



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rules / Options for Consideration for Exclusive Farm Use and Forest Use Zones

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

EFU Zoning

1. Adopt Order No. 2025-042, opting out of Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rules.
2. Do nothing and automatically opt-in effective January 1, 2026.
3. Initiate a customized program, under the provision of Statewide Planning Goal 5 and adopt a temporary opt-out resolution, Order No. 2025-043, that will be repealed once a plan amendment is adopted. Given the significance of this work program, it would need to be prioritized as work task in CDD's FY 2025/2026 or 2026/2027 work program.

Forest Use Zoning

1. Continue to allow photovoltaic solar farms on 10 acres; or
2. Given the significance of this work program, it would need to be prioritized as work task in the CDD FY 2025/2026 or 2026/2027 work program. The work task would identify as a scope of work, opportunities for photovoltaic solar farms up to 240 acres.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

On June 26, 2025, the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) adopted Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) that guide development of renewable photovoltaic solar energy sites in Eastern Oregon on non-federal Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) and Forest Use zoned land (Attachment 1). Staff is presenting the Board with several options to move forward.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None.

ATTENDANCE:

Tanya Saltzman, Senior Planner

Will Groves, Planning Manager

Peter Gutowsky, CDD Director