

## **Emergency Preparedness and Response**

# Wild Springs Solar Emergency Action Plan

Document ID:	REN.EHS.003.1	Version:	0	Date Released:	07/06/2022
Valid for:	National Grid Ren	ewable Wild Sprin	gs Solar Project	:	
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#### **Revision History**

Date	Version #	Approved By:	Revision Description
02/23/2022	0	G. Smith	Initial Release
2/26/2024	1	Z. Chamberlain	Site specific release which includes vegetation management.





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## 1 Emergency Contacts

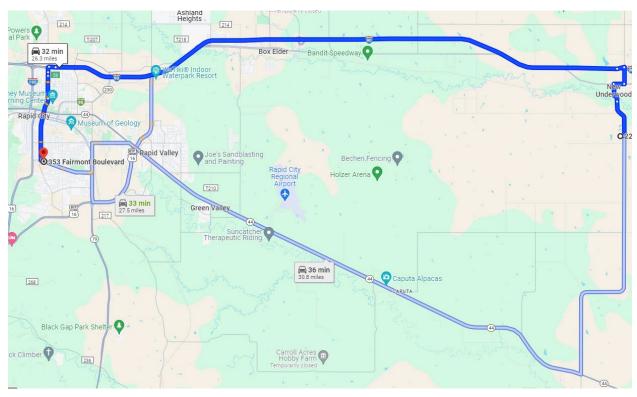
Plant Name:	Plant Address:	Plant Phone Number:
	22941 161 <sup>st</sup> Ave	605-202-7273
Solar, LLC		003-202-7273
,	New Underwood, SD 57761	
Inside Assembly	Plant Address:	Location:
Area:	22941 161 <sup>st</sup> Ave	O&M building
Locker Room	New Underwood, SD 57761	
Storm Shelter		
Outside Assembly	Plant Address:	Location:
Area:	22941 161 <sup>st</sup> Ave	At the main entrance
East Main Gate	New Underwood, SD 57761	East Main Gate at O&M
Evacuation Area:	Address:	Location:
	500 South A Avenue	Front of Building
Comm. Center	New Underwood, SD 57761	
Plant Manager:	Office:	E-mail:
Jeremy Denton	Cell: (208) 943-1063	jdenton@nationalgridrenewables.com
Contractor	Cell: 215-435-8710	E-mail:
Supervisor:		Rwirtzfeld@millerbros.us
Randy Wirtzfeld		
Fire Department:	Address:	Phone Number
New Underwood	100 E Oak St.	(605) 754-6782
FD	New Underwood, SD 57761	
Hospital (first	Address:	Phone Number:
aid):	353 Fairmont Blvd	(605) 755-1000
Monument Health Hospital	Rapid City, SD 57701	
	Address:	Phone Number:
unit):		
	353 Fairmont Blvd	(605) 755-1000



Monument Health Hospital	Rapid City, SD 57701	
Hospital (trauma center): Monument Health Hospital	Address: 353 Fairmont Blvd Rapid City, SD 57701	Phone Number:
Police: Pennington	Address: 300 Kansas City Street	Phone Number: (605) 394-6113
County Sheriff	Rapid City, SD 57701	
EHS Manager: Zach Chamberlin	E-mail: zchamberlain@nationalgridrenewables.com	Cell: (952) 406-1860
Director Field Services: John Bloom	E-mail: jbloom@nationalgridrenewables.com	Cell: (507) 829-4727
Contractor EHS Specialist: Rob Edinger	E-mail: redinger@millerbros.us	Cell: (267) 264-3295
Contractor Manager: Nick Soboleski	E-mail: Nsoboleski@millerbros.us	Cell: (559) 309-5784
Remote Operations Center: NG Renewables	E-mail: roc@nationalgridrenewables.com	Office Phone: (612) 252-2388



