

# Oregon Energy Facility Siting

Project Updates: May 2024

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## ENERGY FACILITIES AT A GLANCE

### New Energy Facilities – 11 Proposed Facilities

Facility	Phase	Status	Location
Nolin Hills Wind Power Project	Final Decision	Final Decision by Oregon Supreme Court	Umatilla County
Wagon Trail Solar Project	ASC	Department is drafting DPO	Morrow County
Sunstone Solar Project (Formerly Echo Solar)	pASC	Department is reviewing pASC	Morrow County
Archway Solar Energy Facility	pASC	On hold	Lake County
Cascade Renewable Transmission System	NOI	pASC must be submitted by March 2025	Wasco, Hood River, and Multnomah counties
Muddy Creek Energy Park	NOI	pASC must be submitted by May 2025	Linn County
Yellow Rosebush Energy Center	NOI	pASC must be submitted by September 2025	Wasco and Sherman counties
Umatilla-Morrow County Connect Project	NOI	pASC must be submitted by September 2025	Morrow and Umatilla counties
Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility	NOI	NOI comment period closes May 3, 2024	Wasco County



## New Energy Facilities – 11 Proposed Facilities

Facility	Phase	Status	Location
Klamath Falls Energy Center	NOI	NOI on hold pending resubmission	Klamath County
Lone Pine to Whetstone Transmission Line	NOI	Project modified to no longer be EFSC jurisdictional. NOI expires April 2025.	Jackson County and City of Medford

## Approved Energy Facilities – 5 Proposed Amendments, 2 Under Construction

Facility	Phase	Status	Location
Eugene to Medford Transmission Line Amendment #4	pRFA	Withdrawn	Jackson and Josephine counties, City of Rogue River
Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Amendment #1	Appeal	Council denial of Contested Case appealed to Circuit Court	Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur counties
Leaning Juniper IIA Wind Power Facility Amendment #3	Proposed Order	The opportunity to request a contested case ends on May 24, 2024	Gilliam County
Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East Amendment #1	Proposed Order	The opportunity to request a contested case ends on May 27, 2024	Umatilla and Morrow counties
Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Amendment #2	Draft Proposed Order	DPO comment period closes May 30, 2024	Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur counties
Carty Generating Station Amendment #4	pRFA	Requests for additional information were sent April 16, 2024	Morrow and Gilliam counties
Summit Ridge Wind Farm	Terminated	Council approved decommissioning plan and terminated the site certificate	Wasco County
Bakeoven Solar Project	Under Construction	Anticipated commercial operational date is May 2024	Wasco County
Daybreak Solar Project	Under Construction	Anticipated commercial operation date is October 31 2024	Wasco County

## Amendment Determination Requests – 0 Requests

Facility	Phase	Status	Location
<i>Type B Review Amendment Determination Requests</i>			
None			
<i>Amendment Determination</i>			
None			



## Active State Jurisdictional Renewable Energy Projects Summary\*

Status	Wind MW	Solar MW	Solar Footprint Acres/Square Miles	Battery Storage MW	Total Generating MW
Operational	2,719	212	1,546/2.41	100	2,931
In Construction	0	200	3,087/4.6	100	200
Approved but Not Built - Approval Still Valid	561	1,042	12,071/18.86	653	1,603
Under Review	301	3,744	37,523/58.6	3,916	4,805
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,581</b>	<b>5,198</b>	<b>54,227/84.72</b>	<b>4,805</b>	<b>8,779</b>

\*There are more than 30 individual renewable energy facilities. However, some may include more than one type of renewable energy type and/or may be constructed in phases and therefore fall into more than one status category.

## Federal Energy Facilities

Facility	Lead Agency	Status	Location	Website
Lower Klamath Project Surrender and Removal	FERC	Deconstruction	Klamath County, OR and Siskiyou County, CA	N/A
Swan Lake North Pumped Storage	FERC	Pre-construction	Klamath County	<a href="#">FAST-41 Dashboard</a>
Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line	BLM	Environmental Review and Permitting - In Progress	Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur counties	<a href="#">FAST-41 Dashboard</a>
GTN Express Project	FERC	Final EIS comment period	Oregon, Washington, and Idaho	N/A
Goldendale Energy Storage Project	FERC	Final EIS comment period	Sherman County, Washington	N/A
Utility-Scale Solar Programmatic EIS	BLM	Programmatic EIS being developed	Western States	<a href="#">BLM NEPA Register</a>
North Umpqua Hydro Pumped Storage Project	FERC	Amendment Review/Initial Consultation Document	Douglas County	N/A
Owyhee Pumped Storage Project	FERC	In abeyance	Malheur County	N/A
Crooked Creek Pumped Storage Project	FERC	Feasibility Study	Lake County	N/A
Winter Ridge Pumped Storage Project	FERC	Feasibility Study	Lake County	N/A
Elephant Rock Pumped Storage Project	FERC	Preliminary Permit Application	Curry County	N/A
Soldier Camp Pumped Storage Project	FERC	Preliminary Permit Application	Curry County	N/A



