# WELCOME



## Community Meeting June 9, 2025



## ABOUT US - LRE



- Burr Oak Solar is a wholly owned subsidiary of Leeward Renewable Energy, LLC, a US-based company headquartered in Dallas, with offices in Chicago, Houston, and Phoenix. LRE has been in business since 2003.
- LRE owns and operates a portfolio of 31 wind, solar, and energy storage facilities across the United States, totaling over 3 gigawatts of generating capacity.
- LRE has operated the state's first and longest-running utility-scale wind project, Mendota Hills Wind Farm, which was constructed in 2003.

## KEY FACTS

## PROJECT SITE SELECTION

- Suitable, flat acreage with minimal environmental and cultural sensitivities.
- Adjacent to existing electrical infrastructure.
- Private landowners who want to participate in the project.
- Strong regional demand for new, low-cost renewable power.

## **PROPERTY VALUES**

- Studies show well-developed solar projects do not negatively impact on property values. Reasons for this include:
- Solar energy is a passive, low-intensity use of the land.
- o Operations will not generate substantive amounts of traffic, dust, odors, noises, or other nuisances.
- o Enhanced setbacks and vegetative screening will help mitigate visual impacts.
- o Provides assurance to prospective buyers that the land will not be used for a more impactful or intrusive use.
- New property taxes will improve public services and schools, community features that are critical to prospective buyers.

## PROJECT DECOMMISSIONING

- At the end of the project operation, LRE is responsible for removing the improvements and restoring the project area to substantially the same condition.
- Decommissioning costs will be guaranteed by a security posted by LRE prior to the start of construction and reassessed every five years.

## KEY FACTS

## **NOISE & GLARE**

- Noise analysis shows no discernible impact to noise levels on residential properties.
- Glare study demonstrates no glare on neighboring homes and roads; Panels are designed to absorb light to generate electricity, not reflect it.
- Single-axis trackers ensure the panels are directed at the sun.
- Trees will be planted near the start of construction between the project and non-participating homes, further mitigating views.

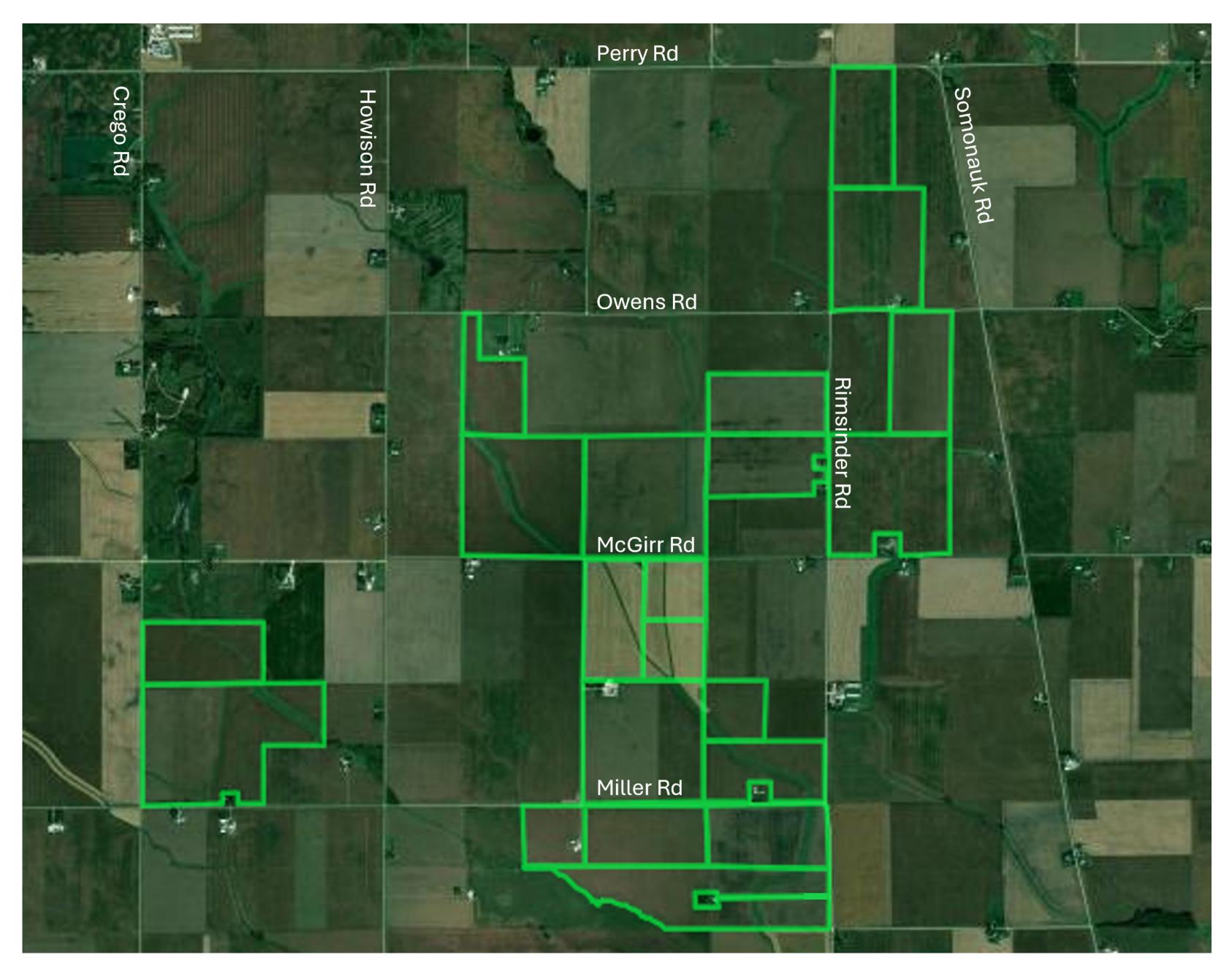
## PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND VEGATATION

