PINEGATE Renewables

GRAPEFRUIT SOLAR

Powering Energy Solutions in Texas

Grapefruit Solar, a solar and energy storage project located outside of Linn, Texas, will generate approximately **249** megawatts (MW) of cost-effective and reliable renewable energy for the ERCOT grid.

Benefitting Hidalgo County -

- Grapefruit Solar will deliver long-term economic benefits to Hidalgo County through construction investment, new taxes, landowner payments over the life of the project, and a boost for local businesses during construction.
- We work with landowners and local experts to preserve and protect the land where we site our projects, utilizing the right native, drought-tolerant plants and trees that maintain the look and feel of the natural landscape.
- We strive to work with local businesses, vendors, and organizations throughout the life of the project. The estimated 300 jobs supported during construction will be sourced locally as possible.



249 MW Clean, cost-effective and reliable energy delivered to the ERCOT grid



Estimated investment in Hidalgo County and a boost for local businesses



Grapefruit Project Timeline

2023-2026 Development

2026 - 2028 Construction 2028 Operational



Brian Munger Project Manager

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GRAPEFRUIT SOLAR

Project Area Map



- The Grapefruit Solar project is located off of FM 1017 east of HWY 281 just outside of Linn, Texas in Hidalgo County.
- This project will be located on privately owned land, have an approximate 2350-acre footprint, and include *minimum* setbacks of 50 feet.
- Equipment including solar panels, inverters, and a substation that will interconnect to AEP, is anticipated to use approximately 2000 acres of the 2350-acre project area.

Brian Munger Project Manager

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Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this a good location for a solar project?

The siting process for each of our projects entails an indepth due-diligence process to ensure we are good stewards of the environment and in the communities where we have projects. Additionally, we look for suitable land that has close access to connect to the existing utility grid, and therefore provide clean energy to the grid in this part of Texas.

Can I see the solar project from my house?

Grapefruit will be developed on privately-owned land and have a 50-foot *minimum* setback from property lines to the fence, with potentially even greater setback distances in certain areas.

Are solar panels safe?

The equipment that is installed in our solar project is rigorously tested. The panels themselves are sealed and made mostly of everyday materials such as glass, sand, aluminum and copper. Other materials are very limited and sealed inside the panels. For additional safety, there are various electrical fuses and switches to protect the project, the surrounding electricity network, and the environment from any short circuits or sparks.

Is the solar project noisy?

Once operational, the solar panels will emit virtually no noise. The equipment on site typically emits a maximum noise level below 50 decibels from 10 yards away, which is comparable to a typical conversation volume. At the property lines, the noise produced is inaudible.

Will the project affect the storm water drainage to my property?

We engineer our projects with best-in-class stormwater procedures to mitigate runoff and protect the land, water and wildlife at our site. Our engineers design a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) specific to the conditions of the project site to meet local, state and federal standards. Our erosion and sediment control measures are designed in compliance with the Texas construction storm water general permit requirements.

Will the solar project lower my property value?

While there are many uncontrollable factors that can impact property values across the country, including general market fluctuation and demand, hundreds of studies have been done in numerous states by certified and licensed appraisers using industry-standard methods. Most have concluded that solar farms possess none of the characteristics that would cause harm to adjoining property values, and none of the studies have found evidence of harm from existing facilities. Even a recent Texas-based study* has published similar findings and provides additional details about property values in Texas as it relates to renewables energy land use.

What is the environmental impact of having a solar project?

With the Grapefruit Project, Pine Gate Renewables is committed to preserving Texas' beauty and protecting Texas land and wildlife. Through our SolarCultureTH initiative, we work with landowners and local groups to preserve and protect the land where we site our projects, while maintaining the natural look and feel of the area as possible. Additionally, our solar projects do not produce any byproduct, odor or harmful emissions that would have an impact on the project area or surrounding properties.

Will the project use a lot of water?

No. Once operational, solar uses a fraction of the water used by coal, nuclear, and gas - just 20 gallons per kWh with solar compared to 790 gallons per kwh. The majority of the project's water usage happens during construction, mostly for dust suppression and facility road construction. Beyond construction, there is minimal water use for annual panel cleaning and the small onsite Operations & Maintenance Facility.

What about road damage from construction trucks?

We are committed to minimizing traffic impact during construction. We will partner closely with county leadership regarding this matter and will work to make sure the roads we use are maintained to remain in their current condition during and after the construction phase of Grapefruit.

* https://www.conservativetexansforenergyinnovation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Analysisof-Market-Trends-Surrounding-Utility-Scale-Solar-Projects-Real-Property-Analytics.pdf