

Agenda

Jefferson County Planning Commission

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM

By order of the President of the Jefferson County Planning Commission,
Public Participation is available in-person only.

The meeting will be broadcast live via ZOOM for viewing purposes only.

In-Person Meeting Location: County Commission Meeting Room located in the lower level of the

Charles Town Library (side entrance on Samuel Street) 200 East Washington Street, Charles Town, WV 25414

ZOOM Broadcast Information*: Meeting ID: 824 0236 9620

Meeting Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82402369620

*If watching live broadcast, please ensure your microphone is muted and be mindful that your video is streaming to others.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2024 Meeting

2. Request for postponement.

The following items are open for public comment.

3. **Public Workshop:** Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. The proposal consists of constructing an 80-megawatt solar energy facility on 502 acres. The project consists of rows of solar modules, a new substation to connect the solar facility to the existing overhead electrical transmission line, and a 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The Project also includes internal access roads, commercial entrance(s), security fencing, a buffer screen, and stormwater management. (File #24-2-SP).

Applicant: Franklintown Farm, LLC / Attn: Ashley Smith, P.E., Enel North America, Inc

Parcel Info: Mark D. Stolipher, Property Owner

2998 Withers Larue Rd, Summit Point, WV 25446

Parcel ID: 06001900080004; Parcel/Project Size: 146.84 ac; Zoning District: Rural

Parcel Info: Mark D. Stolipher, Property Owner

322 & 288 Scooter Ln, Charles Town, WV 25414

Parcel ID: 06001900160000; Parcel/Project Size: 50 ac; Zoning District: Rural

Parcel Info: Mark D. Stolipher, Property Owner

261 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, WV 25446

Parcel ID: 06001900070000; Parcel/Project Size: 150.31 ac; Zoning District: Rural

Parcel Info: Michael Paul Chapman, Trustees, Property Owner

651 & 653 Franklintown Rd, Summit Point, WV 25446

Parcel ID: 06001900060000; Parcel/Project Size: 154.16 ac; Zoning District: Rural

4. Public Hearing: Waiver from Section 24.118 of the Subdivision Regulations to extend the timeframe to bond and record the final plat for Phase 2 of the Rocky Ridge Subdivision to December 31, 2024. Applicant/Property Owners: Townhome Rentals LLC. Property Location: Vacant Lot - Hospice Lane, Kearneysville, WV. Parcel ID: 070001001A0RES; Sizes: 7.6 acres; Zoning District: Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial (File #24-25-PCW).

Website: www.jeffersoncountywv.org

There is no public comment for the following items.

- 5. Review and Approval: Draft Planning Commission Submission Deadline Policy
- 6. Reports from Legal Counsel
- 7. Planner's Memo
- 8. President's Report
- 9. Actionable Correspondence
- 10. Non-Actionable Correspondence

Draft Meeting Minutes

Jefferson County Planning Commission August 13, 2024

The Jefferson County Planning Commission met on August 13, 2024, at 7:00 pm with the following Planning Commission members present: Mike Shepp, President; Aaron Howell, Vice President; Wade Louthan, Secretary; Jack Hefestay, Cara Keys, and Donnie Fisher were present in person. Steve Stolipher, County Commission Liaison, was present via Zoom.

J Ware and Tim Smith were absent without notification.

Staff members present included Jennifer Brockman, Chief County Planner, Luke Seigfried, County Planner; Jonathan Saunders, County Engineer; Nathan Cochran, Prosecuting Attorney; and Shenandoah Olsen, Planning Staff Intern.

Mr. Shepp called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and confirmed a quorum was present.

1. Planning Commissioner Training: Presentation by Roberta N. Meade-Curry with DarkSky Bolivar-Harpers Ferry regarding DarkSky International.

Roberta N. Meade-Curry, Wayne Bishop, and Carol DiSalvo with DarkSky Bolivar-Harpers Ferry presented an overview of the DarkSky initiative to the Planning Commission. A copy of the presentation is available upon request.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: July 23, 2024

Mr. Shepp stated the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. Request for postponement. None.

The following items are open for public comment.

4. Public Hearing: Request for a Final Plat Amendment to lift the single family restriction to allow for a second kitchen to be added onto the existing home to establish a two-family dwelling unit (see Plat Note #6 on Final Plat recorded in DB 633/PG 721). Applicant/Property Owner: Ian and Susan Brownsmith. Property Location: McDonald Minor Subdivision, Lot 2; 1139 Engle Molers Rd., Harpers Ferry, WV. Parcel ID: 04000300010004; Size: 3.55 ac; Zoning District: Rural (File #24-3-FPA).

Ms. Brockman provided an overview of the staff report.

Ms. Susan Brownsmith, property owner, explained the nature of the request.

The Planning Commission members asked clarifying questions.

Mr. Shepp opened the public hearing. No members of the public were signed up to speak. Mr. Shepp closed the public hearing.

Mr. Fisher moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Howell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Waiver Request: Waiver request from Section 21.401 and 21.402.D of the Subdivision Regulations to allow an existing fence within the required 50' access easement of a proposed minor subdivision. Applicant: Dalton Whitaker. Property Owners: Henry & Rachell Duvall and Stanley W Jr & Katherine B Dunn. Property Location: 2648 and 2646 Kabletown Rd, Charles Town, WV. Parcel ID: 06002100050001 and 06002100050000; Sizes: 1.42 acres and 174.64 acres; Zoning District: Rural (File #24-23-PCW).

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Ms. Brockman provided an overview of the staff report and recommended that if approved, a condition should be added that if the existing fencing is removed or replaced, the new fencing should be placed outside the 50 ft. easement.

Ms. Kylie Whitaker, applicant's spouse, explained the nature of the request.

The Planning Commission members asked clarifying questions.

Mr. Shepp opened the public hearing. No members of the public were signed up to speak. Mr. Shepp closed the public hearing.

Mr. Hefestay moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion. Ms. Keyes asked if the approval included Staff's recommendation regarding the fence. Mr. Hefestay agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Waiver Request: Waiver request from Section 20.203B of the Subdivision Regulations that requires the proposed project to process as a Minor Site Development. The project consists of the installation of a crane/bungee area affixed to a 400 sf slab, a 320 sf storage container, a 1,225 sf registration kiosk, a 75 sf floating dock, and a 216 sf staircase. The proposal will also include various walking paths, gravel drive aisles, grass & gravel parking, and signage. Applicant: Bungee Consultants International (Nick Steers). Property Owner: Standard Land Company LLC. Property Location: Northeast intersection of Peregrine Ln & Millville Rd, Harpers Ferry, WV. Parcel ID: 04001100240001; Size: 404 acres; Zoning District: Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial (File #24-24-PCW).

Ms. Brockman provided an overview of the staff report and an explanation of the location within the larger Old Standard Quarry property.

Mr. Nick Steers and Mr. Matt Lawrence, with Bungee Consultants International, and Mr. Paul Raco with P.J. Raco Consulting explained the nature of the request.

The Planning Commission members asked clarifying questions.

Mr. Shepp opened the public hearing. Ms. Christine Marshall, local resident, spoke in opposition to the request citing concerns regarding stormwater management. Mr. Shepp closed the public hearing.

In response, Mr. Raco and Mr. Steers explained that the proposed parking lot would be too small to make a noticeable impact on the stormwater management systems for the 400+ acre site. They stated that all neighboring property owners had been notified of the proposal and had no issue with it. Mr. Saunders confirmed that as the parking lot would be under 5,000 square feet that there would be no issues with the request. Mr. Hefestay asked about proffers. Mr. Raco confirmed that everything will be included in the building permit and any other permits or inspections that would be required.

The Planning Commissioner asked further clarifying questions and discussed the request. Mr. Hefestay commented that as the visuals for the project were difficult to read, he would prefer to see a site plan.

Ms. Keys moved to approve the request with proffers as presented. Mr. Louthan seconded the motion, which carried six (6) in support and one (1) in opposition (Mr. Hefestay).

