

COALDALE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT



PROJECT UPDATE - JUNE 2024

You are receiving this package because you live on or own land within 1.5 km of the proposed Coaldale Renewable Energy Project, an initiative by McCain Foods ("McCain") for its Coaldale Processing Plant, in partnership with Elemental Energy ("Elemental"), a renewable energy owner and operator, for wind and solar generation to connect directly to the plant.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Coaldale Renewable Energy Project (the "Project") is a hybrid renewable energy generating facility comprised of 5 wind energy turbines and up to 5 MW of ground mounted solar generation, all to be installed on land owned by McCain and connected directly to the Coaldale Processing Plant. The Project will support McCain's sustainability objectives of reaching 100% renewable electricity by 2030.

With a total proposed installed nameplate capacity of up to 40 MW, the Project is expected to generate enough clean, sustainable, and zero-emissions electricity to power or offset all of McCain's Coaldale Processing Plant needs.

The Project is being developed by Elemental. It is anticipated that the Project will be constructed in late 2025 or early 2026 and is planned to operate for 20 to 30 years.

ABOUT MCCAIN FOODS CANADA

McCain Foods Canada is a division of McCain Foods Limited, a Canadian family-owned company, leader in the frozen food industry and the world's largest processor of French fries and specialty potato products. The company has 5 production facilities in Canada and over 2,400 employees. In Alberta, the Coaldale Processing Plant has been in operation since 2000 and is expanding to double capacity in 2025.



INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- About the Project and Proponents
- · The Project Location and Components
- · Project Benefits & Impacts
- Preliminary Schedule
- Preliminary Layout
- Shadow Flicker and Glare Maps
- · Alberta Utilities Commission Brochure

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

To learn more about the Project, please visit us at our community open house:

WHEN: WEDNESDAY JULY 3, 2024 4:00pm to 7:00pm

WHERE: MCCAIN FOODS COALDALE
Highway 3, Chin AB
(Follow signs at entrance)

ABOUT ELEMENTAL ENERGY

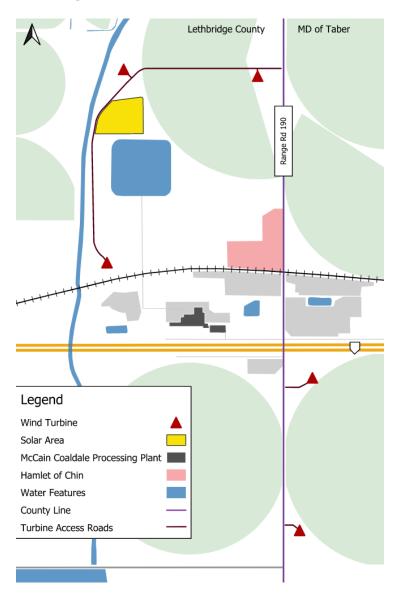
Elemental Energy is a Canadian family-owned renewable energy developer, investor, and owner-operator based in Vancouver. Elemental is committed to projects that generate environmental benefits, positive social impacts for host communities, and long-term economic benefit. Elemental owns and operates 15 renewable energy projects (wind, solar, storage, and hydro power) across Canada including in Alberta. As well, Elemental has a development portfolio of new projects with over 1 GW across North America.

PROJECT UPDATE

Development of the Coaldale Renewable Energy Project began in 2021. The preliminary design included four wind turbines for up to 16 MW of generation. McCain has since begun expanding the Coaldale Processing Plant doubling the size of the workforce and investing in new production capacity.

Elemental and McCain have evaluated the energy requirements, and designed the Project to meet the electricity needs of the new expanded facility. The new Coaldale Renewable Energy Project design includes wind turbines and solar installations for a total capacity of up to 40 MW.

PROJECT LOCATION



^{*} The Coaldale Wind and Solar Layout is provided as an attachment

PROJECT COMPONENTS

Wind Turbines: The Project includes five standard wind turbines with up to 7 MW generating capacity per turbine. The turbines have a hub height of up to 125 m and three blades that are up to 87.5 m long. The turbines will be anchored to a below-ground concrete foundation, designed for the ground conditions at each location.