## Federal Energy Facilities

Proposed Rulemaking Related to Solar and Transmission	USDOE	Reviewing Comments	USA	N/A
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### Compliance Inspections - *Click on the project name for more information.*

Facility	Inspection Date	Inspection Type	Findings and/or comments
Springfield Utility Industrial Energy Center	March 14, 2024	Operational/Virtual	Report to be issued in April 2024.

## ACTIVE STATE ENERGY FACILITY PROJECTS

*Click on the project name for more information.*

### Proposed Energy Facilities

#### Nolin Hills Wind Power Project

**Facility Description:** A 600-megawatt (MW) wind and solar energy generation facility in Umatilla County. Wind facility components are approved to be located within a 13,767-acre micro-siting area; the solar facility components are authorized to use or occupy up to 1,896 acres (2.9 sq. miles). The certificate holder is Nolin Hills Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of Capital Power Corporation.

**Phase:** Appeal

**What's New:** On April 18, 2024 the Oregon Supreme Court issued their opinion rejecting the appeal by Umatilla County and affirming the Council's Final Order approving the Nolin Hills Wind Power Project.

**Looking Forward:** N/A

#### Wagon Trail Solar Project

**Facility Description:** Solar energy generation facility with a nominal generating capacity of up to 500 MW to use or occupy up to 7,450 acres (11.64 sq. miles) in Morrow County. The facility is proposed by Wheatridge East Wind, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC.

**Phase:** Application for Site Certificate

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The Department is drafting the Draft Proposed Order and expects to issue it in May 2024. An in-person and virtual public hearing on the Draft Proposed Order is expected to occur at the May 30-31, 2024 Council meeting in Boardman.

#### Sunstone Solar Project (formerly Echo Solar Project)

**Facility Description:** Solar energy facility with a nominal generating capacity of up to 1,200 MW to use or occupy up to 10,900 acres (17.03 sq. miles) of predominately cultivated land in Morrow County. The facility is proposed by Sunstone Solar, LLC, a subsidiary of Pine Gate Renewables, LLC.



**Phase:** Preliminary Application for Site Certificate

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The Department will complete its review of the preliminary application for site certificate following receipt of responses to all outstanding requests for additional information and will prepare the Draft Proposed Order in coordination with state agencies, local governments, and interested tribes.

### **Archway Solar Energy Facility**

**Facility Description:** Solar energy generation facility with a nominal generating capacity of up to 400 MW to use or occupy up to 4,300 acres (6.7 sq. miles) in Lake County. The applicant is Archway Solar Energy, LLC, a subsidiary of Invenergy Solar Development North America, LLC.

**Phase:** Preliminary Application for Site Certificate – On hold per the applicant's request while the facility is being redesigned.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** N/A

### **Cascade Renewable Transmission System**

**Facility Description:** 320-kV direct current transmission line sited mostly in the bed of the Columbia River between The Dalles and Portland on both the Oregon and Washington sides of the river. Other proposed components include two converter stations and overhead transmission lines to connect to the endpoint substations. The facility is proposed by Cascade Renewable Transmission, LLC. The project will also require federal and Washington State approval.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The applicant has indicated that it intends to submit the preliminary Application for Site Certificate in mid-2024.

### **Muddy Creek Energy Park**

**Facility Description:** Solar energy facility with a nominal generating capacity of up to 199 MWs to use or occupy up to 1,588 acres (2.5 sq. miles) of predominately cultivated land in Linn County, approximately 8 miles south of the city of Brownsville. The facility is proposed by Muddy Creek Energy Park LLC, a subsidiary of Hanwha Q Cells USA Corp.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The applicant must submit its preliminary Application for Site Certificate by May 2025.

### **Yellow Rosebush Energy Center**

**Facility Description:** Solar energy facility with a nominal generating capacity of up to 800 MWs to use or occupy up to 8,075 acres (12.6 sq. miles) of exclusive farm use zoned land in Wasco and Sherman counties. Related and supporting facilities include battery storage and a 500 kV gen-tie line. The facility is proposed by Yellow Rosebush Energy Center, LLC, a subsidiary of Savion, LLC, which is a division of Royal Dutch Shell Company.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent



**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The Department anticipates the applicant will submit a preliminary Application for Site Certificate in June 2024.

