

STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT For the Badger Mountain Solar Energy Project

Date: March 14, 2022

Lead Agency: Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC)

Agency Docket Number: EF-210747

Proposal Description: The proposal is a renewable energy generation facility spanning approximately 2,390-acres. The project is a 200-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) generation facility with an optional 200-MW battery energy storage system (BESS) located in unincorporated Douglas County (County), Washington. The Project is generally located approximately 3.5 miles east of the East Wenatchee city limit boundary and south of Badger Mountain Road. Power generated by the Project would be transmitted to either existing BPA or PSE transmission lines via one of the two interconnections. Other project components include a collector substation, an overhead 230-kilovolt (kV) generation-tie transmission line (gen-tie line), two Point of Interconnect (POI) options, two switchyard options, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, associated access and Project service roads, perimeter fencing, and optional BESS.

Location of Proposal: The project is located in unincorporated Douglas County, Washington, approximately 3.5 miles east of the East Wenatchee city limit boundary and south of Badger Mountain Road. The Project Lease Boundary encompasses 21 privately owned assessor parcels and two state-owned assessor parcels.

Applicant: Avangrid Renewables, LLC 1125 NW Couch St. Portland, OR 97209

EIS Required: EFSEC and the Applicant have agreed an environmental impact statement (EIS) under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c) will be prepared.

EFSEC has identified the following environmental elements for discussion in the EIS:

• Wildlife/Habitat

Environmental elements which require additional information before determining the level of analysis in the EIS include:

- Visual/Aesthetics
- Land Use
- Air
- Water (wetlands, water quality, and water resources)
- Plants
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Environmental Health
- Noise
- Light and Glare
- Cultural Resources
- Historic Resources
- Socioeconomics (WAC 463-60-535)

At a minimum, the EIS will include a no action alternative and the applicant's proposal. EFSEC will determine the full scope of the EIS, including the range of alternatives to be analyzed, at the end of the scoping period after comments are reviewed. Elements of the environment are listed in the SEPA rules (WAC 197-11-444). Some elements of the environment outlined in WAC 197-11-444 may not be included in the study.

Materials Available for Review: An environmental checklist, the application, studies, and plans prepared by the applicant (appendices), and other materials related to environmental impacts are available at the Project Website:

• <u>https://www.efsec.wa.gov/energy-facilities/badger-mountain</u>

And at libraries:

- Washington State Library
- Libraries (East Wenatchee Public Library, Wenatchee Public Library, Bridgeport Public Library, Coulee City Public Library, Brewster Public Library, Grand Coulee Public Library, Waterville Library, and Entiat Library)

For library contact information, please see Attachment C. Library Addresses and Phone Numbers.

Scoping: Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required. The method and deadline for giving us your comments is:

Deadline for	Comments will be accepted through April 12, 2022 (30 days following
comments	the date of issuance)
Electronic comment	https://comments.efsec.wa.gov/
website address	

Written comment mailing address	Postmarked by April 12, 2022
	Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
	621 Woodland Square Loop SE
	Lacey, WA 98504-3172

EFSEC Contact: Amí Hafkemeyer Email: ami.hafkemeyer@utc.wa.gov Phone: 360-664-1305

SEPA Responsible Official: Sonia Bumpus, EFSEC Manager

Attachments:

- A. SEPA Checklist
- B. Figure A-1 Project Location
- C. Library Addresses and Phone Numbers

NOTE: To view attachments please visit EFSEC's website: https://www.efsec.wa.gov/energyfacilities/badger-mountain/badger-mountain-sepa