



Western Area
Power Administration



STELLAR
RENEWABLE POWER



Proposed Fairview I Solar Project

NEPA Public Scoping Meeting
July 11th, 2024

Agenda

 Introductions

 Who is WAPA?

 Stellar Renewable Power Background

 Project Overview

 National Environmental Policy Act
(NEPA)

 Questions?



Introductions

WAPA

- Ashley Baillie- NEPA Coordinator
- Brian Pauly - Biologist
- Hilary Morey - Biologist
- Matt Cox – Archaeologist

Stellar Renewable Power

- Oliver Chua – Director of Construction
- Liam Gildea – Western Development Manager
- Garrett Klone – Western Development Associate

Terracon Consultants

- Lou Maslyk - NEPA Advisor
- Jessica Nichols - Project Manager
- Elise McCollister - Senior Environmental Planner

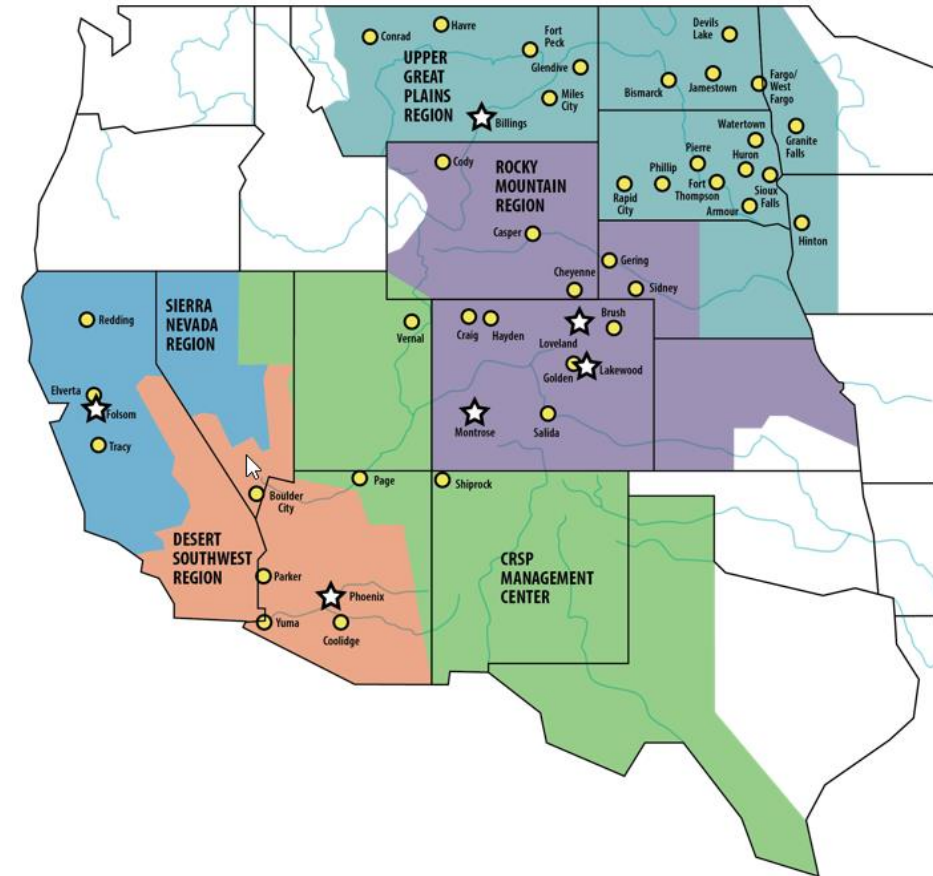




Western Area Power Administration

WAPA Overview

- Power marketing administration within the U.S. Department of Energy
- Service area encompasses a 15-state region of the central and western U. S.
- Mission: Safely provide reliable, cost-based hydropower and transmission to our customers and the communities we serve.