Solar Panels: The Project will include up to 5 MW of solar panels. The panels will stand at approximately 3.5 meters tall and will be placed on fixed tilt racking, supported by steel foundations.

Inverters and Transformers: The solar panels produce direct current electricity. Small inverter/transformers units will be installed to turn the electricity into alternating current to be utilized by the McCain Coaldale Processing Plant.

Access Roads and Laydown Areas: Access roads, turbine pads and laydown areas are required to construct, operate and maintain the Project. Where possible, the Project will use existing roads to access turbine locations and construction areas. All temporary roads required to access turbine locations and construction areas will be reclaimed after construction is complete. One permanent road will remain to access the turbines during operations.

Collector System and Interconnection: The turbines and solar panels are connected to underground collection lines, which carry lower voltage electricity to a McCain owned electrical station at the Coaldale Processing Plant.



PROJECT BENEFITS

Clean Electricity Production: The Project will generate electricity with no associated emissions enabling the Coaldale Processing Plant to supply or offset its entire operations and ensure the viability of its business for decades to come. McCain has set its own internal targets for sustainable, zero-emissions operations by 2030 and this Project is a key part of this strategy in the near-term.

Plant Sustainability: With the development of renewables at this site, the plant is expected to operate for decades to come, providing sustainability and certainty to McCain's operations and by association certainty to the hundreds of employed workers at the plant for now and the future.

Economic Opportunities: Construction of the facility will require tens of millions of dollars and will result in contracting opportunities for local businesses in various fields including land surveying, civil construction, mechanical and electrical work. We will maximize the local procurement of construction materials whenever possible.

Property Taxes: The Project well is situated partly in Lethbridge County and the Municipal District of Taber. Over the 20 to 30 year life, it will contribute millions of dollars in property taxes to the local municipalities.



PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Complete

Environmental Surveys

Now

Stakeholder Consultation

August 2024

AUC Submission

Early 2025

Anticipated AUC Approval

Mid 2025

Municipal Development Permit

<u>Late 2025</u>

Construction Start

Mid 2026

Target Commercial Operations

WHO IS THE AUC?

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is a quasi-judicial independent agency established by the Government of Alberta, responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

They regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric and water utilities, and certain municipally-owned electric utilities to protect social, economic and environmental interests of Alberta where competitive market forces do not. For more information visit www.auc.ab.ca or refer to the enclosed brochure.

PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

Environment: The Project has completed environmental studies for the potential impacts of the Project to wildlife and wildlife habitat. All work has followed the established methods prescribed in the Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) Wildlife Directives for Wind and Solar Energy Projects. The Project was designed to avoid any potential impacts to the surrounding environment.

Noise: In Alberta renewable energy facilities must comply with AUC Rule 012: Noise Control, which requires the cumulative assessment of noise emissions, including existing and proposed power projects, oil and gas facilities, and other energy-related facilities. The Project has been designed so noise levels at nearby residences do not exceed permissible sound levels. The Noise Impact Assessment will be available for review on the Project website.

Shadow Flicker: Shadow flicker can occur when the sun passes behind the rotor of a wind turbine and casts a moving shadow over a residence, where this shadow passes over a narrow opening such as a window, causing the light levels to 'flicker' inside a building. A Shadow Flicker Analysis has been completed for the Project and a map of results are included with this newsletter.

Glare: Glare can occur from solar panels as the sun hits the panels, and then reflects onto receptors such as residences, airports, or highways. A Glint and Glare Analysis has been completed for the solar portion of the Project, and no hazardous glare is expected.

NEXT STEPS

The AUC application is expected to be filed for the Project in August 2024.

Landowners, residents, and stakeholders are welcome to reach out with questions or concerns. We will be reaching out to landowners within 800 meters of the Project boundary for personal consultation, and an open house is scheduled to be held at the McCain Coaldale Plant for community members to provide comments.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to request additional Project information, schedule a phone call or a visit to your property.

