

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 915

By: Green

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to solar energy facilities; defining terms; requiring newly constructed facilities to meet certain standards; providing applicability; 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 through distributed generation installed by residential customers; and

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

1 B. Any commercial solar energy facility constructed on or after
2 the effective date of this act shall:

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

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

8 3. If there is more than one row of solar panels, provide not
9 less than twenty (20) feet of space between each row;

10 4. Be constructed not less than five hundred (500) yards from
11 the nearest point on the outside wall of any residential dwelling;

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

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

16 C. The provisions of this section shall apply to commercial
17 solar energy facilities constructed on all lands in this state,
18 including those lands owned or leased by the Commissioners of the
19 Land Office.

20 D. The Corporation Commission shall enforce the provisions of
21 this act and may promulgate any rules necessary to effectuate the
22 provisions 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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