



Enterprise Solar GP Inc.

Enterprise Solar Project Amendments

September 13, 2023

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 28315-D01-2023

Enterprise Solar GP Inc.

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Proceeding 28315

Applications 28315-A001 and 28315-A002

September 13, 2023

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The Commission may, no later than 60 days from the date of this decision and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected decision on its website.

1 Decision summary

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission approves applications from Enterprise Solar GP Inc. for amendments to the approved but not yet constructed Enterprise Solar Project power plant and the Enterprise 1070S Substation.

2 Applications

2. Enterprise Solar GP Inc., on behalf of Enterprise Solar LP (Enterprise Solar), under Approval 27793-D02-2022,¹ has approval to construct and operate a 65-megawatt solar power plant, designated as the Enterprise Solar Project, and under Permit and Licence 27793-D03-2022,² has approval to construct and operate the Enterprise 1070S Substation, near the town of Vulcan.

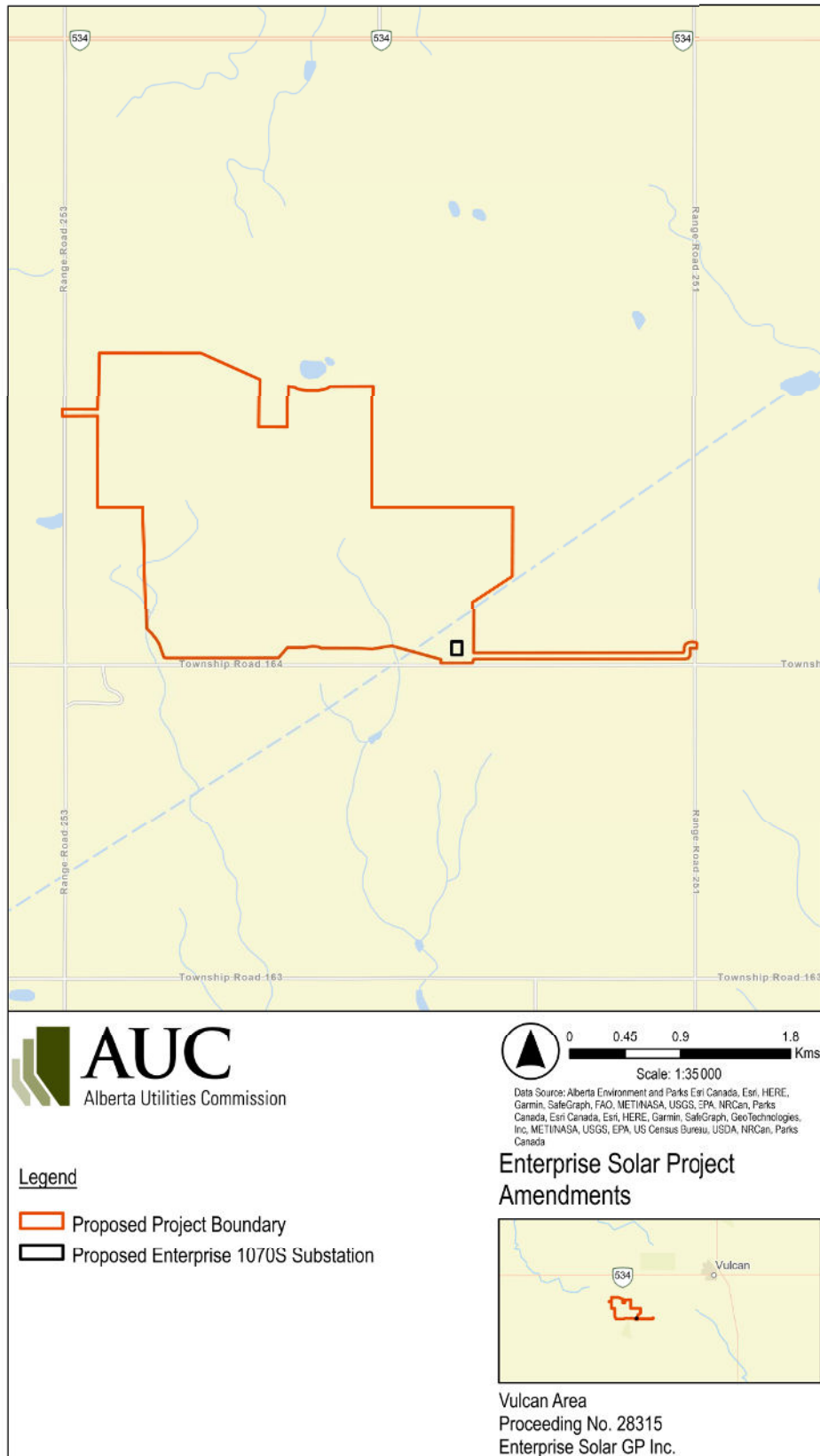
3. Enterprise Solar filed a letter of enquiry with the AUC for amendments to the power plant and substation. The amendments include the final equipment selection for the power plant and substation.