There is no public comment for the following items.

5. Review and Approval: Planning Commission's FY 2024 Annual Report to the County Commission per WV Code §8A-2-11. The Planning Commission is required by State Code to make an annual report to the appropriate governing body concerning the operation of the planning commission and the status of planning within its jurisdiction.

Planning Commission Minutes August 13, 2024 Page 3 of 3

Ms. Brockman provided an overview of the draft Annual Report to the Planning Commission. Mr. Louthan moved to approve the Annual Report as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Ms. Brockman noted that a copy of the approved Annual Report would be forwarded to the County Commission as required by state law.

6. Reports from Legal Counsel. None.

7. Planner's Memo

a. Approved Planning Commission Bylaws (as amended July 11, 2024) for signature.

Ms. Brockman presented the final version of the Bylaws to the Planning Commission for their signature. Ms. Brockman noted that a copy of the approved Bylaws would be posted to the County's webpage.

Ms. Brockman provided an overview of the upcoming dates as they relate to the adoption of the 2045 Comprehensive Plan (see the Planner's Memo for more information).

Mr. Seigfried presented the Commission with a sample of text from the 2045 Comprehensive Plan to determine whether a formatting change would be made to the text, reminding the Commission that no change would be made until after the Public Hearing. The Planning Commission reviewed the text sample and confirmed that no formatting change was necessary.

7. **President's Report.** Mr. Shepp reported that he will be absent from the September 11, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. The Commission confirmed that Mr. Howell will conduct the meeting in his stead.

8. Comprehensive Plan Actionable Correspondence

Comments received pertaining to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan:

- a) 2024-07-11 Mary Gee
- b) 2024-07-15 Elizabeth Ricketts
- c) 2024-07-16 Briar Run Estates HOA
- d) 2024-07-16 Jacquelyn Milliron
- e) 2024-07-16 Jacquelyn Milliron (2)
- f) 2024-07-16 Wade Louthan
- g) 2024-07-22 Christine Wimer
- h) 2024-07-26 Jean Kotch
- i) 2024-08-05 Briar Run HOA

The preceding correspondence will be included in the public comments collected for the Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan review session on September 17, 2024.

8. Actionable Correspondence. None.

9. Non-Actionable Correspondence. None.

Mr. Hefestay moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Mr. Louthan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

These minutes were prepared by Jennilee Hartman, Zoning Clerk, and Shenandoah Olsen, Planning Staff Intern.

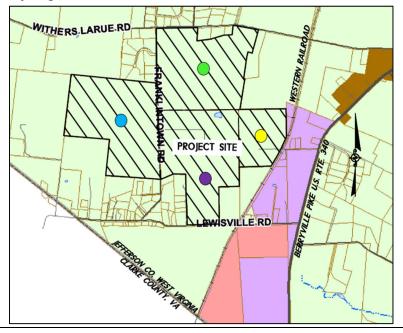
Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

Item #3: Public Workshop: Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. The proposal consists of constructing an 80-megawatt solar energy facility on 502 acres. The project consists of rows of solar modules, a new substation to connect the solar facility to the existing overhead electrical transmission line, and a 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The Project also includes internal access roads, commercial entrance(s), security fencing, a buffer screen, and stormwater management.

Applicant:	Franklintown Farm LLC / Attn: Ashley Smith	
Consultant:	Potesta & Associates, Inc. / Attn: Joe Knechtel	
Property Owner	Property Location	Map Reference
	2998 Withers Larue Rd, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 06001900080004; Parcel/Project Size: 146.84 ac	•
Mark D. Stolipher	322 Scooter Ln, Charles Town, WV Parcel ID: 06001900160000; Parcel/Project Size: 50 ac	0
	261 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 06001900070000; Parcel/Project Size: 150.31 ac	
Michael Paul Chapman, Trustees	651 & 653 Franklintown Rd, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 06001900060000; Parcel/Project Size: 154.16 ac	•

All of the subject parcels are zoned Rural.





Current	08/22/24: Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Conditional Use Permit Public Hearing
Applications:	09/10/24: Planning Commission Meeting Concept Plan Workshop (File #24-2-SP)
Approvals:	08/22/24: Board of Zoning Appeals Approval of Conditional Use Permit

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

Overview of Project

The applicant (Franklintown Farm, LLC) is proposing an 80-megawatt solar energy facility on four parcels located between Withers Larue Road, Scooter Lane, Berry Hill Farm Lane and Franklintown Road, in Rippon, totaling 502 acres. The project will consist of rows of solar modules (approximately 147,000 ground-mounted photovoltaic solar panels) on a single-axis racking system that allows them to tilt throughout the day to capture sunlight. Electrical inverters will be dispersed throughout the site to convert the direct current (DC) power generated by the solar panels to alternating current (AC) power. The Project will also have a substation and 20- megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and batteries may also be dispersed throughout the array area and be co-located with the electrical inverters. Energy generated will be transferred to the PJM electrical grid. The Project will include 16' wide internal access roads, commercial entrances on Franklintown Road and Lewisville Road, stormwater management, and will be surrounded by security fencing and the required zoning buffer.

The proposed use is identified as a Solar Energy Facility, defined in Article 2 of the Zoning Ordinance, as:

"A facility that generates electricity from sunlight by utilization of photovoltaic (PV) technology and distributes the generated electrical power. On-site components of the facility may include solar panels and other accessory components including, without limitation, Essential Utility Equipment, transformers, inverters, cabling, electrical lines, substations, and other improvements necessary to support generation, collection, storage, and transmission of electrical power."

Solar Energy Facilities are a Principal Permitted Use in the Rural Zoning District in areas inside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area as delineated on the Future Land Use Guide in the Comprehensive Plan. Solar Energy Facilities are required to process as Conditional Uses in zoning districts outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and Preferred Growth Area (PGA). The provisions for large-scale solar energy facilities are found in Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Franklintown Farm Solar Project is proposed to occur on a total of 502 acres, all of which are located outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and Preferred Growth Area (PGA), and therefore required approval of a Conditional Use Permit. On August 22, 2024, the Board of Zoning Appeals unanimously approved the CUP (File #24-4-CUP), conditioned upon the applicant being bound by their testimony and that they will obtain all proper approvals and licensing.

The Planning Commission's Public Workshop relates to the Concept Plan for the full 502 acre project area. The subject properties are currently vacant and/or used for agricultural purposes. The Concept Plan includes a graphic and a brief narrative description on the Plan related to the configuration and components of the proposed facility. Franklintown Farm Solar Project will be leased from the current property owners and is expected to operate for 30 years. The Project will have a substation connected to the existing 138-kilovolt overhead electrical transmission line passing though the southeast corner of the Project area. This substation and 20- megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be situated on the southern portion of the Project adjacent to Lewisville Road. Batteries may also be dispersed throughout the array area and be co-located with the electrical inverters. The applicant has demonstrated that the project will meet or exceed the setback and buffer standards as required by Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance (see graphic below). Following Planning Commission action, the applicant will be required to submit a stormwater management report to demonstrate how the project meets the requirements of the Stormwater Management Ordinance.

