

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MORROW )  
COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT )  
NEW EASTERN OREGON SOLAR SITING RULES ) ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2025-04  
ADOPTED BY THE LAND CONSERVATION AND )  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. COUNTY FILE )  
NUMBER AZ-160-25. )

**WHEREAS**, ORS 203.035 authorizes Morrow County's duly elected Board of Commissioners to exercise authority within the County over matters of County concern; and

**WHEREAS**, Morrow County exercises exclusive land use planning and permitting authority over all unincorporated areas within its boundaries pursuant to ORS Chapters 197 and 215 and the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and implementing regulations, as amended and acknowledged by the Land Conservation & Development Commission on January 30, 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, The Land Conservation and Development Commission adopted new Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rules, Oregon Administrative Rules 660-033-130(44), on June 26, 2025, rules that will become effective January 1, 2026, unless a county opts out of implementing said rules; and

**WHEREAS**, Planning Staff and others joined the Board of Commissioners for a work session on August 6, 2025, during which time staff and others identified merits to both adopt the new rules and retain the existing rules; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 20, 2025, during a regular meeting, the Board of Commissioners directed staff to pursue adoption of the new siting standards and retain the existing standards, and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission, on October 28, 2025, voted to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the code changes.

**NOW THEREFORE**, based on the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by this reference, the Morrow County Board of Commissioners Ordains as follows:

**Section 1. Title of Ordinance:** This Ordinance shall be known, and may be cited, as the "2025 Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Standards Code Update."

**Section 2 – Amendment:** The Morrow County Zoning Ordinance shall be amended as reflected in Exhibit A, (Summary of MCZO Changes to adopt solar siting rules), attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 3 – Supporting Documents:** By way of findings in support of this amendment, the Board of Commissioners adopts as its own the Staff Memo and supports documents that were prepared and submitted to the Board by the Planning Director.

**Section 4 – Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective 21 days after the second reading and final adoption.

First Reading: December 3, 2025

Second Reading: December 17, 2025

This Ordinance is a statutory land use decision and shall be effective upon expiration of the 21-day appeal period following the date on which the notice of the final decision ought to be reviewed is mailed or otherwise submitted to parties entitled to such notice.

**ADOPTED** and read for the first time by title only on December 3, 2025. Read for the second time by title only and finally adopted on December 17, 2025.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**



David Sykes, Chair

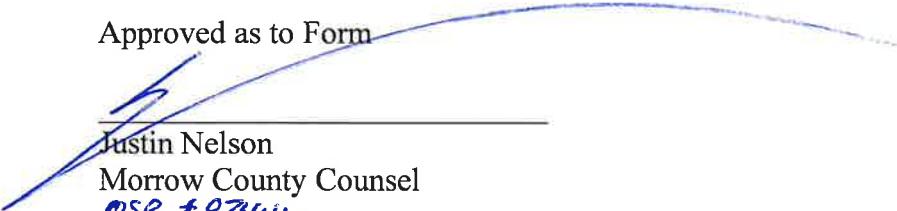


Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner



August (Gus) Peterson, Commissioner

Approved as to Form



Justin Nelson

Morrow County Counsel

OSB #074460