

## Beswick, Taylor

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**From:** Foss, Justin <JustinFoss@alliantenergy.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 3:41 PM  
**To:** PD Mail Box; tim.huey@scottcountyiowa.gov  
**Subject:** [External Email] Utility-Scale Solar planning and zoning details from Alliant Energy  
**Attachments:** Appendix C - Crawfish River Solar Decom Plan Final\_20200917 WITH FIGURE 1.pdf;  
Appendix D - Crawfish River Veg Mgmt Plan\_FINAL.pdf

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Alliant Energy is the advancing clean energy throughout Iowa to benefit the customers and communities it is privileged to serve. As part of this process, the company is continually studying potential projects and working with landowners to develop long-term partnerships, and this includes in Scott County.

Ahead of the workshop to talk about utility-scale solar in Scott County, Justin Foss, Strategic Project Manager for Alliant Energy spoke with Planning Director Tim Huey about some of the most common topics. This list below features responses with information from other solar sites Alliant Energy is purchasing or building.

### Traffic generated

- We would file and follow a transportation plan with a haul route.
- Road use has few overweight loads, however the semi-trucks carrying steel and panels are concentrated on a specific area.
- Once construction is done, there would be limited and very infrequent traffic generated by the solar project.

### Setbacks

- For inhabited structures: 150-foot setback from PV generation assets (arrays, inverters) excluding access roads and fences.
- 20-foot setback or solar equipment (excludes fences) from property lines of non-participating landowners.
- No setback from property lines of participating landowners.

### Tax base

- Land used by a utility(solar, substation, other) is part of the state's Utility Replacement Tax. This land would be centrally assessed and local funding would come through a generation tax mechanism – with amounts calculated based on the energy generated by the project.

### Jobs

- We expect 100-150 jobs during peak construction season, with construction lasting between 12-24 months. We are unsure yet on final full-time jobs to maintain the project.

### View mitigation

- We would erect fence around the perimeter of the facility, at least 8 feet high. We have industry required standards to provide security to anything that generates energy on the utility-scale. This fence is usually chain-link or thinner deer-fencing.
- Panels are usually less than 12-feet tall when fully vertical during the early morning or late afternoon – pending any major changes in technology.
- We would file and follow a vegetation management plan. Recently, Alliant Energy has been planting a pollinator mix on solar projects – this achieves a pleasing view as well as numerous environmental benefits for water quality, food for migratory species and support for local agriculture.

#### Decommissioning

- We would file and follow a decommissioning plan. These are standard in the industry. I am attaching a sample from one of the projects we are purchasing in Wisconsin.

#### Stormwater drainage

- We try and build on land that does not need significant grading, which would not change the stormwater drainage. During construction we follow the conditions specified in IDNR issued General Permit #2 which includes the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- As numerous environmental benefits for water quality improvement by reducing the amount of nutrients being transported to the watershed during storm water runoff events, food for a wide variety of animal and pollinator species and pollination enhancement for local agriculture; and the ability of these prairie to species to capture carbon.
- Vegetation management plan also provides erosion control. I have attached a sample one from one of the projects we are purchasing in Wisconsin.

#### **Justin Foss | Strategic Project Manager**

Pronouns: he/him/his

#### **ALLIANT ENERGY**

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