ORDER NO. 20-142

ENTERED Apr 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:

TO THE STATE OF TH

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 <u>X</u>	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.

Projects

Projects	1	1		1	
Project Name	Name of PM	Utility Territory	Project Size	Recommendation	Attachment
INAIIIC	I IVI	1 GITILOTY	(kW-AC)		
Belvedere	Sulus Solar			Conditionally Pre-	
Solar	LLC	PGE	2970	certify	Attachment A
Manchester				Conditionally Pre-	
Solar LLC	Solar Town	PGE	1800	certify	Attachment B
Clayfield				Conditionally Pre-	
Solar LLC	Solar Town	PGE	2565	certify	Attachment C
Dover				Conditionally Pre-	
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,	505	0500	Conditionally Pre-	
Solar, LLC	LLC	PGE	2500	certify	Attachment F
	Conifer				
Carnes	Community			O and Pillian all III Day	
Creek	Energy 5,	DOE	0500	Conditionally Pre-	A 44 la 4 - O
Solar, LLC	LLC	PGE	2500	Conditionally Dra	Attachment G
Sandy	CD DM LLC	DOE	1050	Conditionally Pre-	Attachment U
River Solar	SR PM, LLC	PGE	1850	certify	Attachment H
Fruitland Creek				Conditionally Pro	
Solar	FC PM, LLC	PGE	1750	Conditionally Pre- certify	Attachment I
Julai	Kaiser Creek	FUE	1750	Certify	Allachinent
Kaiser	Project				
Creek	Manager,			Conditionally Pre-	
Solar, LLC	LLC	PGE	2000	certify	Attachment J
Joiai, LLC		I I OL	2000	Cortiny	Allacillient J

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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 recommendation.

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: PGE-2020-15
Project Name: Belvedere Solar
Project Manager: Sulus Solar LLC

Site Address: 9526-9530 Mt Angel

Highway NE Mt angel 97362

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2970

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No

Brownfield No

Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: 2.97 MWac utility scale ground mounted system

connected to 12.5kV local PGE 3 phase

infrastructure

Participation and Billing Structure

Low Income Recruitment Method:

Low-Income Participation:

Residential & Small Business:

Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial:

Low-Income Coordinator

10

%

50

%

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: PGE-2020-16

Project Name: Manchester Solar LLC

Project Manager: Solar Town

18100 SE Neck Rd (

Site Address: 45°13'18.47"N,

123° 2'47.39"W) Dayton 97114

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 1800

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 1.8 MWac

based in Yamhill County. Become a part of Solar

Town's Community Solar Project!

Participation and Billing Structure

Low Income Recruitment Method:

Low-Income Participation:

Residential & Small Business:

Large Commercial, Agricultural, & Industrial:

Low-Income Coordinator

10 %

50 %

Requirements Checklist (OAR 880-088-0040)

Project manager has registered with the CSP: Yes 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 11/1/2019

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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-2020-17
Project Name: Clayfield Solar LLC

Project Manager: Solar Town

23741 S Springwater

Site Address:

45°15'46.53"N,

122°20'58.94"W) Estacada 97023

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2565

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 2.565 MWac

based in Clackamas County. Become a part of

Solar Town's Community Solar Project!

Participation and Billing Structure

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

Requirements Checklist (OAR 890-088-0040)

Yes Project manager has registered with the CSP: Yes 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:

11/1/2019

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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

NE of crossroads Gribble Rd and Canby Marguam

Site Address: Hwy (

45°12'34.71"N,

122°40'33.30"W) 97038 Canby

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

Ground Mounted Solar PV system of 1.98 MWac **Project Description:**

based in Clackamas County. Become a part of

Solar Town's Community Solar Project!

Yes

Participation and Billing Structure

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: 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 11/1/2019

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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: With Reservations

Recommendation Date: 4/7/2020

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

We recommend a conditional Pre-certification in this case as the Project has met all Pre-certification requirements outlined in the PIM, but is subject to an existing Qualifying Facility Power Purchase Agreement with Portland General Electric, which raises practical barriers to it being able to operate as a Community Solar Project and to fulfill all Program requirements and obligations. We believe that these conditions on Pre-certification are necessary for consumer protection reasons and to ensure that practical concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

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Public Meeting Date: 4/21/20

Project Overview

Project ID: PGE-2020-34

Project Name: Cosper Creek Solar, LLC

Project Manager: Conifer Community Energy 1, LLC

Site Address: 45.058°, -

123.499° Willamina 97396

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2500

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No
Brownfield No
Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: 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 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 8110-088-0040)

Project manager has registered with the CSP:

Yes

1/13/2020

Meets all insurance project requirements:

Submitted a detailed description of the project:

Has obtained all non-ministerial permits:

Has complied with interconnection requirements:

Yes

Yes

Submitted participant acquisition approach:

Yes

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Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements:

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-2020-45

Project Name: Sesqui-C Solar, LLC

Project Manager: Conifer Community Energy 3, LLC

Site Address:

15000 HIGHWAY 47 YAMHILL 97148

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2500

Applicable Designations :

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

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: Sesqui-C Solar, LLC is a 2.5 megawatt AC ground-

mounted 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:

Submitted a detailed description of the project:

Has obtained all non-ministerial permits:

Has complied with interconnection requirements:

Yes

Submitted participant acquisition approach:

Yes

Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements:

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-2020-56

Project Name: Carnes Creek Solar, LLC

Project Manager: Conifer Community Energy 5, LLC

Site Address: 10825 Portland Rd

NE Salem 97305

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2500

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No

Brownfield No

Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: 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:

Submitted a detailed description of the project:

Has obtained all non-ministerial permits:

Has complied with interconnection requirements:

Yes

Yes

Submitted participant acquisition approach:

Yes

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Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements:

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-2020-38
Project Name: Sandy River Solar
Project Manager: SR PM, LLC

Site Address: 45°25'51.8"N

122°17'42.6"W Sandy 97055

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 1850

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No
Brownfield No
Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: 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:

Submitted a detailed description of the project:

Has obtained all non-ministerial permits:

Has complied with interconnection requirements:

Submitted participant acquisition approach:

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-2020-41

Project Name: Fruitland Creek Solar

Project Manager: FC PM, LLC

Site Address: 44°55'48.5"N

122°56'15.0"W Salem 97317

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 1750

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No

Brownfield No

Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC Projected COD: null

Project Description: 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 colaborate with the Low-Income Coordinator

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

Requirements Checklist (OAR 8130-088-0040)

Project manager has registered with the CSP:

Yes

1/14/2020

Yes 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:

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-2020-42

Project Name: Kaiser Creek Solar, LLC

Project Manager: KAISER CREEK PROJECT MANAGER, LLC

Site Address: 45°08'34.8"N,

122°36'32.4"W Molalla 97038

Utility Territory: Portland General Electric

Project Size (kW-AC): 2000

Applicable Designations : Low Income No

Workforce Diversity No

Brownfield No

Dual-Use Ag No

Development Entity Type: LLC
Projected COD: null

Project Description: 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 (OAR 8140-088-0040)

Project manager has registered with the CSP: Yes 1/15/2020

Meets all insurance project requirements:

Submitted a detailed description of the project:

Has obtained all non-ministerial permits:

Yes

Has complied with interconnection requirements:

Yes

Submitted participant acquisition approach:

Submitted plan for meeting low-income requirements:

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.