

Thank you for your comment, Colin Jackson.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarS50147.

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Comment ID: SolarS50147

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Comment Submitted:

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I would like to suggest some possible criteria to be used when evaluating applications for renewable energy projects on public lands:

Proximity to existing transmission lines or existing right-of-ways. The closer to existing lines means that only shorter new lines would need to be built to connect. Less new lines means less impact.

Do those transmission lines have available capacity? No use in processing an application if there is no room on the line for the power.

Opportunity for scale. One large site would be better than 10 small sites, in my opinion. I'd rather have one large place with one set of service roads, one substation, one transmission line/right-of-way. A lot of small projects would require more roads, substations, lines, etc. Also in terms of most benefit, the more clean MWh you produce, the more pollution you avoid from a dirty source, so bigger projects have more benefit.

Opportunity for multi-use site. Does the applicant plan to combine wind, solar and/or geothermal resources on one site? Similar to the economies of scale logic above. Combines the infrastructure and impact of multiple sources in one location.

How good is the resource itself (wind, solar, geothermal). Better resources are more likely to be successful than marginal resources. Some applicants may be putting in applications on marginal resources just because they can in the hopes they can flip it to someone else for a quick profit.

Local support. If one community wants a project for all its economic benefits and another community resists another project due to impact on views or whatever, then the former one has a much better chance of being successful.

Price matters a lot for a project. Selling to L.A. at \$.08/kwh is a lot better than selling to a Utah Muni for \$.05/kwh.

Who is the applicant? Is it two guys in a truck who have never built a project before, or is it an experienced team with the necessary financial backing.

Hope you find this helpful.

Colin S. Jackson  
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