



# Public Notice

## Information Meeting and Request for Comments on the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm Application for Site Certificate

### Introduction

The Oregon Department of Energy (the Department) has received an Application for Site Certificate from Antelope Ridge Wind Power Project LLC (applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of Horizon Wind Energy LLC (Horizon). The applicant is proposing to construct and operate a wind-powered electric generating facility near Union, Oregon called the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm. According to Oregon law, Horizon must obtain approval (a Site Certificate) from the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (the Council) before building and operating the facility. The Department deemed the application complete and filed on December 30, 2010.

We invite you to submit comments or attend the information meeting if you have any questions or concerns. The information meeting is not a formal public hearing, although the Department will accept written and oral comments at the meeting.

### Where is the proposed facility located?

The proposed Antelope Ridge Wind Farm would be located about ten miles southeast of La Grande on private and state land in Union County in eastern Oregon, in the area of Craig Mountain between Highway 237 and Interstate 84. A map showing the location can be found on the Department's website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml>

### Description of the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm

Antelope Ridge would include up to 164 wind turbines and have a nominal generating capacity of about 300 megawatts (MW). The applicant proposes to use turbines in the range of 1.5 MW to 3.0 MW of generating capacity. Overall turbine tip heights would range from 328 to 475 feet tall. In addition to the wind turbines, the facility would include access roads, foundations, underground and overhead electrical collection systems, meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance building. The facility would also include a communication system, power collection system, and a substation.

### Date this Notice Issued:

January 10, 2011

### Comment Period:

January 10, 2011  
February 14, 2011 (5:00 p.m.)

### Information Meeting:

**Date:** January 25, 2011  
**Time:** 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

### Location:

Union Elementary School  
Miller Gym  
540 S. Main  
Union, Oregon 97883  
[http://www.union.k12.or.us/michaelwood/contact\\_us](http://www.union.k12.or.us/michaelwood/contact_us)



### Energy Facility Siting

625 Marion Street, N.E.  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 378-4040  
Fax: (503) 373-7806

395 E. Highland  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
Phone: (541) 567-3840  
Fax: (541) 567-6861

Toll-Free in Oregon:  
1-800-221-8035

[www.oregon.gov/ENERGY](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY)

A transmission line will interconnect the facility with the electrical grid. The line would be an overhead 230 kV (kilovolt) line, on poles ranging from 80-120 feet tall. The applicant has identified three possible connections to the regional electrical grid: an existing Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) substation in La Grande, the Ladd Canyon substation operated by Idaho Power Company (IPCO) (adjacent to the BPA substation), and/or a connection through IPCO's North Powder substation. The applicant has identified two potential transmission corridors, the Northern Alignment (about 13 miles long) and the Southern Alignment (about 8 miles).

### Application Review Process

The Council's Site Certificate process is a consolidated permitting process that includes the review of applicable regulations of other state agencies. The Department serves as staff to the Council and conducts the application process for site certificates.

The proposed facility must meet Council standards and must comply with statewide land use planning goals. The Council will review the application for compliance with Union County land use ordinances. If the facility does not comply with local ordinances or with the applicable statewide planning goals, the Council may allow an exception. The proposed Antelope Ridge facility is located in an area zoned for agricultural and forest use. The facility must not cause significant interference with accepted farm practices on surrounding farmland.

### What happens next?

The Department will review the application and comments from the public, state agencies, tribes, local governments and others interested in the project. After the close of the comment period, the Department begins preparation of its recommendations to the Council in the form of a "Draft Proposed Order." The Draft Proposed Order includes the Department's proposed findings and recommendations to the Council. If the Department recommends that the Council issue a site certificate, the Draft Proposed Order will include recommended site certificate conditions. **The final opportunity for public comment will be announced when the Department issues the Draft Proposed Order.**

The Department will open a public comment period and conduct a public hearing on the Draft Proposed Order. You must provide oral or written comment on the Draft Proposed Order if you want to preserve your right to participate in the contested case proceeding.

The Department's website describes the Council's site certificate review and approval process in detail. The website also describes the standards the applicant must meet to obtain a Site Certificate. Please see the Department's website at [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/process.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/process.shtml).

### How do I get more information and review related documents?

You can review and download documents about the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm, including selected parts of the application, on the Department's website at [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml) or at the Department's Salem or Hermiston offices listed on the first page (please call ahead for an appointment). The applicant has posted the entire application at <http://www.horizonwindfarms.com/western-region/under-dev/antelope-ridge.htm>.

The Department has also sent this notice and a copy of the application to the locations listed below. Please call the library or check the websites for operating hours:

#### F. Maxine and Thomas W. Cook Memorial Library

2006 Fourth Street

La Grande, OR 97850

541-962-1339

Web:

<http://www.cityoflagrande.org/muraProjects/muraLAG/lagcity/index.cfm/city-facilities/library/>

#### Union Carnegie Public Library

185 N. Main Street

Union, Oregon 97883

541-562-5811

Web: <http://www.cityofunion.com/>

### Department of Energy Project Contact

The Department's Project Officer listed below can assist you with information about the Site Certificate process and the proposed facility. The Project Officer can also accept your written comments about the proposed facility.

Sue Oliver, Energy Facility Siting Officer

395 E. Highland Ave., Hermiston, OR 97838

**Phone:** 541-567-3840 (Ext. 225)

**Fax:** 541-567-6861

**Toll-free in Oregon:** 1-800-221-8035

**E-mail:** [Sue.Oliver@state.or.us](mailto:Sue.Oliver@state.or.us)

### How do I submit my comments?

You can submit your comments by writing, faxing, or e-mailing the Department's Project Officer listed above. Comments on the application can be submitted any time from January 10, 2011 through February 14, 2011, including at the public meeting to be held on January 25 at 6:00 p.m. (see page 1).

### Accessibility information

The Department is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify us of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in an alternate format. To make these arrangements, contact Meiko Kristiansen in the Department's Salem office at (503) 378-3895, toll-free in Oregon at (800) 221-8035, fax to (503) 373-7806, TTY 800-735-2900, or e-mail to [Meiko.Kristiansen@state.or.us](mailto:Meiko.Kristiansen@state.or.us).