#### **DID YOU KNOW**

You may have heard us talk about regional transmission organizations (RTO) and transmission system operators (TSO). These are organizations that coordinate, control, and monitor single- or multi-state electric grids to ensure delivery of electricity. As you can see on the map below, there are many system operators in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.



Map Source: Independent system operators in North America

You are most likely familiar with PJM as related to the interconnection for our Palomino Project. PJM operates in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. PJM works behind the scenes to ensure the reliability of the power grid and to keep the lights on by managing the transmission and distribution grid by coordinating and directing operation of the region's transmission grid.

PJM members represent five energy industry sectors:

- Generational Owners owners of power plants, wind, solar and other generating sources and includes Innergex Renewable Energy.
- Transmission Owners owners of transmission lines as well as large companies that own generation and transmission systems. These include AEP, Dayton Power & Light Company, Ohio Power Company, and Ohio Valley Electric Corporation to name a few.
- Other Suppliers provide support services to the energy industry.
- Electric Distributors local utilities and public power cooperatives such as Buckeye Power and Ohio Edison Company.
- End-use customers mostly large manufacturing facilities and a few examples include Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Cleveland-Cliffs Steel Corporation, and Procter & Gamble Paper Products Company.

For a full list of PJM members visit https://www.pjm.com/about-pjm/member-services/member-list.

Given the growth of energy projects, of which more than 95% of the projects requesting PJM grid connection are renewables or batteries, or a hybrid of both, PJM is undergoing a gueue reform process that began on July 10, 2023, and sets the stage for more than 260,000 MW to be studied over the next three years. By the end of 2024, PJM expects to have cleared about 300 projects totalling 26,000 MW for connection, and another 46,000 MW by the end of 2025.

Among the reforms, the process moves from a "first-come, first-served" queue approach to a "first-ready, first-served" cycle method and includes decision points along the way at which the developers must submit readiness deposits and demonstrate site control or withdraw their projects. These requirements are expected to weed out the large number of speculative projects that have contributed to existing backlogs. Based on these and other requirements, Palomino Solar has met these requirements and is moving forward in the PJM queue.

Additional information and frequently asked questions about the transition to the new interconnection process can be found on the Interconnection Process Reform web page on www.PJM.com.

#### **HOW TO REACH US**

JANET GROTHE, Senior Specialist, **Community and Government Relations** 614-581-0432 jgrothe@innergex.com MATTHIAS WEIGEL, Senior Director, Development 612-226-7936 mweigel@innergex.com

**TOLL-FREE NUMBER:** 1-855-218-7393 **PROJECT EMAIL:** palomino@innergex.com

# PALOMINO SOLAR STATE STATES

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL & PERMITTING UPDATE**

We are pleased to advise you that our Palomino Project has officially been transitioned into the fast-track process by PJM, meaning absent any surprises, we will be able to sign the Large Generator Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) soon. Once the LGIA is executed we will be able to provide firmer dates, contingent on weather and American Electric Power's timeline, for constructing the interconnection facilities. This will allow us to schedule a groundbreaking event and move forward with construction. Presently we have our state permit in hand, off-takers keen to purchase our electricity, a top tier contractor that is rapidly advancing the project design, and an executed purchase order for solar panels. We are ready and eager to advance towards construction. In the interim we continue to collaborate with our landowners, Highland County and its Emergency Responders, local non-profits, and community members.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

On October 17, 2023, to support preparation of the Emergency Response Plans for the Palomino Project, Innergex staff led a tour of our Amazon Solar Farm Ohio - Hillcrest, in Brown County for the Highland County Office of Emergency Management. Also in attendance were members of the Highland County Soil and Water District. After an orientation of the site and reviewing the map, responders had the opportunity to see an operating facility, discuss potential events that could occur, and how best to respond to various emergencies on site to include in the Emergency Response Plan.

Safety is paramount for Innergex — both the safety of our employees and the local communities where we operate. In July, Innergex presented a check for \$88,000 to the Highland County Commissioners to purchase lighting towers and supplies for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Response Trailer. This equipment will allow Highland County OEM to respond to night-



Pictured Left to Right Commissioner David Daniels, Commissioner Brad Roades, Janet Grothe, and Commissioner Terry Britton (Chair)

time emergencies throughout the county. To assist the Lynchburg Area Joint Fire and Ambulance District in responding to any off-road emergencies, Innergex provided funding for a remote terrain vehicle and trailer. The Kubota RTV easily transitions from transporting a patient in the bed to a two-row seating configuration. The vehicle has been used in the community at the Highland County Fair and local fundraising events.







