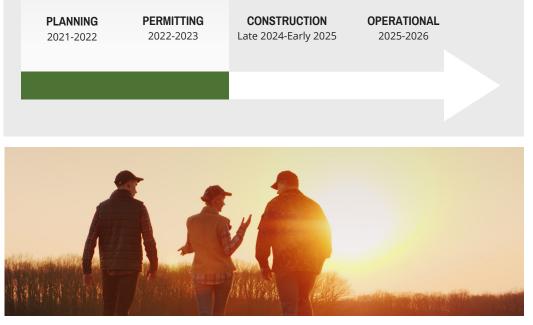


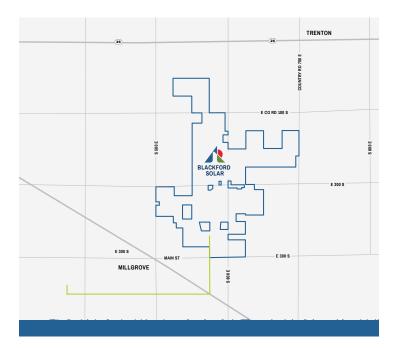
Blackford Solar Energy, LLC ("Blackford Solar") is proposing the development of a 150-megawatt (MW) solar facility on approximately 1,250 acres of privately-owned land in Jackson Township, Blackford County, Indiana. The project will connect to AEP's electric system via a new switchyard along the Keystone-Desoto transmission line.

Blackford Solar is expected to operate for 30+ years, providing significant economic investment to the community, a substantial property tax base for the County and schools, and generate emission-free renewable energy.

Blackford Solar obtained a Special Exception Permit from the Blackford County Board of Zoning Appeals and is currently in late-stage development. Construction of the project is expected to begin in late 2024/early 2025, bringing an influx of new jobs to the community. The Project is expected to begin operating by late 2025 / early 2026.



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## **SOLAR BENEFITS**

Solar energy facilities are a beneficial, temporary, and low impact use of land. Benefits of solar projects include:

- Substantial property tax contributions which add low impact, assessed value to the region.
- Approximately 300 new full time equivalent jobs during construction.
- Once operational, the solar facility is a passive use of the land and will not generate substantive amounts of traffic, dust, odors, or other nuisances.
- Creates no emissions and requires limited amounts of water during operation.
- Land will be stabilized and seeded, allowing the land to regenerate and for the soil to rest.
- At the end of operations, equipment is removed, and the land restored to prior use.



## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

Blackford Solar is committed to being a dedicated member of the community and to work hard to earn the trust of our neighbors. Our engagement with the community goes well beyond job creation, economic investment, and providing clean, renewable energy. We strive to build lasting partnerships with civic leaders, property owners, and community members. We pride ourselves on being transparent in our communication and highly responsive to public feedback throughout the life of the project. We also believe being involved means giving back. We get to know our neighbors and have a long history of supporting local causes the community is passionate about. Whether through employee volunteer opportunities or corporate-level sponsorships, we are always looking for positive ways to stay actively engaged with the community and to serve as a good corporate neighbor.

## ABOUT

Blackford Solar Energy, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Leeward Renewable Energy, LLC. Leeward Renewable Energy (LRE) is a high-growth renewable energy company building a sustainable future for all. The company owns and operates a portfolio of 31 wind, solar, and energy storage facilities across the United States, totaling approximately 3 gigawatts of generating capacity and is actively developing and contracting a robust pipeline of new renewable energy projects. LRE takes a tailored, full-lifecycle approach to its projects, which is underpinned by its long-term ownership model and purposedriven culture that is dedicated to benefiting its community partners while protecting and enhancing the environment. LRE is a portfolio company of OMERS Infrastructure, an investment arm of OMERS, one of the largest defined pension plans in Canada, with C\$127.4 billion in net assets (as at June 30,2023). For more information, visit www.leewardenergy.com.

## CONTACT