

PALOMINO SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE PALOMINO SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT?

Innergex is proposing a 200 MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic (PV) system located in Dodson and Union Townships, between Lynchburg and Hillsboro, in Highland County, Ohio. The project consists of a solar field with arrays of PV panels that will be neatly arranged in rows. Other equipment on site would include almost 60 inverters, the project substation, and underground and overhead electrical cables. The solar field and associated infrastructure are anticipated to occupy approximately 1,400 acres.

WHO IS FUNDING THE PALOMINO SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT?

Innergex will be responsible for 100% of the development, financing, construction and start-up costs. After completion, Innergex will also be responsible for all operational and maintenance costs, as well as all decommissioning costs.

WHO IS INNERGEX?

Founded in 1990, Innergex is an independent renewable power producer which develops, constructs, acquires, owns and operates hydroelectric, wind, solar and energy storage facilities. Innergex is a long-term owner and operator of clean energy projects located in the United States, Canada, Chile and France. It is a priority for us to be a good community partner and neighbor.

HOW WILL THE COMMUNITY BENEFIT FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

Over its lifetime, the Palomino Solar Energy Project will make major direct and indirect contributions to the local community. Property taxes generated by the project are expected to contribute approximately \$1.8 million per year amongst Highland County, Dodson and Union Townships, East Clinton Local School District, Hillsboro City School District and Lynchburg-Clay School District. Furthermore, landowners participating in the project will receive direct compensation in the form of long-term lease payments, and one-time easement payments or land purchase payments.

During the 12-14 construction months, typically 300 persons are employed on site, and peaks can reach several hundreds more. Our general contractor usually fills the bulk of these positions with in-state labor. Furthermore, we strive to buy locally and hire local contractors where possible. The jobs created over the construction period are expected to contribute over \$40 million in construction and installation labor as well as related services, including local food and hospitality businesses. During the 30 year project operations term, we expect to employ one or two full time technical positions.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT BEING PROPOSED NOW?

There is growing demand for renewable energy in Ohio from both corporations and electric utilities and the regional power market pricing supports the construction of this new capacity. Significant advances in solar PV technology over the last 10 years leading to decreases in solar energy equipment pricing have made solar energy project development in Ohio more viable.

Additionally, Innergex is in the midst of finalizing construction of the neighboring Hillcrest Solar Energy Project in Brown County and is looking to bring more clean energy and jobs to Ohio.

WHAT WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT ACCOMPLISH?

When operational, the Palomino Solar Energy Project will be a quiet renewable energy facility with limited visual impacts. Additionally, it will be a major source of clean power, producing the equivalent energy needed to match the annual electrical consumption of 40,000 Ohioan households. Furthermore, the Palomino Solar Energy Project will offset the annual emission of over 329,000 tons of CO₂.

WHY USE AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR A RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT?

The area is ideal because it has a good solar resource, available transmission capacity on the electrical grid and flat open ground.

Using agricultural lands for solar energy limits the need for deforestation and protects wetlands. Farmers hosting solar energy projects benefit from a reliable source of income, enabling them to keep their farms in their families and thus improving agriculture's resilience in the county. At the end of the project's useful life, the land can be returned to farming and the decades of fallow will have made the land even more productive. In some instances, sheep grazing can occur, providing both food and revenue for local livestock farmers.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

Innergex expects to begin construction at the second half of 2022. During construction, we will implement standard best management practices and disturbance mitigation measures, such as controlling dust and traffic, minimizing lighting, as well as maintaining and improving roads. We listen to feedback from surrounding neighbors to alleviate local impacts and inconveniences. Construction typically lasts 12-14 months. Therefore, the facility could be operational as early as the end of 2023. It would then operate for the next 30 years, all while directly contributing approximately \$1.8 million annually to the community.

HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE DECOMMISSIONED?

As part of the decommissioning of a typical solar energy project after its useful lifecycle, any and all components associated with the project would be removed and the area would be restored to a similar state existing prior to commencement of construction. Reuse or recycling of materials would be prioritized over disposal. Recycling is an area of great focus in the solar industry, and programs for recycling or upcycling solar panels are advancing every year.

If any materials need to be replaced before the facility end-of-life, Innergex would seek an environmentally responsible route for reuse, recycling or disposal.

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INNERGEX

Renewable Energy.
Sustainable Development.