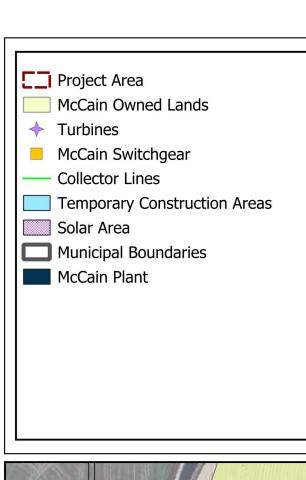
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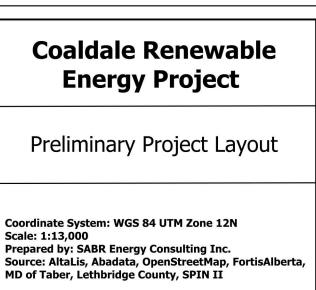
Your feedback is important to us. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us by phone or email, using the information provided below, or visit the Project website at www.coaldalewindfarm.com.

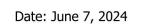
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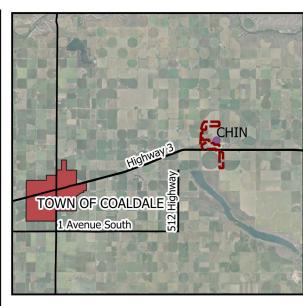
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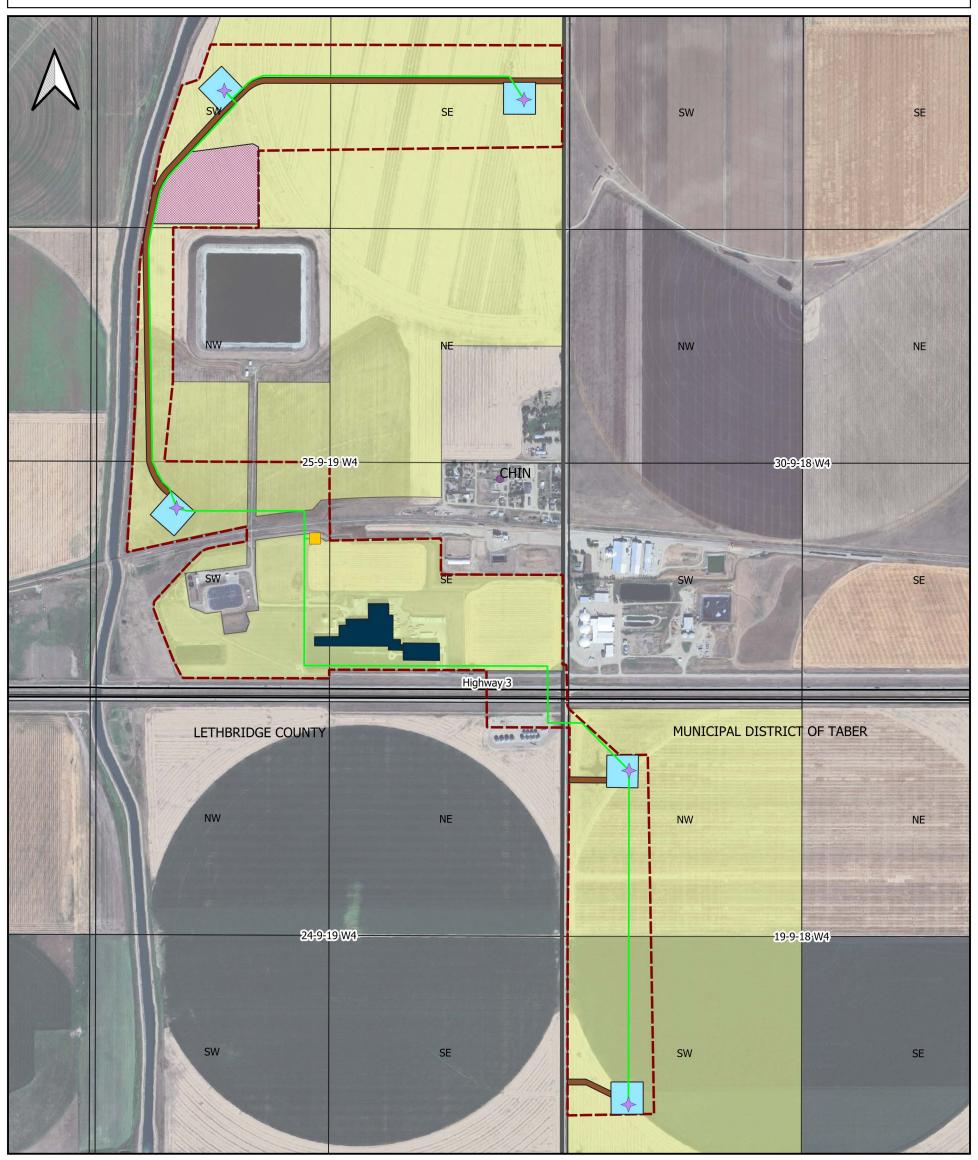


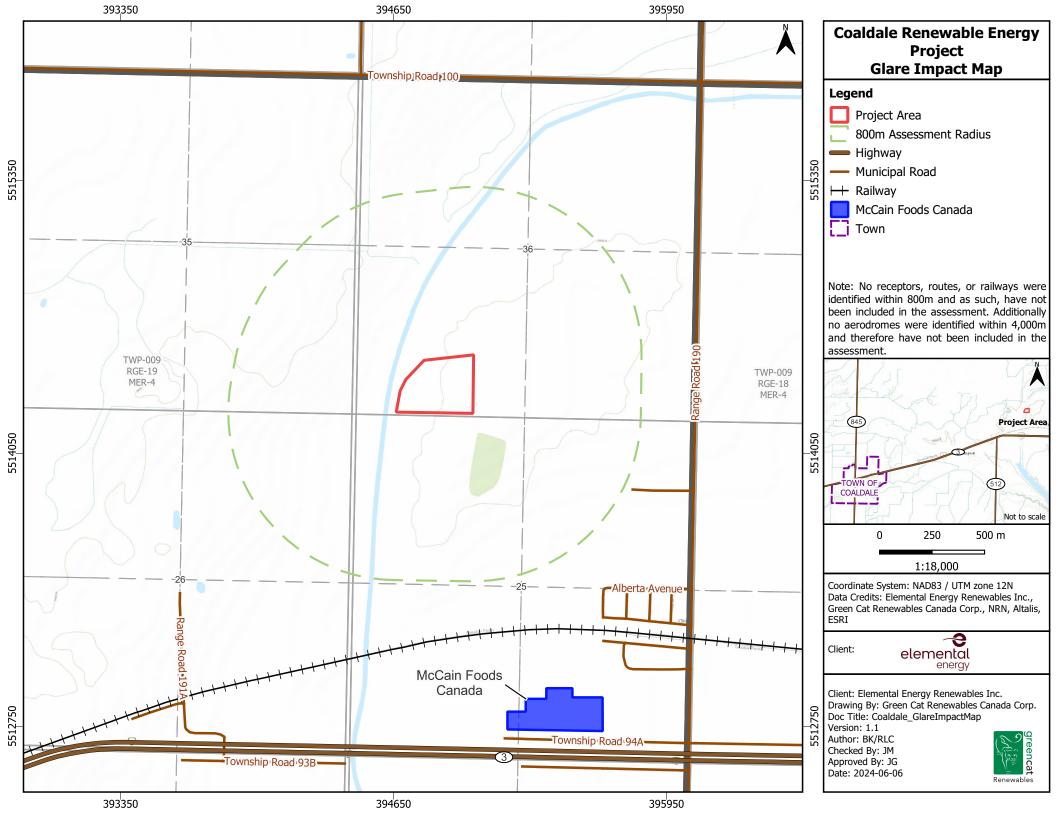


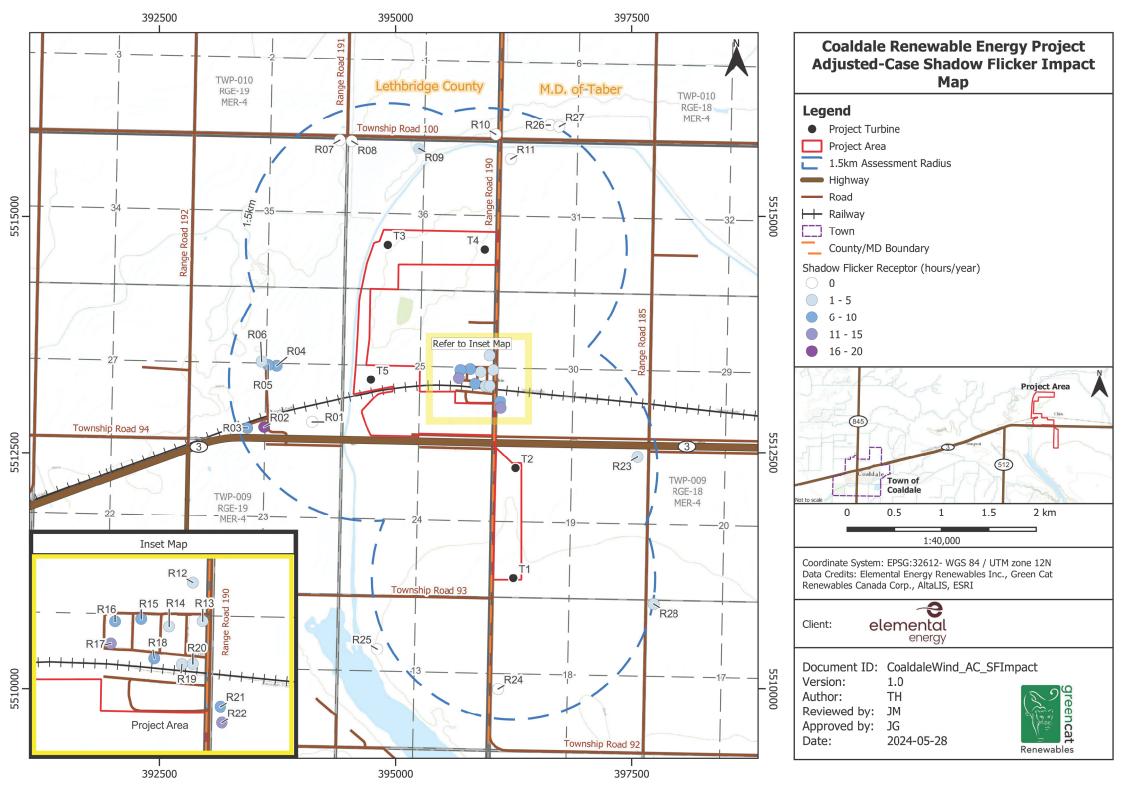
800 m











Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)*

The Commission supports ongoing efforts to reach an agreeable outcome for the applicant and all affected parties. The Commission encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, those matters will typically be addressed at an AUC hearing.

Step 6: The public hearing process*

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if there continues to be legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location in addition to a process schedule. The AUC conducts public hearings in its Edmonton and Calgary hearing rooms and, where suitable venues exist, in communities closer to the proposed project area.

The public hearing process allows persons with standing that have unresolved concerns about the application, to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members.

An AUC hearing is a formal, evidence-based, court-like proceeding. The public can attend the hearing in person or listen to hearings online through the AUC's website.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by a lawyer. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

Cost assistance

A person determined by the Commission to be a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs. Those who hire a lawyer or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance is available under AUC Rule 009: *Local Intervener Funding*, recovery of costs is subject to the Commission assessing the value of the

contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts. People with similar interests and positions are expected to work together to ensure that expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

Step 7: The decision

The AUC's goal is to issue its written application decision no more than 90 days after the hearing is complete. The Commission can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. All AUC decision reports are available to any member of the public on the AUC's website or by obtaining a printed copy from the AUC.

