

RE: Notice of Summit Lake Solar, LLC's Filing of Joint Site Permit Application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

MPUC Docket Nos. IP7153/GS-25-89 and IP7153/ESS-25-88

Summit Lake Solar, LLC (Summit Lake Solar), a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid Renewables Development, LLC (NG Renewables), is proposing to construct and operate an up to 200 megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC) photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generating system (Solar Facility), an associated 200 MWac battery energy storage system (BESS) (BESS Facility), and other associated facilities located in Nobles County, Minnesota (the Summit Lake Solar and Storage Project, or Project).

This notice provides formal notice that Summit Lake Solar filed a Joint Application for a Solar Energy Generating System Site Permit and BESS Site Permit (Application) with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission or MPUC) for the Project (MPUC Docket Nos. IP-7153/GS-25-89 and IP-7153/ESS-25-88) pursuant to the alternative permitting process contained in Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. This notice also provides information on the Project and the permitting process, as well as information on how to register your name with the Commission on the Project contact list to ensure that you receive future notices.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project is located in Summit Lake and Elk Townships in Nobles County, Minnesota. The Project is situated on approximately 1,990 acres of privately owned land, of which approximately 1,567 acres will be for the operation of the Project.

The Project will include: solar modules (also referred to as panels or arrays); inverters; transformers; a tracking rack system; an electrical collection system; access roads; security fencing; security cameras and lighting; a collector substation; an operations and maintenance building; parking; stormwater detention ponds; weather stations; temporary laydown areas, a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission generation tie-line; BESS Facility and associated equipment; and any ancillary equipment or buildings as necessary and typical of a solar farm.

The accompanying map outlines the location of the Project.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Summit Lake Solar has, through voluntary agreements, secured 100 percent of the private real estate rights necessary to construct the Project. Accordingly, Summit Lake Solar's current and future plans do not include the use of eminent domain. If additional voluntary property rights are required for the Project, Summit Lake Solar will seek to negotiate a voluntary easement agreement with each affected landowner.

SITE PERMIT PROCESS

A Site Permit from the Commission is required before the Project can be constructed. The Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Stat. Ch. 216E) and Minn. R. parts 7850.1000 to 7850.5600 establish the requirements for submitting and processing a Site Permit application. The statutes and rules also establish notice requirements for various stages of the process. The Site Permit application will be considered by the Commission under the alternative permitting process in Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. The Commission has up to six months from the time the application is accepted as complete to process and make a decision on the Site Permit according to Minn. Stat. § 216E.04, subd. 7, and Minn. R. 7850.3900, subp. 1. The Commission may extend this time limit for up to three months for just cause or upon agreement of the applicant.

Within 60 days after the Commission accepts the Application as complete, the Commission and the Department of Commerce, Energy, Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) unit will hold a public information and scoping meeting to provide information and seek comments from the public. At this meeting, members of the public may comment on the scope of the environmental assessment and/or propose additional issues for consideration in the environmental assessment that the EERA will prepare. Once the public meeting is scheduled, notice of the meeting will be provided to persons whose names are on the project contact list and will be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the Project Area.

After the environmental assessment has been completed, EERA will make the document available for public review and a public hearing will be held on the Application. Any person may speak at the public hearing, present documentary evidence, ask questions of Summit Lake Solar's representatives and EERA staff, and submit comments.

Further details regarding upcoming meetings and comment periods on the Application will be provided by Summit Lake Solar, EERA, and/or the Commission in the future.

CERTIFICATE OF NEED

A Certificate of Need is not required from the Commission for the Project. The Project is exempt from Certificate of Need requirements pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.243, subd. 8(a)(7).

HOW TO LEARN MORE

For more information about the regulatory process or to have your name included on mailing lists, contact:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Staff Analyst
Sam Lobby at sam.lobby@state.mn.us or (651) 201-2206
www.mn.gov/puc

Minnesota Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager
Sam Weaver at Sam.Weaver@state.mn.us or (651) 539-1531
www.mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities

