Reporting Item

May 17, 2022

ITEM

Power with Purpose Solar Report

PURPOSE

Provide updates on the Power with Purpose solar project for May 2022.

SOLAR FACTS

1. Evaluating impacts of anti-circumvention investigation launched by the United States Department of Commerce from March 2022.

2. Conducting outreach across the OPPD service territory to provide education and advocacy on solar technology and solar project development.

RECOMMENDED: Brad Underwood

Vice President – Systems Transformation

APPROVED FOR REPORTING TO BOARD: L. Javier Fernandez

President and Chief Executive Officer

BRU:ck
Power with Purpose Solar Update
May Committee Meeting – Open Session

May 17, 2022
Update on the Anti-circumvention Investigation

• US Department of Commerce is investigating whether Southeast Asian solar manufacturers are using parts made in China to circumvent tariffs

• Investigation focused on four countries (Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam), representing over 80% of imported supply of panels in the US

• One primary concern of the investigation for the near-term is uncertainty, with potential impacts to pricing, project financing, and project schedules
Impacts of Anti-circumvention and Solar Supply Chain Disruptions

• Significant slowdown in the solar market until further clarity is provided on the investigation (at least through August 2022)

• Many previously contracted projects have been delayed, put on hold, or are being renegotiated to address risk

• Contractors and developers are unable to provide firm pricing offers for projects until there is more certainty

• Sourcing of new solar projects will be challenged while the investigation is underway

• U.S. utilities are challenged to stay on track and meet commitments for plant retirements and/or near-term capacity expansions with increasing delays to solar projects
  – On May 4th, NiSource Inc. said it would delay the shutdown of an Indiana coal plant by two years

Solar Community Outreach – Ongoing

• OPPD continues advocacy and education to communities across the service territory
  – Javier continues to introduce himself around the service territory and provide education on Power with Purpose

• OPPD continues to partner with local jurisdictions to encourage favorable solar zoning regulations

• Further development of outreach materials
  – A Pitchbook will provide materials for counties and other local government officials to better understand solar

• These ongoing, coordinated efforts ensure OPPD is the best source of information