

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT

2 TO

2 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 915

By: Green of the Senate

3 and

4 Boles of the House

5
6
7 An Act relating to solar energy facilities; defining
8 terms; requiring certain newly constructed facilities
9 to meet certain standards; providing applicability;
providing for fee payment; directing rule
promulgation; providing for codification; providing
an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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14 AUTHOR: Add the following House Coauthor: Burns

15 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the title, enacting clause, and entire bill
16 and insert:

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18 "An Act relating to solar energy facilities; defining
19 terms; requiring certain newly constructed facilities
20 to meet certain standards; providing applicability;
providing for fee payment; directing rule
21 promulgation; providing applicability; providing
exception; providing when setback requirements shall
apply; providing for codification; providing an
effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified

2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 160.41 of Title 17, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. As used in this section:

5 1. "Commercial solar energy facility" means an installation of
6 interconnected photovoltaic, ground-mounted solar panels on a tract
7 of land in this state, which generate electricity for distribution.
8 Provided, the term shall not include any solar energy generated
9 through distributed generation installed by residential customers;

10 and

11 2. "Distributed generation" means distributed generation as
12 defined in Section 156 of Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

13 B. Any commercial solar energy facility constructed on land
14 owned and leased by the Commissioners of the Land Office on and
15 after the effective date of this act shall:

16 1. Be installed on permanent grass that is suitable for
17 livestock grazing and allow for the grazing of livestock. Provided,
18 the landowner or livestock owner shall not be liable for any damage
19 to the facility caused by livestock;

20 2. Be constructed at not less than eight (8) feet high from the
21 lowest point of the solar panel;

22 3. If there is more than one row of solar panels, provide not
23 less than twenty-five (25) feet of space between each row;

1 4. Be constructed not less than five hundred (500) feet from
2 the nearest point on the outside wall of any occupied residence,
3 unless waived in writing by the owner of the residence;

4 5. Promote optimal runoff flow with diversions, terraces,
5 basins, and other earthworks to prevent soil loss and erosion; and

6 6. Be liable for all soil erosion occurring along the land in
7 which the panels are installed for the life of the project.

8 C. Any land owned and leased by the Commissioners of the Land
9 Office in which a commercial solar energy facility is constructed
10 on, shall also be made available to be leased by another party for
11 the purposes of livestock grazing.

12 D. Upon the effective date of this act, the owner of the
13 commercial solar energy facility shall be required to pay ad valorem
14 taxes and any other assessments due upon the improvements or
15 structures of the commercial solar energy facility. The owner of
16 the commercial solar energy facility shall make the required payment
17 to the county treasurer of the county not later than December 31 of
18 each year.

19 E. A leasing agreement offered to a landowner by an operator of
20 a solar energy facility shall, if elected by the landowner, offer
21 the same provisions as prescribed in paragraphs 1 through 6 of
22 subsection B of this section. The landowner may elect not to
23 include such provisions in the leasing agreement.

F. The Corporation Commission shall enforce the provisions of this act and may promulgate any rules necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act, including the assessment of fines and fees.

G. This act shall apply to ten (10) megawatt and larger solar energy and associated battery storage facilities. Furthermore, this act shall not apply to any project that the Commissioners of the Land Office has a lease with as of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 915

3 By: Green of the Senate

4 and

5 Boles of the House

6 An Act relating to solar energy facilities; defining
7 terms; requiring certain newly constructed facilities
8 to meet certain standards; providing applicability;
providing for fee payment; directing rule
promulgation; providing for codification; providing
an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

11 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 160.41 of Title 17, unless there
13 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 A. As used in this section:

15 1. "Commercial solar energy facility" means an installation of
16 interconnected photovoltaic, ground-mounted solar panels on a tract
17 of land in this state, which generate electricity for distribution.

18 Provided, the term shall not include any solar energy generated
19 through distributed generation installed by residential customers;
20 and

21 2. "Distributed generation" means distributed generation as
22 defined in Section 156 of Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

1 B. Any commercial solar energy facility constructed on land
2 owned and leased by the Commissioners of the Land Office on and
3 after the effective date of this act shall:

4 1. Be installed on permanent grass that is suitable for
5 livestock grazing. Provided, the landowner shall not be liable for
6 any damage to the facility caused by livestock;

7 2. Be constructed at not less than six (6) feet high from the
8 lowest point of the solar panel;

9 3. If there is more than one row of solar panels, provide not
10 less than twenty-five (25) feet of space between each row;

11 4. Be constructed not less than three hundred (300) yards from
12 the nearest point on the outside wall of any residential dwelling;

13 5. Promote optimal runoff flow with diversions, terraces,
14 basins, and other earthworks to prevent soil loss and erosion; and

15 6. Be liable for all soil erosion occurring along the land in
16 which the panels are installed for the life of the project.

17 C. Upon the effective date of this act, the Commissioners of
18 the Land Office shall be required to make a payment in lieu of ad
19 valorem taxes with respect to real property located in any county of
20 this state that has a commercial solar facility installed. The
21 Commissioners of the Land Office shall make the required payment to
22 the county treasurer of the county not later than December 31 of
23 each year.

1 D. 1. A leasing agreement offered to a landowner by an
2 operator of a solar energy facility shall, if elected by the
3 landowner, offer the same provisions as prescribed in paragraphs 1
4 through 6 of subsection B of this section. The landowner may elect
5 not to include such provisions in the leasing agreement.

6 2. The monetary rate offered in such leasing agreement shall be
7 proportional to the amount of power generated by the operator of the
8 commercial solar energy facility.

9 E. The Corporation Commission shall enforce the provisions of
10 this act and may promulgate any rules necessary to effectuate the
11 provisions of this act, including the assessment of fines and fees.

12 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

13 SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
14 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 13th day of March, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the _____ day of _____,
2025.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives