

PUBLIC NOTICE

On December 27, 2024, El Paso Electric Company (EPE or Company) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) requesting an amendment to its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to construct, own and operate a new 100-megawatt ("MW") solar photovoltaic ("PV") generation facility, together with a 100 MW battery energy storage system ("BESS"), which collectively will be called Newman Buffer Generation Project ("Newman Buffer" or "the Project"), as a Texas resource. The docket number and style of the application are PUC Docket No. 57501, "Application of El Paso Electric Company to Amend Its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity For a 100 MW Solar/100 MW Battery Storage Facility." EPE is not seeking to change its rates in this proceeding.

There are two components of the Project proposed in this filing: 100 MW of solar PV generating capacity and a 100 MW BESS. Both components will be used by the Company as a resource allocated to serving its Texas jurisdiction and be constructed at the same location, and they are expected to be operational by the first quarter of 2027.

In order to meet customer demand, to satisfy its reliability standards, and to replace older generation units that EPE plans to retire, EPE determined that it needs additional long-term energy supply resources. Consequently, in October 31, 2023, EPE issued a competitive All-Source Request for Proposal for Electric Power Supply and Load Management Resources for Texas Request for Proposals to obtain long-term cost effective, reliable electric resources that will meet its Texas customer load requirements. EPE received 94 bids for a variety of resource types and capacity options. Based on an evaluation of the bids EPE received using economic and other criteria, along with the oversight of an independent evaluator, EPE selected six proposals as the lowest-cost portfolio that would reliably meet the needs of EPE customers and the Company's planning reserve margin. The Project was one of those six proposals.

The Project's solar PV facility consists of crystalline silicon PV modules. The selected panels are high wattage and large format to reduce the overall number of panels to be installed. Bifacial technology will improve system yield by receiving diffuse irradiance on the back side of the panels. The modules will be mounted to a single axis tracking system configured one panel high in portrait. Additionally, the Project's 100 MW BESS facility utilizes the EnerC+ container, a modular fully integrated product, consisting of rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, with the characteristics of high energy density, long service life, and high efficiency

The Project will be built in the city of El Paso, Texas, directly adjacent to EPE's existing Newman Power Station. The precise location of the site where Newman Buffer will be built and operated is 31.98° latitude and 106.44° longitude. The proposed point of interconnection for the Project will be the Company's existing Patriot Substation at 115kV, located just south of the Project site. The Project will utilize already existing transmission infrastructure to create cost efficiencies and minimize development lag.

The estimated cash capital cost for the Project is approximately \$303 million. In addition, the cash capital costs for interconnection of the Project to the EPE system are estimated to be \$15 million. The cost does not reflect the federal Production Tax Credits or Investment Tax Credits for renewable energy projects provided by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is February 10, 2025; a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing-and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones ("TTY") may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2989. A copy of EPE's petition may be viewed on the Commission's webpage at www.puc.state.tx.us. The Commission maintains an electronic copy of all filings on the "filings - interchange" section of its webpage. The control number for this proceeding on the Commission's webpage is 57501.

Persons with questions, who want more information on this petition, or who want to obtain a copy of a map that depicts the facilities may also contact EPE at 100 N. Stanton, El Paso, Texas 79901, or call 1-800-351-1621, a toll-free number, during normal business hours. When prompted, press the number 7, then enter 4882# to request information concerning the Newman Buffer CCN. A map depicting the location of the facilities may be reviewed at EPE's offices at 100 N. Stanton, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Newman Buffer Generation Project Site Location Map