- Any necessary road upgrades, improvements, or repairs will be made at LRE's expense.
- Burr Oak Solar will be responsible for maintaining the solar facility property.
- LRE will work with consultants, local stakeholders, and the DeKalb SWCD to ensure proper ground cover, a native seed mix that's approved by the county, erosion and sediment control, and stormwater management.
- LRE will implement vegetation management plans and best practices to promote native vegetation and proper mitigation of overgrowth and invasive plant species.

## PROPERTY DRAINAGE

- Proper drainage is critical for the operation of the solar project, and LRE is required to maintain the current drainage of the project site and neighboring properties.
- A drain tile survey will be completed prior to final design and construction.
- Drain tiles damaged by LRE will be rerouted or repaired by local experts.
- Native vegetation will enhance the property's stormwater drainage capabilities.

## PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN



PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT, SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON DETAILED DESIGN

## PROJECT FACTS

## **OVERVIEW:**

- 300-megawatt solar energy facility currently under development.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2027.
- Once operational Burr Oak Solar will produce enough clean energy to power more than 76,000 homes each year.
- Initial operational life of the project is 30 years.

## **LOCATION:**

- DeKalb County, Illinois.
- One of several LRE solar and wind projects under development or operating in Illinois.

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

- Construction will create more than 700 direct, indirect, and induced jobs.
- More than \$400 million in economic investment in the community.
- More than \$81 million in new economic output in DeKalb County over the 30-year life of the project.

## SCHEDULE

Planning 2020-2024

Permitting 2025

Construction 2027

Operational 2029

# OPERATIONS AND DECOMMISSIONING

- Project will passively generate energy for 30+ years.
- Typically, 7 full-time operations and maintenance employees are on site during normal working hours 24/7 remote monitoring at night and during off hours.
- Components are disposed and/or recycled at the end of the project's useful life, per federal, state, and local requirements.
- The site will be restored to substantially the same condition at the end of the facility's life at the company's expense.
- Decommissioning and restoration security will be posted prior to construction, held by the county, and reassessed every 5 years.