STELLAR

RENEWABLE POWER

Stellar Renewable Power



Strong Financial Sponsor and Access to Capital:

- Backed by KKR (\$500B under management)
- Invested billions in renewable assets since 2011
- Developed, owned, and operated 5+ GW



Experienced Team:

- 100+ years combined development and construction expertise
- Leadership team has contracted over 100 PPAs over careers
- Built 10+ GW of renewable capacity in the US
- 53 Projects in 18 states, totaling ~16 GWdc



Strategic Partnerships:

- Dedicated to meeting delivery timelines leveraging deep industry relationships with suppliers, OEMs, and EPC partners
- Will contract with project partners as soon as project is awarded



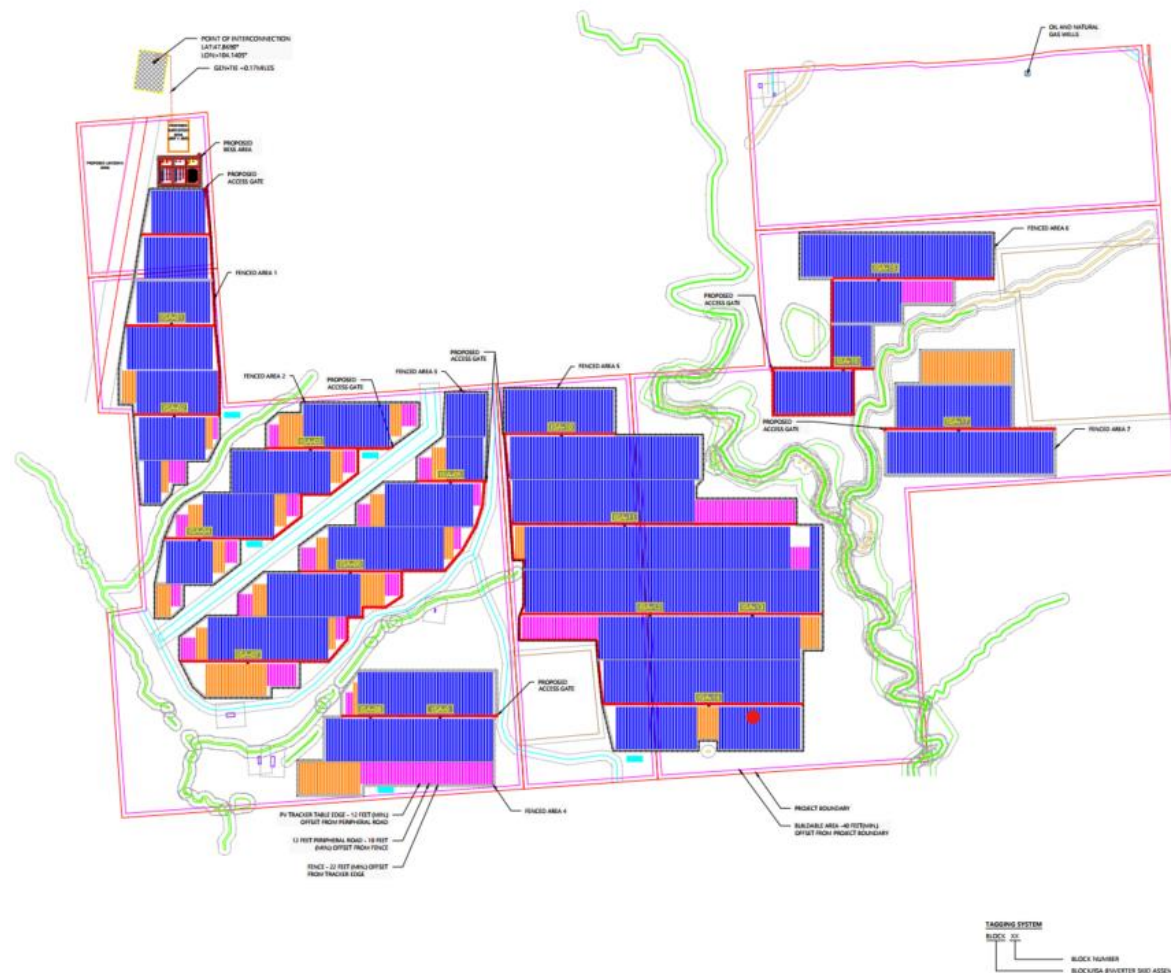
Long Term Asset Owner:

