

APPENDIX O

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Kingwood Solar Project
Greene County, Ohio

Case Number 21-0117-EL-BGN

By
Haley & Aldrich, Inc.

For
Kingwood Solar I LLC

April 2021

Summary

Kingwood Solar is a 175-megawatt solar-powered electrical generation facility with related electrical interconnection facilities (the Project) proposed on approximately 1,500 acres in Greene County, Ohio (the Project Area). This plan provides the approach to be taken to identify all areas of proposed vegetation clearing for the Project, specify the extent of the clearing, and describe how much clearing work will be done to minimize removal of woody vegetation. In addition, this plan provides the approach for how trees and shrubs along access routes, at construction staging areas, during maintenance operations, and in proximity to any other Project facilities will be protected from damage. Finally, this plan provides the approach for implementing and maintaining pollinator-friendly plantings, use of herbicides, and steps to be taken to prevent the establishment and/or further propagation of noxious weeds during implementation of pollinator-friendly plantings.

Clearing

Approximately 25.5 acres of trees will be cleared within the Project Area as part of Project construction. Appendix A of this plan contains a figure that depicts the locations where clearing of woody vegetation may be required. After selecting a builder, the Project will determine the specific clearing locations of woody vegetation based upon final engineering and design to create a Clearing Plan that will be provided in Appendix B. Before any clearing activities begin on site, a surveyor will flag areas for clearing to detail and document in the Clearing Plan. All tree and shrub locations will be confirmed on site and an aerial image will be produced in concert with the surveyor to visually depict tree clearing areas in the Clearing Plan. All vegetation removal will be completed in accordance with Item 201, Clearing and Grubbing Specification, of the Ohio DOT Division of Construction Management.

Cleared vegetation and cut trees will be chipped/mulched and/or removed from the site. Industry standard equipment will be used for clearing activities including skidders, excavators, skid steers, feller bunchers, log processors, chippers, tub grinders and mulchers. The Project will prevent the establishment and/or further propagation of noxious weeds, to the extent feasible.

Vegetation Protection

During the surveyor visit, wooded areas that are to remain will be clearly marked. These areas will be shown in an aerial image in the Clearing Plan. To ensure that protected areas are not damaged, the Project Area will be cleared in phases to allow for proper supervision.

Protected areas are defined as:

- Sites with finds of cultural or archeological significance, or a site that is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Areas with designated wetlands and/or streams or locations of threatened or endangered species or their identified habitat.
- Vegetation along access routes and at construction staging areas.

Visual inspections will be completed prior to any clearing and documented by photograph and video. The Project environmental specialist will be included in the process for mark-out and on-site review prior to clearing activities commencing.

Seasonal Clearing

Tree clearing activities will adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for the removal of trees three inches or greater in diameter, to avoid impacts to the Indiana and Northern Long-Eared bats, unless coordination with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) allows for a different schedule.

Seeding and Re-vegetation

The Project Area was selected, in part, due to the ability to install Project components with minimal ground disturbance and/or grading. Where required, before any grading occurs, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for future use. All stockpiled soil will be inspected for noxious weeds. Topsoil will be reestablished for areas where grading was necessary. Once construction activities are complete within a given area the site will be prepped for seeding by scarifying the surface. The seeding mix will be a pollinator-friendly, native blend designed to prevent the establishment and/or further propagation of noxious weeds. Seeded areas will be uniform, free of ruts, erosion and/or bare and dead spots, free of weeds, and have a minimum 80% cover of germinated perennial seed. The Project is intending to partner with Ernst/Monarch Vegetation for supply of the pollinator-friendly vegetation seed. Final seed mix will be reviewed and approved prior to seeding by the Project.

Mowing and Maintenance

Project-authorized subcontractors will perform routine mowing and maintenance activities to maintain site aesthetics, safety, and efficient operation. Grassed areas between and under the rows of module racks will be mowed a minimum of twice per year, or more often if required. The height of the grass will be maintained at a level to avoid shading of the panels and reduce the risk of fire. The vegetated planting/screening areas around the project are intended to establish naturally and are not expected to require any regular maintenance. Any grassy areas outside the fenced portion of the Project Area will be mowed on the same schedule as the areas within the fenced area. It is not anticipated that any herbicides will be used for regular maintenance. The Project Area will be visited monthly for inspection. During site visits the Project Area will be visually inspected, and any debris (such as fallen trees) within the Project Area will be removed and replacement will be scheduled as appropriate.