### **Umatilla-Morrow County Connect Project**

**Facility Description:** 230 kV transmission line connecting Umatilla Electric Cooperative's (UEC) existing Highway 730 Switchyard to UEC's planned Ordnance Switchyard. There are four route alternatives ranging from approximately 13.1 to 14.4 miles. The facility is proposed by UEC.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** Preliminary Application for Site Certificate must be submitted by March 2025.

### **Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility**

**Facility Description:** 261 megawatt (MW) combined wind and solar photovoltaic energy generation facility with up to 201 MW battery storage and related and supporting facilities on 4,061 acres (6.25 sq miles) of privately-owned land in Wasco County.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent

**What's New:** A Public Information Meeting on the Notice of Intent (NOI) was held on April 3, 2024 in person in Dufur and was also made available for remote participation.

**Looking Forward:** The public comment period closes May 3, 2024 at 5:00 PM.

### **Klamath Falls Energy Center**

**Facility Description:** Solar energy facility with a nominal generating capacity of 400 MW and up to 400 MW of battery storage project located approximately 9 miles southwest of the City of Klamath Falls and 1.5 miles northwest of community Keno. The project would be located on 7,350 acres (11.5 sq. miles) on private land that is zoned Forest. The applicant is Klamath Falls Energy Center, LLC, a subsidiary of Savion LLC, which is a division of Royal Dutch Shell Company.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent

**What's New:** The applicant requested to suspend review of the Notice of Intent (NOI) because, based on consultation with Tribes and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the applicant intends to redesign the facility and modify the site boundary to avoid and reduce potential impacts to resources.

**Looking Forward:** Review and Notice of the NOI is on hold pending the submission of a new NOI, anticipated second quarter 2024.

### **Lone Pine to Whetstone 230 kV Transmission Line**

**Facility Description:** 230 kV transmission line connecting existing Whetstone and Lone Pine Substations. There are two proposed routes approximately 10 and 12.1 miles long near the city of Medford and White City in Jackson County. The facility is proposed by PacifiCorp.

**Phase:** Notice of Intent - The applicant has modified the proposed route based on comments received and assessments conducted and requested an EFSC jurisdictional determination based on revised route if under 10.0 miles and is no longer EFSC jurisdictional. However, the applicant notified the Department of its decision to leave the NOI active until it expires in April 2025.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** N/A



## Approved Energy Facilities - Requests for Amendment

### Eugene to Medford Transmission Line Amendment #4

**Facility Description:** Operational 137-mile, 500-kilovolt transmission line between the Meridian Substation near Medford, and the Spencer Switching Station south of Eugene. The facility was built in the early 1990s. The site certificate holder is PacifiCorp.

**Amendment Description:** 1) Expand the site boundary from approximately 23,975 to 24,463 acres; 2) decommission an existing 115 kV transmission line; 3) construct and operate a new 17.6-mile 230 kV transmission line to be double circuited with the existing 115 kV transmission line; 4) add a new 500/230 kV substation (Sam's Valley substation); 5) upgrade the existing Grants Pass substation to accommodate the termination of the new proposed 230 kV transmission line; 6) reconductor a 4.9-mile segment of existing 230 kV transmission line; and 7) substantially modify an existing access roads. The amendment components are collectively referred to by PacifiCorp as the Sams Valley Reinforcement Project.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Preliminary Request for Amendment

**What's New:** On April 10, 2024 the Certificate Holder sent an email formally withdrawing request for Amendment 4.

**Looking Forward:** N/A

### Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Amendment #1

**Facility Description:** An approved but not yet constructed 500 kV single circuit electrical transmission line approximately 300 miles in length (273 miles in Oregon). The certificate holder is Idaho Power Company (IPC).

**Amendment Description:** 1) Add three 500-kV transmission line route alternatives (approximately 8.8 miles in total); and 2) add 45.9 miles of access road additions in each of the five affected counties. The site boundary additions cover 1,036 acres and changes to site certificate conditions.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Appeal

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The Umatilla County Circuit Court will review an appeal by Ms. Irene Gilbert of the Council's Final Order denying her request for contested case and approving Amendment #1.

### Leaning Juniper IIA Wind Power Facility #3

**Facility Description:** 90 MW operational wind energy facility in Gilliam County.

**Amendment Description:** 1) Replace the turbine rotors (nose cone, hub, and blades), the turbine nacelle and its interior elements (gearbox, oil cooler, drive shaft, pitch drive), and refurbish the turbine generators from 2.1 MW per turbine up to 2.5 MW on 36 of the 43 existing turbines; 2) Reinforce turbine foundations with upgraded collars and remove and replace the existing pad-mounted transformers and pads within the existing turbine footprint; 3) Install a new 34.5-kilovolt (kV) collector line system within existing micro-siting corridors; and 4) Decommission two turbines, reducing the number of operating turbines to 40 turbines. Of the 40 turbines, 36 will be repowered as part of Request for Amendment 3 (RFA3); no changes are proposed to four of the



original Suzlon turbines.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Proposed Order

**What's New:** At its April 19, 2024, Council reviewed the Draft Proposed Order, and all comments received during the comment period. The Department issued the Proposed Order on April 24, 2024. Public Notice of the Proposed Order and Opportunity to Request a Contested Case was issued on the same day.

