

Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center

Livestock Management Plan

Prepared for:

Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC

Prepared by:



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1.0 Introduction

This LSU-1 Livestock Management Plan (Plan) is prepared to fulfill mitigation measure LSU-1 from the Horse Heaven Site Certification Agreement (SCA) and LSU-3 Livestock Management.

LSU-1 Livestock Management Plan: *The Certificate Holder shall prepare a livestock management plan with the property owners and livestock owners to control the movement of animals within the Lease Boundary during construction, operation and decommissioning.*

LSU-3 Livestock Management: *The Certificate Holder shall be responsible for ensuring that arrangement for the removal of all livestock have been made during Project construction and decommissioning.*

The SCA generally describes how the Certificate Holder will coordinate with landowners and tenant farmers during Project construction, operation, and decommissioning. The objective is to reduce conflicts between Project activities and livestock operations by establishing clear communication expectations, practical notice periods, and field-work protocols that reflect local practices.

During construction and decommissioning, LSU-3 Livestock Management states that all livestock will be temporarily removed from Project areas with elevated activity levels. LSU-1 focuses on Project operation when livestock presence is allowed. For this livestock management plan, Livestock operations will be defined as the husbandry of more than two livestock animals.

2.0 Prior To Construction

The Certificate Holder will identify all Project landowners with active livestock operations on leased Project land through direct communications, via phone, email, or both. This will include livestock operations run by a lessee, or someone other than the primary landowner. Questions regarding livestock presence on leased lands will occur within six months prior to start of construction. This allows for the most current accounting of livestock practices on leased lands, since operations can change year-to-year. Then just prior to starting construction, livestock operations and presence will be confirmed with landowners or lessees in case anything has changed in the interim.

If there is not a livestock operation on leased Project land, no further action is required with that landowner or lessee.

Landowners with active livestock operations will provide a designated point of contact for communications related to Project activity on land serving both the livestock operation and the

Project. The Certificate Holder will maintain a contact list for livestock operations on leased lands, including the parcels with livestock present, a description of typical operations, and any notable timing related to livestock operations that the Certificate Holder should be aware of, for planning purposes. The Certificate Holder will then follow up to obtain a rough annual schedule outlining any time sensitive components of their operation including calving/lambing, branding, weaning, shearing, etc. It may not be possible to move animals during these sensitive times.

3.0 During Construction

Roles and responsibilities for implementation of the Livestock Management Plan include both the Certificate Holder and Landowners/Lessees.

3.1 Certificate Holder and Contractors

Master Communication List: The Certificate Holder will maintain a master communication list that links landowners, tenants, and designated contacts to specific parcels.

Monthly Newsletter: A short monthly construction newsletter will be distributed electronically or in hard copy to all participating landowners and other representatives. The monthly newsletter will generally summarize recent work and upcoming activities. This will include a description of where Project work is to occur, so that landowners have a general awareness of where activity will be the highest, and the types of activities to expect. Information in the newsletter will typically describe activities for the upcoming month, or several weeks.

Designated point of contact: During construction of the Project the Certificate Holder will have a designated point of contact for all landowner interactions. This designated point of contact will interface between landowners or lessees and the construction contractor and will have decision making authority to modify construction operations, when necessary, to minimize conflicts with livestock operations. Maintaining one point of contact will eliminate confusion that may arise if multiple individuals are providing direction or information regarding Project-related or livestock-related activities.

The Certificate Holder will be in communication with landowners with livestock operations about what construction activities can be expected on parcels where livestock are present. The intent is to provide an anticipated annual schedule of activities, including rough timing, so that landowners or lessees can identify whether the planned timing may result in the need to modify livestock operations or for livestock to be moved, or if that is not possible, if the construction schedule could be modified to reduce impacts on the livestock operations. If potential conflicts are identified and the construction schedule cannot be modified, then the advanced planning will provide the landowner with ample time to move livestock or otherwise modify operations to accommodate the construction.

Individual Parcels and Landowner Coordination: As the construction schedule proceeds, and more precise timing is known about construction activities, the Certificate Holder will be in close communication with landowners and lessees to confirm livestock have been moved or operations modified to remove the potential conflict between construction and livestock operations.

The Certificate Holder is required to minimize conflict with landowner operations, including managing the location of livestock so that gates, which previously were in day-to-day use as part of livestock operations, do not need to be managed by construction crews and removes the risk of gates not being in the position required by the landowner or lessees. Regardless of that, in instances where gates for the livestock operation are present, Project personnel will take care to ensure gates are left in the position they were found (either open or closed) after Project personnel pass through.

Care should be taken not to lean tools (such as shovels) against an electrified “hot wire” on a livestock fence to ensure it is not grounded out.

If livestock are present on a parcel where work is occurring, Project personnel should not interact with or approach livestock animals. As a courtesy and for everyone’s safety, Project employees would notify the Certificate Holder’s point of contact for all landowner interactions if abnormal activity related to the livestock operation is observed during their normal Project related workday. Examples include:

- An animal outside of its fence
- An animal in the roadway, either Project or Public
- A cut or damaged livestock fence
- An animal in obvious distress

3.2 Landowner or Lessee Requirements

Lease agreements between the Certificate Holder and landowners or lessees with livestock present require that landowners or lessees provide notice when moving animals in or out of a Project related area. This includes any changes to livestock management schedules that were communicated to the Project at the beginning of the year. For example, if animals are held on site longer than originally planned, that would also be communicated to the Certificate Holder. It is the landowner or lessee’s responsibility to notify the Projects point of contact as soon as any changes are known to allow for as much time as possible to minimize the potential for construction activities to disrupt livestock operations.

4.0 During Operations

Similar to Project construction, if Project repair or maintenance activities need to occur during operations, on a parcel where livestock operations are present, the Certificate Holder will notify the landowner or lessee as soon as the maintenance need is identified. For routine maintenance activities a typical schedule of maintenance activities and the timing of those activities, based on the Project components that are present on an individual parcel, will be provided at the beginning of each year. If emergency maintenance activities are needed, the landowner or lessee will be notified as soon as the maintenance need is identified. In all cases the Certificate Holder will coordinate with the landowner or lessee to create a plan that either temporarily relocates the animals away from the affected area or otherwise ensures the safety of both the Project and livestock operation.

As part of each Lease Agreement with landowners there are terms related to compensation to cover disruption of operations or impact to operations throughout the life of Project. These terms are specific for each lease and are confidential.