ORDER NO. 20-142

ENTERED ADT 27 2020

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1930

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON,

ORDER

Community Solar Projects for Conditional Pre-Certification Consideration.

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its public meeting on April 21, 2020, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

BY THE COMMISSION:

Nolan Moser Chief Administrative Law Judge

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Circuit Court for Marion County in compliance with ORS 183.484.



ITEM NO. RA2

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT PUBLIC MEETING DATE: April 21, 2020

REGULAR X CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE N/A

DATE: April 13, 2020

- **TO:** Public Utility Commission
- **FROM:** Natascha Smith
- THROUGH: Bryan Conway, Michael Dougherty, and JP Batmale SIGNED
- **SUBJECT:** OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF: (Docket No. UM 1930) Community Solar Projects for Conditional Pre-Certification Consideration.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC or Commission) should accept recommendation of the Program Administrator (PA) of the Community Solar Program (CSP or Program) to conditionally pre-certify these ten Projects.

DISCUSSION:

ssue

Whether the Commission should accept the recommendation of the Program Administrator to grant conditional pre-certification to the proposed Community Solar Projects.

Applicable Rule or Law

Section 22 of Senate Bill (SB) 1547, effective March 8, 2016, and codified in ORS 757.386, directs the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) to establish a community solar program.

On June 29, 2017, the Commission adopted formal rules for Oregon's CSP under OAR Division 88 of Chapter 860. OAR 860-088-0040 details the requirements for Project pre-certification.

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<u>Analysis</u>

Background

On January 21, 2020, the CSP platform began accepting applications for Project precertification. As required by OAR 860-088-0040(e) the CSP Program Administrator has reviewed the following application and recommended the Commission grant conditional pre-certification to these Projects.

Project Name of Utility Project Recommendation Attachment Name Territory PM Size (kW-AC) Conditionally Pre-Belvedere Sulus Solar Solar PGE 2970 Attachment A LLC certifv Conditionally Pre-Manchester Solar LLC Solar Town PGE 1800 certify Attachment B Conditionally Pre-Clayfield Solar Town Solar LLC PGE 2565 certify Attachment C Conditionally Pre-Dover Solar Solar Town PGE 1980 certify Attachment D Conifer Cosper Community Creek Energy 1, Conditionally Pre-Solar, LLC LLC PGE 2500 certify Attachment E Conifer Community Sesqui-C Energy 3, Conditionally Pre-Solar, LLC LLC PGE 2500 Attachment F certify Conifer Carnes Community Creek Energy 5, Conditionally Pre-Solar, LLC LLC PGE 2500 certify Attachment G Conditionally Pre-Sandy River Solar SR PM, LLC PGE 1850 certify Attachment H Fruitland Creek Conditionally Pre-Solar FC PM, LLC PGE 1750 certify Attachment I Kaiser Creek Kaiser Project Creek Conditionally Pre-Manager, PGE 2000 Attachment J Solar, LLC LLC certify

Projects

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Program Administrator Reasoning

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission pre-certify the Projects listed above subject to several conditions, specified below.

Each Project listed above has met all Pre-certification requirements outlined in the PIM, but is subject to an existing Qualifying Facility Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Portland General Electric (PGE), which raises practical barriers to it being able to operate as a Community Solar Project and to fulfill all Program requirements and obligations. Accordingly, the PA believes the following conditions on pre-certification are necessary for consumer protection reasons and to ensure that practical concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

The Program Administrator recommends that each of the Projects listed above be precertified with three conditions, below. Beyond Project's active PPA with PGE, we have no other reservations to raise with the Commission regarding this Project.

- Within six weeks of the Commission conditionally approving the Projects for precertification, each Project must terminate its existing PPA with PGE. This period refers only to termination, not to the settlement of any damages stemming from early termination or breach of contract.
- 2. Until a Project has terminated its PPA with PGE, the Project Manager may not enter into Participant contracts for subscription or ownership.
- 3. Until the Program Administrator has confirmed receipt of documentation that the Project has terminated its PPA with PGE, the Project will not be listed as precertified on the Oregon CSP website and will not be included in the website's Project Finder.

If the Project is able to comply with these conditions and present documentation of PPA termination to the Program Administrator, the Project will be permitted to enroll Participants following the termination of its existing PPA and carry on as normal towards Certification. The Program Administrator will provide the Commission with documentation of the Project's compliance with these conditions at the time of the Project's Certification.

After the six-week period, if any Projects are unable to comply with these conditions, the Program Administrator would provide the Commission with a new recommendation to reject the Project's pre-certification application or to take other appropriate action. We also recommend adjusting the Project's Certification timeline so that it must achieve Certification within eighteen months of the date that the Program Administrator confirms receipt of documentation that pre-certification conditions have been met, as opposed to eighteen months from the date that the Project is conditionally pre-certified by the

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Commission. We believe this adjustment is warranted as the eighteen-month timeline was established to give Projects adequate time to conduct Project development and Participant recruitment, both of which are impacted by the conditional nature of the Project's pre-certification.

