## **Willow Bend Solar-Storage Hybrid – Investment Summary Deck (Renewable Infrastructure / Slide Transcript)**

**Document Type:** *Sponsor Presentation (Deck Transcript + Committee Notes)*

**Slide 1 – Overview** Project : Willow Bend Solar Storage Hybrid (“WBSS”)  
 Location : Outside Bakersfield, CA  
 Sponsor : SunTrace Renewables LLC  
 Capacity : 42 MW DC solar + 8 MWh battery (lithium-ion)  
 Total Cost : $86.4 MM

**Slide 2 – Capital Structure**

| **Layer** | **Amount (MM)** | **Terms** | **Comment** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Senior Loan | 68.0 | SOFR + 425 bps | 18-yr tenor |
| Tax Equity | 10.0 | flip @ 35 % IRR | unconfirmed |
| Sponsor Equity | 8.4 | cash | SunTrace internal |
| **Total** | **86.4** |  |  |

**Slide 3 – Underwriting Metrics**

* PPA Price : $48/MWh (vs CAISO spot ≈ $42)
* Output Degradation : 0.55 %/yr (industry avg 0.75 %)
* Capacity Factor : 30 % (stated), 25 % validated
* EBITDA Year 1 : $9.8 MM
* DSCR : 1.08× → 1.25×
* IRR (levered) ≈ 8.6 % modelled

**Slide 4 – Analyst Observations (voice transcript)**

“Their model omits $1.2 MM annual O&M escalation. Battery replacement reserve missing. Also assumes ‘debt service constant despite rate step-up’ — not true.”

“Tax equity flip structure not finalized; projected DSCR post-flip drops < 1.0×.”

“PPA counterparty rated BBB-; term 15 yrs vs. loan 18 yrs — mismatch.”

**Slide 5 – Chart (EBITDA vs Debt Service)**

$MM

12 | ▇

10 | ▇▇

8 | ▇▇▇

6 |▇▇▇▇▇▇▇▇▇

Yr1 Yr5 Yr9 Yr13 Yr17

Debt Service ≈ 8.9MM flat

**Slide 6 – Committee Outcome** Consensus: over-levered merchant-exposed solar with missing reserves and maturity mismatch. Sponsor credibility questioned (Phase II project default 2024).  
 Recommendation: Decline as structured; possible revisit ≤ 60 % LTC and tax-equity flip finalized.