**Looking Forward:** The deadline to request a contested case proceeding is May 24, 2024, at 5:00 PM. Only those persons, including the certificate holder, who commented in person or in writing on the record of the public hearing may request a contested case proceeding on the proposed order. Council may consider any contested case requests at its meeting on May 31, 2024. If no requests are received, or if Council determines that no requests received properly raised an issue that justifies a contested case proceeding, Council may consider whether to issue a Final Order either approving or rejecting RFA3.

### **Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East Amendment #1**

**Facility Description:** An approved but not yet constructed 200-megawatt (MW) wind energy generation facility, to be located within an approximately 4,582-acre (7.2 sq. mile) site boundary in Umatilla County.

**Amendment Description:** 1) Expand the approved site boundary by 74,403 acres (116.3 sq. miles); 2) Expand the approved micro-siting corridor by approximately 10,058 acres (15.7 sq. miles); 3) Construct up to 41 additional wind turbines (for a total of 107 turbines); 4) Increase facility capacity from 200 to 300 MWs; 5) Replace previously approved transmission corridor with a new route; and 6) Extend the deadline for construction completion by 3 years.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Proposed Order

**What's New:** The public comment period on Request for Amendment 1 and the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) ended on April 4, 2024. At its meeting on April 19, 2024, Council reviewed the Draft Proposed Order, and all comments received during the comment period. The Department issued the Proposed Order on April 25, 2024. Public Notice of the Proposed Order and Opportunity to Request a Contested Case was issued on the same day.

**Looking Forward:** The deadline to request a contested case proceeding is May 27, 2024, at 5:00 PM. Only those persons, including the certificate holder, who commented in person or in writing on the record of the public hearing may request a contested case proceeding on the proposed order. Council may consider any contested case requests at its meeting on May 31, 2024. If no requests are received, or if Council determines that no requests received properly raised an issue that justifies a contested case proceeding, Council may consider whether to issue a Final Order either approving or rejecting RFA1.

### **Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Amendment #2**

**Facility Description:** An approved but not yet constructed 500 kV single circuit electrical transmission line approximately 300 miles in length (273 miles in Oregon). The certificate holder is Idaho Power Company (IPC).

**Amendment Description:** 1) Add micro-siting areas for 12 transmission line alternatives and





approximately road segment alternatives; 2) Construction and operation of a midline series capacitor station; 3) Separate definitions of micrositing area and site boundary and expand the site boundary for portions of the facility; 4) Expand temporary road widths for construction roads; and 5) Changes to site certificate conditions.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Draft Proposed Order

**What's New:** The Department issued the Draft Proposed Order on April 16, 2024.

**Looking Forward:** An in-person and virtual public hearing on the Draft Proposed Order will occur at the May 30-31, 2024 Council meeting in Boardman. The 45-day public comment period will also conclude at the end of the May 30, 2024 public hearing.

#### **Carty Generating Station Amendment #4**

**Facility Description:** Operational 450 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fueled power plant and approved but not yet constructed 50 MW solar PV unit located in northern Morrow and Gilliam counties.

**Amendment Description:** Amend the site boundary, increase solar generating capacity from 50 MW on 315 acres (.49 sq. miles) to 185 MW on 849.7 acres (1.32 sq. miles), add related and supporting facilities including battery storage, and amend site certificate conditions, including the beginning construction deadline.

**Review Process:** Type A

**Phase:** Preliminary Request for Amendment (pRFA)

**What's New:** The Department completed its review of pRFA4 and determined it was incomplete. A Request for Additional Information (RAI) was sent to the certificate holder on April 16, 2024.

**Looking Forward:** The Department will continue to coordinate with the certificate holder and reviewing agencies while drafting the Draft Proposed Order and awaiting responses to RAIs.

Amendment Determination Requests (subject to requirements of OAR 345-027-0357)

None

#### Approved Facilities Under Construction

##### **Summit Ridge Wind Farm**

**Approved Facility:** Wind power generation facility with a nominal generation capacity of up to 194.4 MW.

**Status:** At its April 19, 2024 meeting, Council approved the proposed decommissioning plan as the final decommissioning plan and terminated the site certificate.

##### **Bakeoven Solar Project**

**Approved Facility:** Solar photovoltaic energy generation facility with a generating capacity of 60 MW being constructed on 497 acres (.77 sq. miles).

