

Energy Facility Siting in Oregon

County Review and Approval Process



How many projects have been proposed through county processes since HB 2329 (2019)? Did changing the jurisdictional thresholds in 2019 so that more projects go through the county process result in more renewable energy projects being built in Oregon?

HB 2329 was passed during the 2019 legislative session with the purpose of expediting renewable energy development. As part of the requirements of HB 2329, Counties must provide ODOE, among others, with notification of the application. ODOE has received notification for the following eight projects.

HB 2329 Projects*

Name	Location	Developer	Description	Status
Millican Solar	Crook County	Invenergy	Increase existing 320 acres to 400 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved in Jan 2020 Operational
West Prineville Solar	Crook County	New Sun Energy	Increase existing 320 acres to 654 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved in June 2020 by Planning Commission ODFW appealed to County Court regarding mitigation plan, who modified and approved in November 2020 Appealed to LUBA by ODFW, LUBA Remanded to County in June 2021 Appealed to Court of Appeals by Applicant who reversed LUBA’s decision and remanded to LUBA in August 2021 LUBA Remanded to County in May 2022 County’s final decision is still pending
TSR North Solar Farm	Crook County	New Sun Energy	Increase existing 320 acres to 585 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved in March 2021 by Planning Commission ODFW appealed to County Court regarding mitigation plan. Original appeal hearing was set for June 22, 2021. There have been multiple continuances with the latest appeal hearing scheduled for April 6, 2023.
Aurora Solar	Morrow County	Avangrid	120 MW on less than 1,920 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved in July 2021 Current status unknown

Blue Marmot Solar	Lake County	EDP Renewables	50 MW on 610 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denied by County Board of Commissioners in November 2021 • Appealed to LUBA • Applicant requested a pause to work on a settlement • Current status unknown
Webster Road Solar Farm	Lake County	New Sun Energy	320 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Commission has yet to schedule a public hearing
Empire Solar	Crook County	Avangrid	Increase existing 558 acres to 1,553 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved in September 2022 • Not yet constructed
OneEnergy Development Solar Project	Morrow County	OneEnergy	600 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to December 2022 Planning Commission agenda, the request was withdrawn

*Information is mostly based on what is available on county websites