

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment – SE Municipal Colorado, LLC (Fort Morgan Proposed Solar Farm)

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible effects related to a project proposed by SE Municipal Colorado, LLC (SE Municipal Colorado). The proposal is for the construction of a solar facility in Morgan County, Colorado. SE Municipal Colorado has submitted an application to the RUS for funding of the proposal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SE Municipal Colorado proposes to construct a 4.9 megawatt (MW) direct current photovoltaic solar energy power system. The solar facility would occupy 21 acres located northeast of the intersection of Barlow Road and County Road R in Morgan County, Colorado (Morgan County Parcel Number 1229-040-14901).

Terracon, an environmental consultant retained by SE Municipal Colorado, prepared an environmental assessment for RUS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental effects and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the effects of the proposed project. No significant effects are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Written questions and comments should be emailed to RUS at: RUS.IRA.comments@usda.gov

RUS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the first date of publication of this notice. All comments must be provided electronically with no hard copy comments being accepted at this time.

Copies of the environmental assessment and supporting documentation will be available for public review at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/assessments/>.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.

Dated: November 26, 2024



Proposed Project Area in Relation to Municipal Substation/Point of Interconnection (Project area shown in purple and municipal substation shown in pink, buried electric line to point of interconnection shown in green)