

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 915

By: Green of the Senate

3 and

4 Boles of the House

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

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

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

16 A. As used in this section:

17 1. "Commercial solar energy facility" means an installation of  
18 interconnected photovoltaic, ground-mounted solar panels on a tract  
19 of land in this state, which generate electricity for distribution.  
20 Provided, the term shall not include any solar energy generated  
21 through distributed generation installed by residential customers;  
22 and

23 2. "Distributed generation" means distributed generation as  
24 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.

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

13 SECTION 3. 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.

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