**Construction Deadlines:** April 24, 2023 (commencement); April 24, 2026 (completion)



**Construction Status:** All solar modules have been received. Circuits 1 and 2 (of 3) are complete and Circuit 3 is being installed. O&M building and Substation are near completion. Construction is anticipated to be complete in May 2024 with a commercial operational date also in May 2024.

### **Daybreak Solar Project**

**Approved Facility:** Solar photovoltaic energy generation facility with a generating capacity of 140 MW being constructed on 1,622 acres (2.5 sq. miles).

**Construction Deadlines:** April 24, 2023 (commencement); April 24, 2026 (completion)

**Construction Status:** All solar modules are enroute or in customs but not all received; installation will likely begin in March and construction is anticipated to be completed in summer 2024 with a commercial operational date on October 2024.

## **ACTIVE FEDERAL ENERGY FACILITY PROJECTS**

*Click on the project name for more information.*

### **Lower Klamath Project Surrender and Removal** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** FERC license surrender, decommissioning, and removal of four dams along the Klamath River with a total capacity of 163 MW by the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (The Corporation). The J.C. Boyle dam is located in Klamath County, OR. The Copco No.1, Copco No. 2, and Iron Gate dams are located in Siskiyou County, CA.

**What's New:** On April 2, 2024 FERC issued a letter stating that they are unable to authorize the lower diversion tunnel intake structure blast based on the information provided and requested a revised blast plan. From April 9 - 24, 2024, Klamath River Renewal Corp. submitted Tunnel Intake Structure Blast Plan Revision No. 1, 5 monthly reports, and on April 22, 2024 Klamath River Renewal Corp. submitted Optimal Excavation Schedule and Request for Authorization to Begin Embankment Dam Removal and associated documents re the Lower Klamath Hydroelectric Project

**Looking Forward:** Work will continue with dam removal processes.

### **Swan Lake North Pumped Storage** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 393.3 MW pumped-hydro storage project located approximately 11 miles northeast of Klamath Falls, OR, including: an upper and lower reservoir with active storage capacities of 2,562 and 2,581 acre-feet, respectively; a high-pressure penstock; three low-pressure penstocks; a powerhouse; a substation; and a 32.8-mile-long, 230-kilovolt transmission line. While the developer is Rye Development, LLC, the project is owned by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners, a Danish based company.

**What's New:** On April 15, 2024 Rye Development submitted an Application for Non-Capacity License Amendment re: the Swan Lake Hydroelectric project. This application outlines several modifications to the existing license which are needed to reflect the updated Project design. Rye Development also submitted an updated Exhibit G Drawings re: the amended project boundary on the same date. On April 16, 2024 FERC issued an order granting extensions of time for Swan Lake Hydro LLC. To meet Article 5.

**Looking Forward:** The license holder is working to complete the pre-construction requirements of its FERC license.



### **Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)**

**Facility Description:** An approved 500kV, single circuit electric transmission line from a proposed substation near Boardman, OR to the Hemingway substation near Melba, ID. BLM is the lead agency for this FAST-41 project. Idaho Power Corporation is the primary developer.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The final two of nine remaining federal environmental review and permitting processes are the Use Authorization (DOI-BOR) and Section 404 Clean Water Act permits (ACE).

### **GTN Express Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** Compressor station upgrades to the existing 1377-mile Gas Transmission Northwest interstate natural gas pipeline, which crosses Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, adding approximately 150,000 dekatherms per day of additional capacity. Upgrades in Oregon consist of expanding the compressor station and installing 4 new gas cooling bays and associated piping at the Kent Compressor Station in Sherman County. The Kent Compressor Station would also be uprated by means of a software upgrade only from 14,300 to 23,470 horsepower. The developer is TC Energy, a Canadian based company.

**What's New:** On April 16, 2024 GTN LLC. Submitted a request for Prompt Commission Action on the 02/20/2024 Notice to Proceed with Construction. On April 16, 2024, FERC issued a notice to proceed with construction. On April 24, 2024, a Petition for Review was filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit of GTN LLC. Re: April 16, 2024, order.

**Looking Forward:** N/A

### **Goldendale Energy Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 1200 MW closed loop pumped-hydro storage project located approximately 10 miles SE of Goldendale, Washington, at the John Day Dam on the Columbia River. About 12% of the 649.3 acres in the Project Boundary fall within the Bonneville Power Association - Oregon right-of-way. The project includes upper and lower reservoirs, each with active storage capacity of 7100 acre-feet; a water conveyance system; an underground powerhouse; and a transmission interconnection to BPA's John Day Substation. While the developer is Rye Development, LLC, the project is owned by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners, a Danish based company.