Staff Report Jefferson County Planning Commission

September 10, 2024

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

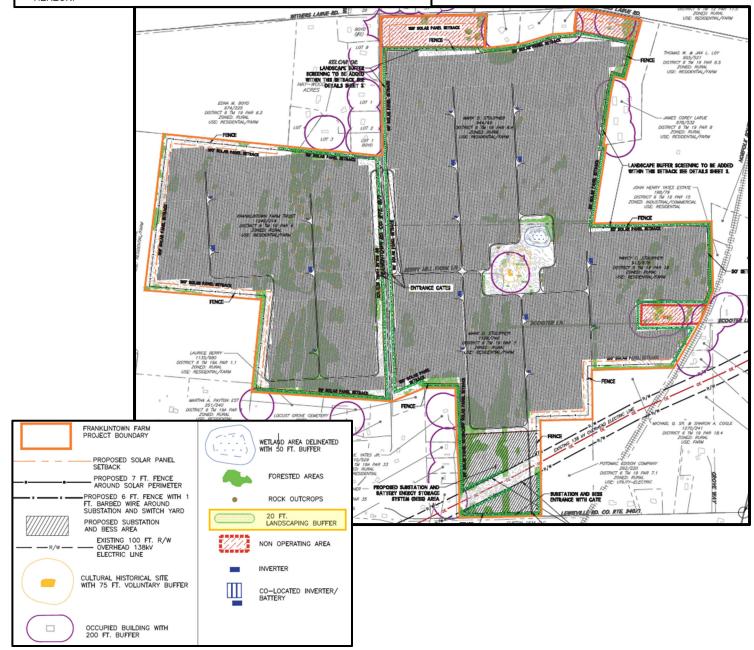
SETBACKS

- (1) SOLAR PANELS ARE SETBACK A MINIMUM OF 50' FROM ALL PROPERTY LINES THAT ABUT A RESIDENTIAL USE AND INCLUDE A 20' PLANTED BUFFER WITHIN THE SETBACK.
- (2) SOLAR PANELS ARE SETBACK A MINIMUM OF 100' FROM ALL PROPERTY LINES THAT ABUT AN AGRICULTURAL USE AND DO NOT INCLUDE A PLANTED BUFFER.
- (3) THE FENCE LINE WILL BE SETBACK 100' FROM THE LOCUST GROVE CEMETERY AND WILL INCLUDE A PLANTED BUFFER. GPR WILL BE PERFORMED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION TO CONFIRM ANY UNMARKED GRAVES.
- (4) NO ACCESSORY COMPONENTS ARE LOCATED WITHIN 25 FEET OF THE FRONT, SIDE, REAR SETBACK FROM ALL EXTERNAL PROPERTY LINES.

BUFFERS

- (1) NO PROPOSED SOLAR OR ACCESSORY STRUCTURE WILL BE LOCATED WITHIN THE 100 FOOT SETBACK SHOWN HEREON, OR 200 FEET FROM NEIGHBORING RESIDENCE, CATEGORY 1 HISTORIC RESOURCE, INSTITUTION FOR HUMAN CARE, CHURCH, OR SIMILAR USE OR STRUCTURE, WITHOUT A LANDSCAPE BUFFER.
- (2) LANDSCAPE BUFFER SCREENING ARE PROPOSED WITHIN THE SETBACKS AS SHOWN HEREON

Excerpt from Concept Plan Site Information Notes (left)



Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

The Project proposes a 7-foot chain-link security fence to encompass the exterior of the facility to deter unauthorized entry, as well as a secondary fence around the BESS and substation. The secondary fence around the BESS and substation will consist of a 6-foot chain-link fence, plus 1 foot of barbed wire (7 feet high in total).

The Concept Plan reflects that all solar panels are located a minimum of 100' from all of the external property lines and that there are no panels located within 200' of a residence, Category 1 historic resource, institution for human care, church or similar use or structure. The Concept Plan identifies "non-operating areas" along Withers Larue Road and at the end of Scooter Lane to provide a greater setback from existing homes.

The project site includes the property located at 261 Berry Hill Farm Lane. The County's GIS data reflects that this house is a Category II Historic Structure identified by the Historic Landmarks Commission. The Concept Plan application depicts a voluntary 75' buffer around Berry Hill House / Category II structure, which is located within a 200' occupied structure buffer. Setback Note #3 on the Concept Plan states "The fence line will be setback 100' from the Locust Grove Cemetery and will include a planted buffer. GPR will be performed prior to construction to confirm any unmarked graves."

As part of the Concept Plan process, the Historic Landmarks Commission was notified of the proposed project. Staff also verbally confirmed with the HLC on 08/07/2024 that they received notice of the project and had been in contact with the applicant. The HLC verbally represented that they were satisfied with the proposed buffer proposals for the Berry Hill House and efforts to ensure protection of the existing cemetery. To date, no written comments were received from the HLC.

Site Plan Category

Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance requires that all projects meeting the definition of Solar Energy Facilities are required to process a Concept Plan, pursuant to the Minor Site Development Concept Plan standards established in the Jefferson County Subdivision Regulations. After the Concept Plan Public Workshop is held and Planning Commission direction is given, the next steps are Application for a Zoning Certificate and Building Permits, and submission of a report in conformance with the Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance.

In addition to the Concept Plan requirements outlined in the Subdivision Regulations, the Zoning Ordinance requires the Concept Plan for a solar energy facility to include all of the property locations; access points; anticipated locations of all proposed components of the Solar Energy Facility; and landscaping, buffering, ground cover plan, and fencing. A narrative outlining the decommissioning of the Solar Energy Facility is also required to be included with the Concept Plan (see Section 11.0 on page 9 of the Applicant's Narrative). The narrative is required to include a description of the timeline of the lease or operating plan, and a general plan for removal of the Solar Energy Facility. All of these Zoning Ordinance requirements have been addressed in the Concept Plan submitted.

Following the Concept Plan Public Workshop, the balance of the County's approval process is administrative.

Staff Determination of Application Sufficiency and Concept Plan Completeness Review

In accordance with the current Subdivision Regulations, the Minor Site Plan Concept Plan process incorporates a sufficiency and completeness review in a single step. Upon first submission and review of the applicant's Concept Plan, Staff found the submitted plan "sufficient" pursuant to Section 24.106 of the

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

Jefferson County Subdivision and Land Use Regulations. These requirements, as well as the current review status for each requirement for the subject application, are provided below:

		Description	Status
1.	General Location	A map or aerial photograph showing an area of 500 feet around the property. Zoning boundaries shall be located on this document.	Provided
2.	Concept Plan	In accordance with the content and formatting guidelines provided in Appendix A, <i>Plan & Plat Standards</i> .	Provided
3.	Zoning Information	 a) Zoning District in which the proposed development is located. b) Density calculations. c) Site resource map d) Use designation for all adjoin and confronting parcels 	Provided on Concept Plan: Rural zoning; includes rows of solar modules installed in arrays; and a substation and 20- megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
4.	Proposal Description	A written description of the proposal with general identification of the number of dwelling units or floor area proposed, commentary, zoning, and development option selected if the development is multi-family residential.	Description on Concept Plan provides relevant information
5.	Traffic Impact Data	 a) Average Daily Trip (ADT) figures for the adjoining or accessible State road. b) Trip generation figures c) Nearest key intersection that will serve the proposed project as classified by the current Comprehensive Plan. d) "Highway Problem Areas" according to the current Comprehensive Plan that falls within a one-mile radius of the project. 	Provided on Plan narrative: Withers Larue Road (at Route 340):694 ADT; Lewisville Road: 200 ADT; Franklintown Rd: 200 ADT; Route 340 (at Withers Larue Road): 15,166 ADT Trip Generation: estimated 4 ADT once operational Highway Problem Areas: one area on Myerstown Road
6.	Traffic Study	A traffic study may be required only at the request and direction of the West Virginia Division of Highways. Any required traffic study or a letter from the West Virginia Division of Highways outlining the proposed improvements shall be received with the first submission of the Site Plan.	WV DOH is not anticipated to require a TIS.
7.	Agency Reviews	The applicant shall distribute the concept plan to all reviewing agencies found in Section 23.203 and 23.204 no later than 7 days after the review.	Letters to required agencies provided. See responses below.

