Invenergy

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Foundry Works Solar Energy Project Narrative

1.1 Project Location

Foundry Works solar project is located within Eagle Creek and Winfield Townships in Lake County, Indiana. Approximately 99.5% of the Project is located within Eagle Creek Township and the remainder is located within Winfield Township.

1.2 Project Area

The amount of leased acreage that is included in the application is approximately 3117.771 acres. An estimated 483,678 solar modules will be placed within several fenced areas within the leased land and will occupy approximately 1,400 acres. The areas outside of the fences that are not used for placement of solar panels, access roads or inverter pads, such as large wood lots, wetlands, ditches, residential and other setbacks and areas with significant slopes, will either be left vegetated and maintained over the life of the project or put back into farming. The solar modules within the fenced areas will be placed in rows running North – South. The solar modules will be mounted on single-axis trackers. Panel rows will be spaced a minimum of 15 feet post to post. The areas between panel rows will remain open and fully vegetated.

1.3 Vegetation Ground Cover and Landscape Buffers

A mixture of prairie grasses will be planted to stabilize the surface both within the project fence under and between the panel rows and outside of the project fence where no aboveground infrastructure will be built. Additional information about proposed vegetative cover is provided in the attached Vegetation Cover Summary.

The Project will also plant more extensive landscape buffers around residences, per the requirements of the solar ordinance. Additional information on the proposed buffer yard vegetation is provided in the attached Landscape Plan.

1.4 Interconnection

The Project plans to interconnect to the existing NIPSCO 345 kV Schafer-St. John line that intersects the Project on the southwestern side. The Project submitted an interconnection request to MISO in April of 2018.

1.5 Components of the Proposed Solar Project

The main components of the Project include:

- Solar PV panels - The panels are comprised of silicon wafers and conduit, which are encased in safety glass and metal. The overall project capacity will be up to 200 MW AC.
- Racking to fasten and support the panels - Steel piles are driven into the soil and the panels are then secured to the structures. The panels are mounted on tracking systems, which increase project output by orienting the solar panels directly toward the sun, tracking it from east to west over the course of a day.
- Transformers and inverters - Inverters are electronic devices that convert solar electricity from direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC) and are typically placed inside the panel footprint.
- Electrical cabling, conduits, and storage - Inverters connect to a project substation via underground cabling. Within the Project substation, a step-up transformer will convert the low voltage (AC) to high voltage (AC) for interconnection into the utility transmission system. A switchyard/ substation will house high voltage equipment interconnecting the Project to the electrical grid.
- Perimeter fencing, site access and internal roads - The Project includes perimeter security fencing with controlled points of ingress and egress. The Project fencing and signage will comply with the County ordinance requirements. Roads within the site provide access to the Project equipment.
- The operations and maintenance building – The building will serve as the main administrative headquarters for the Project. It is expected to have offices, an area for the solar technicians, a kitchen, a storeroom, a shop area, a control equipment room, and a bathroom.

1.6 Site Plan Flexibility

Applicant has provided legal descriptions of the property included in the project area. In accordance with County standards, applicant reserves the ability to modify the location of project components and improvements within the Project area. Such modifications would comply with the applicable County regulations.

Modifications of the equipment locations will not impact the parameters outlined in the landscaping plan.

1.7 Operations and Maintenance Plan

During normal operations, Invenergy anticipates the Project will be staffed by 3-4 solar technicians 7am-4pm Monday through Friday. Technicians will be dispatched to site on weekends and holidays to respond to material equipment issues and emergencies. Access will most commonly be by light-duty pickups or other passenger vehicles. Invenergy will coordinate with the local emergency response personnel at least annually to provide training on the risks associated with an emergency response to events such as a fire or electrical hazard exposure. Please see the O&M Maintenance Plan for more details.

1.8 About Invenergy

At Invenergy, our approach to creating clean energy solutions is entrepreneurial, innovative and sustainable. With 176 projects in construction or operation across the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, and Latin America, we are leveraging innovative design and next-generation technology to create a new paradigm for energy production. Foundry Works Solar Energy LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Invenergy Solar Development North America LLC and is an affiliate of Invenergy LLC. Invenergy's main headquarters are in Chicago, IL and Invenergy has been involved in renewable energy development for almost 20 years. Invenergy is an experienced solar energy developer and operator that has developed and contracted more than 5,061 megawatts (MW) of solar energy projects globally.