



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Proposed Renewable Energy Rule

Fact Sheet

The Bureau of Land Management has announced a proposed update of its renewable energy regulations to promote the development of solar and wind energy on public lands. The proposed Renewable Energy Rule would reduce fees for these projects by around 80%, facilitate development in priority areas by streamlining review of applications, and deliver greater certainty for the private sector.

Following are key provisions of the updated Rule, an amendment to the BLM's existing right-of-way regulations:

Reduce Costs

- The Energy Act of 2020 authorized the BLM to reduce acreage rents and capacity fees to promote wind and solar development. The BLM initially reduced these fees through [guidance in 2022](#). The proposed rule would codify further reductions, improving financial predictability for developers pursuing long-term projects on public land.
- The proposal would improve predictability of rates long term to spur interest in developing solar and wind energy on public lands, while maintaining appropriate project requirements.
- BLM expects that lower acreage rental rates and capacity fees for solar and wind energy generating facilities will translate into lower costs for energy deployment, increasing the renewable energy share of domestic energy production, while maintaining high environmental standards.

Streamline Review for Applications

- The proposed rule would clarify and formalize BLM's processes for prioritization, processing, and permitting of applications for proposed solar and wind energy development on public land, providing consistency for project proponents.
- This would provide certainty for developers, while continuing to focus agency efforts on projects capable of delivering clean energy to American communities.

Facilitate Priority Development

- The proposed rule would provide the option to make public lands inside designated leasing areas available for leasing without a competitive auction. The BLM would retain discretion to conduct competitive auctions where there is a competitive interest, either within or outside of designated leasing areas.
- By allowing this greater flexibility, the BLM believes it can maximize interest in renewable energy leasing in the most environmentally appropriate areas and accelerate deployment of solar and wind energy.
- The proposal seeks input on additional incentives to promote public lands' renewable energy projects developed with American-made parts and materials or constructed using union labor.

Publication of the proposed rule in the *Federal Register* begins a 60-day public comment period, which will include public meetings (times and dates to be announced). For more information, or to provide comment on the proposal, please visit blm.gov/renewable-energy-rule.