



## Docket Update

November 15, 2024

### Docket No. UM 1930: Community Solar Program (CSP) Update on Remaining Carve-out Capacity and Process for Pre-certifying Remaining Capacity

Staff issues this communication as an advisory notice to stakeholders regarding the limited unallocated Tier 2 carve-out capacity remaining in the Program. As of today, there is 19.43 MW of unallocated carve-out capacity in the Portland General Electric service territory and 5.8 MW of unallocated carve-out capacity in Pacific Power service territory. Individuals can view current unallocated Program capacity via the [Program Capacity webpage](#) on the CSP website.

Please note that current unallocated capacity on the CSP website only reflects currently Pre-certified and Certified projects. This means it does not reflect the capacity requirements of the following:

1. project Pre-certification applications the CSP Program Administrator (PA) is currently reviewing, or
2. projects the PA has recently recommended for Pre-certification and Staff has posted to Docket No. UM 1930 but have not completed the two-week public comment period.

The PA and OPUC process for reviewing Pre-certification applications and recommending projects for Pre-certification is discussed below.

Staff anticipates additional carve-out project applications will be submitted to the Program in the coming weeks and months. Staff also anticipates that the aggregate capacity of these applications is likely to exceed remaining unallocated Tier 2, carve-out capacity. Below, Staff includes a discussion of the PA's administrative process for reviewing project Pre-certification applications and recommending Pre-certification to ensure that stakeholders clearly understand how the PA will allocate remaining Program capacity.

### **Carve-out-eligible Project Application, PA Review, and PA Recommendation for Pre-Certification**

#### Submitting Project Pre-certification Applications

To be considered for Pre-certification, registered Project Managers (PM) must submit a project Pre-certification application via the CSP platform. The PA then conducts a preliminary review of applications in the order they are submitted. The preliminary review ensures the PM has submitted the checklist of required documents for Pre-Certification as found in the Program Implementation Manual (PIM), and that the PM has paid the application deposit. The PA's preliminary review takes approximately two

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business days. The PA will promptly notify the PM if it finds an application is not complete or if the PA has not received the application deposit. The PA will also pause its preliminary review of applications until the PM provides missing application information and/or confirms the application deposit has been paid.

### Application Acceptance & Program Capacity Allocation

The PA accepts applications after its preliminary review confirms the application is complete and the PM has paid the application deposit. At this point the PA will issue a queue number to the application. If the Program has sufficient unallocated capacity for the proposed project, the PA will then conduct a full application review (see below). However, if the Program does not have sufficient unallocated capacity, the queue number will determine the order of the accepted application on a waitlist. The waitlist will determine the order in which the PA will further review accepted applications should sufficient additional capacity become available (e.g., a Pre-certified project withdraws from the Program or the PA rejects an accepted application during its full review). Please refer PIM section 1.4 for more information about how the PA manages the waitlist.

### Full Application Review

If the Program has sufficient unallocated capacity for an accepted application, the PA will then conduct a full application review. The full application review ensures the application and documentation complies with all other Pre-Certification requirements. The project review will take approximately 10 business days, with exceptions.

The PA will notify the PM if, during its full application review, it finds that an accepted application does not meet all Pre-certification requirements. The PM will then have 15 business days from notification to provide any remaining necessary information to the PA. If, after one additional notification and 15 business days the PM has not provided the requisite information, the PA will reject the application. Once rejected, an application loses its queue number and place in the queue or waitlist. A PM whose application is rejected must submit another application to the PA, which will be processed according to the PA's preliminary review process.

### PA Recommendation and Pre-Certification

Once the PA has completed a full application review and determined a proposed project has met all Pre-Certification requirements, it will then recommend the project for Pre-certification. OPUC Staff will post the PA's recommendation to Docket No. UM 1930 with a comment period of two weeks from the posting date. Stakeholders may file comments in Docket No. UM 1930 regarding the PA recommendation. If no comments in opposition to the Pre-certification are posted by the end of the public comment period, the project will become Pre-certified the following day. If comments in opposition to the PA's recommendation are posted prior to the end of the public comment period, the project will not become Pre-certified and OPUC Staff will bring the PA's recommendation to the



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Commission at an upcoming public meeting. The PA will not consider a full application review for projects on the waitlist until after the Commission makes a decision.

### **PA and OPUC Staff Communications Regarding Remaining Carve-out Capacity and Allocation Process**

The PA will ensure PMs and other stakeholders clearly understand remaining carve-out capacity and how the PA will allocate remaining Program capacity. The PA will maintain a current [program capacity table](#) on the CSP website. On the first business day after projects are officially Pre-certified in the Program, the PA will email a communication to PMs that clearly describes the remaining available capacity in the Program, as well as the PA's process for reviewing project Pre-certification applications and recommending Pre-certification. The PA will also include this communication in the "News and Updates" web page on the CSP website. On the same day, OPUC Staff will also post a companion communication to Docket No. UM 1930 to ensure all other stakeholders are similarly notified. If additional carve-out capacity becomes available because an already Pre-certified or Certified project is withdrawn or removed from the Program, the PA will update the capacity table on the website and the PA and OPUC Staff will issue similar communications.

### **Contacting the CSP Program Administrator**

Please contact the PA at [info@oregoncsp.org](mailto:info@oregoncsp.org) if you have more questions about the processes described above.

### **Staff Contact**

If you would like to join the service list for UM 1930, email your request to [puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov). If you have questions or comments, please contact Joe Abraham at (503) 428-0699 or [joseph.abraham@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:joseph.abraham@puc.oregon.gov).

Staff appreciates the valuable engagement in this docket by stakeholders!

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