**What's New:** Between April 4 – April 18, 2024, 4 different letters between FERC and U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding requests for concurrence and the US. Department of Fish and Wildlife's responses which included concurring on the findings that the project is not likely to adversely affect salmon and steelhead species, while also requesting further information before conducting an effects analysis under Section 7 of the ESA. On April 22, a letter was issued to FFP Project 101 LLC requesting additional information to be filed within 30 days re: the Endangered Species Act Consultation for the Goldendale Hydroelectric Project.

**Looking Forward:** N/A

### **BLM Programmatic EIS for Utility-Scale Solar** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Project Description:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to amend the resource management plan (RMP) and to prepare an associated programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS) for utility scale solar energy planning on lands that are managed by BLM. The purpose of the amendment is to expand solar energy planning to additional western states



including Oregon; increase opportunities for responsible renewable energy development; and to develop appropriate criteria to exclude high-value resource areas from renewable energy development.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** BLM will publish a draft programmatic EIS. BLM is aiming to publish this sometime in 2024.

### **North Umpqua Hydro Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** Amendment to the license for the North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project which would allow the applicant to create up to 11 MW of pumped storage generation by connecting the existing Toketee reservoir and Fish Creek forebay. New infrastructure will include an approximately 969 foot long, 48-inch conduit connecting the Toketee and Fish Creek penstocks. A second project would create an additional 26 MW open-loop pumped storage system by connecting the existing Toketee Reservoir with an expanded Clearwater No. 2 forebay. This second project would include a new intake on Toketee Reservoir, pumphouse, reversible pump-turbine, and penstock extension, in addition to the expansion of the existing Clearwater No. 2 forebay. The developer is PacifiCorp.

**What's New:** On April 2, 2024 FERC issued a letter to PacifiCorp requesting further data on their Specific Seismic Hazard Analysis and requested that update within 60 days of issuance of their letter and PacifiCorp submitted a Water Quality Management Plan. On April 15, 2024 PacifiCorp submitted a response to FERC comments re: 2021 Seismic Hazard Analysis Revision 1 for the Lemono No. 1. Development part of the North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project. On April 16, 2024 FERC issued a letter to PacifiCorp discussing the Functional Exercise of the Emergency Action Plan for the Lemolo No. 1 Development et al. of the North Umpqua Project.

**Looking Forward:** PacifiCorp will respond to FERC's Letters.

### **Owyhee Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 600 MW pumped-hydro storage project located adjacent to the existing Lake Owyhee, approximately 11 miles southwest of Adrian, OR and includes: an upper reservoir with active storage capacity of 3410 acre-feet, an underground powerhouse, a substation, and a 3.1-mile project transmission line which would intersect the Summer Lake - Hemingway 500 kV transmission line. The existing Lake Owyhee would serve as the facility's lower reservoir. The developer is Owyhee Energy Storage, LLC which is owned by rPlus Energies, a US based company.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The unconstructed, proposed Project is in the initial stages of design, permitting, and licensing and site-specific design parameters are being refined. OES is performing an engineering evaluation that will further inform Project location and design features. The results of the engineering evaluation will be used to refine study areas, geographic scope, and methods proposed in the study plan. Abeyance of the ILP will allow adequate time for the progression of engineering evaluations to inform studies in the RSP.

### **Crooked Creek Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 500 MW closed loop pumped-hydro storage project located near Valley

Falls in Lake County. The project includes an upper reservoir with a surface area of 52 acres and a storage volume of approximately 2,344 acre-feet; a lower reservoir with a surface area of 50 acres and a storage volume of approximately 2,052 acre-feet; a 19.7-mile, 500-kilovolt transmission line interconnecting to PacifiCorp's existing Mile Hi substation in Lakeview, Oregon; plus, penstock, powerhouse/pump station, generating/pumping units, underground pipeline, and appurtenant facilities. The developer is PacifiCorp.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** The applicant will conduct a feasibility study and determine if they wish to file a license application with FERC.

#### **Winter Ridge Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 500 MW closed loop pumped-hydro storage project located near Summer Lake and Paisley in Lake County. The project includes an upper reservoir approximately two miles west of Summer Lake with a surface area of 85 acres and a storage volume of approximately 4285 acre-feet; a lower reservoir with a surface area of 43.6 acres and a storage volume of approximately 2156 acre-feet; a 9.3-mile, 500-kilovolt transmission line interconnecting to PacifiCorp's jointly owned Sycan substation; plus penstock, powerhouse/pump station, generating/pumping units, underground pipeline, and appurtenant facilities. Note: In an alternate version, the lower reservoir would have a surface area of 50 acres and a storage volume of approximately 2000 acre-feet, and the length of the transmission line would be 9.8 miles. The developer is PacifiCorp.

