

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 915

By: Green of the Senate

and

Boles of the House

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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 [solar energy facilities - terms - new facilities -

11 standards - applicability - payment - promulgation

12 - codification - effective date

13 emergency]

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

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

20 A. As used in this section:

21 1. "Commercial solar energy facility" means an installation of
22 interconnected photovoltaic, ground-mounted solar panels on a tract
23 of land in this state, which generate electricity for distribution.

24 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 and allow for the grazing of livestock. Provided,
10 the landowner shall not be liable for any damage to the facility
11 caused by livestock;

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

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

16 4. Be constructed not less than five hundred (500) feet from
17 the nearest point on the outside wall of any occupied residence,
18 unless waived in writing by the owner of the residence;

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

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

23 C. Any land owned and leased by the Commissioners of the Land
24 Office in which a commercial solar energy facility is constructed

1 on, shall also be made available to be leased by another party for
2 the purposes of livestock grazing.

3 D. Upon the effective date of this act, the owner of the
4 commercial solar energy facility shall be required to pay ad valorem
5 taxes and any other assessments due upon the improvements or
6 structures of the commercial solar energy facility. The owner of
7 the commercial solar energy facility shall make the required payment
8 to the county treasurer of the county not later than December 31 of
9 each year.

10 E. A leasing agreement offered to a landowner by an operator of
11 a solar energy facility shall, if elected by the landowner, offer
12 the same provisions as prescribed in paragraphs 1 through 6 of
13 subsection B of this section. The landowner may elect not to
14 include such provisions in the leasing agreement.

15 F. The Corporation Commission shall enforce the provisions of
16 this act and may promulgate any rules necessary to effectuate the
17 provisions of this act, including the assessment of fines and fees.

18 G. This act shall apply to ten (10) megawatt and larger solar
19 energy and associated battery storage facilities. Furthermore, this
20 act shall apply to any project in development that does not yet have
21 an interconnection agreement in place on or after the effective date
22 of this act.

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

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

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