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

D. Department	 The Department review shall include the following: Whether the density, use, and plan meet the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and any other zoning issues that can be identified at the Concept Plan submission and any zoning issues the developer shall address in a Site Plan submittal. Staff opinion as to whether the plan meets the Site Plan criteria of these Regulations. The Department shall review the Concept Plan for modifications that would improve the plan. 	Staff determined that the proposed Concept Plan meets the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision Regulations as a Minor Site Development requiring a Concept Plan only.
E./F. WVDOH	WVDOH shall submit a letter to the Office of Planning and Zoning indicating issues and data requirements or notice that there are no issues or data requirements. If WVDOH determines that a traffic study is needed, parameters shall be provided. The review shall indicate whether a traffic impact study will be required based on analysis required in Section 24.106.B.5.	WV DOH is not anticipated to require a TIS.
G. Public Service	The review shall indicate whether there are existing water and sewer systems in place that can handle the development. If not, the review shall indicate the type or extent of a system that shall be proposed by the developer to best meet the County's needs in that area of the County.	No water or wastewater services will be required for this project.
H. Recommended Conditions	All reviews shall contain recommended conditions for moving forward to a site plan or reasons why the plan should be denied.	See below

Concept Plan Review

1. External Agency Reviews

The applicant submitted the required agency letters to the appropriate agencies. No responses were received at the time this report was prepared.

2. Staff Recommendation related to Concept Plan

The Subdivision Regulations state that unless there are reviews indicating that the development cannot conform to the Zoning Ordinance, be serviced by public services, or provide its own utilities, or other factors that make the development impossible, Planning staff is required to accept or deny the Concept Plan as complete. Upon accepting the application as complete, Planning staff is required to place it on the next possible Planning Commission agenda as a public workshop, which is advertised at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the meeting and posted on the property.

The Office of Planning and Zoning Staff finds the Concept Plan for the proposed 502-acre Franklintown Farm Solar Energy Facility to be "complete" based on the information provided related to the criteria above and to meet the standards detailed in the Zoning Ordinance. No Site Plan is required pursuant to Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Staff recommends the following conditions for the Planning Commission review and approval:

• Compliance with the approved Conditional Use Permit (File # 24-4-CUP)

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan Public Workshop (24-2-SP)

3. Planning Commission Direction

The Concept Plan Public Workshop allows for the Planning Commission and the general public to comment on the proposed plan before the Zoning Certificate and Building Permit are obtained. The Subdivision Regulations outline the procedure:

- 1. The applicant makes a short presentation.
- 2. Staff explains outside agency comments and whether the plan can meet the standards of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 3. Public comment is solicited.

Following the applicant's presentation, staff's explanation, and the solicitation of public comment, the Planning Commission shall provide direction to the applicant as required under Concept Plan Direction outlined in the Subdivision Regulations. Staff recommends that the Planning Commission include the conditions recommended above with any action taken on this Concept Plan. The Planning Commission has the option of providing this direction at the same meeting during which the Concept Plan public workshop takes place, or at a subsequent meeting that occurs within 14 days of the meeting at which the Concept Plan public workshop is closed.

While Section 24.108 of the Subdivision and Land Development Regulations outlines the direction to be provided to the applicant during a Minor Site Plan Concept Plan review as it relates to the preparation of a Site Plan (which is not required for Solar Energy Facilities), Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance details the next steps after the Concept Plan Workshop for all Solar Energy Facilities are as follows:

- a. A Zoning Certificate based on an approved Concept Plan is required prior to initiating any use regarding Solar Energy Facilities.
 - "In addition to the standards found in Section 8.20, any Zoning Certificate regarding Solar Energy Facilities shall be issued conditioned on all other State Regulations and approvals being granted, including, but not limited to, the WV Public Service Commission, WVDEP applicable NPDES Permits and Decommissioning Bonds, Fire Marshal approval, Building Permits through the Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning, and approval of the Stormwater Management Report pursuant to the Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance."
- b. Stormwater Management
 - "Stormwater Management shall be required in accordance with the Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance. Solar Energy Facilities may be exempt from providing stormwater management if the conditions for granting exemption under Article I.D.2.h of the Stormwater Management Ordinance are satisfied."

It should be noted that the direction provided to the applicant in the Minor Site Plan Concept Plan Public Workshop shall be applicable for a period of two years.

ATTACHMENTS:

• Conditional Use Permit Application (File #24-4-CUP)



JEFFERSON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

Department of Engineering, Planning and Zoning Office of Planning and Zoning 116 East Washington Street, 2nd Floor

116 East Washington Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 716 Charles Town, West Virginia 25414

Phone: (304) 728-3228

Email: zoning@jeff	ersoncountywv.org			Fax:	(304) 728-8126
	Apj	plication for a Co	onditional Use Perr	nit	
Project Name					
Franklintown Fari	m Solar Project				
Property Owner	Information				
Name:	Multiple Owners (See attached)			
Business Name:	Multiple Owners (sec attached)			
Mailing Address:) f '1
Phone Number:		Email Response:			_ Mail □ Yes Response: □ No
		Eman Response.			_ Kesponse. \square No
Applicant Inform					
Name:	Sam Judd				
Business Name:	Franklintown Farm				
U	-		andover, Massachuse		_ Mail □ Yes
Phone Number:	(978) 806-1138	Email Response:	sam.judd@enel.com	n	_ Response: □ No
Engineer(s), Surv	eyor(s), or Consulta	nt(s) Information			
Name:	Joe Knechtel, P.E.				
Business Name:	Potesta & Associat	tes, Inc.			
Mailing Address:	15 South Braddock	Street, Winchest	ter Virginia 22601		_ Mail □ Yes
Phone Number:	(540) 450-0180	Email Response:	kjknechtel@potesta	ı.com	Response: \square No
Physical Property	Details				
	Multiple Addresse	s (See attached)			
Tax District:		Map No	:	Parcel No.	
Parcel Size:		Deed Bo	ook:	Page No:	
Zoning District (p	olease check one)				
Residential	Industrial		Residential-		Naighbarbaad
Growth	Commercial	Rural*	Light Industrial-	Village	Neighborhood Commercial
(RG)	(I-C)	(R)	Commercial	(V)	(NC)
			(R-LI-C)		
General	Highway	Light	Major	Planned	Office/
Commercial	Commercial	Industrial	Industrial	Neighborhood Development	Commercial Mixed-Use
(GC)	(HC)	(LI)	(MI)	(PND)	(OC)
* For properties in	the Rural Zoning Di	strict:	□ V	■ No	
Is property loc	cated on a primary o	r secondary road?	☐ Yes	No	
Name of Road and	d/or Route Number:				

State the proposed land use as listed in	Appendix C and pro	vide a description of the proposed	use.
Solar Energy Facility (per Draft Amend consist of the construction of a Solar E parcels in the Kabletown Magisterial di	nergy Facility on app	proximately 502 acres of leased la	nd on four
Please provide any information or know	wn history regarding	this property.	
Zoned Rural. The subject properties	s have been histori	cally used as agricultural land.	
Please respond in detail to the following located in Section 6.3 of the Zoning Or		ow the proposed project complies v	vith the criteria
1. How is the proposed use compatible w	ith the goals of the add	opted Comprehensive Plan? Section 6	5.3A.1
See Attached			
2. How is the proposed use compatible in properties? How will the proposed pro	intensity and scale wi	th the existing and potential land uses threat to public health, safety, and we	s on surrounding elfare? Sec. 6.3A.2
See Attached			
3. Describe how the proposed site develo appropriate development and use of ad	pment will be designed jacent land and buildir	d such that the use will not hinder not ngs. Section 6.3A.3	discourage the
See Attached			
Neighborhood character and surroundi landscaping buffer requirements found	ng property values sha in Appendix B and Se	all be safeguarded by requiring implementation 4.11 of this Ordinance. Section	mentation of the 6.3A.4
I am aware of the landscaping bu	ıffer requirements and	will adhere to them.	
☐ I am aware of the landscaping bu	affer requirements; how	wever, I may be seeking a variance to	modify them.
5. For properties in the Rural zoning distraction Map. If a does not front on a Principal Arterial, I Plan), the applicant shall submit trip go of Zoning Appeals to review in conjunt adequacy for the proposed use. Section	a rural parcel is not sho Minor Arterial, or Majo eneration data, includir ction with the Highwa	own as commercial on the <u>Future Lan</u> or Collector road (as identified in the ng Average Daily and Peak Hour trips	d Use Guide or Comprehensive s, for the Board
Applicable (Trip Generation Denoted in De	ata attached)	☐ Not Applicable	
The information given is correct to	the best of my know	ledge. Original Signature Req	uired.
della Co	2/28/24		
Property Owner	Date	Property Owner	Date