## 2 Directions to nearest hospital/clinic

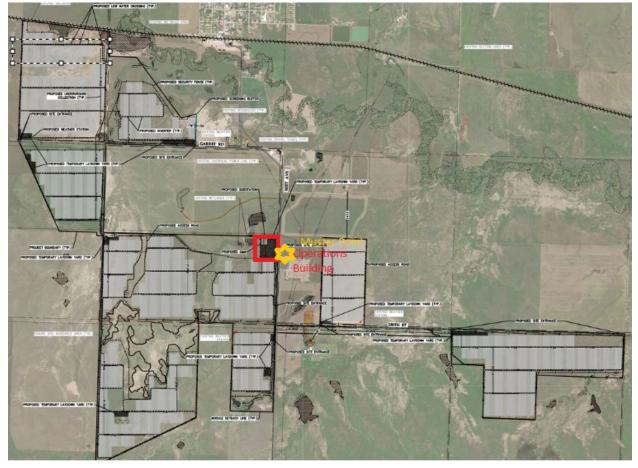




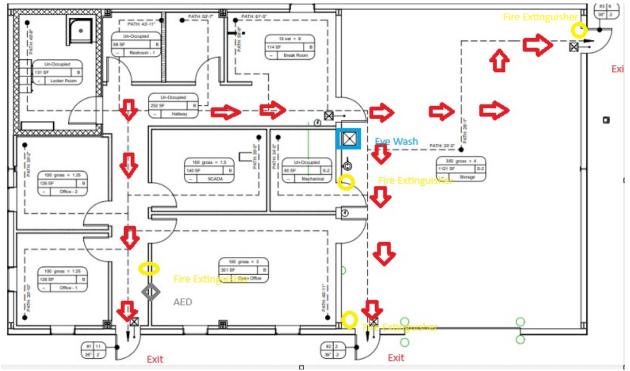
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3 Plant Map









#### 3.1 Site Overview

The Wild Springs site is a 128 MW utility solar site that is located in New Underwood South Dakota.

The main system components are the following:

- (347,580) First Solar Series 6+ PV Modules
- (40) Sungrow SC3600 Inverters

#### 3.2 Staffing

Site will be staffed by one NG Renewables Plant Manager and Miller Brothers will be performing O&M work on behalf of the site. Miller Brothers Team will consist of (1) Team Lead and (1) Technician. Typical site hours will be from 7A-4P Monday-Friday with 24/7 remote monitoring by NG Renewables Remote Operations Center located in Bloomington, MN.

During non-business hours the gates will be locked preventing access to site.



#### 4 General Procedures

#### 4.1 General Emergency Procedure

All site communication conducted by NG Renewables and contractors on-site will be via radio communication as designated by site manager and communicated during orientation. Radio shall be assigned once persons sign into site. If anyone observes an emergency condition, they shall immediately contact Plant Manager listed above by radio first and cell phone as a secondary communication if radio is unavailable.

Plant Management shall initiate this procedure and take on or designate the role of Emergency Coordinator.

Once notified of the emergency condition, the Emergency Coordinator shall determine whether outside resources are needed.

If outside resources are required, the Emergency Coordinator shall phone 911, request appropriate emergency services, and provide all pertinent information concerning the emergency as per this EAP.

The Emergency Coordinator shall notify all employees and contractors via radio or by other means of the emergency by announcing "Emergency, Emergency initiate emergency response procedure", applicable instructions AND the assembly area, if appropriate.

Upon initiating emergency response procedure, all affected employees, contractors and visitors shall immediately stand down and assemble at the assembly area if instructed by Emergency Coordinator or respond to instructions from the Emergency Coordinator. Assembly areas that can be used in emergency response include but are not limited to the O&M building and parking lot, and company vehicle/truck.

The Emergency Coordinator will assign the following duties:

- Obtain the National Grid Renewable sign-in book or log-in tablet (To account for all employees and contractors)
- Direct all contractor and NG Renewable employees to designated muster points
- Meet emergency responders at designated location, if appropriate
- Contact the Remote Operations Center (ROC) and inform them of the incident. The ROC will then make internal notifications using emergency playbook.

The Emergency Coordinator shall coordinate communications between the above personnel.

#### 4.2 General Evacuation Procedure

In case of an emergency requiring evacuation, the Emergency Coordinator shall use the radios, cell phones or other means to contact and inform all employees, contractors and visitors to evacuate.

Upon notification, all employees, contractors, and visitors shall immediately:



- Stop Work
- Evacuate from the nearest, safest exit point and report to the designated evacuation area.
- Personnel will report to the Emergency Coordinator, or designee, when they have safely reached the evacuation area.
- 5 Fire

Employees and contractors shall notify the Plant Management immediately upon discovery of a fire. Plant Management will designate an Emergency Coordinator to manage the incident. Different types of fire will require different types of response. Employees and contractors should not attempt to contain fires unless extinguishable by fire extinguisher. All other employees should evacuate area to designated muster point.

