

OYEN 1 SOLAR PROJECT NEWSLETTER #1 - NOVEMBER 2023



Universal Kraft is developing the Oyen 1 Solar Project in your area. We are committed to engaging landowners, public stakeholders and members of the local community and we look forward to discussing the Project with you.

ABOUT UNIVERSAL KRAFT

Universal Kraft develops renewable energy solutions ranging from small hydro, wind, solar, waste-to-energy and water saving technologies to energy storage solutions, green hydrogen and green ammonia. With a solid experience and worldwide developments, Universal Kraft's mission is to promote sustainable business with a direct and positive impact in society.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Oyen 1 Project (the Project) is being developed by Universal Kraft (the Proponent). The Project began development in early 2023 and includes approximately 1,450 acres of land located approximately 13.2 km north west of the Town of Oyen, Alberta, in Special Area No. 3, (as shown on the enclosed map). The Project is wholly located on privately owned, cultivated land. The Project area has a strong solar resource, characteristic of Alberta, and will generate clean energy over its 30+ year lifetime.

The Project will consist of 400 megawatts ac (MWac) of solar capacity. Based on the preliminary design, the Project includes approximately 672,000 solar photovoltaic modules installed on a single-axis tracking system, 1,173 SunGrow inverters (SG350-HX-12-MPPT), an electrical collection system, internal access roads and the construction of a Project substation to connect to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES).

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- About Universal Kraft
- About the Project
- Project Location
- Project Benefits
- Project Infrastructure
- Project Studies
- Who is the AUC?
- Preliminary Project Schedule
- Next Steps
- Contact Us

INSERTS:

- Preliminary Project Layout
- Glare Map
- AUC Brochure

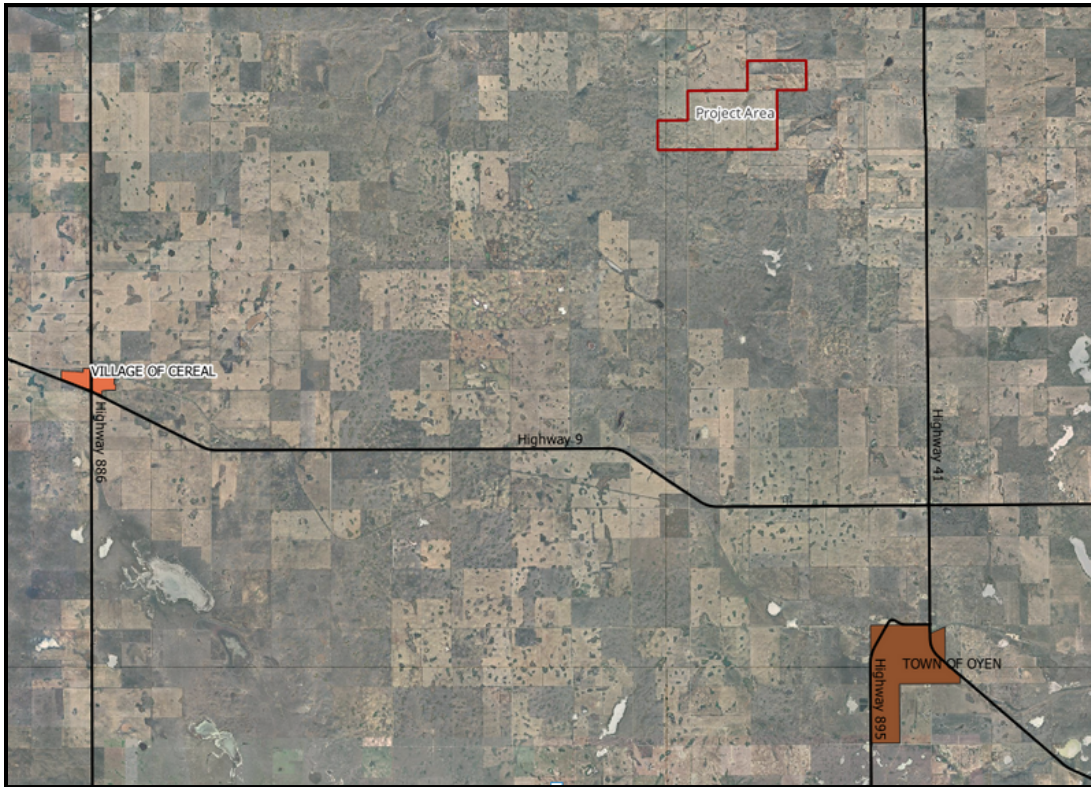


PRIVACY STATEMENT

Collected personal information will be protected under the provincial *Personal Information Protection Act*. As part of the regulatory process for new generation projects and transmission lines, the Proponent may be required to provide your personal information to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Project is located approximately 13.2 km north west of the Town of Oyen, as shown below.



PROJECT BENEFITS

Universal Kraft is committed to making a positive social impact for the communities in which we work. We strive to be a good neighbour, and work closely with the community to identify areas of opportunity and concern. Our community engagement will continue throughout the Project phases, including construction and operation.

The Project will have many community benefits, including the following:

- **Local Employment:** The Project will create up to 150 jobs direct, and approximately 100 full time jobs indirectly during construction, creating opportunities for local individuals and businesses. During operations, the Project will provide five permanent full-time jobs.
- **Local Economic Boost:** Local businesses will experience increased activity due to the spin-off opportunities created by the Project during development, construction, and operations.
- **Property Taxes:** The Project will pay annual property taxes to the County, resulting in financial benefits to the community.
- **Clean Energy Generation:** The Project will generate emissions-free electricity for approximately 300, 000 homes.



PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE

SOLAR PV MODULES

Bifacial PV modules have been proposed for installation at the Project. A bifacial module is a double-sided module that transforms sunlight into electrical energy on both its top and bottom sides. They are different from mono-facial modules which only use one side for solar energy production. Bifacial modules are capable of producing more power per module and typically have higher efficiency than mono-facial modules, resulting in less land usage for the same or greater power output. Local weather conditions in Alberta are well suited to bifacial technology as there is substantial snow cover on the ground, which will boost production during the winter months. One of the benefits of using bifacial modules in Alberta is that sunlight is reflected from the surface of snow-covered land, which can generate electricity from the underside of the panel.

GROUND MOUNTING SYSTEMS

The Proponent intends to install the PV modules on single-axis tracker systems which follow the path of the sun to produce additional electricity.

INVERTER/TRANSFORMER STATIONS

Inverters are electrical devices that change direct current (dc) to alternating current (ac). Transformers are electrical equipment that increase or decrease the voltage of electricity. The Project will use inverter/transformer stations to change the dc electricity from the solar PV modules to ac electricity and increase the voltage.

INTERCONNECTION

The Proponent proposes connecting the Project to the existing Lanfine Substation 959S located approximately 8km south of the proposed Project. ATCO will construct the interconnection facilities to connect the Project to the grid, subject to a separate regulatory process with the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO).

OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE

The inverter/transformer stations in the Project will be connected through 34.5 kV underground collector lines that connect to the Project substation. The Project substation will contain one high voltage transformer. In order to transport materials during the construction stage and to access the Project equipment for regular maintenance during operations, the Project will require the construction of new access paths, and where possible, the upgrade of existing roads in the area to minimize disturbance.



PROJECT STUDIES

Environment:

The Proponent initiated field studies in March 2022 and completed the remaining field studies in 2023, which included the following:

- Wildlife surveys, including breeding bird, spring and fall bird migration, raptor, burrowing owl and sharp-tailed grouse
- Vegetation studies
- Desktop wetland delineation and field verification
- Habitat mapping
- Flood assessment
- Water catchment assessment

The results of these field studies were compiled and analyzed in a third-party report. The report will be provided to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) for review in December 2023. AEPA will issue a Renewable Energy Wildlife Referral Report following their review (anticipated in March 2024). The Proponent is committed to consulting with AEPA to understand any potential concerns it may have, and will incorporate AEPA's feedback. The Proponent will continue to work with AEPA throughout the development, construction, and operations of the Project, and ensure that environmental surveys are kept up to date per AEPA guidelines.

Historical resources:

The Project has submitted a Historical Resources Act application and expects to receive *Historical Resources Act* approval in March 2024 from Alberta Culture.

Noise:

A noise impact assessment (NIA) for the proposed layout as per AUC Rule 012, Noise Control is underway, and is expected to be complete by the end of November 2023. This detailed NIA shall confirm that the Project is noise compliant for all evaluated residences within 1.5km of the Project. A copy of the NIA will also be included in the application for the AUC.

Glare: A glare assessment has been completed for the Project to assess potential for glare at aerodromes, nearby residences and along local roads. The assessment modeled seven ground transportation route paths (Range Road 50, Township Road 292A, Range Road 45A, Range Road 4, Township Road 292, Township Road 294 and Range Road 43). No residences were located within 800m of the Project and no aerodromes were located within 4km of the Project. A glare impact map outlining the assessment results is included in this package and a copy of the Solar Glare Hazard Assessment Report will be included in the application to the AUC. Potential mitigation options exist if glare is experienced, such as changing the resting angle, or increasing the height of the arrays.

WHO IS THE AUC?

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is a quasi-judicial independent agency established by the Government of Alberta, responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

They regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric and water utilities, and certain municipally owned electric utilities to ensure that customers receive safe and reliable service at just and reasonable rates. The AUC ensures that electric facilities are built, operated and decommissioned in an efficient and environmentally responsible way. The AUC also provides regulatory oversight of issues related to the development and operation of the wholesale electricity market in Alberta as well as the retail gas and electricity markets in the province. For more information visit www.auc.ab.ca or refer to the enclosed brochure.

PRELIMINARY PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notification to stakeholders – November 2023
Public Consultation – Ongoing
Tentative Public Open House - February 2024
AEPA Submission - December 2023
Anticipated AEPA Referral Report - March 2024
Anticipated AUC Submission – March 2024
Anticipated AUC Approval – August 2024
Municipal Permitting - March 2024 to September 2024
Construction Commencement (if approved) – September 2024
Construction Completion - July 2026

To learn more about the AUC application and review process, please contact:

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

Phone: (780) 427-4903

Toll-Free by dialing 310-000 before the number

Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca



NEXT STEPS

Universal Kraft is committed to meaningful engagement with all stakeholders in the Project. Following this newsletter, we will be contacting nearby landowners, occupants and residents to gather feedback and hosting a community open house, expected in February 2024. We intend to file a solar power plant and substation application with the AUC in March 2024. We are committed to sharing information about the Project and working with the public to ensure that we hear and address stakeholder input and concerns. We encourage stakeholders to participate throughout this process and to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about the Project. We will incorporate a summary of stakeholder comments into the application that we submit to the AUC. We have included an AUC brochure titled "Participating in the AUC's independent review process" with this newsletter.



CONTACT US

If you have any questions about the Project, or to arrange a personal consultation, please contact:



Samantha Brown
SABR Energy Consulting Inc.

P: (587) 434-7547

E: sbrown@sabreenergyconsulting.com

Our Local Office:

Calgary, Canada: 10th Floor Bankers Hall
West, 888, 3rd Street. South West, Suite
1000 - T2P 5C5, Calgary

<https://oyen.universalkraft.com/>
oyen@universalkraft.com

International Locations:

- Porto, Portugal
- Barcelona, Spain
- Varberg, Sweden