State the proposed land use	as listed in Appendix C and pro	vide a description of the proposed	d use.
consist of the construction o	f a Solar Energy Facility on app	ted May 17, 2022). Proposed la proximately 502 acres of leased the existing 138kV overhead ele	land on four
Please provide any informat	ion or known history regarding	this property.	
Zoned Rural. The subject	properties have been histor	cally used as agricultural land	1.
Please respond in detail to the located in Section 6.3 of the		ow the proposed project complies	s with the criteria
1. How is the proposed use co	ompatible with the goals of the ad-	opted Comprehensive Plan? Section	a 6.3A.1
See Attached			
2. How is the proposed use coproperties? How will the p	ompatible in intensity and scale wroposed project mitigate potential	ith the existing and potential land us threat to public health, safety, and	ses on surrounding welfare? Sec. 6.3A.2
See Attached			
	I site development will be designe nd use of adjacent land and buildi	d such that the use will not hinder rangs. Section 6.3A.3	nor discourage the
Neighborhood character are landscaping buffer required.	nd surrounding property values sha ments found in Appendix B and S	all be safeguarded by requiring impection 4.11 of this Ordinance. Section	lementation of the on 6.3A.4
	ndscaping buffer requirements and	will adhere to them. wever, I may be seeking a variance	to modify them.
Highway Road Classificati does not front on a Princip Plan), the applicant shall so	on Map. If a rural parcel is not shal Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Majubmit trip generation data, includity in conjunction with the Highwa	y shall be assessed by the Comprehown as commercial on the <u>Future L</u> or Collector road (as identified in the <u>Future L</u> or Average Daily and Peak Hour tray Problem Areas Map when determined to the result of the experimental problem of the experimental transfer of the experimental problem of the experimental	and Use Guide or he Comprehensive ips, for the Board
Applicable (Trip G	eneration Data attached)	☐ Not Applicab	le
The information given is	correct to the best of my know	vledge. <u>Original Signature R</u>	equired.
Malle	5 2-27-24		
Property Owner	Date	Property Owner	Date

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT SUBMITTAL MATERIALS

Franklintown Farm, LLC
Franklintown Farm Solar Facility
Franklintown Road
Summit Point, West Virginia
June 14, 2024

Reponses to Application Items

- 1. Compatibility of the Use with the Goals of the Comprehensive Plan:
- The Franklintown Farm Solar Project (the "Project") is compatible with the goals of the comprehensive plan and will ensure the preservation and enhancement of the agricultural economy, rural land use, rural neighborhoods, and rural character of Jefferson County. Rather than permanently converting the property to a housing development or some other high-density use, the proposed use is temporary and subject to decommissioning requirements that will ensure its subsequent availability for agricultural use. In this way, the proposed use guarantees a predictable economic use of the property while effectively creating a "bank" of rural land available for future agricultural uses. With a vegetative buffer that exceeds the minimum standards required by the zoning ordinance, there is almost no use better suited as a means of increasing economic output and local tax revenue while preserving the land for "rural" and agricultural use. Upon completion, there will be very little traffic generated by the Project. There are no paved areas in and around the solar panel arrays. Furthermore, the Project will not require new sewer service, new water service, nor new public roads, and it will not add any burden to the school system. By mostly using the existing contours, stormwater will sheet flow and drain off the property as it has in the past. Deep-rooted, native or naturalized grasses will be planted to minimize erosion and to provide a natural filtration system for stormwater. Because no fuel is being consumed in the process of generating solar energy, the Project produces zero air pollution. Solar panels are designed to absorb (not reflect) light from the sun, so there is no glare created from the panels. A glare study will be procured to ensure this is the case. The Project would also not raise ambient noise levels in the way many other developments would. A noise study will also be procured to ensure noise levels remain below noise levels outlined in Section 8.9 of the Zoning Ordinance. While some residents would prefer that the land within the rural district remain in agricultural use to support a certain aesthetic, almost none of those people are farmers who depend on the land as a primary source of income. If this property is not utilized for the production of solar energy, then it will very likely be sold for conversion to some other use that will likely have greater and permanent adverse impacts to aesthetic values. The Project will be subject to state law requiring security to decommission the solar facility and restore the land after the life of the solar facility ends, in addition to any County requirements for decommissioning security.
- This Project would also have easy access to the grid since it is traversed by an existing overhead transmission line. Therefore, a proposed solar facility having its own access to

the grid is more compatible to the goals than a solar facility located further away, which would require construction of new and extensive infrastructure across rural areas to connect to the grid. By locating the Project adjacent to existing transmission infrastructure, the Project minimizes impacts on surrounding rural and agricultural uses.

- 2. Compatibility of Use in Intensity and Scale with the Existing and Potential Land Uses on the Enjoining and Confronting Properties and Without Posing Risks to Public Health and Welfare:
- Permits are General Conditions for all Conditional Use Permits. However, the specific criteria for Solar Conditional Use Permits were written into Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance, and these criteria have been discussed. In an opinion from May 2023 affirming a CUP issued for a different solar facility, Circuit Judge Hammer has noted that to the extent any of these criteria overlap or conflict with the language of Section 8.20 (authorizing development of solar energy in the rural zoning district), then the more recent and specific provisions of Section 8.20 control. *See Rockwell v. Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals*, No. 2022-C-141 (May 19, 2023) (appeal pending), pp. 14 & 19-22. Regarding the criteria of scale and intensity of the use, this standard was not specifically addressed in Section 8.20 of this Ordinance. Regardless, this point and the following points will address the topic.
- A fully operating agricultural operation is quite intense in scale from the standpoint of runoff, dust, noise, and pesticide use. Solar Facilities, once fully operational, do not exceed this level of intensity exhibited yearly by full-scale agricultural operations. Furthermore, this provision discusses the potential of scale and intensity of uses in the area. Many uses, some quite intense, are permitted in the Rural District in Jefferson County either as Principal Permitted Uses, or by Conditional Use Permits. These uses include Hospitals, Airports, Hotels, Convention Centers, Event Centers, and Solar Facilities, among many other uses. Since zoning was adopted in Jefferson County in 1988, the potential for all of these uses have been added over the years by the County Commission. Initially, the Rural District was labeled as the Agricultural District in the Zoning Ordinance when it was first developed. Because of Conditional Uses that were granted for other uses beyond agricultural, the name of the district was changed to Rural so that there were no expectations that the district would remain in farming. This change also recognized that this district would be an ever-changing zone that allowed other uses as found in Appendix C of the Zoning Ordinance. These uses include Solar Facilities, and the neighboring properties can likewise develop their land into the more flexible and/or intense uses found in Appendix C. All of these uses have been determined to be compatible with the Rural District based on the action of the County and County Agencies over the 35 plus years that zoning has been in effect in Jefferson County. The proposed solar project will not adversely affect the ability of owners of adjacent properties to engage in any of the activities permissible in the rural zoning district.
- Upon decommissioning of the Project, this land can be converted back to farmland, unlike other properties and farms that may be converted into housing developments or other more

intensive uses. As previously mentioned, financial security will be provided pursuant to State Law to guarantee proper decommissioning is achieved.