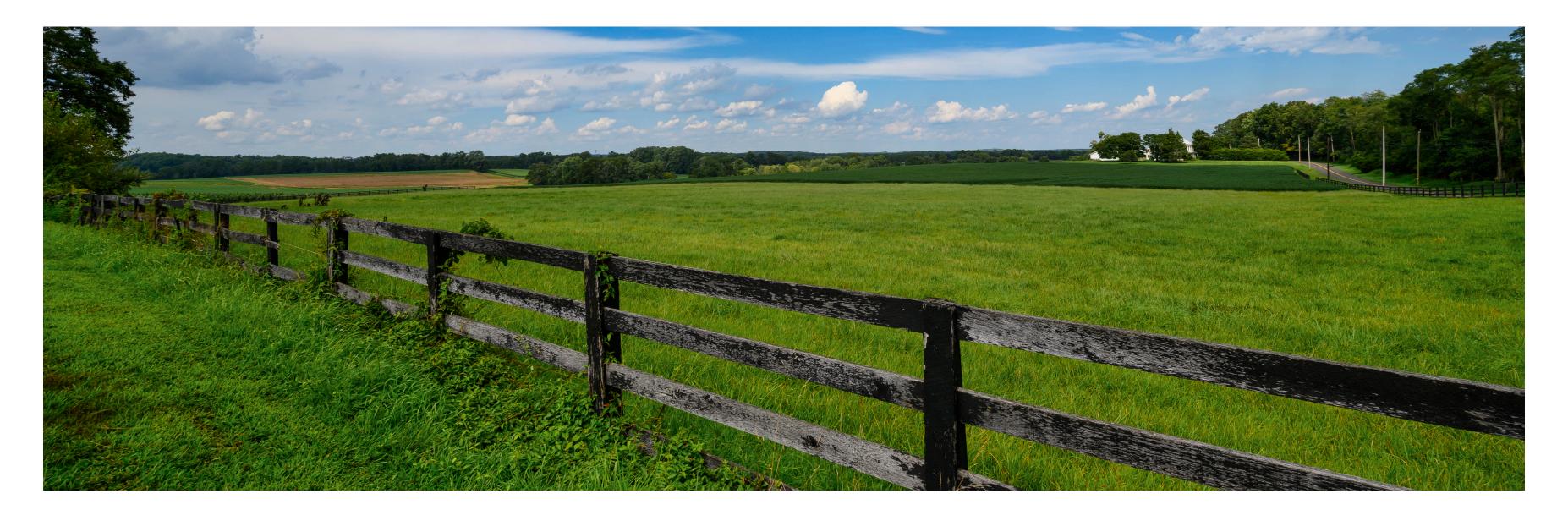
## LOCAL BENEFITS

## **INCREASED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

- Significant capital investment in DeKalb County (\$400 million).
- More than \$47 million in property tax revenue for the County and schools over life of project.
- Generation of ~700 direct, indirect, and induced jobs during construction.
- More than \$81 million in new economic output in DeKalb County over the 30-year life of the project.

## LOW-IMPACT USE OF LAND, MINIMAL NEED FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

- Limited water consumption and no sewer needs.
- No additional burden on school system.
- Operations will not generate substantive amounts of traffic, dust, odors, noise, or glare.
- Land remains locally owned and retains agricultural zoning, which allows the land to be reverted to prior use once decommissioned.
- At the end of operations, the equipment is removed and the land restored to its prior use at the company's expense.



# BURR OAK SOLAR PROPERTY TAXES

Estimated annual property tax payments over the initial 30-year-life of the project

YEAR	TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES
2029	\$2,372,103
2030	\$2,329,595
2031	\$2,283,877
2032	\$2,234,823
2033	\$2,182,305
2034	\$2,126,189
2035	\$2,066,336
2036	\$2,002,606
2037	\$1,934,851
2038	\$1,862,920
2039	\$1,786,657
2040	\$1,705,900
2041	\$1,620,483
2042	\$1,530,235
2043	\$1,434,978
2044	\$1,334,529
2045	\$1,228,701
2046	\$1,117,299
2047	\$1,071,559
2048	\$1,096,205
2049	\$1,121,418
2050	\$1,147,211
2051	\$1,173,597
2052	\$1,200,589
2053	\$1,228,203
2054	\$1,256,451
2055	\$1,285,350
2056	\$1,314,913
2057	\$1,345,156
2058	\$1,376,094
TOTAL	\$47,771,135
<b>AVG ANNUAL</b>	\$1,592,371

## RECIPIENTS OF THE BURR OAK SOLAR TAXES

Estimated total tax receipts for each entity over the initial 30-year-life of the project