4. The amended project remains on private, cultivated land in Section 27, Township 16, Range 25, west of the Fourth Meridian and the south half of Section 26, Township 16, Range 25, west of the Fourth Meridian, as shown on the map in Figure 1.

¹ Power Plant Approval 27793-D02-2022, Proceeding 27793, Application 27793-A001, December 23, 2022.

² Substation Permit and Licence 27793-D03-2022, Proceeding 27793, Application 27793-A001, December 23, 2022.

Figure 1. Project location



5. The proposed amendments and final equipment selection include the following:
- Modify the fenceline such that the southwestern boundary fence will move to the west by approximately 320 metres. The fenced area will increase from 161 hectares to 199 hectares.
 - Add an access road in the northwest area of the project site to improve emergency service access.
 - Reduce the limit of disturbance area from 355 hectares to 241 hectares.
 - Change the solar panel layout and increase the number of solar panels from 157,000 to 163,950. The model of the solar panels will be the LONGi LR5-72HBD 550M, which are rated at 550 watts each.
 - Change the solar panel tracking system from fixed-tilt to single-axis tracking.
 - Reduce the number of inverters from 22 to 21. The inverter model will be the Sungrow SG3600UD-MV, which includes an integrated transformer. Each inverter is rated at 3,600 kilovolt ampere (kVA).
 - Change the Enterprise 1070S Substation transformer size from 50/66.5/90-megavolt ampere (MVA) to 50/66.7/83.3 MVA.
6. On July 11, 2023, the Commission received a statement of intent to participate (SIP) from Wheatland Industries Ltd., operator of the Vulcan/Kirkcaldy aerodrome. Subsequently, the Commission issued a notice of application,³ and received no additional SIPs. On August 11, 2023, Wheatland Industries Ltd. submitted a document stating that Enterprise Solar had addressed its concerns and that it did not intend to participate further in the AUC proceeding. Given that the only prospective intervener withdrew from further participation, the Commission proceeded to make a decision on the applications without holding a hearing.

3 Findings

7. For the following reasons, the Commission finds that approval of the power plant and substation amendments are in the public interest having regard to the social, economic, and other effects, including effects on the environment.
8. The Commission has reviewed the applications and has determined that the information requirements specified in Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines* have been met.
9. Enterprise Solar completed a participant involvement program, which included consultation with stakeholders within 800 metres of the project boundary. Enterprise Solar also submitted updated glare assessment results to the Vulcan municipal airport and

³ Exhibit 28315-X0013, Notice of application - Enterprise Solar Project Amendments.

Vulcan/Kirkcaldy aerodrome that are within 4,000 metres of the project boundary. In response to an information request, Enterprise Solar confirmed that there are no outstanding concerns regarding the amended project. The Commission finds that the participant involvement program complies with the requirements of Rule 007 and, given that the sole prospective intervener has indicated that its concerns have been addressed, accepts that there are no known outstanding concerns with the amended project.

10. The amended project remains on private, cultivated lands within the same quarter sections that were assessed in the original environmental evaluation and all identified environmental setbacks have been maintained. In response to an information request, Enterprise Solar confirmed that an environmental protection plan is being prepared and will be utilized during the construction and operation of the project.

11. Enterprise Solar submitted an updated noise impact assessment, which concluded that the predicted cumulative noise levels are slightly higher than the originally approved project; nevertheless, the amended project is expected to comply with the daytime and nighttime permissible sound levels per Rule 012: *Noise Control*.

12. A revised solar glare assessment was submitted that predicted a reduction in the expected glare such that the amended project would not generate any glare that would be received by nearby receptors. This reduction is attributed to the switch from fixed-tilt to a single-axis tracking system for the solar panels. Enterprise Solar stated that both the original and revised glare assessments found there would be no risk of glare on nearby airports, flight paths, roadways, railways, buildings or structures that would require mitigation.

13. As is required for a letter of enquiry application, Enterprise Solar has provided information respecting the need, nature, extent, land affected, land ownership and the timing of the work, in accordance with the requirements of Section 12 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Regulation*. Enterprise Solar has also stated that no adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed work and confirmed that the project will continue to comply with Rule 012.

14. Based upon the information provided, the Commission is satisfied that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person is directly and adversely affected by the proposal and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed alterations, thereby meeting the requirements of Section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Regulation*.

4 Decision

15. The Commission approves the power plant and substation applications, under sections 11, 14, 15 and 19 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, and grants Enterprise Solar GP Inc. the following approvals:

- Appendix 1 – Power Plant Approval 28315-D02-2023 to alter the design, construct and operate the Enterprise Solar Project power plant.
- Appendix 2 – Substation Permit and Licence 28315-D03-2023 to alter the design, construct and operate the Enterprise 1070S Substation.

16. The appendixes will be distributed separately.

Dated on September 13, 2023.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Douglas A. Larder, KC
Vice-Chair