### Eastervale

### Solar + Energy Storage Project Community Open House

Please sign in at the registration desk then come say hello and check out our display boards.

The Westbridge Team is here to listen to your feedback, provide information about the Project, and answer your questions.





# **About Westbridge**

Westbridge is a publicly-traded renewable energy company listed on the Toronto Venture Exchange with a focus on originating and developing utilityscale solar and energy storage projects to deliver clean electricity to Canadians.

#### PORTFOLIO BY TECHNOLOGY



SOLAR PV 1,674mwp



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM 653mw 1,306mwh

#### MARKET PRESENCE





United States (Texas)



United Kingdom 53MW | 106 MWh



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# **Project Introduction**

The Eastervale Solar + Energy Storage Project has been under development since 2021 and will mark the first utility-scale solar project located in the Township 39 and 40, 16km south of Hughenden, Alberta.

Over the last year, we have completed environmental studies in the area, submitted an interconnection application and consulted with local landowners, as well as the Municipal District of Provost.

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In addition to the Eastervale Project, Westbridge is also developing the **Dolcy Solar + Battery Storage** project located in nearby Municipal District of Wainwright. Construction will commence in 2025 and the facility will be operational by 2026





# **Project Information**





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# **Project Layout**



### Located in **Municipal District of Provost**







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# **Community Benefits**



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time jobs during operations

industries during development, construction, and operation

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energy source to power about 55,000 Alberta homes.



# **Stakeholder Considerations**



### Dust

- Westbridge will work with the MD of Provost to ensure dust mitigation is in place and impact is kept to a minimum.



### **Emergency Response Plan**

Westbridge will work with Municipal District and first responders to develop an Emergency Response Plan.



### **Traffic Management**

- Main access into the Project site is proposed via Highway 884 and Range Road 81.
- Speed limits will be enforced through the Project area and on county roads.
- Traffic will be increased during the construction phase of the Project. During the operations phase, site visits will be weekly.



### Water Resources

Solar farms do not require access to water. Solar panels are not washed during operations except in extreme cases of soiling.



## **Stakeholder Considerations**

### Noise

- All solar energy projects must comply with AUC Rule 012: Noise Control which sets out acceptable noise levels, acceptable means to measure and calculate noise levels and a process to evaluate noise complaints related to a regulated facility, including solar projects.
- A Noise Impact Assessment is underway to assess potential noise impact to dwellings within 1.5 km of the Project and ensure the Project meets Rule 012.
- Disturbance from Project-related noise will occur primarily during the Construction Phase. To minimize impacts (expected to last 6 to 8 months), a mitigation plan will be deployed



### **Glint and Glare**

- A Solar Glint and Glare Hazard Analysis is underway to assess the potential for glare to residences and transportation routes within 800 metres of the Project and aerodromes within 4 km of the Project.
- The purpose of solar panels is to absorb as much sunlight as possible to produce energy efficiently, so the panels are designed to be as minimally reflective as possible and typically have an antireflective coating.
- The Project is planned to have solar modules on single-axis trackers that track the sun from east to west throughout the day reducing the intensity and duration of glare experienced at fixed locations such as residences.



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# **Regulatory and Environmental**

Our team works in close consultation with government agencies and key stakeholders to site, build and operate our facilities in an environmentally responsible manner



We completed environmental baseline studies in 2022 and applied for a Referral Report to **Alberta Environment and Protected Areas – Fish and Wildlife Stewardship** (**AEPA-FWS**) in late 2022. AEPA will issue a Renewable Energy Wildlife Referral Report following its review and

we anticipate this in May 2023. The decision was based on the Project's location, implementation of setbacks and siting to avoid areas of higher quality habitat.



#### The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is

an independent agency that regulates Alberta's electrical system and ensures customers receive safe and reliable service at reasonable rates.

AUC approval is required for the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of power plants in Alberta. The AUC must approve a facility application prior to commencing construction of the Dolcy Solar Project, which we anticipate filing in Q2 2023 and receiving approval in Q4 2023. The following environmental and technical studies are underway to support our application for a Power Plant Approval to the AUC in Q4 2023.

- Conservation & Reclamation Plan
- Environmental Protection Plan
- Environmental Evaluation
- Weed Management Plan
- Stormwater Management Plan
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Glint and Glare Assessment

We will also engage the MD of Provost for Municipal Development Approval in late 2023.



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# **Project Lifecycle and Timeline**

The lifecycle of a solar energy project is broken down into four main phases and typically has a **lifespan of ~30-35 years**.



#### **Decommissioning and Reclamation**

At the end of the Project's life, it will either be repowered (retrofitted and modernized) or fully decommissioned. A **Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan** will be prepared prior to construction that incorporates the feedback of the landowner and meets the requirements of the M.D. of Provost and the Alberta Environment and Protected Areas'

Conservation and Reclamation Directive for Renewable Energy Operations. A reclamation fund will be established once construction is complete, and the Project enters the operations phase. Annual contributions to the fund will be made for the life of the Project to ensure sufficient funds are available when the Project is decommissioned.

Operations and Maintenance

#### (30-35 years)

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WESTBRIDGE

RENERGY CORP

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### **How Solar Works**

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Solar energy is a well-established technology in Alberta and Canada, with over 43,000<sup>1</sup> solar (PV) installations across the country



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<sup>1</sup> Source: Canadian Renewable Energy Association

Credit: Hecate Energy

