

# Minutes for the Public Hearing 1041 Permit Final Hearing - Adapture Haynach Solar PV and BESS project

January 14, 2026 9:00 am Commissioners Chambers

Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101

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## Members Present:

Vern Heersink, Chair

Arlan Van Ry, Vice-Chair

Lori Laske, Commissioner

Roni Wisdom, County Administrator

Jason Kelly, County Attorney

Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk

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Luis Menses, Main Project Developer, Haynach Project, said that Adapture Renewables is a company that develops, builds and operates its own projects. Their goal is to support a clean energy transition in a sustainable way. Adapture has up to 38 renewable energy projects. Right now, they do not have any projects in Colorado yet. The Haynach project is a 110-megawatt photovoltaic project and 110 megawatt per four hours battery energy storage project. Its located right by the San Luis Valley Substation, also next to the Hooper solar project. It occupies an area of 1,109 acres which are under one single landowner. The project secured the landowner agreements between 2023 and 2024. In 2024, they submitted the interconnection request to Public Service Company of Colorado. In between 2024 and 2025, they performed site surveys to ensure that the project is suitable for the site.

Adapture expects the project to begin construction in 2028 and last between 14 to 16 months and begin operations by 2030. This project was previously planned as an expansion of the Hooper solar project and had already been permitted in the past, but the permit had expired. The closest residents to the project are at least a half a mile away. They believe that this project is well defined and suitable for this particular area. Adapture has been trying to engage with the community and have hosted open houses. They have spoken with adjacent landowners.

Richard Hubler, Land Use Director, reviewed the Staff Memo as provided in the board packet and then covered the Analysis of Relevant Regulations. Richard Hubler read through each of the Review of the Approval Criteria as provided in the Board Packet. Based on the review of the final application by staff and the County's third-party review consultant, Logan Simpson, staff recommends approval with relevant conditions. Richard Hubler read through each of the conditions as provided in the board packet.

## Public Comment:

Keith Holland: he has questions about the types of panels that will be installed, he thinks the panels are very unsightly. He is also wondering about the drainage ditch that runs across the west part of the parcel. He thinks traffic may become as issue especially during construction.

Terry Hammond: she tried to send the Commissioners a video of the reasons that people do not want solar in the San Luis Valley. She believes it does nothing to help the residents, and it is harmful to the land.

Arlan Van Ry said that there were not enough transmission lines in the San Luis Valley to get this solar power out of the valley. He asked if there were contracts in place to get the power out of the valley.

Richard Hubler said that there are definitely very mixed messages around the transmission values. But, ultimately, that gets into the negotiations between the developer and the interconnection piece as to whether or not they can accept that level of insertion at that location.

Lori Laske asked why it had been stated that it was easier to maintain a dirt road than a paved road.

Richard Hubler said that a road grader and materials could be brought out in immediate response for deteriorating conditions for a dirt road versus the setup it takes for a paved road.

Lori Laske asked why the project is being permitted for 40 years because prior projects have been only at 30 years so it seems like the permits are being inconsistent.

Richard Hubler said there have been a variety of permitting pathways that have changed over time which have mostly changed in response to the initial request from the applicant.

Lori Laske asked about the glare of the panels and the height of the panels.

Luis Meneses responded that the technical aspects of the design have to still be finalized, but they are planning to use the standard panels that are already including anti-glare layers. They will not be building anything higher than the existing Hooper solar project. It will be the same type of structure and the same type of panel.

Lori Laske asked for reassurance that the water wells on the property would not be sold to anyone outside of the San Luis Valley.

Luis Meneses said that one of the wells would possibly be used for project construction and operation and any other water would be sold to the Rio Grande Conservation District.

Vern Heersink said that he believes this project is a single axis construction and when it is articulated, it should be no more than 15 feet. Vern Heersink also asked about the drainage ditch.

Richard Hubler said that if it is an existing right of way for a ditch, then they would have to work with the San Luis Valley Ditch Company. He said that he would reach out to the ditch company to make sure that it does not impact the site plan.

Jason Kelly read the list of exhibits.

1. STAFF REPORT
2. FINAL APPLICATION NARRATIVE DATED OCTOBER 2025
3. FINAL APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS DATED 8/26/2025
4. OUTREACH DOCUMENTATION
5. FINAL APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE LETTER
6. LOGAN SIMPSON FINAL REVIEW MEMO

7. CPW COMMENTS
8. PRELIMINARY APPLICATION
9. COUNTY COMMENTS ON PRELIMINARY APPLICATION
10. WAIVER DECISION
11. FINAL APPLICATION DATED 8/26/2025
12. COUNTY COMMENTS ON FINAL APPLICATION DATED 9/23/2025
13. APPLICANT RESPONSE DATED 10/31/2025
14. GIS NOTIFICATION AERIAL MAP FOR COURTESY LETTERS
15. NEIGHBOR MAILING LIST
16. EXAMPLE COURTESY LETTER TO NEIGHBORS
17. PUBLIC NOTICE
18. NOTICE TO MINERAL ESTATE OWNERS

ATTEST:

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Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk

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Vern Heersink, Chair

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Arlan Van Ry, Vice-Chairman

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Lori Laske, County Commissioner