- The scale and intensity of the Project will also remain compatible with the surrounding land uses in terms of sound, traffic, dust, and other things typically involved in the farming of the surrounding areas. Upon completion, there will be very little traffic generated by the Project. There are no paved areas in and around the solar panel arrays. Furthermore, the Project will not require new sewer service, new water service, nor new public roads and it will not add any burden to the school system. By mostly using the existing contours, storm water will sheet flow and drain off the property as it has in the past. Native or naturalized grasses will be planted to minimize erosion and to provide a natural filtration system for stormwater. Because no fuel is being consumed, the Project produces zero air emissions. Solar panels are designed to absorb (not reflect) light from the sun, so there is little to no glare created from the panels, and a glare study will be procured to ensure this is the case. The Project would also not raise ambient noise levels in the way many other developments would. Importantly, this Project will be located immediately adjacent to existing electrical transmission infrastructure and thereby minimizes its impact on surrounding land uses. This is a frequently overlooked fact, and one that addresses concerns that the country will be overrun with solar panels - the economics of most solar projects demands that they be located close to existing transmission facilities. In this way, the location of the Project helps to preserve farmland and open space and to protect ongoing agriculture in areas not already impacted by electrical infrastructure.
- The Project will be less intrusive than the permitted residential development in the rural district which could develop into one house lot for every 5 acres of a farm. Potentially, all of the surrounding land could develop into 20 houses per 100 acres, which would be more intensive than the development of solar panels that need virtually no services and cause little noise and hardly any traffic.

Furthermore, the solar panels and supportive infrastructure will use industry approved material and will be installed utilizing the Public Service Commission, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), Department of Highways, and any Jefferson County standards to minimize risks to public health and welfare. We are aware of complaints that grading and site preparation work at another facility produced excessive amounts of sediment during some rainstorms, but such impacts are not an inevitable consequence of land preparation - it is an execution and enforcement issue. The WVDEP maintains a robust construction stormwater permit template which will be stringently followed, to prevent significant off-site impacts. And, as mentioned above, the Project will mostly use the existing contours, and native or naturalized grasses will be planted to minimize erosion and to provide a natural filtration system for stormwater.

- Photovoltaic solar cells are inherently passive in operation. Therefore, air, water, noise, and light pollution will be negligible. Low maintenance requirements will minimize site traffic.
- Solar panels undergo mandatory toxicity tests and are made of non-hazardous materials designed to withstand harsh weather conditions without leaching into the ground or air.

The Project will consist of rows of solar modules with internal access roads, electrical substation, and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to store power when it is not needed by the grid operator. Commercial entrances off of Lewisville Road and Franklintown Road will be surrounded by security fencing and required zoning buffer, screening and stormwater management. The site will be seeded with native or naturalized perennial vegetation to create a meadow condition. Existing vegetations and trees will be retained to the extent possible at outside property boundaries and buffer areas to assist in natural screening.

3. Use Will Not Hinder or Discourage the Appropriate Development and Use of Adjacent Land and Buildings:

- The development of the Project will be in compliance with both the Zoning and Concept Plan Standards that were written and approved by Jefferson County. Other permitted uses, existing, proposed, or possible, will still be able to be developed without adverse impacts. This includes potential rural housing developments or the continuation of farming on the adjacent and confronting lands.
- Furthermore, the development of the Project requires suitable vegetative buffers for the neighboring properties based on the various surrounding uses that will be installed and maintained by the Project owner.
- Upon decommissioning of the Project, the land can be converted back to farmland, unlike other properties and farms that may be converted into housing developments or other more intensive uses. As previously mentioned, financial security will be provided pursuant to State Law to guarantee proper decommissioning is achieved.
- The Project will consist of rows of solar modules with internal access roads, electrical substation, BESS, commercial entrance(s), and will be surrounded by security fencing and required zoning buffer, screening and stormwater management. The site will be seeded with deep-rooted, native or naturalized vegetation reducing soil erosion, dust, odor, and noise pollution that is currently generated by farming activities.
- Existing vegetation and trees will be retained to the extent possible at outside property boundaries and buffer areas to assist in natural screening. As mentioned above, the Project is inherently passive in operation. Daily vehicle trips for maintenance will be minimal and will not produce conditions that hinder growth on adjacent properties.

4. Neighborhood Character and Surrounding Property Values will be Safeguarded by the Implementation of the Buffering Requirements:

• This Project will follow the buffering requirements in the ordinance that were tailored just for solar facilities. These buffer requirements were developed with the first set of amendments to the ordinances and were kept in the second adopted set of standards. These standards were developed using public comment and staff and Planning Commission study

- of many Solar Facility Ordinances around the country. These standards are greater than many other higher intensity commercial developments.
- Most of the Project is on and adjacent to agricultural lands that are already buffered from housing and roads. Two county requirements will minimize visual impacts. First, the county stormwater management requirements limit the lowest point of the panel to the ground at not more than 10 feet. Second, the Ordinance imposes a general setback of 100 feet from external property lines for all solar panels (absent compliance with additional criteria for a reduced setback) and requires a screening buffer for all panels that are within 200 feet of either a residence or certain other structures. The Project proposes to meet the 100-foot setback requirement along much of its perimeter, when abutting land in agricultural production. In locations where this setback is reduced to 50 feet, a dense two-row, staggered evergreen tree buffer will be planted within the 50-foot setback to obstruct views of the facility. Additionally, even though many of the panels will be located more than 200 feet from any residence (and therefore would not require a screening buffer), the Project proposes to install a landscape screening buffer along the project's perimeter anywhere the project abuts a residential use. To further reduce visual impacts, the maximum highest point of the proposed solar panels will meet the height restrictions set forth in the ordinance. Also, any existing or proposed plantings or fencing used for buffering shall be maintained or replaced by the Project owner.
- The future values will be protected by the fact that the developed areas within the Project can be returned to open land upon decommissioning of the Solar facility. The applicant commissioned an appraisal on whether the Project will have any impact on adjoining property values. The appraisal concluded that since criteria that typically correlate with downward adjustments on property values such as noise, odor, and traffic will not be generated by a solar facility, and therefore a solar facility is a compatible use for rural/residential transition areas and would not appreciably depress land values. In addition, the study confirmed that there are no impacts on home values due to abutting a solar farm when there are proper setbacks and screening.
- Applicant representatives met with the Jefferson County Engineering Staff to discuss their internal changes in their review and approval of Storm Water Management (SWM) design for Solar Facilities. The Project's SWM design submittal will include design aspects to meet the county's SWM ordinance and their updated review process.

5. Commercial and Industrial Development Shall be in Conformance with Article 8, Section 8.9:

• This CUP Plan and the Concept Plan process will be approved with this condition. The Applicant recognizes Section 8.9 (establishing standards for noise, odor, smoke, etc., for industrial and commercial uses) and will be in conformance.

6. Traffic

• Due to the limited personnel, the operations and maintenance of the Project will result in minimal vehicular traffic generation. Two to three utility-type maintenance vehicles would

be anticipated to support the site operations. These vehicles would be anticipated to generate an average of two trips per day with a maximum of four trips per day. The maintenance and operations work efforts would generally require vehicular trips to the site outside of the a.m. and p.m. peak traffic periods. Typical operation and maintenance procedures for the Project would include inspection of each of the solar panel sites on a frequency of at least once per week, informal site inspections and corrective maintenance for the Project occurring on an as-needed basis, conducting ground maintenance of the Project during growing season months (a couple times per year if mechanically mowing), or multiple times per week if managing alternate strategies such as sheep grazing.

