



Formal Natural Heritage Review - Cover Page

See next page for results of review. A draft watermark means the project details have not been finalized and the results are not official.

Project Name: Summit Lake Solar Facility

Project Proposer: Summit Lake Solar, LLC

Project Type: Power, Solar

Project Type Activities: Waterbody or watercourse impacts (e.g., dewatering, discharge, excavation, fill, runoff, sedimentation, changes in hydrology); Wetland impacts (e.g., dewatering, tiling, drainage, discharge, excavation, fill, runoff, sedimentation, changes in hydrology)

TRS: T103 R40 S18, T103 R40 S19, T103 R41 S10, T103 R41 S11, T103 R41 S12, T103 R41 S13, T103 R41 S14, T103 R41 S15, T103 R41 S22, T103 R41 S23, T103 R41 S24, T103 R41 S25

County(s): Nobles

DNR Admin Region(s): South

Reason Requested: PUC Site or Route Application

Project Description: Summit Lake Solar, LLC (Summit Lake, Summit Lake Solar, or Applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid Renewables Development, LLC (NG Renewables) ...

Existing Land Uses: Land use in the Project area is primarily agricultural (cultivated crops; approx. 1,537 acres), developed open space (approx. 65 acres), and emergent herbaceous wetlands (approx. 15 acres).

Landcover / Habitat Impacted: As noted above, the project area consists primarily of cultivated croplands. Wooded areas consist of small wind breaks.

Waterbodies Affected: Waterbodies - The Project will have minor, mostly short-term effects on surface water resources. Project facilities have been designed to avoid impacts.

Groundwater Resources Affected: Summit Lake does not anticipate any impacts to groundwater during construction or operation of the Project due to the depth of bedrock in this area (min. 500' below surface per MN Geological Survey).

Previous Natural Heritage Review: No

Previous Habitat Assessments / Surveys: No

SUMMARY OF AUTOMATED RESULTS

Category	Results	Response By Category
Project Details	No Comments	No Further Review Required
Ecologically Significant Area	No Comments	No Further Review Required
State-Listed Endangered or Threatened Species	No Comments	No Further Review Required
State-Listed Species of Special Concern	Comments	Recommendations

Category	Results	Response By Category
Federally Listed Species	No Records	Visit IPaC For Federal Review



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

November 14, 2024

Project ID: MCE #2024-00950

Andrea Sampson
Merjent, Inc.
1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414

RE: Automated Natural Heritage Review of the proposed Summit Lake Solar Facility
See Cover Page for location and project details.

Dear Andrea Sampson,

As requested, the above project has been reviewed for potential effects to rare features. Based on this review, the following rare features may be adversely affected by the proposed project:

Ecologically Significant Area

No ecologically significant areas have been documented in the vicinity of the project.

State-Listed Endangered or Threatened Species

No state-listed endangered or threatened species have been documented in the vicinity of the project.

State-Listed Species of Special Concern

Taxonomic Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water Regime	Habitat	Federal Status
Invertebrate Animal	Regal Fritillary	Argynnis idalia		Lowland Prairie, Upland Prairie	

- The above table identifies state-listed species of special concern that have been documented in the vicinity of your project. If suitable habitat for any of these species occurs within your project footprint or activity impact area, the project may negatively impact those species. To avoid impacting state-listed species of special concern, the DNR recommends modifying the location of project activities to avoid suitable habitat or modifying the timing of project activities to avoid the presence of the species. Please visit the [DNR Rare Species Guide](#) for more information on the habitat use of these species and recommended measures to avoid or minimize impacts. Species-specific comments, if any, appear below.

Federally Listed Species

The Natural Heritage Information System does not contain any records for federally listed species within one mile of the proposed project. Please note, however, that not all federally listed species are tracked within the NHIS. To ensure compliance with federal law, please conduct a federal regulatory review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#).

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and thus does not represent all of the occurrences of rare features within the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area. If additional information becomes available regarding rare features in the vicinity of the project, further review may be necessary.

For environmental review purposes, the results of this Natural Heritage Review are valid for one year; the results are only valid for the project location and the project description provided on the cover page. If project details change or construction has not occurred within one year, please resubmit the project for review before initiating project activities.

The Natural Heritage Review does not constitute project approval by the Department of Natural Resources. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential impacts to these rare features. For information on the environmental review process or other natural resource concerns, you may contact your [DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist](#).

Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

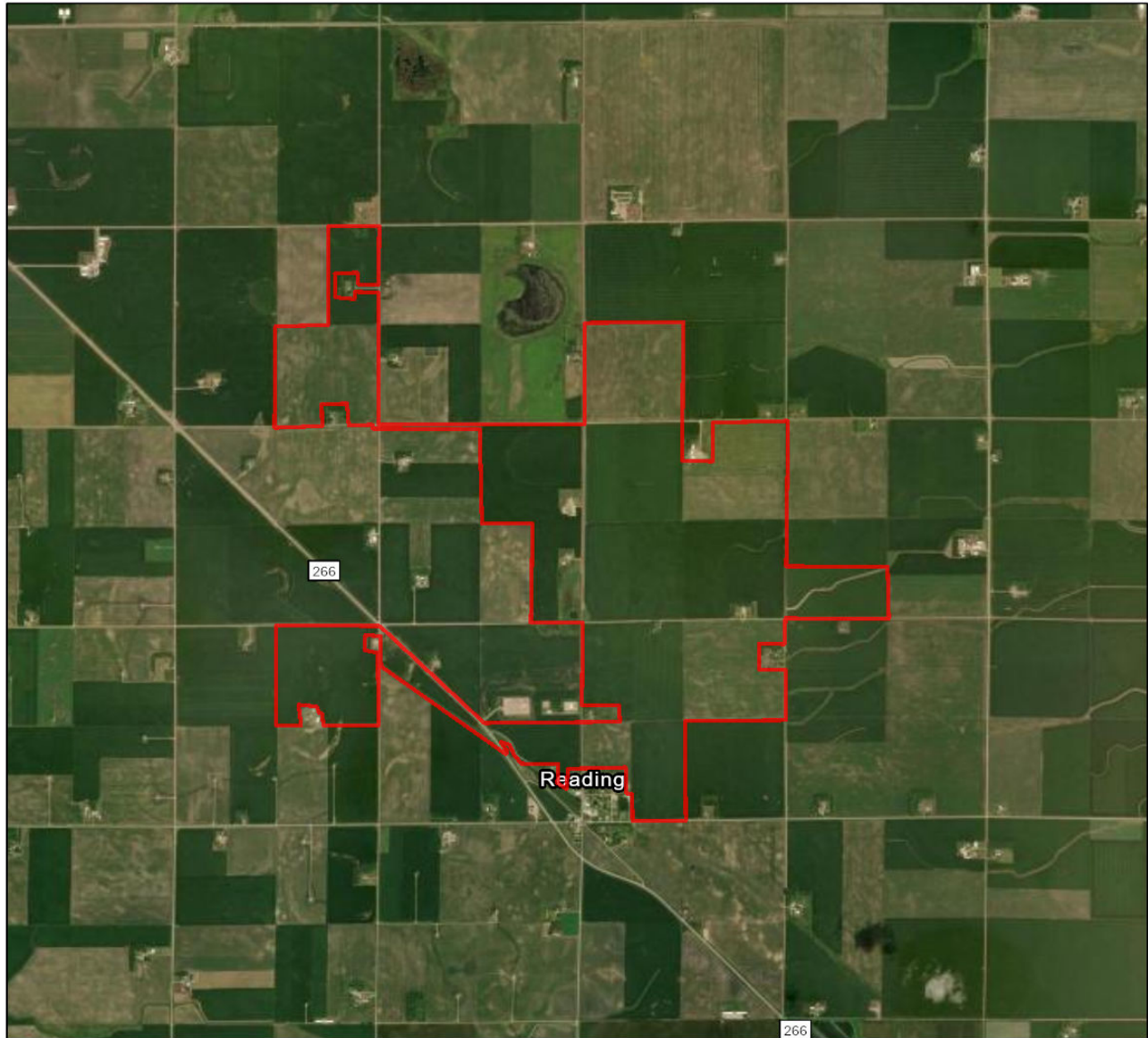
Sincerely,

Jim Drake Jim Drake
Natural Heritage Review Specialist
James.F.Drake@state.mn.us

Links: USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool
[Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#)
DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist Contact Info
https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/ereview/erp_regioncontacts.html