Staff Assessment

In Order No. 20-076, the Commission adopted the process for conditional precertification. The above listed Projects meet all the requirements for pre-certification in statute, administrative rule, and in the PIM, however their executed PPAs with PGE practically bar them from Program participation. Conditional pre-certification would provide sufficient certainty for these Projects to terminate their contracts with the utility.

Staff, the effected developers, and PGE became aware of this specific issue in January. Since then, the Program in PGE's territory has been in limbo, with most Projects unable to move forward. Staff is aware that six weeks is a relatively short period, but notes that six weeks from now it will be June. Staff believes that if a solution is not reached by June, that reassessment of the situation is warranted.

Conclusion

Based on the reasoning of the Program Administrator and a review of CSP requirements, Staff ultimately recommends that the Commission grant the requested conditional pre-certification of these Projects.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Accept the recommendation of the Program Administrator and conditionally pre-certify the listed Projects in the Community Solar Program.

UM 1930 Projects for Pre-certification Consideration





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description:

PGE-2020-15 Belvedere Solar Sulus Solar LLC 9526-9530 Mt Angel Highway NE Mt angel 97362 Portland General Electric 2970 Low Income No Workforce Diversity No

| Lott mooning | |
|---------------------|----|
| Workforce Diversity | No |
| Brownfield | No |
| Dual-Use Ag | No |

LLC

null

2.97 MWac utility scale ground mounted system connected to 12.5kV local PGE 3 phase infrastructure

| Participation an | d Billing Stru | cture |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Low Income Recruitment Method: | Low-Income | e Coordinator |
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % |

Requirements Checklist (OAR 880-088-0040)

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/7/2020 |
|---|-----|----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |
| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes | |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes | |
| | | |

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PA Recommendation:

Recommendation:

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description: PGE-2020-16 Manchester Solar LLC Solar Town

18100 SE Neck Rd (45°13'18.47"N, 123° 2'47.39"W) Dayton 97114

Portland General Electric

1800

| Low Income | No | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

nuli

Ground Mounted Solar PV system of 1.8 MWac based in Yamhill County. Become a part of Solar Town's Community Solar Project!

| Low Income Recruitment Method: | Low-Income | Coordinator | |
|---|------------|-------------|--|
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % | |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % | |

| Requirements Checklist (OAR | 880-088-0040) | |
|---|---------------|-----------|
| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 11/1/2019 |
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |
| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes | |

Submitted development timeline:

Yes

PA Recommendation:

Recommendation:

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory:

Projected COD: Project Description:

Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type:





Community Solar Pre-Certification Reccomendation

Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

| Project Ov | verview | | |
|------------|---|---|-------|
| | PGE-2020-17 | | |
| | Clayfield Solar LLC | | |
| | Solar Town | | |
| | 23741 S Springwater Rd. (45°15'46.53"N, 122°20'58.94"W) | Estacada | 97023 |
| | Portland General Ele | ctric | |
| | 2565 | | |
| | Low Income | | No |
| | Workforce Diversity | | No |
| | Brownfield | | No |
| | Dual-Use Ag | | No |
| | LLC | | |
| | null | | |
| | Ground Mounted Sol | 2 Charles Charles and Charles and Charles | |

Solar Town's Community Solar Project!

| Participation an | d Billing Stru | cture | |
|---|----------------|-------------|--|
| Low Income Recruitment Method: | Low-Income | Coordinator | |
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % | |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % | |

| Requirements Checklist (OAR 8 | 90-088-0040) |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
|-------------------------------|--------------|

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 11/1/2019 |
|---|-----|-----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |
| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes | |

Submitted development timeline:

Yes

PA Recommendation:

Recommendation:

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

| | Project Overview | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Project ID: | PGE-2020-19 | |
| Project Name: | Dover Solar | |
| Project Manager: | Solar Town | |
| Site Address: | NE of crossroads Gribble Rd and Canby Marquam Hwy (45°12'34.71"N, 122°40'33.30"W) Canby 97038 | |
| Utility Territory: | Portland General Electric | |
| Project Size (kW-AC): | 1980 | |
| Applicable Designations : | Low Income No | |
| | Workforce Diversity No | |
| | Brownfield No | |
| | Dual-Use Ag No | |
| Development Entity Type: | LLC | |
| Projected COD: | null | |
| Project Description: | Ground Mounted Solar PV system of 1.98 M based in Clackamas County. Become a part Solar Town's Community Solar Project! | |

| Participation and | d Billing Stru | cture | |
|---|----------------|-------------|--|
| Low Income Recruitment Method: | Low-Income | Coordinator | |
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % | |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % | |

| Requirements Checklist (OAR | 8100-088-0040 |) |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 11/1/2019 |
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |

| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes |
|---|-----|
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes |

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

Recommendation:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

| Project ID: | |
|------------------|--|
| Project Name: | |
| Project Manager: | |

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: **Project Description:**

PGE-2020-34

Cosper Creek Solar, LLC Conifer Community Energy 1, LLC 45.058°, -123.499° Willamina 97396 Portland General Electric 2500 Low Income No Workforce Diversity No Brownfield No **Dual-Use Ag** No