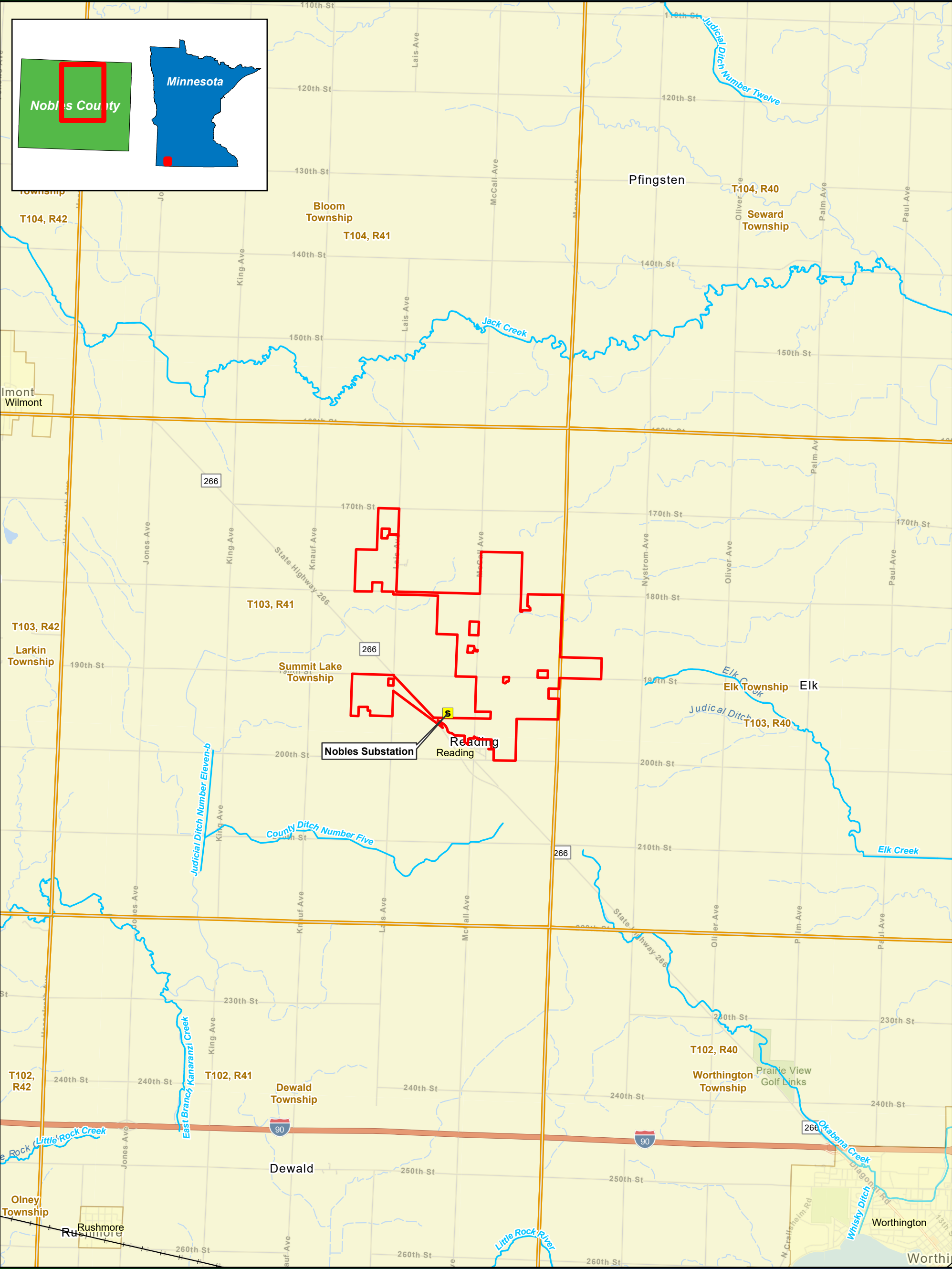
There are two options for citizens, landowners, and interested persons to receive Project information:

1. Sign up for the Project Mailing List. To sign up to receive notices about Project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.) email eservice.admin@state.mn.us or call (651) 201-2246 with the docket numbers (IP-7153/GS-25-89 [Solar Facility Site Permit] and IP-7153/ESS-25-88 [Bess Facility Site Permit]), your name, mailing address, and email address. You may request to receive notices by email or U.S. mail.
2. Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notifications when new documents are filed in the dockets, visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select “Subscribe to eDockets,” and follow the prompts.

Note – subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

A copy of the Application is also available for review at Nobles Public Library, 407 12th Street, Worthington, MN 56187, and Nobles Public Library – Adrian Branch, 214 Maine Avenue, Adrian, MN 56110.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Alia Mohammad at (612) 474-5381 or by email at amohammad@nationalgridrenewables.com.



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Map 1
Project Location
Summit Lake Solar and
BESS Projects
Nobles County, MN

- Existing Substation
- Land Control Area
- City/Town
- Township
- County Boundary
- NHD Named Stream
- Railroad

Imagery: USGS
Sources: National Grid Renewables, MN Geospatial Commons,
MDNR, ESRI