Kubota RTV and Chief Jeff Turner



# NERGEX

### **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

On October 20, 2023, Innergex welcomed State Senator Shane Wilkin and legislative aides to Innergex's Hillcrest project. After an energy policy-intensive week in Columbus, Senator Wilkin joined representatives of Innergex, along with Policy Advisor for the Ohio House Minority Caucus, Leah Brudno, and Kaleb Stutzman, aide to Senator Terry Johnson. We were also joined by Consultant Terrence O'Donnell and Landowners Melanie and Chad Hawk, and Director of the Utility Scale Solar Energy Coalition, Will Hinman.



Attendees participated in a full tour of the facility that allowed officials to observe the scope and nature of our first fully complete and operational large utility scale solar facility in Ohio.

A special thanks to Hillcrest site Manager Joseph (Mac) Hussey, for his hospitality, and to the other Innergex employees who were on hand to answer our guests' guestions.

Pictured Left to Right - Will Hinman, Kaleb Stutzman, Joseph (Mac) Hussey, BethAnn Donarski, Leah Brudno, Janet Grothe, Terrence O'Donnell, Andrew Gohn, and Senator Shane Wilkin.

### **INNERGEX UPDATE**

October 2023 was a very busy month for Innergex.

- Innergex announced the commissioning of its 50 MW/250 MWh (5 hours) Salvador Battery Facility in Chile located on the site of Innergex's existing Salvador solar facility.
- Innergex completed its partnership with Crédit Agricole Assurances in France. Crédit Agricole Assurances will gain a 30% minority interest in Innergex's portfolio in France, which includes 17 operating assets totaling 324 MW of wind energy and 9 MW/9 MWh of storage capacity, with existing energy production of 691 GWh per year, as well as a large portfolio of projects at various stages of development.
- Innergex secured tax equity commitment for the 330 MW Boswell Springs Wind Project in Wyoming where on-site construction activities are progressing very well and according to the schedule.

### LANDOWNER BBQ

In late July, Innergex held a landowner dinner that was attended by many Palomino landowners. The event was held at the beautiful Orpheum Theater in Hillsboro, where guests enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Jill's Farmhouse Catering. Innergex staff provided the landowners with a project status update. Be on the lookout for a save the date for our next dinner.

For additional news, visit www.inergex.com

### **INNERGEX IN THE COMMUNITY**

COVID, housing costs, and current economic conditions and a myriad of situations make it difficult for those who may struggle with shelter and food. At Innergex, it is our belief that every person deserves to be treated with respect and have a roof over their head.

During Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, Innergex made a donation to the Highland County Homeless Shelter to improve the 📕 lives of community members they serve and provide personalized assistance. The shelter will use the contribution to purchase new mattresses to refresh the shelter and to provide additional comfort to residents and to support its Capital Campaign.

> Pictured Left to Right - Janet Grothe and Highland County Homeless Shelter administrative director Tammy Dennis





**Rebecca Mickey - Director Real Estate** 

#### Nate Hedin - Manager Real Estate

Joining the Palomino Team is Nate who resides in Colorado Springs and is experienced with lease checks, title, lease negotiations, right-of-way, abstracting, due diligence, curative, and related field experience, He is knowledgeable of State/Bureau of Land Management/Bureau of Indian Affairs research and leasing, on-location project management, local networking, and negotiations.

Your feedback on our newsletter is welcome, and as always, we encourage you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that you may have related to our project or Innergex.



## **NEW FACES AT INNERGEX**

#### Matthias Weigel - Senior Director of Development

Matthias joined Innergex in October 2023, and brings a diverse range of renewable energy experience, including working with grid operators like Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and PJM on solar, wind, and Battery Energy Storage System Projects. In his previous roles, he gained experience in power purchase agreements and off-take negotiations, worked with Engineering, Procurement and Construction contractors, and has developed wind and solar projects in Ohio, Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota. Matthias, a Minnesota native, lives in the Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul Area.

Rebecca, located in our San Diego office has joined the Palomino Team. She has a wealth of knowledge of Land and Real Estate matters. Rebecca has worked as prospect manager of a national brokerage firm where her projects involved lease negotiation and acquisition, surface use agreement negotiation, pre- and post-acquisition due diligence, title reports and title curative.