Summit Lake Solar Facility

Aerial Imagery With Locator Map



0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Miles

Project_Boundary

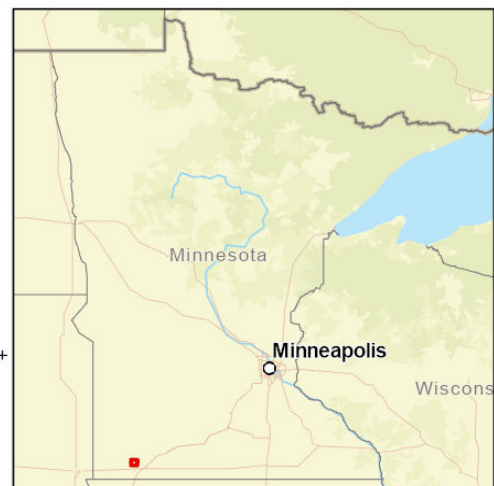
Project Type: Power, Solar

Project Size (acres): 2,016.69

County(s): Nobles

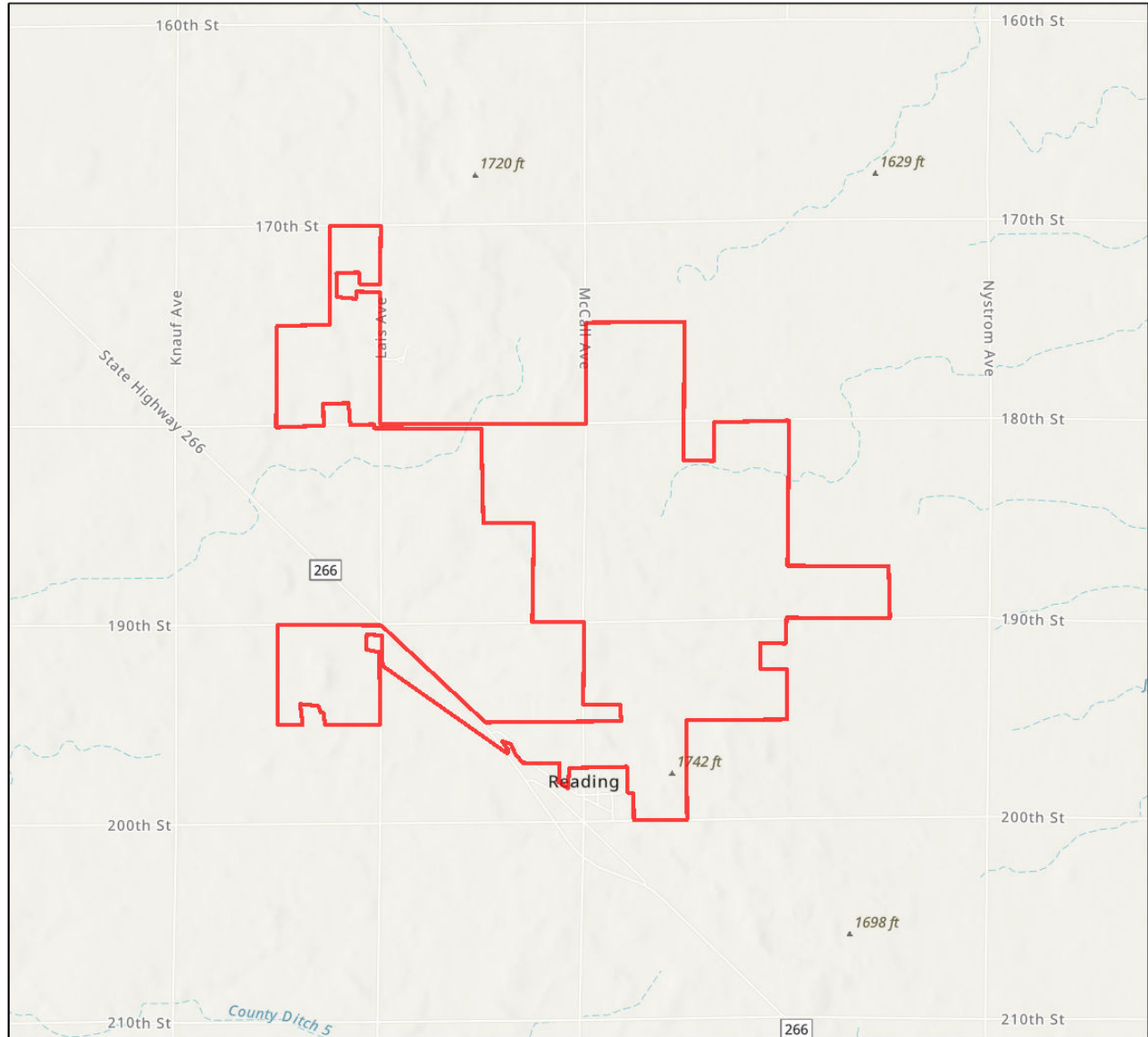
TRS: T103 R40 S18, T103 R40 S19, T103 R41 S10, T103 R41 S11, T103 R41 S12 +

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, USFWS
Earthstar Geographics
Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS,



Summit Lake Solar Facility

USA Topo Basemap With Locator Map



0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Miles

 Project_Boundary

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