#### 5.1 Grass, Brush and Forest Fires

In the event of grass and brush fires, employees and contractors shall notify Plant Management.

Plant Management will designate an Emergency Coordinator to manage the incident.

The Emergency Coordinator will obtain details of the exact location and size of the fire from the notifier.

The Emergency Coordinator will contact 911 and coordinate with the notifier to lead firefighting equipment to the scene. The designated responder will be notified by the Emergency Coordinator by radio of the location at which to meet with the fire brigade.

The Emergency Coordinator will contact any land owners in the area with the location and size of the fire. Employees may be directed by the Emergency Coordinator to visit any buildings/dwellings that may be in the anticipated path of a fire.

Only employees trained to fight fires may do so and only under instruction from the civil authorities. In all other events, employees shall at no time attempt to extinguish or "fight" a large brush and grass fire.

Emergency Responders shall be trained ahead of time during site meeting and fire drills on appropriate BESS response.

#### 5.2 Fire at the Solar Facilities

Vegetation Management Plan

Vegetation management is a vital management practice to minimize the fuel source in the event of a fire. If firebreaks and sensitive areas are managed properly it will mitigate the probability of a fire event. The strategy shall be carefully planned around vegetation height, season, and weather. A mowing event will not occur if the vegetation is less than 18 inches on average except where specifically stated.



- Vegetation Management Contractor plans to implement a mowing strategy that will begin after vegetation is greater than 18 inches tall and ensure it is kept below 24 inches. The strategy shall be carefully planned around vegetation height, season, weather. A mowing event will not occur if the vegetation is less than 18 inches on average, except where specifically stated. No mowing with wheeled equipment shall occur when the potential for rutting is probable due to ground saturation.
- Panels will be stored vertically prior to a mowing event. Mowing events should occur between April to August but adjustments may be made for contractor to achieve the success criteria on the Project. Site shall be mowed to a height of 6-9 inches site wide.
- A 15-foot firebreak is maintained around the perimeter of the site. Firebreaks consist of a 10-feet rock break and an additional 5-feet of shorter maintained vegetation. Contractor shall mow the perimeter of each block section prior to mowing in between the rows.

Mowing priority will be placed on firebreaks and sensitive areas before the rest of the array. During mowing, contractor will make determination as to whether additional mowing will be required for firebreaks and sensitive areas to mitigate fire risk and eliminate biomass. Firebreaks will be maintained between 4"-6" during all drought conditions.

If an accumulation of thatch material is present in sensitive areas after mowing contractor will make every effort to remove as much as possible to prevent additional fire risk.

a. Inspections and monitoring

Inspections and monitoring are proactive management techniques to prevent a fire incident. With increased awareness of site conditions site staff will be able to respond more readily in the even of an incident

Fire breaks will be inspected bi-weekly by Plant Manager and site operations vendor from 6/15 - 10/31 annually during non-drought conditions. Inspections and monitoring will focus on vegetation height per vegetation plan and any indicators of fire resulting from solar array defects.

b. Fire Emergency Drills

Plant Manager shall schedule at a minimum (1) fire emergency drill annually. Drill shall include emergency responders if possible. Focus should be placed on where sensitive areas are located response time by emergency responders and ability to find location of the emergency. These drills shall be schedules no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> annually.

2. Drought Condition Practices

Drought conditions will be defined using NIDIS <u>South Dakota | U.S. Drought Monitor (unl.edu)</u> which gives detailed descriptions of levels of drought. Site will be required to implement additional practices anytime the drought condition is considered "moderate drought." Site during the dates of 6/15-10/31 shall verify site conditions using NIDIS drought information.

a. Inspection frequency



In addition to wetting firebreaks the site will increase inspection frequency of firebreaks and sensitive areas to a minimum of at least (1) weekly. Inspections will cover areas identified in sensitive area/firebreak site maps. In addition, site areas where there known module defects have been identified will be inspected to prevent possible propagation of fire.

b. Prohibitions

During drought conditions smoking in solar array shall be prohibited. If smoking outside of fenceline or in designated areas as determined by Site Orientation, employee shall make sure to fully extinguish cigarette and place butt in a designated receptacle. Fueling of all vehicles and equipment shall be prohibited from occurring in solar array.

c. Fire Notice

Plant Manager or designee shall make a determination of whether a fire notice is required during 6/15-10/31.