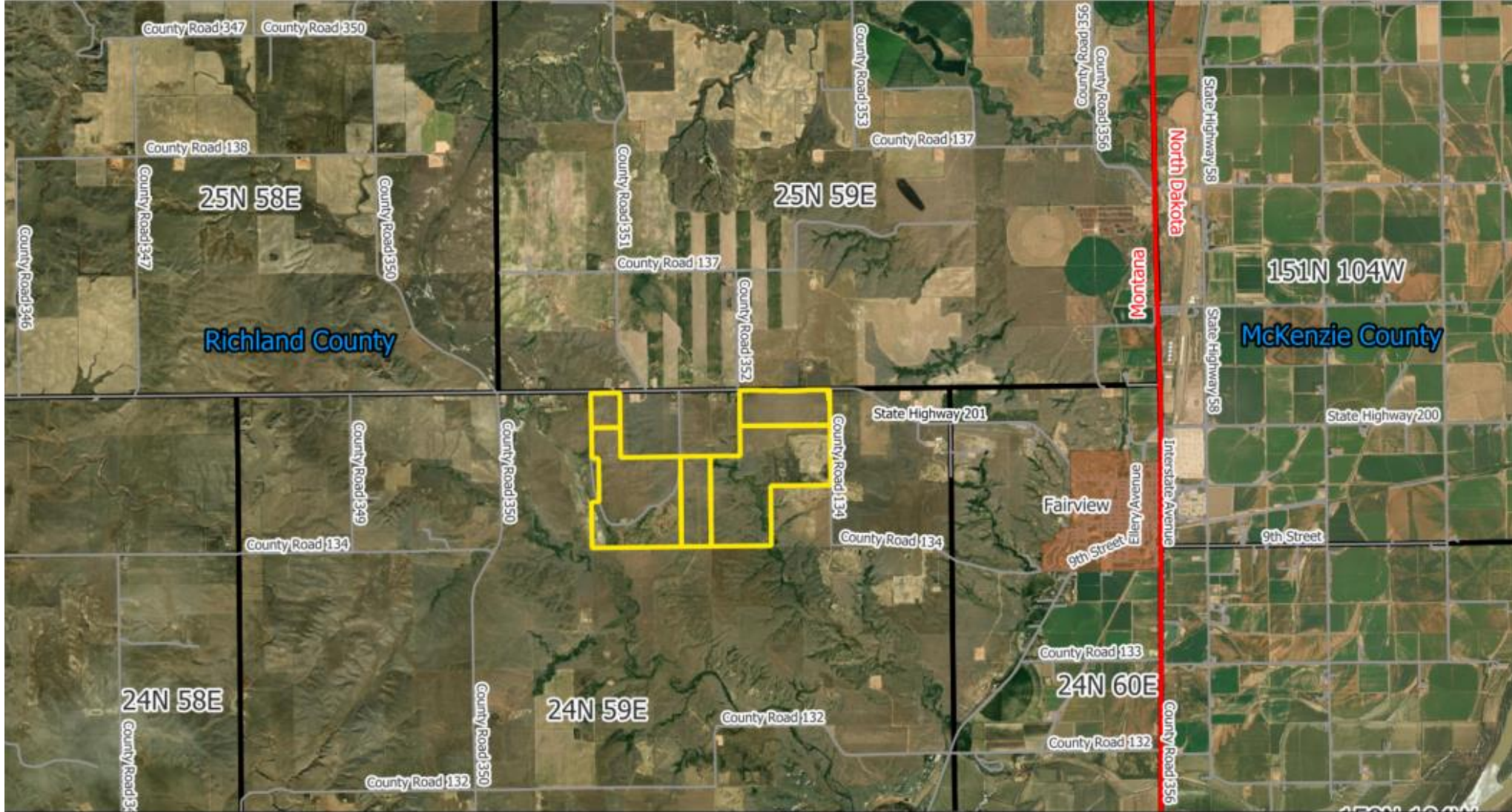
- Stellar is positioned as a long-term asset owner, emphasizing stability and commitment to the projects it undertakes