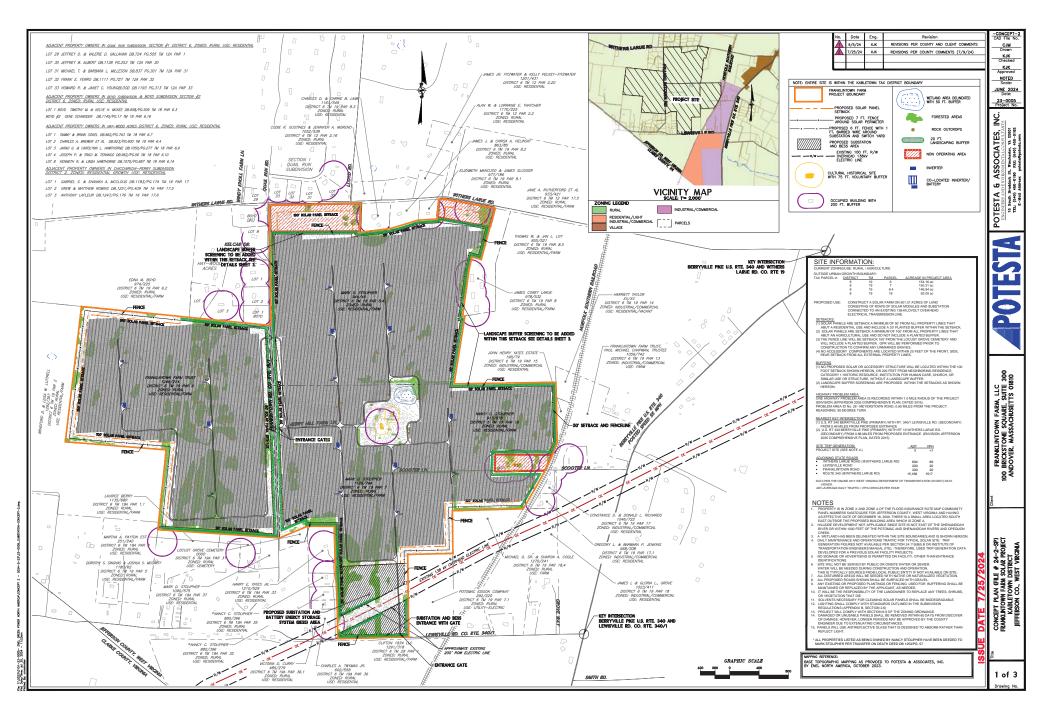
• <u>Trip Generation</u> – "Solar Facility" is not listed on table 24-119.B.5.b, nor is it included in the International Transportation Manual; therefore, trip generation data developed for a previously proposed Solar facility project located in Jefferson County, West Virginia will be presented for this project.

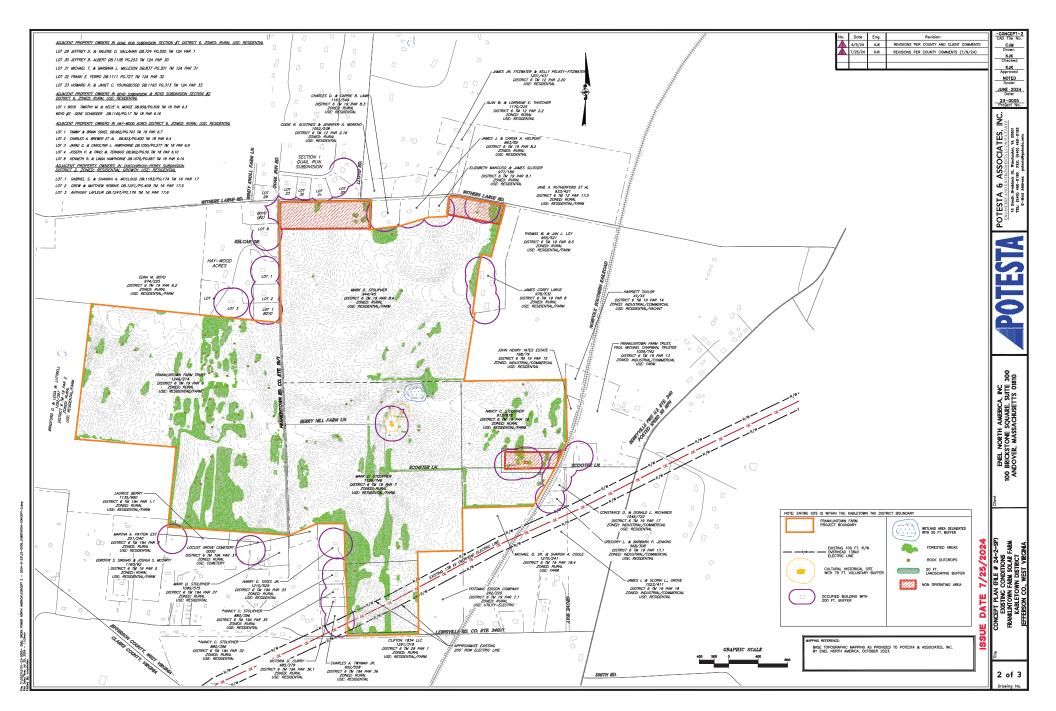
Trip Generation for Franklintown Solar Project

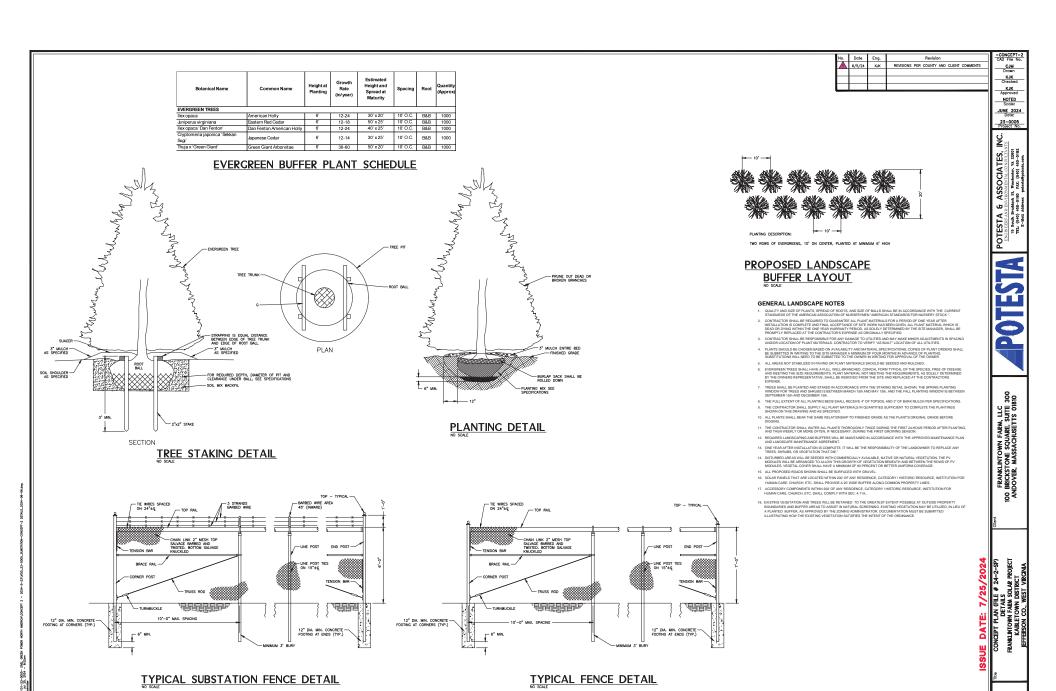
- □ Vehicles per Day = 2-3 vpd
 □ Maximum and Average Trips Per Day = Max-4 vpd / Ave-2 vpd
- Due to the minimal trips generated by the maintenance and operations of the Project, the existing low volume of traffic along the site access roadways, and the rural nature of the site (not an urbanized congested location), the traffic impacts on the roadway operating level of service will be negligible.
- <u>Highway Problem Areas</u> One Highway Problem Area is recorded within a 1.0-mile radius of the Project. According to Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan, dated 2015, the problem area (ID No. 28) is a 90-degree turn on Meyerstown Road, 0.85 mile from the project.

7. Historic Compliance

- A cultural resources desktop study has been conducted for the Project, and the findings have been included in the constraints buffer shown on the concept plan. The study determined that there are no Category I Jefferson County Landmarks within the Project area.
- A Category II Historic Resource, the Berry Hill House is located within the project area
 and has a proposed buffering that that meets the ordinance amendment buffering for
 historic structures and areas. The Historic Landmarks Commission is welcome to comment
 on the plan.