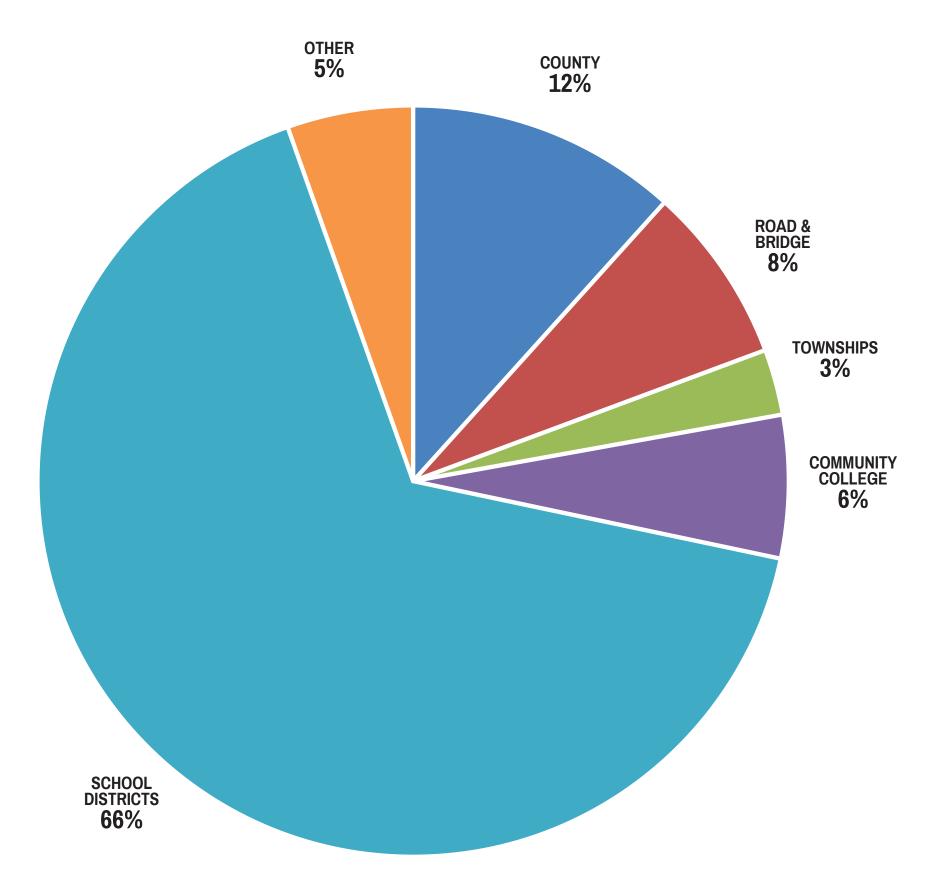
SCHOOLS	TAX REVENUE
Kishwaukee College	\$496,591
Waubonsee Community College (District 516)	\$2,426,794
Indian Creek School District 425	\$4,232,617
Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD 429	\$27,513,494

## LOCAL SERVICES

Waterman Fire	\$180,703
Afton Road & Bridge	\$230,707
Squaw Grove Road & Bridge	\$368,317
Forest Preserve	\$398,170
Hinckley Fire	\$1,941,703
Pierce Road & Bridge	\$3,034,032

## **MUNICIPALITIES**

Afton Township	\$67,151
Afton-Pierce Multi-Township	\$102,227
Squaw Grove Township	\$153,534
Pierce Township	\$1,030,203
DeKalb County	\$5,594,892



# DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & REPORTS

Burr Oak Solar will conduct the following studies and reports prior to the start of construction.



#### **ROAD USE AGREEMENT**

Identification of intended road usage and drain crossing by the project, existing road conditions report, road and drain upgrades, and restoration needs and schedule.



## FEDERAL AND STATE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

Identification of listed species and integration of protective measures to avoid impact, as appropriate.



#### **CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW**

Study to confirm no presence or adverse impact to archaeological resources or historic structures.



#### WETLANDS/STREAM DELINEATIONS

Formal delineations to support water resource avoidance and impact minimization.



## **DECOMMISSIONING PLAN & DECOMMISSIONING AGREEMENT**

Roadmap and cost identification for the removal and restoration following end of operations, as well as the identification of financial security to guarantee the funds to decommission.



#### **GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION**

Analysis of subsurface conditions in the project area to inform appropriate and safe design.



#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY**

Analysis of job creation, tax revenue, and other economic benefits to the County.



#### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REPORT

Estimate and understand the stormwater flows to determine necessary mitigation efforts.



#### **DRAIN TILE INVESTIGATION**

Identify the mutually beneficial drain tiles to incorporate into the project design and to prevent drainage impacts.



#### **NOISE & GLARE ANALYSES**

Studies to confirm the project will meet all County and State requirements.



#### AGRICULTURAL IMPACT MITIGATION AGREEMENT (AIMA)

An agreement with the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) that includes standards to preserve the integrity of agricultural land impacted by the construction and deconstruction of a solar energy facility.



## PROPERTY VALUE ASSESSMENT

Study of real-world sales data, as well as a review of published studies, to confirm that solar projects do not have a detrimental impact on property values.



## NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY REPORT

A review by the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to identify natural resources in the area, list any potential impacts, and provide recommendations to preserve the site and soils.



#### LANDSCAPE MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

A final plan that is reviewed by the DeKalb County SWCD that ensures establishment and continued maintenance of native prairie vegetation and landscape screening.



# THANK YOU

If you have additional questions about Burr Oak Solar:

Call our project line at (815) 446-1653 Email us at info@burroaksolar.com Visit our website at burroaksolar.com