APPENDIX A

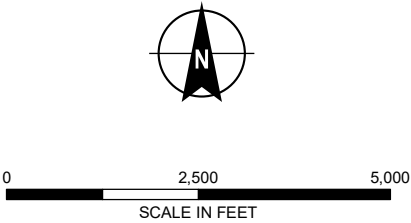
ECOLOGICAL IMPACT AND TREE CLEARING

GIS FILE PATH: C:\Users\mmartin\Desktop\TRASH\Kingwood\2021_0304_TREE_CLEARING_FULL_SITE.mxd — USER: mmartin — LAST SAVED: 3/4/2021 12:41:35 PM



- LEGEND**
- · — FENCE
 - - - LAYDOWN AREA
 - - - COLLECTION ROUTE
 - PARCELS
 - SUBSTATION
 - TREE CLEARING

- NOTES**
- 1. PROJECT LAYOUT BASED ON CAD FILES RECEIVED IN "02 18 2021_VE Kingwood - Standard_Layout DWG etransmit.zip"
 - 2. AERIAL IMAGERY SOURCE: ESRI



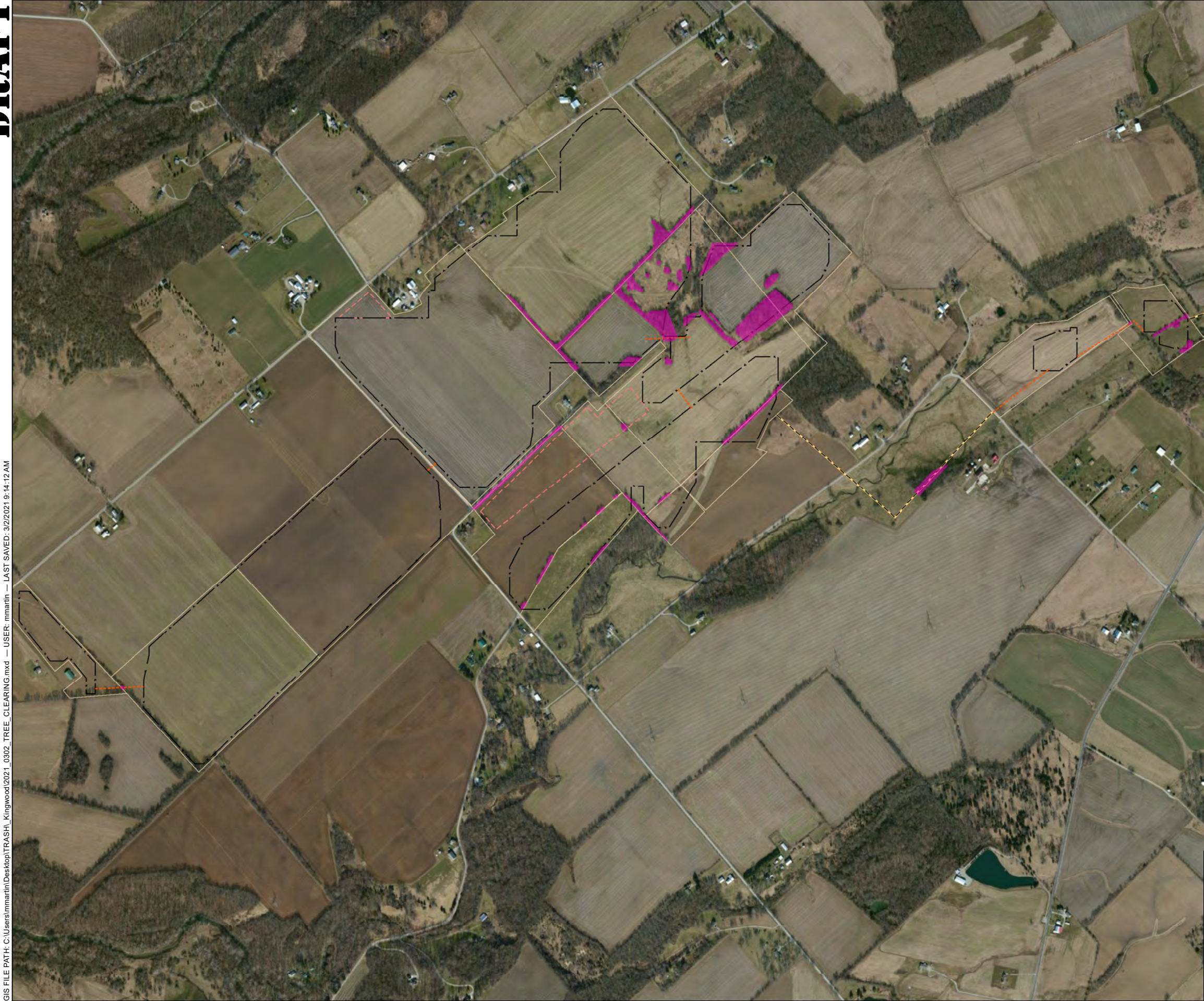
**HALEY
ALDRICH**

KINGWOOD SOLAR PROJECT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

TREE CLEARING

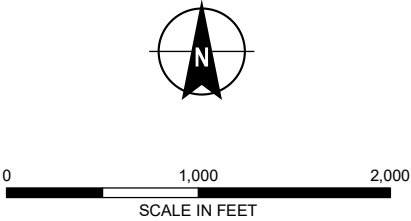
MARCH 2021

DRAFT



- LEGEND
- POTENTIAL COLLECTION
 - FENCE
 - LAYDOWN AREA
 - COLLECTION ROUTE