**What's New:** on April 5, 2024 PacifiCorp submitted its Second Annual Preliminary Permit Progress Report outlining their 2023 project efforts. Those efforts were primarily focused on project screening and economic viability.

**Looking Forward:** The applicant will conduct a feasibility study and determine if they wish to file a license application with FERC.

#### **Elephant Rock Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*

**Facility Description:** A 318 MW closed loop pumped-hydro storage project located in Curry County, near the Sixes River, approximately 12.5 miles east-northeast of Port Orford. It would consist of an upper reservoir with a storage volume of 3,605 acre-feet; an 820-foot-long, 24-foot diameter vertical shaft that connects the upper reservoir to a 4,200-foot-long horizontal power tunnel, leading to the powerhouse; a 60-ft high, 40-foot-diameter steel surge tower connected to the power tunnel upstream of the powerhouse; a 100-foot-wide, 500-foot-long, 100-foot-high reinforced-concrete powerhouse with four pump-turbine units, that discharge into the lower reservoir; a lower reservoir, with a storage volume of 3,605 acre-feet; and a 15-mile-long, 230 kV overhead transmission line extending from the powerhouse to the existing substation on Elk River Road, approximately 3 miles northeast of Port Orford. Both the upper and lower reservoirs would be created by zoned rockfill embankment dikes approximately 70 feet high and 7,200 feet in circumference. The project would have an annual generation capacity of 929,000 megawatt-hours. The developer is Rye Development, LLC, a US company.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** FERC will evaluate the preliminary permit application.

#### **Soldier Camp Creek Pumped Storage Project** *(no ODOE web page)*



**Facility Description:** A 550 MW closed loop pumped-hydro storage project located on Lobster Creek in Curry County, approximately 4 miles north of the Rogue River. It would include an upper reservoir with a storage volume of approximately 3,000 acre-feet created by a 5,600-foot-long, 70-foot-high rockfill embankment ring dike; a lower reservoir with a storage volume of approximately 3,000 acre-feet created by a 5,700-foot-long, 70-foot-high rockfill embankment ring dike; a 1,825 foot-long steel and concrete penstock with a diameter of 22-feet; a 550-foot-long, 120-foot-wide concrete powerhouse/pump station located on the lower reservoir shoreline containing 6 generating/pumping units; an approximate 13-mile, 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line that would interconnect to the regional transmission grid; and appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would generate an estimated annual average of 1,606 gigawatt-hours. The developer is Rye Development, LLC, a US company.

**What's New:** N/A

**Looking Forward:** FERC will evaluate the preliminary permit application.

### **USDOE Categorical Exclusion for Solar and Transmission** (no ODOE web page)

**Description:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) proposes to amend its implementing procedures (regulations) governing compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The proposed changes would add a categorical exclusion for certain energy storage systems and revise categorical exclusions for upgrading and rebuilding transmission lines and for solar photovoltaic systems, as well as make conforming changes to related sections of DOE's NEPA regulations. The proposed changes are based on the experience of DOE and other Federal agencies, current technologies, regulatory requirements, and accepted industry practice. DOE invites public comments on the proposed changes.

**What's New:** On April 4, 2024 DOE issued its Notice of Final Rulemaking.

**Looking Forward:** N/A

ODOE Siting division tracks other federal facility projects for informational purposes. Those federal facility updates are available on [ODOE's website](#).

## RULEMAKING

*Click on the project name for more information. Please submit any rulemaking questions, issues, or topics you would like to be considered to [EFSC.Rulemaking@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:EFSC.Rulemaking@energy.oregon.gov). You can sign up for updates on the Council's rulemaking activities [here](#).*

### **Contested Case Rulemaking**

**Description:** This rulemaking project will identify proposed revisions to the contested case rules found in OAR chapter 345, division 015. One key reason for engaging in this rulemaking now is to implement lessons learned from recent contested case proceedings. The rulemaking is intended to: 1) improve the efficiency of the contested case process; 2) adopt Office of Administrative Hearings rules where it makes sense to do so; and 3) identify and remedy areas where existing rules do not provide sufficient clarity.

**What's New:** The public comment period ended on April 19 and the Department is now reviewing these comments.



**Looking Forward:** The Department will present updated draft language for consideration by Council at its May 30-31, 2024 meeting. The Department will also request issuance of a new Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and a new, 21-day public comment period, the exact timing of which would depend on when the Notice is filed with the Secretary of State.

### Site Certificate Amendment Rulemaking

**Description:** This rulemaking project will evaluate options to address outstanding issues on the rules governing the amendment of site certificates under OAR chapter 345, division 027, including issues related to when an amendment is required, when opportunities for public notice and participation in the different review processes should be provided, and what types of amendments should be considered in contested case proceedings. The objectives of this rulemaking are to make the amendment review process more efficient and effective while ensuring adequate opportunities for public participation.

