



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the Kama'ole Solar Project

A: The Kama'ole Solar Project is a 40 MW solar photovoltaic energy project paired with a 160 MWh battery energy storage system that will interconnect with the Maui Electric grid, enough to power 23,500 homes.

Q: Who is developing the Kama'ole Solar Project?

A: Kama'ole Solar LLC is the developer and was established in December 2020 to acquire, develop, build, own and operate the proposed Kama'ole Solar project on Maui. Kama'ole Solar LLC is a joint venture between Potentia Renewable Developments LLC (a Canadian developer, owner, and operator of renewable energy assets) and Peg Gen Holdings LLC (incorporated in 2020 and whose team members have more than 50 years of cumulative experience in developing energy projects in various U.S. and multinational companies).

Q: How was the Kama'ole Solar Project selected by Maui Electric Company?

A: In November 2019, Maui Electric Company issued a competitive Request for Proposals for energy generation and storage projects. The Kama'ole Solar Project was subsequently notified that they were selected for the Final Award Group.

Q: Where does the energy generated by the project go?

A: The energy generated by the project goes into the Maui Electric grid. Maui Electric Company will purchase the power through a negotiated Power Purchase Agreement that must be approved by the Public Utilities Commission.

Q: How much will Maui Electric pay for the electricity generated by Kama'ole Solar?

A: Maui Electric will pay an amount that comes to 8.5 cents per kWh. The Power Purchase Agreement is currently filed with the Public Utilities Commission for approval.

Q: When will the Kama'ole Solar project begin operation?

A: The estimated commercial operation date is slated for April 2023.

Q: Why was Haleakala Ranch selected as the site for the Kama'ole Solar Project?

A: The Haleakala Ranch site was selected because of its exceptional solar generation potential, proximity to the existing Maui Electric transmission line, and suitable terrain for construction.

Q: How many acres of land will the project use?

A: The Kama'ole Solar Project will use approximately 320 acres of the site.

Q: Is a solar farm allowed on agriculture land?

A: Yes, State law allows solar farms on lower-grade (Class C-E) unproductive agriculture land. The Haleakala Ranch parcels used for the site are Grade E which is the lowest for productivity. At the County level, the project is required to secure a Special Use Permit.

Q: Will this project impact cattle ranching?

A: According to Haleakala Ranch, the project will not impact cattle operations on their 30,000-acre ranch and will help sustain and diversify the ranch.

Q: Does the project need any permits?

A: Yes, the Kama'ole Solar Project will need to secure multiple state and county permits.

Q: How long will the construction take?

A: Construction will take approximately one year after all permits are received.

Q: Are batteries part of the project?

A: Yes, the Kama'ole Solar Project includes a 160 MWh battery energy storage system. This will allow the utility to dispatch the stored power at night or during other periods of energy demand.

Q: Are the batteries safe from fire?

A: The battery system is enclosed in metal containers and has its own fire suppression system. In addition, the system will be continuously monitored and has several protective operational systems to prevent extreme conditions that would be conducive to fire. The Kama'ole Solar Project will coordinate with local authorities and follow best practices of a health, safety and security plan for the batteries. The safety plan will include, but not be limited to, fire suppression, spill prevention, emergency responses, safety procedures, security, hazardous material control, and safety training and orientation.

Q: Will this project lower my electric bill?

A: Combined with existing and other planned utility-scale projects, Kama'ole Solar is expected to put downward pressure on electricity rates. The project's price per kwh is currently lower than what the utility pays for fossil fuel generated power and will be stable because the price is fixed for 25 years.

Q: What will happen to the panels and batteries at the end of the project?

A: Many of the materials used to construct solar energy facilities have alternative uses and can be recycled. Depending on their condition, the panels and batteries will either be reused, recycled, or disposed of properly.

Q: Will this project create jobs for local residents?

A: The project will provide between 100-200 jobs depending on the stage of development and construction. Kama'ole Solar Project will hire or contract with local companies and the local workforce wherever feasible which also allows the project to benefit from the local knowledge and insights as planning, design, and construction proceeds.

Q: Will the project provide a community benefit package?

A: Yes, Kama'ole Solar Project will be providing a community benefit package that will be informed by input heard through our outreach and engagement with residents and community groups.