

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment – KPP Energy (Marion Energy Generation Facility)

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 Kansas Power Pool (KPP Energy) in Marion County, Kansas. The proposal is for the construction of a solar facility in Marion, Kansas. KPP Energy has submitted an application to the RUS for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Environmental and Historic Preservation Division, USDA Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-1570. Questions and comments should be emailed to RUS at: RUS.IRA.comments@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: KPP Energy proposes to construct a 1.0-megawatt (MW) solar energy generating facility on an approximately 6.62-acre tract located within the city limits of Marion in Marion County, Kansas. The Project would be located northwest of the intersection of West Washington Street and Vine Street. The Project would be considered a small-scale community solar energy generating facility and would consist of the construction of ground-mounted photovoltaics (PV) mounted on a steel rack system, which would be anchored into the ground using driven steel piles.

Topographic, Co., an environmental consultant, prepared an EA 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 EA 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 the email address provided above. RUS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the first date of publication of this notice. 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: December 30, 2024