 - PARCELS
 - SUBSTATION
 - TREE CLEARING

- NOTES
- 1. PROJECT LAYOUT BASED ON CAD FILES RECEIVED IN "02 18 2021_VE Kingwood - Standard_Layout DWG etransmit.zip"
 - 2. AERIAL IMAGERY SOURCE: ESRI



HALEY
ALDRICH

KINGWOOD SOLAR PROJECT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

TREE CLEARING

MARCH 2021

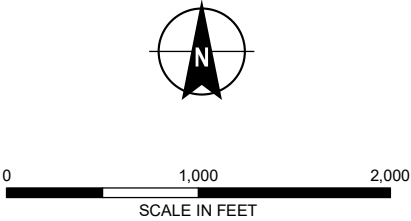
DRAFT



GIS FILE PATH: C:\Users\mmartin\Desktop\TRASH\Kingwood\2021_0302_TREE_CLEARING.mxd — USER: mmartin — LAST SAVED: 3/2/2021 9:14:12 AM

- LEGEND**
- POTENTIAL COLLECTION
 - FENCE
 - LAYDOWN AREA
 - COLLECTION ROUTE
 - PARCELS
 - SUBSTATION
 - TREE CLEARING

- NOTES**
- 1. PROJECT LAYOUT BASED ON CAD FILES RECEIVED IN "02 18 2021_VE Kingwood - Standard_Layout DWG etransmit.zip"
 - 2. AERIAL IMAGERY SOURCE: ESRI

