

Project Update – October 30, 2020

# About the Project

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RES) is proposing to construct and operate the Enterprise Solar Power Project ("Enterprise" or the "Project"), a 90 MWac solar energy generation project located in Vulcan County, in southern Alberta. The Project, as planned, would cover approximately 600 acres of land, utilizing 540-watt tier 1 polysilicon bifacial solar modules on single axis trackers. A network of underground 34.5kV collection lines to a step-up transformer within the Project 138kV substation would be required at the southern end of the Project to interconnect to the existing AltaLink 138kV line that runs along the southern property line. No long transmission line would be required to connect this project to the grid. The Project is being designed to be energy-storage ready, meaning that it will be able, in the future, to easily add battery storage units to create the most efficient solar project possible.

In July 2020, an initial Project newsletter was mailed out to stakeholders within two km of the proposed Project boundary. As development activities progress, we would like to provide you with a few updates and more information about the Project. Over these last few months we have been working diligently to optimize the Project utilizing the newest technology to create efficiencies in the use of land and working through designs to minimize impact to people and the environment. For example, over the last couple of months, we have redesigned the Project to use approximately 150 acres less land than originally anticipated, while generating the same amount of electricity!

## **Public Consultation Update**

RES is carrying out its Participant Involvement Program (PIP) and has been working with stakeholders regarding feedback gathered through its consultation efforts. Due to Covid-19, it is currently impossible to safely hold a Public Open House. However, as an alternative, RES has been holding open office hours in the town of Vulcan where members of the community can meet one-on-one with a Project representative to ask questions, discuss the Project and have their concerns understood and appropriately addressed. Informative panels containing further details about the Project are also available at the Vulcan office and on our website: <u>www.enterprise-solar.com</u>, under the 'Project Documents' page. The open office hours have been extended by a month to last until the end of November 2020.

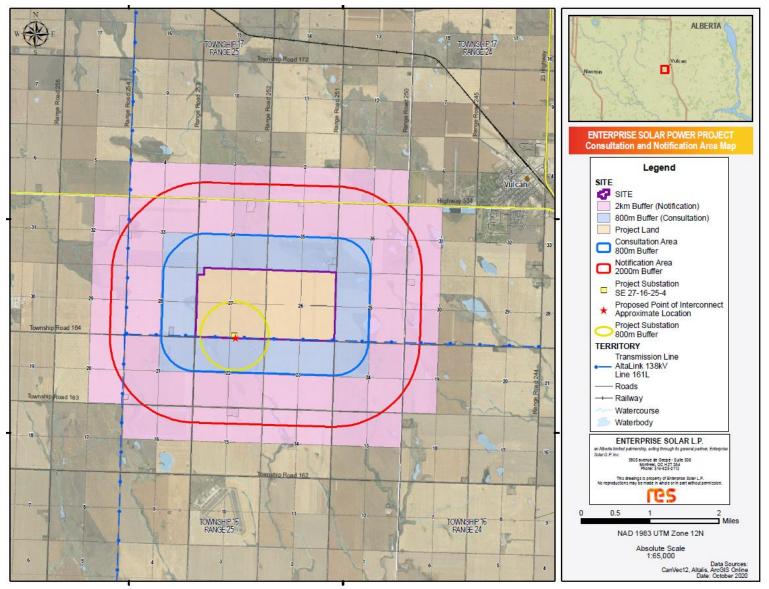
#### **Open Office Hours Extended Until November 25th, 2020**

Tuesdays from 4-7 pm and Wednesdays from 8-11 am 101, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. South, Vulcan, AB TOL 0B0

#### We encourage you to visit us!

If you would rather discuss over the phone or by email, please don't hesitate to contact us. Contact info on page 4.

# Project Area Map



### **Environmental Considerations**

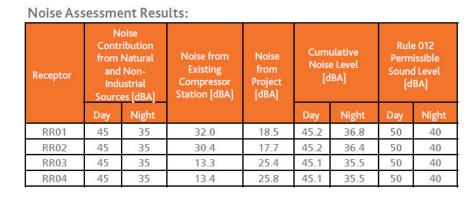
Detailed site mapping has been completed, including mapping of natural and man-made features on site and adjacent to site. Field surveys were undertaken by a third party consultant, Golder Associates in 2019 and 2020. Studies confirm that the site is entirely used for agriculture and the Project meets all regulatory setbacks to all significant environmental features. There is a Class III wetland within the Project area and we were able to design around it to ensure its preservation as potential habitat for amphibians. A Great Horned Owl sticknest was observed in the 2020 field studies at the southern end of the Project and we relocated the proposed substation location to ensure Project components exceeded the minimum setback requirements.

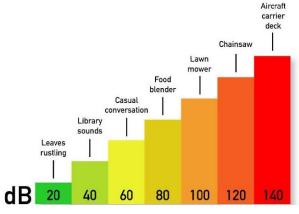
### Solar Glare Assessment

As per the Alberta's Utilities Commission (AUC) requirements we retained Golder Associates to undertake a solar glare analysis. The assessment uses the Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool (SGHAT) developed by the US Federal Aviation Administration. SGHAT predicts glare based on the location and orientation of solar panels and the sun's path through the sky. SGHAT characterizes glare at receptors based on the brightness and size of the glare spot formed on the retina of an observer's eye. No potential significant glare was detected. One primary reason was the utilization of single axis trackers, which track the sun throughout the day, therefore substantially reducing the opportunities for a period of glare at a single receptor point.

### Noise Impact Assessment

Noise from the Project is regulated by the AUC through Rule 012: Noise Control. Cumulative noise levels at occupied dwellings must not exceed daytime (7 am to 10 pm) or nighttime (10 pm to 7 am) Permissible Sound Level (PSL) limits. Cumulative noise levels include natural and non-industrial sources, existing industrial facilities, and the proposed Project. A computer model is used to predict cumulative noise levels at occupied dwellings located within 1.5 km of the Project. The Project is predicted to comply with PSL limits. A complete Noise Study Report is being prepared by Golder Associates and will form part of the AUC application.





# Permitting Update

Preparation of the AUC Power Plant Application is well underway, and we anticipate filing in December 2020. The Interconnection Application will be submitted in Q1/Q2 of 2021 in parallel with AltaLink's Facility Application and the Need Identification Document (NID) from the Alberta Electricity System Operator (AESO). We will be consulting on the interconnection for the Project separately, in the next couple of months.

The Power Plant application will contain comprehensive Project information and maps which will be available for public review upon submission. If you would like to view the application after submission, you can access it from: <u>www.auc.ab.ca.</u> Should you require assistance, the AUC can be reached at: **310-4AUC (310-4282 in Alberta) or 1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-4282 outside Alberta).** 

In late August, RES submitted a Wildlife Report to Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) in preparation of its application to the AUC. Preliminary feedback suggests that the Project meets all environmental requirements and regulatory setbacks and a referral letter is expected in the near future from AEP. RES will also seek Development Permits from the County of Vulcan in 2021.

### Schedule Update

RES has advanced development of this Project over the past 18 months and development activities are underway to allow for a Q3 2021 construction start and a Q4 2022 commercial operations date.

Land control	Complete
Preliminary environmental evaluation	Complete
Preliminary desktop geotechnical assessment	Complete
Field surveys	Complete
Preliminary Field Geotechnical studies	Complete
AUC permitting process	Q4 2020 – Q3 2021
Construction	Q3 2021 – Q4 2022
Commercial Operations Date	Q4 2022



# www.enterprise-solar.com



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