ORDER NO. 21-492

ENTERED Dec 28 2021

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### **OF OREGON**

UM 1930

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON,

Requests Pre-Certification of Project in Community Solar Program.

**ORDER** 

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its public meeting on December 28, 2021, 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. CA23

### PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT PUBLIC MEETING DATE: December 28, 2021

REGULAR \_\_\_ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE \_\_\_\_ N/A

DATE: December 20, 2021

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Joe Abraham

THROUGH: Bryan Conway, JP Batmale, and Sarah Hall SIGNED

**SUBJECT:** OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF:

(Docket No. UM 1930)

Requests pre-certification of project in the Community Solar Program.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve recommended project for pre-certification in the Community Solar Program.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

### Issue

Whether the Commission should approve the recommended Community Solar Program project for pre-certification.

#### Applicable Rule or Law

Section 22 of Senate Bill 1547, effective March 8, 2016, and codified in ORS 757.386, directs the Commission to establish a community solar program (hereinafter referred to as "Program", or "CSP").

On June 29, 2017, the Commission adopted formal rules for the Program under OAR Division 88 of Chapter 860. OAR 860-088-0040 details the requirements for project pre-certification.

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### **Analysis**

### Background

A Project Manager (PM) registered with CSP may submit applications for project precertification to the Program Administrator (PA). As required by OAR 860-088-0040(3), the PA reviews applications for compliance with Program requirements and recommends whether the Commission approve the projects for pre-certification.

The PA recently received pre-certification applications for the following project. After reviewing the application and supporting documentation provided by the PM, the PA has determined that this project qualifies for pre-certification in the Program and recommends approval.

Recommended Projects

| Project Name        | Name of Project<br>Manager | Utility Territory | Project Size (kW-AC) | Attachment # |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Wood River<br>Solar | Wood River PM,<br>LLC      | PAC               | 360 kW-AC            | Attachment A |

Wood River Solar is a 360 kW-AC project just outside of the City of Klamath Falls in Klamath County. The project manager entity is controlled by TLS Capital, which also manages five other projects in PAC service area and three projects in PGE service area. Outreach and customer management for the project will be conducted through Oregon Shines, an entity formed by several PMs to conduct customer management in the Program. The Wood River project will reserve 50 percent of project capacity for low-income customers.

Based on its small size, the Wood River Solar project will use the Program's carve-out capacity reserved for small and/or nonprofit-led projects.<sup>1</sup>

#### Conclusion

Staff has discussed the project application with the PA and reviewed CSP requirements. Staff supports the PA's recommendation that the Commission approve the projects above for pre-certification in the CSP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Twenty-five percent of the allocated Program capacity is allocated for use by projects up to 360 kW-AC in size and projects led by a non-profit Project Manager.

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## PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve the recommended project for pre-certification in the Community Solar Program.

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## **Community Solar Pre-Certification Recommendation**

Public Meeting Date: 12/28/21

Project Overview

Project ID: PP-2021-126
Project Name: Wood River Solar
Project Manager: Wood River PM, LLC

Site Address: 42°10'45.32"N, 121°44'55.75"W Altamont 97603

Utility Territory: Pacific Power

Project Size (kW-AC): 359

Applicable Designations : Low Income No
Workforce Diversity No

Brownfield No
Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC

Projected COD: 9/1/2023

Project Description: Wood River Solar is a 0.359 MWac / 0.640 MWdc ground mounted

photovoltaic solar project located southeast of Klamath Falls.

Participation and Billing Structure

Low Income Recruitment Method: PM will colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator

Low-Income Participation:50 %Residential & Small Business:25 %Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial:25 %Ownership or Subscription:Subscription

Requirements Checklist (OAR 860-088-0040)

Project manager has registered with the CSP: Yes 11/11/2021

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: No Reservations

Recommendation Date: 11/24/2021