LLC

null

Cosper Creek Solar, LLC is a 2.5 megawatt AC ground-mounted solar project on 10-acres sited one mile south of Willamina in Polk County. The project is in Portland General Electric's territory and will be interconnected to the utility's local distribution system.

| Participation an | d Billing Stru | cture |
|---|----------------|--|
| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will cola | borate with the Low-Income Coordinator |
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % |

Requirements Checklist (OAR 8110-088-0040)

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/13/2020 |
|--|-----|-----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |

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| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes |
|---|-----|
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes |

PA Recommendation:

Recommendation:

Recommendation Date:

With_Reservations 4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description: PGE-2020-45 Sesqui-C Solar, LLC Conifer Community Energy 3, LLC

15000 HIGHWAY 47 YAMHILL 97148

Portland General Electric

2500

| Low Income | No | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

null

Sesqui-C Solar, LLC is a 2.5 megawatt AC groundmounted solar project sited on 12-acres about one mile south of Yamhill in Yamhill County. The project is in Portland General Electric's territory and will be interconnected to the utility's local distribution system.

Participation and Billing Structure

| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator | |
|---|--|---|
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % |

Requirements Checklist (OAR 8150-088-0040)

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/13/2020 |
|--|-----|-----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |

| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes |
|---|-----|
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes |

Recommendation:

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

With Reservations

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





97305

Community Solar Pre-Certification Reccomendation

Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description:

PGE-2020-56 Carnes Creek Solar, LLC Conifer Community Energy 5, LLC 10825 Portland Rd NE Salem Portland General Electric

2500

| Low Income | No | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

null

Carnes Creek Solar, LLC is a 2.5 megawatt AC ground-mounted solar project sited on 12-acres about 2.5 miles north of Brooks in Marion County. The project is in Portland General Electric's territory and will be interconnected to the utility's local distribution system.

Participation and Billing Structure

| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator | |
|---|--|---|
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % |

Requirements Checklist (OAR 8160-088-0040)

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/13/2020 |
|--|-----|-----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |

| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes |
|---|-----|
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes |

Recommendation:

Recommendation Date:

With_Reservations 4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description: PGE-2020-38 Sandy River Solar SR PM, LLC 45Ű25'51.8"N 122Ű17'42.6"W Sandy 97055 Portland General Electric 1850

| Low Income | Νο | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

null

Sandy River Solar is a 1.85 MWac / 2.57 MWdc ground mounted photovoltaic solar project located northwest of Sandy, OR.

Participation and Billing Structure

| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator | |
|---|--|---|
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % |

Requirements Checklist (OAR 8120-088-0040)

| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/14/2020 |
|---|-----|-----------|
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes | |
| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes | |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes | |

Recommendation:

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description: PGE-2020-41 Fruitland Creek Solar FC PM, LLC 44°55'48.5"N 122°56'15.0"W Salem 97317 Portland General Electric

1750

| Low Income | No | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

null

Fruitland Creek solar is a 1.75 MWac / 2.26 MWdc ground mounted photovoltaic solar project located east of Salem, OR

| Participation and Billing Structure | | | |
|---|--------------|--|--|
| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will cola | borate with the Low-Income Coordinator | |
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % | |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % | |

Paguiromente Checklist (OAP 9130 089 0040)

| 3130-088-0040 |) |
|---------------|--|
| Yes | 1/14/2020 |
| Yes | |
| | Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes |

Recommendation:

With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.





Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: Project Name: Project Manager:

Site Address:

Utility Territory: Project Size (kW-AC): Applicable Designations :

Development Entity Type: Projected COD: Project Description:

PGE-2020-42

Kaiser Creek Solar, LLC

KAISER CREEK PROJECT MANAGER, LLC

45°08'34.8"N,

122°36'32.4"W Molalla 97038

Portland General Electric

2000

| Low Income | No | |
|---------------------|----|--|
| Workforce Diversity | No | |
| Brownfield | No | |
| Dual-Use Ag | No | |

LLC

null

Kaiser Creek Solar, LLC is a 2,000 kilowatt AC solar photovoltaic ground-mounted project sited on 12 acres about 1.5 miles southwest of the town of Molalla in Clackamas County, Oregon. Coordinates: 45°08'34.8"N, 122°36'32.4"W. The project is located in Portland General Electric territory.

Participation and Billing Structure

| Low Income Recruitment Method: | PM will colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Low-Income Participation: | 10 | % | |
| Residential & Small Business: | 50 | % | |
| Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial: | 40 | % | |

| Requirements Checklist (OAF | R 8140-088-0040) |) |
|--|------------------|-----------|
| Project manager has registered with the CSP: | Yes | 1/15/2020 |
| Meets all insurance project requirements: | Yes | |
| Submitted a detailed description of the project: | Yes | |
| Has obtained all non-ministerial permits: | Yes | |
| Has complied with interconnection requirements: | Yes | |

| Submitted participant acquisition approach: | Yes |
|---|-----|
| Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements: | Yes |
| Submitted estimated project cost information: | Yes |
| Submitted development timeline: | Yes |

Recommendation: With_Reservations

Recommendation Date:

4/7/2020

The Program Administrator recommends that the Commission Pre-certify this Project subject to several conditions, specified below.