APPENDIX 4.10-1

Glare Analysis Inputs and Assumptions

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

Glare Analysis Inputs

The modules to be used for the proposed Project are smooth glass surface material with an anti-reflection coating (ARC), which are parameters selected in the glare analyses. Values associated with panel reflectivity and reflective scatter were not altered from the GlareGauge standard input averaged from various module reflectance profiles produced from module research concluded in 2016; therefore, as previously noted, the model does not incorporate further advances in anti-reflective coatings since that time (Sandia 2016[1]).

Due to capacity constraints in the Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool (SGHAT), which limits the number of drawn photovoltaic (PV) array areas to 20 per analysis, Tetra Tech performed eight separate glare analyses: two for Solar Array County Well (West 1) (Analysis 1 and 2), two for Solar Array Sellards (West 2) (Analysis 3 and 4), four for Solar Array East (Analyses 5 through 8). Each analysis evaluated separate "PV Array Areas," which are segmented polygons within each of the three larger solar array areas generally representative of the proposed Project layout as of November 2020. Analysis 1 and 2 consisted of 12 PV Array Areas, Analysis 3 and 4 consisted of 18 PV Array Areas, Analysis 5 and 6 consisted of 17 PV Array Areas, and Analysis 7 and 8 consisted of 13 PV Array Areas. Segmentation of the Project layout allows GlareGauge to more accurately represent potential ocular impacts as a result of the Project.

Each analysis run included proximal segmented vehicular traffic routes, as well as several residential receptors (also referred to as observation points [OPs]). The vehicular route and residential receptors were selected to provide a representation of proximal areas surrounding the Project that could experience glare. The route segment extents were based on the results of Tetra Tech's preliminary viewshed analysis for the Project. The residential receptors are a subset of the noise sensitive receptors analyzed for the Project as part of the acoustic assessment (see Section 4.10.1 and Appendix O in the Application for Site Certification), and retain the associated identification numbers for cross-reference in addition to the simplified OP numbering needed for the SGHAT. The analyses for each array area were run first from the point of view from an average first floor (6 feet) and typical commuter car height (5 feet), followed by an analysis from the point of view from an average second floor residential structure (16 feet) and commercial truck height above the road surface (9 feet). The additional input features used in the analyses are summarized in **Table 4.10-1A**.

Table 4.10-1A: Glare Analyses Input Features

Analysis No.	Racking Type	Module Orientation[(a)]	Tilt[(b)] (degrees)	Resting Angle (degrees) [(c)]	Module Height[(d)] (feet)	OP Height[(e)] (Feet)	Route Height[(f)] (feet)
1	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	6	5
2	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	16	9
3	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	6	5
4	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	16	9
5	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	6	5
6	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	16	9

[1] Sandia (Sandia National Laboratories). 2016. Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool (SGHAT) User's Manual v. 3.0. December 6, 2016.

Table 4.10-1A: Glare Analyses Input Features

Analysis No.	Racking Type	Module Orientation[(a)]	Tilt[(b)] (degrees)	Resting Angle (degrees) [(c)]	Module Height[(d)] (feet)	OP Height[(e)] (Feet)	Route Height[(f)] (feet)
7	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	6	5
8	Single Axis Tracking	East-to-West-facing	Variable	10	8	16	9

Source: Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC. 2021d. Glare Analysis Report for the Horse Heaven Wind Farm. January 2021. Appendix H of Horse Heaven Wind Farm Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Application for Site Certification. EFSEC Docket Number: EF-210011.

Notes:

(a) PV Array Areas modeled as single axis tracking modules from east-facing in the morning hours to west-facing in the evening hours.

(b) The module tilt varies through the day as they track the sun, the maximum tracking angle tilt is ±50˚.

(c) The resting angle is used to model module backtracking when the sun is outside of the module rotation range. A resting angle of 10 assumes that the modules immediately revert back to 10˚ (backtrack) when the sun is outside of the rotation range.

(d) Average module centroid height above ground surface.

(e) Height of observation point receptor: 6 feet represents an average first floor residential/commercial point of view and 16 feet represents an average second floor residential/commercial point of view.

(f) Height of vehicular route receptor: 5 feet represents typical commuter car height views, and 9 feet represents typical semi tractor-trailer truck views.

OP = Observation Point

Glare Analysis Assumptions

The GlareGauge model is bound by conservative limitations. The following assumptions provide a level of conservatism to the GlareGauge model:

- The GlareGauge model simulates PV arrays as infinitesimally small modules within planar convex polygons exemplifying the tilt and orientation characteristics defined by the user. Gaps between modules, variable heights of the PV array within the polygons, and supporting structures are not considered in the analysis. Because the actual module rows will be separated by open space, this model assumption could result in an indication of glare in locations where panels will not be located. In addition, the supporting structures are considered to have reflectivity values that are negligible relative to the module surfaces included in the model.
- The GlareGauge model utilizes a simplified model of backtracking, which assumes panels instantaneously revert to the “resting angle” whenever the sun is outside the rotation range.
- The GlareGauge model assumes that the observation point receptor can view the entire PV array segment when predicting glare minutes; however, it may be that the receptor at the observation point may only be able to view a small portion (typically the nearest edge) of the PV array segment. Therefore, the predicted glare minutes and intensity from a specific PV array to a specific observation point are conservative because the observer will likely not experience glare from the entire PV array segment at once.
- The GlareGauge model does not consider obstacles (either man-made or natural) between the defined PV arrays and the receptors such as vegetative screening (existing or planted), buildings, topography, etc. Where such features exist, they would screen views of the Project and, thus, minimize or eliminate glare from those locations.

- The GlareGauge model does not consider the potential effect of shading from existing topography between the sun and the Project outside of the defined areas.
- The direct normal irradiance (DNI) is defined as variable using a typical clear day irradiance profile. This profile has a lower DNI in the mornings and evenings and a maximum of 1,000 watts per square meter (W/m^2) at solar noon. The irradiance profile uses the coordinates from Google Maps and a sun position algorithm to scale the DNI throughout the year. The actual daily DNI would be affected by precipitation, cloud cover, atmospheric attenuation (radiation intensity affected by gaseous constituents), and other environmental factors not considered in the GlareGauge model. This may result in modeled predicted glare occurrences when in fact the glare is not actually occurring due to cloud cover, rain, or other atmospheric conditions.

Note that hazard zone boundaries shown in the Glare Hazard plots are an approximation; actual ocular impacts encompass a continuous, not discrete, spectrum.

This Page Intentionally Left Blank