

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: December 28, 2023**

**REGULAR** \_\_\_\_\_ **CONSENT**  X  **EFFECTIVE DATE**  December 29, 2023

**DATE:** December 18, 2023

**TO:** Public Utility Commission

**FROM:** Joe Abraham

**THROUGH:** JP Batmale and Sarah Hall **SIGNED**

**SUBJECT:** OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF:  
(Docket No. UM 1930)  
Certification of Linkville Solar in the Community Solar Program.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Certify the Linkville Solar project in the Community Solar Program.

**DISCUSSION:**

Issue

Whether the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) should certify the Linkville Solar project in the Community Solar Program.

Applicable Rule or Law

Section 22 of Senate Bill 1547, effective March 8, 2016, and codified in ORS 757.386, directs the Commission to establish a community solar program (hereinafter referred to as "Program," or "CSP").

On June 29, 2017, the Commission adopted formal rules for the Program under OAR Division 88 of Chapter 860. OAR 860-088-0050 details the requirements for project Certification.

Section 5.2 of the CSP Program Implementation Manual (PIM) outlines the information and documentation that projects must submit to the CSP Program Administrator (PA) as part of the Certification application.

### Analysis

#### *Background*

A Project Manager (PM) registered with CSP may submit applications for project Certification to the PA. As required by OAR 860-088-0050(3), the PA reviews applications for compliance with Program requirements and recommends projects for Certification by the Commission. Certification is an important stage gate for CSP projects. Receiving Certification means that the project meets all Program requirements and can proceed to commercial operation.

The PA recently received a Certification application from the following project. After reviewing the application and supporting documentation provided by the PM, the PA has recommended that the Commission certify the project in the Program. See the Certification Recommendation Form in Attachment A.

#### *Recommended Project*

| <b>Project Name</b> | <b>Name of Project Manager</b> | <b>Utility Territory</b> | <b>Project Size (kW-AC)</b> | <b>Attachment #</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Linkville Solar     | Linkville PM, LLC              | Pacific Power            | 2,800                       | Attachment A        |

Linkville Solar is a 2,800 kW-AC project located in Klamath Falls, Oregon, in Klamath County. Arcadia Community Solar, LLC controls the PM entity, Linkville PM, and conducts outreach and customer management for the project.

The project was Pre-Certified with Tier 1 Program capacity on November 17, 2020, and had an original Certification deadline of May 17, 2022. On June 8, 2022, the PA used authorities delegated by the Commission in Order No. 22-007 to extend the project's Certification deadline to May 17, 2023.<sup>1</sup> The PM requested an extension of its Certification deadline due to delays related to COVID-19.

On June 12, 2023, the PA again used authorities delegated by the Commission in Order No. 22-007 to extend the project's Certification deadline to November 17, 2023. The PM requested an extension of its Certification deadline due to broad industry supply chain disruptions and COVID-19 delays and shutdowns.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Order No. 22-007. <https://apps.puc.state.or.us/orders/2022ords/22-007.pdf>.

The PM recently submitted necessary Certification paperwork to the PA prior to the project's Certification deadline of November 17, 2023. The PA completed its review on November 27, 2023, and recommends Certification in CSP. While this timeline has led Staff to recommend the Commission certify the project after its Certification deadline, Staff and the PA have no concerns with certifying the project at this time. The Program considers that projects submitting Certification applications to the PA by the deadline to have met the deadline, while PA and Staff may require additional time to review applications for recommendation to the Commission.

### Conclusion

Staff has discussed the project application with the PA and reviewed CSP requirements. Staff supports the PA's recommendation that the Commission approve Linkville Solar's Certification in the Program.

### **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Certify the Linkville Solar project in the Community Solar Program.



## Project Certification Review and Recommendation

The Oregon Community Solar Program Administrator (PA) has reviewed the certification request of the project described below and recommends that the project be Certified.

### Project Information

Project ID: PP-2020-80

Project Name: Linkville Solar

Project Manager: Linkville PM, LLC

Subscription Manager: Arcadia Community Solar, LLC

Utility Service Area: PAC

Project Site Address: 42°12'27.58"N, 121°48'52.48"W, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Project Size (kW-AC): 2,800

Carveout-eligible: No

Date of Pre-Certification: 11/17/2020

Expected Commercial Operations Date: 03/30/2024

### Project Description

Linkville Solar is a 2,800 kW-AC project located in Klamath Falls, Oregon, in Klamath County. The Project Manager entity is controlled by Arcadia Community Solar, LLC. Outreach and customer management are conducted by Arcadia Community Solar, LLC.

### Review Summary

Date Review Completed: 11/27/2023

Project Satisfies all Certification Requirements?: Yes

PA Recommendation: Approve

### Review Notes

No special comments.

### Attachments Included

No attachments.