

The Eastervale Solar + Battery Energy Storage Project is owned and being developed by Westbridge Renewable Energy Corporation

300 MW_{ac}

Solar Power Plant Capacity

200 MW / 400 MWh

Battery Energy Storage Capacity

Municipal District of Provost

16 km south of Hughenden

Westbridge is a Calgary based renewable energy company listed on the Toronto Venture Exchange with a focus on originating and developing utility scale solar and energy storage projects to deliver clean electricity to Canadians.

Westbridge Renewable Energy Corporation is developing the 300 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) and 200 MW/ 400 megawatt-hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS) in your area.

The project will be named Eastervale Solar (the Project). The Project will be owned and operated by Eastervale Solar Inc. which is a project specific entity owned by Westbridge Renewable Energy Corporation (Westbridge).

We are committed to engaging landowners, public stakeholders, and members of the local community, and we look forward to continuing the conversation with you over the coming months.

This newsletter is an opportunity for us to share information about solar energy, battery storage and the Project with you. We encourage you to reach out and ask questions, provide comments, or suggest improvements.

About the Project

The Project lands encompass portions of 8 quarter sections and 765 acres are included in the Project footprint. The Project is located in Townships 39 and 40, Range 8 W4M and is approximately 16km south of Hugdenden and 20km west of Czar. A Project map is included and identifies lands proposed for development.

The Project will involve installing solar PV modules, foundations and racking, inverter/transformer stations, an electrical collection system, internal access roads, a battery energy storage system site, and a Project substation to connect to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (the Grid).



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Project Components

BI-FACIAL SOLAR PV MODULES: Bi-facial solar panels have been selected for the Project due to their ability to receive and transform solar radiation from both the top and bottom sides. Bi-facial panels are well suited to Alberta's climate as snow cover can actually boost solar production during the winter months as sunlight is reflected from the snow's surface allowing for electricity generation from the underside of the panel.

RACKING AND MOUNTING SYSTEMS: The solar panels will be installed on a fixed-tilt racking system, which remains at a stationary tilt angle throughout the year, with panels ranging in height between approximately 1.0m to 2.5m above ground level.

ELECTRICAL COLLECTION SYSTEM: The collection system for the project consists of underground cables connecting the inverters to the project substation.

INVERTER/TRANSFORMER STATIONS:

Inverters are electrical devices that receive the direct-current (DC) power collected by the solar panels and convert this to alternating current (AC) power at key junction points where they connect to the collector system. Transformers are electrical equipment that increase the voltage of the electricity produced by the solar PV facility to connect to the Grid.

COLLECTOR SUBSTATION: A main power transformer located at the Project substation will take the generated power at 34.5kV and will step up the voltage to 240kV to connect the Project to the Grid.

BESS: A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be located adjacent to the substation to store solar energy and enable increased integration of renewables with the electric Grid.

ACCESS ROADS: To deliver and transport materials during the construction phase, and to access the Project equipment for regular operations and maintenance, the Project will require construction of new access roads or upgrades to existing access where possible to minimize additional disturbance.

During construction and operations, the entire project would be fenced in for security and safety reasons.

TEMPORARY WORK SPACES: Work spaces have been included throughout the Project area to allow for material and equipment delivery and storage. These areas will eventually be covered with solar panels as construction progresses.



Preliminary Project Schedule

Initiate Public Consultation	December 2022
Submission to Alberta Environment	December 2022
Personal Consultation with Stakeholders	Q1/Q2 2023
Submission to Alberta Utilities Commission	April 2023
AUC Approval Anticipated	August 2023
Municipal Development Permit Application	Q4 2023
Construction	Q3 2023 – Q2 2025
Commercial Operations	July 2025

Environmental Studies

Environmental desktop and field studies were initiated and completed in 2022 including:

- ⚙️ Environmental constraints mapping to identify buildable areas of land and avoid environmentally sensitive areas.
- ⚙️ Desktop wetland delineation and field verification to minimize impacts to wetlands and surface waters.
- ⚙️ Wildlife surveys including breeding bird, spring and fall bird migration, raptor, burrowing owl, sharp-tailed grouse, and amphibians to mitigate impacts to wildlife.

These studies will be compiled into the Eastervale Solar Project Renewable Energy Report that will be submitted to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) in December 2022. AEPA will issue a Renewable Energy Wildlife Referral Report following its review and we anticipate this in April 2023.

Technical Project Studies

HISTORICAL RESOURCES: The Project will submit an application for *Historical Resources Act* approval from Alberta Culture.

NOISE: The Project will complete a noise impact assessment per AUC Rule 012, Noise Control to assess noise for residences within 1.5 km of the Project.

GLARE: The Project will complete a glare hazard assessment to assess potential glare impacts at residences, along roads, and aerodromes if applicable.

GRID INTERCONNECTION: An application for system access has been submitted to the Alberta Electric System Operator and various engineering studies are underway to allow the Project to connect to the Grid.

PROJECT BENEFITS:

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

- ⚙️ The Project will create up to 300 full-time jobs during construction and 2-5 full time and part time jobs during operations

LOCAL ECONOMY

- ⚙️ Local businesses will experience increased activity in hospitality, retail, and other service industries during development, construction, and operation

PROPERTY TAXES

- ⚙️ Annual property taxes will be paid by the Project to the MD of Provost resulting in financial benefits to the community

CLEAN ELECTRICITY

- ⚙️ Local generation of renewable energy adds to the province's energy mix providing a long-term, low cost and low carbon energy source and the Project is expected to generate emission-free electricity to power approximately 50,000 Alberta homes

Next Steps

We are committed to engaging landowners and potentially affected stakeholders regarding the Project. We intend to file the solar power plant application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in April 2023. We will also engage the MD of Provost for Municipal Development Approval in late 2023.

We are committed to sharing information about the Project and working with the local community to ensure that we receive and understand stakeholder feedback and concerns. We encourage community members and stakeholders to participate throughout this process and to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about the Project – our contact information is included

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

The Alberta Utilities Commission, or AUC, regulates power generation in Alberta. The AUC is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the Government of Alberta, whose mandate is to ensure that delivery of Alberta's utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible, and in the public interest. We have included an AUC brochure titled *Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development* with this newsletter.

Contact Us:

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Privacy Statement: We are committed to protecting your privacy. Collected information will be protected under the provincial Personal Information Protection Act. As part of the regulatory process for new generation projects we may be required to provide your personal information to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). For more information on how information will be protected please contact us.




WESTBRIDGE
RENEWABLE
ENERGY CORPORATION



Eastervale Project Location

The Project has been sited on lands within Sections 25, 35 & 36 Township 39 Range 8 W4M and Sections 2 & 11 Township 40 Range 8 W4M.

The Project location was selected based on several considerations:

-  **PROXIMITY** to the transmission infrastructure
-  Favourable **SUNLIGHT RESOURCE**
-  **SUITABLE LAND** characteristics for solar farm installation