#### 3. Emergency Response

a. Fire containment

In the event of a fire incident, Emergency Responders and site staff shall not attempt to extinguish the fire any larger than what could be easily extinguished by a fire extinguisher. If conditions are unsafe employee shall make no attempt to extinguish fire.

In the event of a fire, follow site EAP to determine appropriate course of action. When emergency responders arrive on-site make sure to inform them of the dangers associated with the panels and that all efforts should be placed on containment versus extinguishing fire. Share the fire break map and sensitive areas with emergency responders so that they may be able to mor efficiently contain fire.

Plant Manager and site staff shall inform immediately adjacent neighbors that could be impacted by the fire incident of the imminent danger. The rest of site staff not involved in notification and communication shall remain at site designated muster points until given all clear by emergency responders.

b. Exposure hazards

Emergency responders should avoid contact with all with equipment which may be energized. At a minimum emergency responders should be made aware of PV modules, combiner boxes, and inverters.

If emergency responders need to extinguish within the array besides containment, site shall be deenergized prior to entry by NG Renewables or OM Contractor.

- c. Owner/Operator Responsibilities
  - LOTO Procedures



Before any work to extinguish fire incident at site, NG Renewables or Miller Bros. shall lock out the equipment to ensure zero energy state. Anyone impacted by the LOTO will be required to sign onto the LOTO Permit. Only authorized persons shall be allowed to implement a Permit LOTO. Emergency Responders shall not initiate LOTO on any NG Renewable equipment unless receiving direction from NG Renewables.

• Manual zero degree stow

To ensure that damage is mitigated in the event of a fire incident within the solar array, plant manager or designee shall place all panels which are not part of the fire incident in a zero degree stow. If placing the panels in a zero degree stow causes the employee or emergency responders to be place in immediate danger or creates additional hazards, plant manager can make decision on positioning of the panels.

#### 6 Injury/Illness

#### 6.1 Injury/Illness – Ground

In the event of an injury/illness requiring medical treatment, employees will contact the Plant Management immediately.

The Plant Management will designate an Emergency Coordinator who will obtain details of the exact location and severity of the injury.

The Emergency Coordinator will contact 911 and coordinate meeting points with ambulance service and plant personnel.

#### 6.1.1 Animal or Snake Bite

In the event of an animal or snake bite the site shall immediately call 911 and local poison control 1-800-222-1222. Site shall not try to capture the animal or snake and not try and extract the venom.

#### 6.2 Chemical and Toxicity Hazard

#### Lead Acid Batteries

Lead Acid batteries located in Wild Springs substation control house contain sulfuric acid. Sulfuric acid can off gas in right conditions if haze is visible do not enter area and immediately call for environmental mitigation. Unless hazmat trained no employees or contractors shall attempt to clean up spilled acid instead environmental mitigation shall be initiated. If possible and safe to do so containment using acid specific spill kit can be initiated in the event of a spill. For more information on batteries and chemical risks. Please read the Safety Data Sheet for more information.



#### 7 Criminal Behavior

#### 7.1 Suspicious People

In case of suspicious people, it is the responsibility of all employees, contractors and visitors to notify Plant Management and report the location and nature of the suspicious activity. Employees, contractors and visitors should not confront or attempt to detain trespassers or suspicious people.

Plant Management will determine the scope of the emergency response. For reports of criminal behavior such as vandalism, shooting, or illegal vehicles the Plant Management or Emergency Coordinator shall phone 911 for assistance to summon police.

Investigation into suspicious individuals may require conversation with the individual to ascertain that person's connection with the plant. At no time should any confrontation be allowed. If suspicious individuals seem hostile or violent, employees shall leave the area and inform Plant Management to summon immediate police response.

#### 7.2 Employee, Contractor or Visitor

Confrontational situations between employees, contractors or visitors involving threats, harassment, confrontations or obscene acts or language shall be reported immediately to Plant Management.

If at any time an employee, contractor or visitor working at an asset is concerned about his or her safety, it is their responsibility to report the situation to appropriate management.

#### 7.3 Third party threats to the plant

In the event there is a threat to employees or the plant, Plant Management will designate an Emergency Coordinator, initiate the Evacuation Procedure, and contact law enforcement.

Once all employees have been accounted for, the Emergency Coordinator will order the plant evacuated.

Upon All Clear notification from law enforcement, employees may return to the building.