**What's New:** The Department is performing internal analysis for possible rule language updates and to identify areas for the Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) to focus on.

**Looking Forward:** The Department will appoint a RAC for this rulemaking and will schedule a RAC meeting.

### Application Process Phase 2 Rulemaking

**Description:** This rulemaking project will examine the submission requirements for a site certificate application and compare them to the Council standards for the siting of a new energy project, found in OAR chapter 345, divisions 021 and 022. The goal is to update the data requirements to ensure that what is needed to show compliance with the Council standards is being asked for and information not used is not required.

**What's New:** Council approved the start of informal rulemaking for this project at its meeting on April 19, 2024.

**Looking Forward:** The Department will appoint a Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) for this rulemaking and will schedule a RAC meeting.

### 2024 Monetary Carbon Offset Rulemaking

**Description:** This rulemaking is intended to update the monetary carbon offset found in OAR 345-024-0580 and is needed to address historic increases in offset costs. Per ORS 469.503(2)(c)(C), the rate may be increased or decreased by as much as 50% as of every two years. Regular evaluations are needed to ensure the offset rate is at market levels for carbon dioxide emissions.

**What's New:** Council approved the start of informal rulemaking for this project at its meeting on April 19, 2024.

**Looking Forward:** The Department will review the latest data regarding the market price for carbon dioxide and use this data to determine if the offset rate needs to change to better match the market rate.

### Research Reactor Rulemaking

**Description:** This rulemaking project will update OAR 345-030 to ensure consistency with federal reporting requirements and deadlines.

**What's New:** N/A



**Looking Forward:** Once draft rules are finalized, the Department will present them to Council for consideration to be filed in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

## COMPLIANCE

**Operational Activities:** In the month of May Operational inspections will be conducted at Biglow Canyon Wind Farm; Klondike III Wind Project; Leaning Juniper IIA and IIB. On March 14th, the Department conducted a virtual inspection of Springfield Utility-Industrial Energy Center. The compliance report is in progress.

**Pre-Construction Activities:** Pre-construction compliance is in process for Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line, Madras Solar Energy Facility and Wheatridge Renewable Energy Facility East.

**Construction Activities:** In the month of May construction inspections will be conducted at Bakeoven Solar and Daybreak Solar.

**Incident Activities:** N/A

**Facility Decommissioning Financial Assurance:** The requirement for certificate holders to restore their facility to a useful, non-hazardous condition once operations have ceased is partially fulfilled by maintaining a bond or letter of credit in that amount should that obligation fall to the state. The total amount of site certificate bonds and letters of credit managed by the Department is \$238,242,083. These assurances are updated annually to keep pace with inflation.

**Nuclear Fuel Storage:** On February 22, 2024, the Department inspected the Trojan site and reviewed changes made in Revision 9 to the Security Plan for the Independent Spent Fuel Installation (ISFSI). Based on the Department's recommendation, Council and the Director issued a joint statement on March 28, 2024 confirming that the ISFSI Security Plan continues to provide adequate provisions for the protection of public health and safety.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council agendas, meeting materials, and minutes can be found at:

[State of Oregon: Facilities - Council Meetings](#)

**Next Council Meeting:** May 30-31, 2024 (Riverfront Center, Boardman Or.) - In addition to the regular consent and public comment agenda items, the following agenda items are anticipated: 1) Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Amendment 2 Draft Proposed Order Public Hearing; 2) Wagon Trail Solar Project Draft Proposed Order Public Hearing; 3) Contested Case Rulemaking; 4) Council review of Wheatridge Renewable Energy East Amendment 1 and possible Final Decision; 5) Council review of Leaning Juniper IIA Amendment 3 and possible Final Decision.

**2024 Meeting Dates:** The following dates may be changed to ensure a quorum and will be released if not needed:

June 13-14; July 18-19; August 22-23; September 19-20; October 24-25; November 14-15; December 12-13

These dates do not preclude the need for special meetings that may be conducted via teleconference and webinar or in person at the discretion of the chair. Locations and agendas to be determined.





## HELPFUL LINKS

- [About energy facility siting in Oregon](#)
- [Latest facility siting project updates](#)
- [Oregonians' Guide to Siting and Oversight of Energy Facilities](#)
- [Energy Facility Siting Council](#)
- [Facilities under Energy Facility Siting Council Jurisdiction](#)
- [Oregon Energy Siting Standards](#)
- [Energy Facility Siting & Permitting \(from ODOE 2020 Biennial Energy Report\)](#)

 [Sign up to receive email updates about energy facility siting in Oregon.](#)