an attached dwelling in EFU land. Requested that visual screening be considered – berms or trees. Inquired as to why rooftop solar isn't being considered over these large scale projects.

