

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

POLICY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 915

By: Green of the Senate

and

Boles of the House

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 160.41 of Title 17, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Commercial solar energy facility" means an installation of interconnected photovoltaic, ground-mounted solar panels on a tract of land in this state, which generate electricity for distribution. Provided, the term shall not include any solar energy generated

1 through distributed generation installed by residential customers;
2 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 C. Upon the effective date of this act, the owner of the
22 commercial solar energy facility shall be required to pay ad valorem
23 taxes and any other assessments due upon the improvements or
24 structures of the commercial solar energy facility. The owner of

1 the commercial solar energy facility shall make the required payment
2 to the county treasurer of the county not later than December 31 of
3 each year.

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

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

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

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

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

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