

#### Citizens Advisory Committee on Renewables

**July 20th, 2023** 

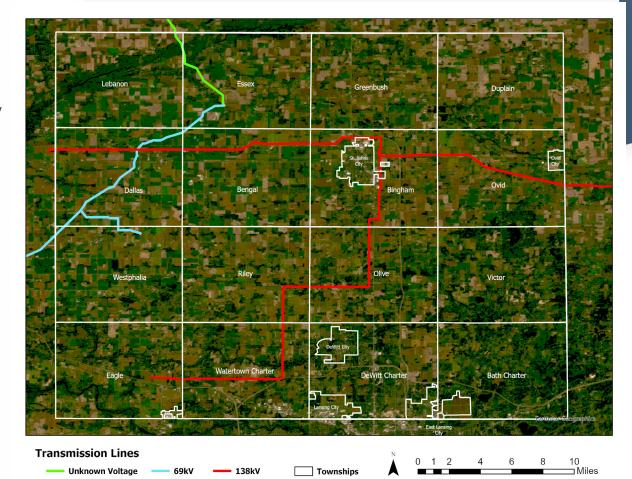


#### RWE Seson

#### How We Select Project Areas

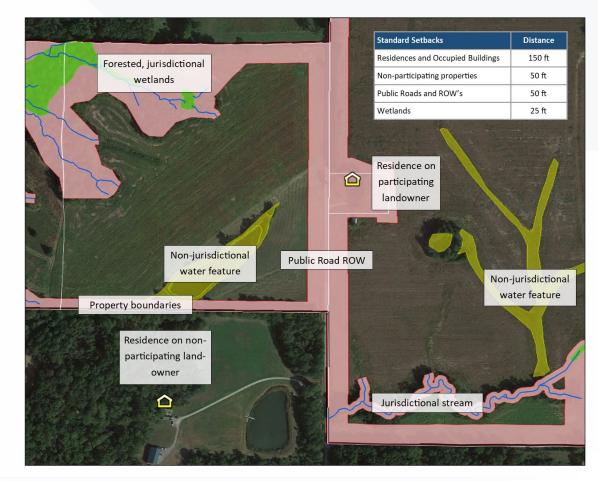
## **Key factors for RWE & ESA in determining project location:**

- Landscape and Land Use Suitability
- Land availability
- Access to the transmission system
  - Proximity to project land
  - Available grid capacity
- Land Use Regulations



#### **Project Development**

- Once a project area has been selected and land leases have been secured, design layout begins based on:
  - Environmental regulations-EPA, USFW, USACE, etc.
  - <u>Environmental conditions-</u>waterways, soils, bedrock
  - · Land use regulations-zoning, permitting
  - Industry 'best practices'
- These factors inform which parts of the land are buildable for the future project site
- We are committed to utilizing design elements, such as screening, where appropriate to reduce the visual impacts of the panels from private and public viewsheds.



#### Project Design

- <u>Solar Panels</u>-Panel racking systems will be placed in blocks based on available, buildable land areas as established by environmental constraints and necessary setbacks.
- <u>Inverter Stations</u>-blocks of panels will be connected to inverter stations placed in the interior of the blocks to minimize or fully eliminate sound emissions at the adjoining property lines.
- Access Roads and Fences-we work closely with landowners and neighbors to ensure minimal impact to their day-today activities and all non-project areas of their property remain accessible.



### **Vegetative Screening**







#### RWE Seso

#### In the Community

- Developer & Land agents
  - Development Manager and Land agents will be in the community working with landowners to lease parcels of their land for project development
- Community benefits:
  - Long-term community member and partner
  - Secure and reliable landowner payments
  - Tax revenue to local jurisdictions
  - Private investment/indirect impacts of construction
  - Local partnerships/sponsorships with community organizations
  - Localized and secure electrical generation facility



South Hill Rotary Club, recipient of ESA Marrow Street Solar Farm Community Grant

#### **Construction and Operations**

- Prior to construction, a cover crop is planted after the last harvest to prevent erosion.
- Local experts are consulted for their input on grass seed mix
- Local workforce and materials are preferred
- Construction period usually lasts 12-18 months
- Maintenance and Repairs
  - 24/7 virtual monitoring (SCADA) in addition to on-site staff
  - Expert staff locally based for operations and repair
  - Local support for vegetation management (i.e. mowing and landscaping)

#### Decommissioning

- When leasing parcels of land, we are committed both contractually and ethically to be good stewards of the land and return it to its original condition at the end of the project's life.
- Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan (per *Clinton County Zoning Ordinance*)
  - Financial security guarantees removal of the project
  - Requires cost estimate for returning the land to its original condition
  - Includes removing panels, racks, major equipment, and soil restoration



#### Walker Road Solar Farm

Walker Road is a mid-stage 150 MW solar project in Clinton County that has been under development since 2019 and could become operational as soon as Q4 of 2025.

#### **Key Project Milestones**

- 2023 Q2-Grid Interconnection Agreement
- 2023 Q3-Environmental Studies
- 2023 Q4-Land Use Permitting
- 2024 Q1-Engineering and Design
- 2024 Q2-Commercial Negotiations

Project Milestone	Status
Site Control	Complete
Grid Interconnection	Complete
Environmental Studies	In Progress
Land Use Permitting	In Progress
Engineering & Design	In Progress
Procurement	In Progress
Commercial Contract	Planned
Construction Mobilization	Planned
Operations Phase	Planned

#### **Special Land Uses in Clinton County**

Special Use	Zoning Districts	Max Height of Structures	Setbacks	MAISA	Screening/ Buffering Height	Road Conditions & Maintenance	Decommissioning
Solar Farm	A-1, A-2, A-3, RR	16 ft		60 dBA at property line	4 TC	auring construction	Decommissioning and final reclamation plan w/financial security
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)	A-2 only	35 ft	100 ft-storage of manure, odor-producing materials	No restrictions	None required	n/a	
Stable, commercial	A-2 only	35 ft	100 ft-storage of manure 100 ft-stables from residential property 50 ft-occupied dwelling	No restrictions	None required	n/a	
Wireless Communication Facilities	A-1, A-2, A-3	Mariania	150 ft-residential dwellings, public ROW's	No restrictions	Detailed landscaping plan required	n/a	Surety bond
Mineral Resource Extraction	MR only	Variable	50 ft-Public ROW's	Submit 'measures to be taken' to control noise	6 ft	Requires road condition verification, road maintenance agreement	Reclamation plan

# RWE



PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO CLEAN ENERGY