



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Central Region Office

1250 West Alder St., Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • 509-575-2490

October 12, 2022

Sean Greene
The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: 202204961, EF-220212

Dear Sean Greene,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Mitigated Determination of Non Significance for the High Top Solar and Ostrea Solar. We have reviewed the environmental checklist and have the following comments.

WATER RESOURCES

Dust Control from a Well

If you plan to use water for dust suppression at your project site, be sure that you have a legal right. In Washington State, prospective water users must obtain authorization from the Department of Ecology before diverting surface water or withdrawing ground water, with one exception. Ground water withdrawals of up to 5,000 gallons per day used for single or group domestic supply, up to 5,000 gallons per day used for industrial purposes, stock watering, and for the irrigation of up to one-half acre of non-commercial lawn and garden are exempt from the permitting process. Water use under the RCW 90.44.050 exemption establishes a water right that is subject to the same privileges, restrictions, laws and regulations as a water right permit or certificate obtained directly from Ecology. Temporary permits may be obtainable in a short time-period. The concern of Water Resources is for existing water rights. In some instances water may need to be obtained from a different area and hauled in or from an existing water right holder.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these Water Resources comments, please contact Christopher Kossik at (509) 379-1826 or email at christopher.kossik@ecy.wa.gov.

WATER QUALITY

Project with Potential to Discharge Off-Site

If your project anticipates disturbing ground with the potential for stormwater discharge off-site, the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit is recommended. This permit requires that the SEPA checklist fully disclose anticipated activities including building, road construction and utility placements. Obtaining a permit may take 38-60 days.

The permit requires that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (Erosion Sediment Control Plan) shall be prepared and implemented for all permitted construction sites. These control measures must be able to prevent soil from being carried into surface water and storm drains by stormwater runoff. Permit coverage and erosion control measures must be in place prior to any clearing, grading, or construction.

In the event that an unpermitted Stormwater discharge does occur off-site, it is a violation of Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water Pollution Control and is subject to enforcement action.

More information on the stormwater program may be found on Ecology's stormwater website at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/>. Please submit an application or contact Lloyd Stevens, Jr. at the Dept. of Ecology, (509) 571-3866 or lloyd.stevensjr@ecy.wa.gov with questions about this permit.

Sincerely,

Lucila Cornejo

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