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

An applicant or dissatisfied participant may formally ask the Court of Appeal of Alberta for permission to appeal a Commission decision. An application for permission to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

An applicant or dissatisfied participant can also ask the Commission to review its decision. An application to review a Commission decision must be filed within 60 days from the date the decision is issued and satisfy the limited grounds described in AUC Rule 016: *Review and Variance of Commission Decisions*.

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the Commission must adhere to any conditions that were set out in that approval. If concerns about compliance with approval conditions and post-construction operations cannot be resolved with the applicant, they can be brought to the AUC's attention for consideration. The AUC has significant compliance and enforcement powers for all approved applications. Additional information is available on the AUC website under "Compliance and enforcement."

*Opportunity for public involvement

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the Government of Alberta that ensures the delivery of Alberta's utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

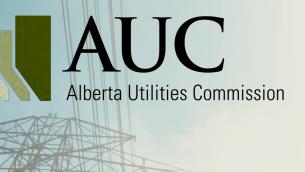
Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC (310-4282 in Alberta) 1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-511-4282 outside Alberta) Email: info@auc.ab.ca

Eau Claire Tower 106 Str 1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W. 10th Fl Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5 Edmon

106 Street Building 10th Floor, 10055 106 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2

The Alberta Utilities Commission is committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a utility development project are informed of the application and have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered.



Participating in the AUC's independent review process

Application review process

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application by proponent

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

Step 3: Public notice issued by the AUC

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation

Step 6: The public hearing process

Step 7: The decision

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

www.auc.ab.ca

The AUC's regulatory role in needs and facility applications and its independent review and hearing process:

The AUC uses an established process, outlined in this brochure, to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval is in the public interest. Approvals from the AUC are required for the construction, operation, alteration and decommissioning of transmission lines and electric substations.

Approvals are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades.
- The route and location of transmission facilities.
- The siting of power plants, including renewables such as wind and solar more than five megawatts.

Sometimes a needs application is considered together with a facility application in a single hearing; sometimes separate hearings may be held to consider each application.

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application*

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development, the applicant must engage in a public consultation program in the area of the proposed project, so that concerns may be raised, addressed and, if possible, resolved.

The application guidelines and requirements for facility applications can be found in AUC Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments,* and AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial public consultation, as early involvement in discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

The Alberta Electric System Operator, as the system planner, will notify potentially affected stakeholders of applications on the need for transmission development.

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

When the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application with the AUC through a public filing system, called the eFiling System, on the AUC website.

The application is then reviewed to ensure the information required by the Commission is included. If the required information is not provided, the AUC may close the application or request more information from the applicant. In the application, any issues that were raised during the public consultation and any related amendments to the proposal should be identified. All unresolved objections or concerns identified during the public consultation must be described in the application.

Step 3: Public notice

The AUC generally issues a notice by mail directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be affected by the Commission's decision on the proposed project. The notice for larger facility projects with potentially greater impacts may also be published in local newspapers.

The notice will specify a submission deadline. The information required by this deadline is general in nature as outlined in Step 4. Additional opportunities to provide evidence and additional information will arise after this deadline.

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC*

The AUC review process is referred to as a proceeding. Anyone with unresolved objections or concerns about the application can file a brief written statement with the AUC on the proceeding. The easiest way to file a statement is to fill out the form through the eFiling System found on the AUC website. The statement must include your contact information, where you reside or own property in relation to the proposed facility, your concern or interest in the application, an explanation of your position and what you feel the AUC should decide.

The AUC uses the information it gathers through the forms to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The Commission must hold a hearing if a person can demonstrate that he or she has rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the Commission's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the Commission. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to understand the application and present their position on the application either in writing or in person.

Subject to some limited exceptions, all information and materials provided as part of an AUC proceeding will become part of the public record and will be available through the eFiling System. The AUC's treatment of some types of information as confidential is rare and only available under limited circumstances to ensure that the AUC's process is open and transparent.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the tool that the AUC uses to manage applications and submissions in its proceeding-based review. The eFiling System gives access to all public documents associated with an application and is how to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the related proceeding filings. Those who do not have access to the internet can send submissions, evidence and other material by mail and the AUC will upload the submission on their behalf.

*Opportunity for public involvement