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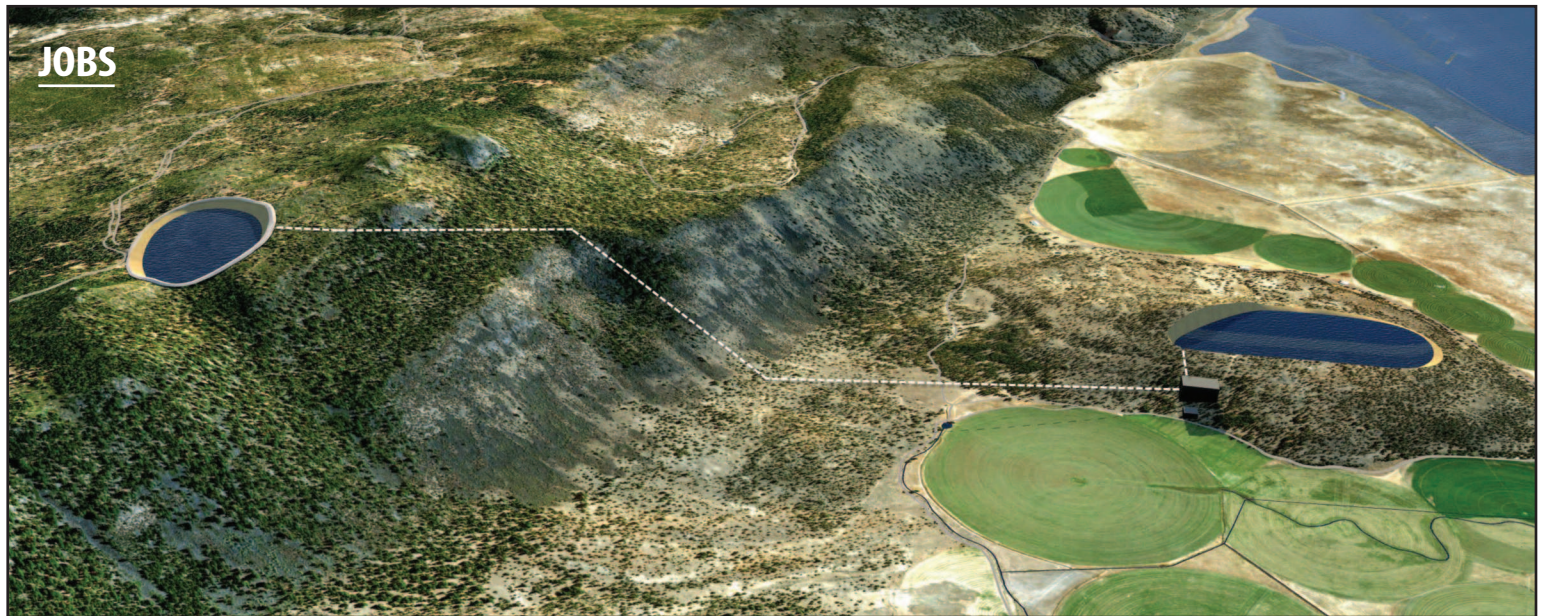
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An artists rendering shows how the project would work: Water that's pumped to an upper basin when solar and wind are generating more power than is needed would be released to power a turbine when solar and wind are generating less.

Swan Lake Energy Storage signs project labor agreement

Rye Development has come to terms on a project labor agreement (PLA) with the Southern Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council covering the proposed \$800 million Swan Lake Energy Storage Project 11 miles northeast of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

A memorandum of understanding signed Feb. 6 stipulates that the project will be built under a PLA, and that contractors and subcontractors will recognize the Southern Oregon Building and Construction Trades

Council as the sole and exclusive bargaining representative of the employees who perform the work.

In exchange, the Building and Trades Council and its member unions agree to prioritize and support the Swan Lake project as an opportunity to provide jobs to union members.

The project is expected to create an estimated 1,440 full-year equivalent construction jobs and almost 2,000 induced jobs in supporting industries during its four-year construction period.

“This represents a tremendous number of well-paying local construction jobs in southern Oregon, as well as valuable apprenticeship opportunities for the next generation of skilled tradespeople,” said Drew Waits, secretary-treasurer of the Southern Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council.

“We’re extremely pleased to have this commitment from Rye Development,” said Robert Camarillo, executive secretary of the Oregon State Building Trades Council. “Oregon needs

more clean energy infrastructure, and our highly skilled members are ready, willing and able to build the Swan Lake Energy Storage project.”

The plan is to build a new reservoir system to store electricity from the grid. When electricity is plentiful and inexpensive, pumps will push water to a 60-acre reservoir high on a hill. Then when demand rises, the facility will release that water over

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CORRECTION NAGE backs Biden

In a Feb. 21 list of union presidential endorsements, we incorrectly listed the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) as endorsing Joe Biden. In fact it was the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), not AFGE that endorsed Biden.

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