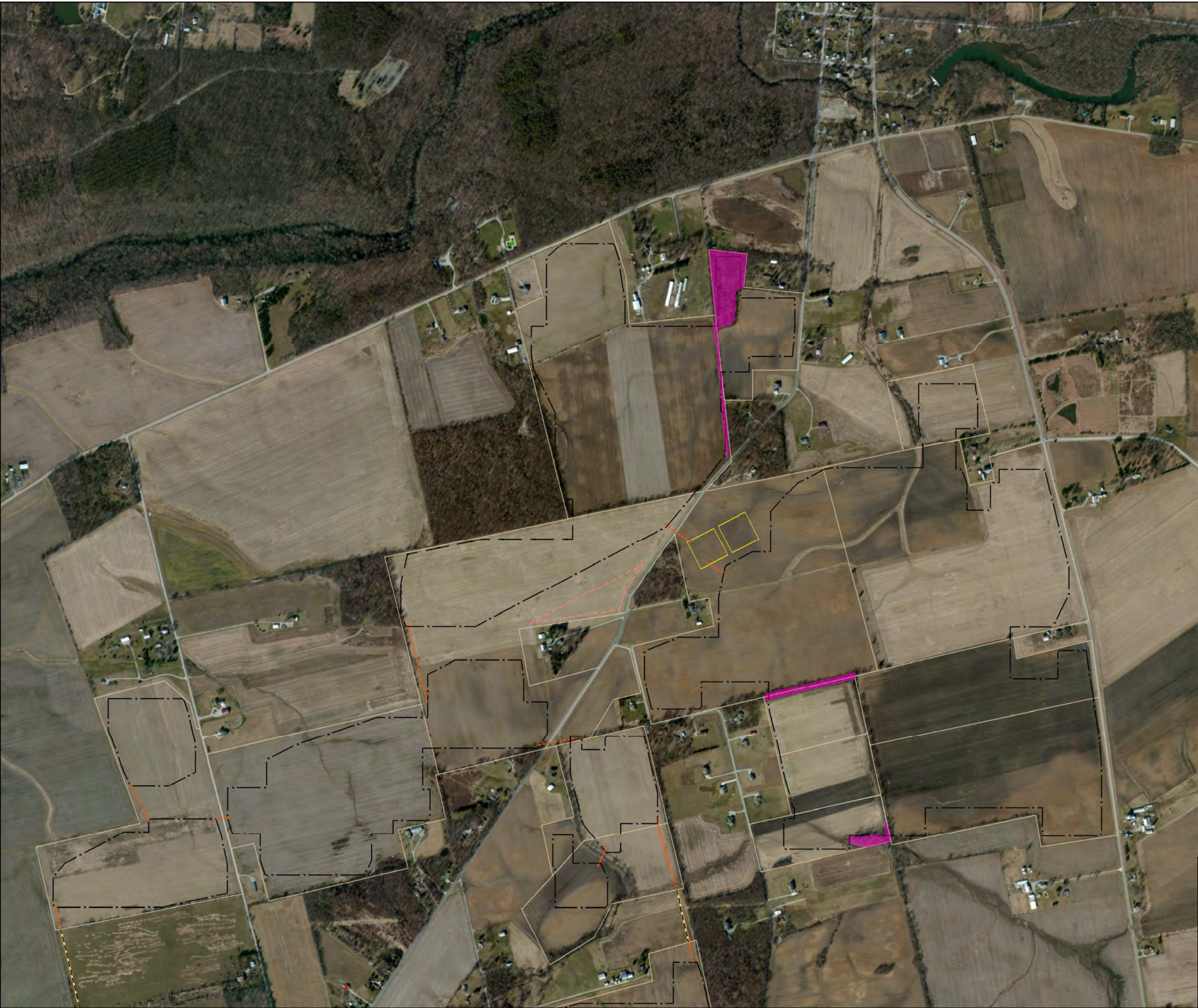


HALEY
ALDRICH

KINGWOOD SOLAR PROJECT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

TREE CLEARING

MARCH 2021



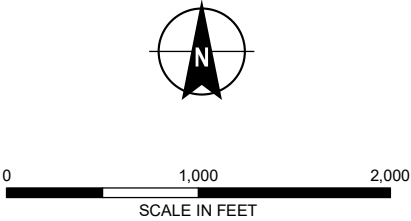
LEGEND

- POTENTIAL COLLECTION
- FENCE
- LAYDOWN AREA
- COLLECTION ROUTE
- PARCELS
- SUBSTATION
- TREE CLEARING

NOTES

1. PROJECT LAYOUT BASED ON CAD FILES RECEIVED IN "02 18 2021_VE Kingwood - Standard_Layout DWG etransmit.zip"

2. AERIAL IMAGERY SOURCE: ESRI



KINGWOOD SOLAR PROJECT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

TREE CLEARING

MARCH 2021

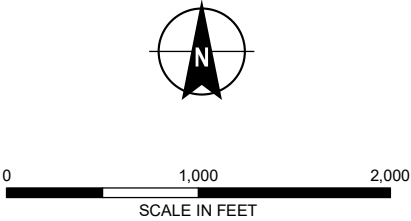
DRAFT

GIS FILE PATH: C:\Users\mmartin\Desktop\TRASH\Kingwood\2021_0302_TREE_CLEARING.mxd — USER: mmartin — LAST SAVED: 3/2/2021 9:14:12 AM



- LEGEND**
- POTENTIAL COLLECTION
 - FENCE
 - LAYDOWN AREA
 - COLLECTION ROUTE
 - PARCELS
 - SUBSTATION
 - TREE CLEARING

- NOTES**
- PROJECT LAYOUT BASED ON CAD FILES RECEIVED IN "02 18 2021_VE Kingwood - Standard_Layout DWG etransmit.zip"
 - AERIAL IMAGERY SOURCE: ESRI



HALEY
ALDRICH

KINGWOOD SOLAR PROJECT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

TREE CLEARING

MARCH 2021

APPENDIX B

CLEARING PLAN

(TO BE PROVIDED AFTER FINAL ENGINEERING AND DESIGN)

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

4/16/2021 3:55:14 PM

in

Case No(s). 21-0117-EL-BGN

Summary: Application Appendix O (Vegetation Management Plan) electronically filed by Mr. Michael J. Settineri on behalf of Kingwood Solar I LLC