Project Information

Fairview I - 74.5 MW 25x4h BESS

- Acquired in 2022 from another developer
- Real Estate
 - Fairview I – 585 acres
 - Approx. 2 miles West of Fairview, MT
- Interconnection
 - Fairview West WAPA 115 kV Substation
- Engineering
 - 580 Wp Modules





- Proposed Project Boundary
- State Boundaries
- Town
- Township/Range Boundary
- Roads

ESRI

0 0.5 1 mi

0 1 2 km

1:45,000

N

Preliminary Project Layout
 Environment Assessment
 Fairview I Solar & BESS
 Stellar Renewable Power
 Richland County, Montana

Data Source: ESRI 2021
 CRS: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 13N
 Date: 5/14/2024
 Author: Garrett Klone & Sully Ford



Construction Timeline

Fairview I - 74.5 MW 25x4h BESS

- Mobilization: March 2026
- Civil (access roads, grading): April-June
- Racking, Modules, Inverters: May-August
- Project Substation/ Interconnection: July
- Battery Installation: October
- Commercial Operations Date: December 2026



Development Details

Fairview I 74.5 MW 25x4

Fairview I Project Status																
Project	State	IX Request	CEIA	Title	Phase II results	Draft EA	Wetland Delineation	T&E Species	Cultural Survey	Phase I ESA	Hydrology	Dev Permitting	GeoTech	Phase III results	Topography	ALTA
Fairview I	MT	Apr-20	Jul-22	Sep-23	Jan-24	Jun-24	Jun-24	Jun-24	Jun-24	Jun-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Sep-24	Sep-24	Jan-25	Jun-24

Additional Steps: State Utility Permit for Right of Way Across Highway 201

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Why is WAPA Involved?

Stellar has requested to interconnect the solar project with WAPA's existing Fairview West 115 kV substation.

WAPA's decision to grant or deny the interconnection request is a Federal action, which triggers several environmental laws.



Environmental Assessment Process



Scoping

- Introduce the proposed project
- Receive preliminary feedback from interested parties (public, agencies, Tribes)
- 30-day comment period

July - August 2024

Draft EA

- Describe the proposed project
- Describe any alternatives
- Characterize the resources
- Analyze impacts
- Respond to scoping comments
- 30-day comment period

June 2024 – March 2025

Final EA

- Respond to draft EA comments
- Revise EA, as necessary
- Determine whether EIS is necessary
 - If yes, move into EIS process
 - If no, prepare Finding of No Significant Impact and decide whether to grant or deny interconnection

March – June 2025



Project Proponent Versus Lead Agency

WAPA

- Lead agency for NEPA process
- Responding to interconnection request
- Federal agency coordination

Stellar Energy Resources

- Developer
- Requested interconnection to WAPA's existing Fairview West 115 kV substation
- NEPA support from Terracon
- Responsible for state permitting



Scoping

Purpose

- Introduce the proposed project
- Obtain input on project support or any concerns/issues
- Help determine the range of alternatives
- Help determine the resources to be evaluated in the EA

More helpful comments:	Less helpful comments:
What are your concerns with/why do you support the proposed project? Be specific.	Give a general thumbs-up or thumbs-down on the proposed project.
Are there alternatives that WAPA should be considering? State them.	Make statements like “Protect the water!” or “Vote no!”
Provide copies or links to any relevant sources or studies that you are aware of.	



Section 7 And Section 106 Consultation

Endangered Species Act Consultation (Section 7)

- WAPA must work with the USFWS to reduce the Project's impacts on federally threatened/endangered species and their habitats.
- The Final Environmental Assessment is expected to include concurrence from USFWS.

Section 106 Consultation

- WAPA initiated consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and Tribes.
- Nine Tribes were invited to participate.



Need Information?

Project Website:

<https://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/ugp/Fairview-solar-project/>



Public Comments

How?

Today – By Filling out the scoping comment form

Later - By completing the scoping comment form available on the project website at <https://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/ugp/Fairview-solar-project/>

1. Mail to:

Western Area Power Administration
UGP NEPA Coordinator
2900 4th Avenue North
PO Box 35800
Billings, Montana 59101

2. Email to nepa@wapa.gov:

Include “Fairview I Solar Comment” in the subject line

30-day comment period
ends August 10, 2024



Questions?



www.wapa.gov