

Power Plant Approval 26496-D02-2021

Appendix 1 to Decision 26496-D01-2021

July 21, 2021

BluEarth Renewables Inc.
Wheatcrest Solar Project

Proceeding 26496
Application 26496-A001

BluEarth Renewables Inc., by Application 26496-A001, registered on April 27, 2021, applied to the Alberta Utilities Commission for approval to construct and operate a 60-megawatt solar power plant, designated as the Wheatcrest Solar Project, near the community of Enchant, within the Municipal District of Taber.

Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approved the application in Decision 26496-D01-2021,¹ and granted an approval to BluEarth to construct and operate the power plant, subject to the provisions of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* and the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*, any regulations made under the acts, any orders made under the acts, the Commission rules made pursuant to the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*, and the following terms and conditions:

1. The power plant shall be located in the south half of Section 22, Township 15, Range 18, west of the Fourth Meridian, as further described in the application.
2. The power plant shall consist of approximately 136,000 photovoltaic solar panels each rated at 575 watts connected to up to 21 inverters rated at 3,150 kilovolt-amp each, with a total generating capability of 60 megawatts, and a collector system, as further described in the application.
3. The approval is subject to the following conditions which have been described in the decision:
 - a. Once BluEarth Renewables Inc. has made its final selection of equipment for the project, it shall file a letter with the Commission that identifies the make, model, and quantity of the equipment and, if the equipment layout has changed, an updated site plan. This letter must also confirm that the finalized design of the project will not increase the land, noise and environmental impacts from what was approved for the base reference case by the Commission. This letter is to be filed no later than one month before construction is scheduled to begin.
 - b. BluEarth Renewables Inc. shall use anti-reflective coating on the project solar panels.

¹ Decision 26496-D01-2021: BluEarth Renewables Inc. – Wheatcrest Solar Project, Proceeding 26496, Application 26496-A001, July 21, 2021.

- c. BluEarth Renewables Inc. shall provide an update to the Commission specifying the final backtracking design of the project solar panels, and confirm that the final backtracking design is consistent with the design approved by the Commission and will not result in glare for any of the receptors considered in the solar glare assessment. The update is to be filed no later than one month before construction is scheduled to begin. This update may be part of the letter confirming the final project design.
 - d. BluEarth Renewables Inc. shall file a report detailing any complaints or concerns it receives or is made aware of regarding solar glare from the project during its first year of operation, as well as BluEarth's response to the complaints or concerns. In the event of complaints or concerns, BluEarth shall file this report no later than 13 months after the project becomes operational.
 - e. BluEarth Renewables Inc. shall submit a post-construction monitoring survey report to Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and the Commission within 13 months of the project becoming operational, and on or before the same date every subsequent year for which AEP requires surveys pursuant to Subsection 3(3) of Rule 033: *Post-approval Monitoring Requirements for Wind and Solar Power Plants*.
4. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, construction of the power plant shall be completed by March 31, 2023.
 5. BluEarth shall notify the Commission within 30 days of completing the power plant.
 6. BluEarth shall obtain Commission approval prior to making any substantive changes to the power plant or substantially varying the design or specifications of the power plant from what was stated in the application or what the Commission has approved.
 7. This approval is not transferable unless approved by the Commission.

The Commission may cancel or suspend this approval, in whole or in part, in accordance with Section 41 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, or may review this approval, in whole or in part upon its own motion, or upon an application by an interested party, in accordance with Section 10 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

The Commission may, within 30 days of the date of this approval and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected approval on its website.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Kristi Sebalj
Panel Chair