



Rock Valley Energy Center Project

Fact Sheet – Southern Nevada District Office, Nevada

Boulevard Associates, LLC has applied to the BLM Pahrump Field Office for a right-of-way grant to provide the necessary land and access for the construction and operation of a proposed solar facility and interconnection to the regional transmission system. Boulevard Associates is proposing the construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of the Rock Valley Energy Center Project, a photovoltaic solar power project including a battery storage facility on BLM-managed public land designated as a solar variance area in Nye County.

Rock Valley Energy Center Project proposes a 1,600 MW alternating current solar photovoltaic power generating facility, up to 1,600 MW of battery energy storage system, and an on-site substation on approximately 10,105.5 acres of BLM-managed public land located in Nye County. The Project also includes a dedicated 230- or 500-kilovolt (kV) generation tie-in transmission line (gen-tie) that connects the generation and storage facility from the on-site substation to the transmission grid. The Project is located approximately 0.9 mile southwest of the intersection of US Route 95 and west State Route 373.

The Project would include photovoltaic modules that convert sunlight into direct current electricity that would be collected and converted to alternating current electricity through a system of inverters. Transformers would step up the alternating current electricity to 34.5 kV and the energy would be delivered to the onsite substation. The collected electricity would be stepped up to 230 kV or 500 kV and then delivered via a new overhead generation gen-tie transmission line to the proposed Beatty Substation, Amargosa Substation, and/or a new Valley Switchyard.

The Project is proposed on lands identified as variance in the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan, as amended by the Record of Decision for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Solar Energy Development (Solar PEIR) in six Southwestern States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah).

In 2012, The BLM and the United States Department of Energy approved the Record of Decision for the Solar PEIS which facilitated the permitting of solar energy development projects on federal public land in a more efficient, standardized, and environmentally responsible manner. The Solar PEIS designated Solar Energy Zones that are well suited for utility-scale production of solar energy and also designated variance areas on BLM-administered lands that are outside of the Solar Energy Zones and not otherwise excluded by the Solar PEIS. The Solar PEIR also identified variance areas that are available for utility-scale solar energy development on a case by case basis, evaluated through the BLM's established variance process, as described in the Solar PEIR ROD Appendix B, Section B.5 (<https://blmsolar.anl.gov/variance/process/>).

The BLM considers right-of-way applications for utility-scale solar energy development in variance areas on a case-by-case basis based on environmental considerations; coordination with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies and tribes; and public outreach.