PHYSICAL PROPERTY DETAILS

Property Owner	Mark D. Stolipher	Mark D. Stolipher	Nancy Stolipher*	Franklintown Farm Trust
Physical Address	261 Berry Hill Farm Ln., Summit Point, WV 25446	2998 Withers Larue Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446	322 Scooter Ln. Charles Town, WV 25414	651 & 653 Franklintown Rd., Summit Point, WV 25446
Deed Book	1129	944	913	1249
Page	746	45	678	214
Parcel ID	District 6, TM#19, Parcel 7	District 6, TM#19, Parcel 8.4	District 6, TM#19, Parcel 16	District 6, TM#19, Parcel 6
Zoning District	Rural	Rural	Rural	Rural
Total Parcel Size	150.31 Acres	146.84 Acres	50.0 Acres	154.16 Acres
Project Area	150.31 Acres	146.84 Acres	50.0 Acres	154.16 Acres

^{*}All properties listed as being owned by Nancy Stolipher have been deeded to Mark Stolipher per Transfer on Death Deed (DB 1253 pg 57).

ADJOINING PROPERY INFORMATION

1. Electrical Substation TM 19 PAR 7.1

Owner: Potomac Edison Co. Address: 10435 Downsville Pike

Hagerstown, MD 21740

Zoned: Rural

2. TM 19 PAR 18.4

Owner: Michael Q. Cogle Sr. & Sharron

A. Cogle

Address: 108 Childs Farm Ln. Kearneysville, WV 25430

Zoned: Rural

3. TM 19 PAR 17.1

Owner: Gregory L. & Barbara P.

Jenkins

Address: PO Box 94 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

4. TM 19 PAR 17

Owner: Constance D. & Donald L. Richards

Address: PO Box 136 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

5. TM 19 PAR 13

Owner: Paul Michael Chapman

Address: PO 184 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

6. TM 19 PAR 15

Owner: John Henry Yates Estate Address: 132 Hidden Hollow Dr.

Kearneysville, WV 25430 Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

7. TM 19 PAR 14

Owner: Harriett Taylor Address: PO Box 81 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

8. TM 19 PAR 18

Owner: James L. & Gloria L. Grove

Address: 130 Grove Way Summit Point, WV 25446 Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

9. TM 19 PAR 8.5

Owner: Thomas W. & Jan L. Loy

Address: PO Box 43 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

10. TM 19 PAR 8

Owner: James Corey Larue Address: PO Box 291 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Rural

11. TM 19 PAR 8.1

Owner: Elizabeth & James Slusser Mancuso

Address: 2882 Withers Larue Rd.

Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

12. TM 19 PAR 8.2

Owner: James J. & Carisa A. Helinski

Address: PO Box 204 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

13. TM 19 PAR 8.3

Owner: Charles D. and Carrie B. Lamp

Address: PO Box 25 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

14. TM 18 PAR 6.16

Owner: Gene Schneider

Address: 1113 Franklintown Rd.

Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

15. TM 18 PAR 6.14

Owner: Kenneth R. & Linda Hawthorne

Address: 58 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

16. TM 18 PAR 6.7

Owner: Tammy & Brian Sokel

Address: 45 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

17. TM 18 PAR 6.4

Owner: Charles A. Brewer et al. Address: 887 Franklintown Rd.

Summit, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

18. TM 18 PAR 6.3

Owner: Timothy M. & Kelye H. McKee

Address: Franklintown Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

19. TM 18 PAR 6.9

Owner: Jarad G. & Carolynn L.

Hawthorne

Address: 199 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

20. TM 18 PAR 6.10

Owner: Joseph P. & Traci M. Terango

Address: 198 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

21. TM 18 PAR 6.2

Owner: Edna M. Boyd Address: PO Box 39 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

22. TM 19 PAR 2

Owner: Bradford D. & Leisa W. Luttrell

Address: 585 Boyer Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

23. TM 19A PAR 5

Owner: Joshue S. McCarthy & Dorothy

Singhas

Address: 235 Singhas Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

24. TM 19A PAR 1.1

Owner: Laurice Berry Address: PO 73 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

25. TM 19A PAR 3

Owner: Martha A. Payton -EST

Address: 64 Payton Way Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

26. TM 19A PAR 37

Owner: Mark Stolipher Address: PO Box 190 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

27. TM 19A PAR 31

Owner: Locust Grove Cemetery

Address: N / A Zoned: Rural

28. TM 19A PAR 33

Owner: Harry E. Yates Jr. Address: PO Box 103 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

29. TM 19A PAR 35

Owner: Nancy C. Stolipher*

Address: 1599 Roper North Fork Rd.

Charles Town, WV 25414

Zoned: Rural

30. TM 19A PAR 32

Owner: Nancy C. Stolipher*

Address: 1599 Roper North Fork Rd.

Charles Town, WV 25414

Zoned: Rural

31. TM 19A PAR 36

Owner: Victoria D. Curry Address: 93 Woods Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

32. TM 19A PAR 36

Owner: Charles A. Twyman Jr. Address: 2507 Lewisville Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

33. TM 12A PAR 1

Owner: Jeffery D. & Valerie D.

Gallahan

Address: 29 Quail Run Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

34. TM 12A PAR 33

Owner: Howard R. & Janet C.

Youngblood

Address: 44 Quail Run Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

35. TM 12A PAR 32

Owner: Frank E. Ferro

Address: 64 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

36. TM 12A PAR 31

Owner: Michael T. & Barbara L.

Milleson

Address: 94 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

37. TM 12A PAR 30

Owner: Jefferey B. Albert Address: 126 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

38. TM 12 PAR 2.16

Owner: Codie R. Gustines & Jenifer A.

Moreno

Address: 48 Carnegie Links Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

39. TM 12 PAR 2.13

Owner: Cara L. McCormick Address: 2789 Wither Larue Rd.

Martinsburg, WV 25405

Zoned: Rural

40. TM 12 PAR 2.20

Owner: James Fitzwater Jr. & Kelly

Pelkey-Fitzwater

Address: 83 Webber Springs Dr.

Inwood, WV 25428

Zoned: Rural

41. TM 12 PAR 2.2

Owner: Allan W. & Lorraine E. Thatcher

Address: 2921 Withers Larue Rd.

Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

42. TM 12 PAR 17.5

Owner: Jane A. Rutherford Et al. Address: 3578 Bakerton Rd. Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Zoned: Rural

43. TM 29 PAR 1

Owner: Clifton 1834 LLC Address: 1625 K St., Ste. 1025 Washington, D.C. 20006-1604

Zoned: Rural

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CONCEPT PLAN SUBMITTAL MATERIALS

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Summit Point, West Virginia

Prepared for:

Franklintown Farm, LLC

100 Brickstone Square, Suite 300 Andover, Massachusetts 01810

Prepared by:

Potesta & Associates, Inc.

7012 MacCorkle Avenue, SE Charleston, West Virginia 25304 Phone: (304) 342-1400 Fax: (304) 343-9031

Email: potesta@potesta.com

Project No. 0101-23-0005-001

July 24, 2024



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CONCEPT PLAN SUBMITTAL MATERIALS

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Summit Point, Jeffferson County, West Virginia

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Franklintown Farm, LLC (Franklintown Solar) is proposing to construct an 80-megawatt solar energy generating and storage facility, known as the Franklintown Farm Solar Project (Project), on approximately 502 acres on four contiguous parcels owned by two separate property owners*. The Project is located approximately 6.5 miles south of the city of Charles Town situated between U.S. Highway 340 (to the east) and Route 611, Leetown Road, (to the west) and is surrounded by agricultural and residential land uses. The Project will consist of approximately 147,000 ground-mounted photovoltaic solar panels on a single-axis racking system that allows them to tilt throughout the day to capture sunlight. Electrical inverters will be dispersed throughout the site to convert the direct current (DC) power generated by the solar panels to alternating current (AC) power. The Project will have a substation connected to the existing 138-kilovolt overhead electrical transmission line passing though the southeast corner of the Project area. This substation and 20megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be situated on the southern portion of the Project adjacent to Lewisville Road. Batteries may also be dispersed throughout the array area and be co-located with the electrical inverters. Energy generated will be transferred to the PJM electrical grid. The Project will include internal access roads, commercial entrances, stormwater management, and will be surrounded by security fencing and the required zoning buffer. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 12 months to complete upon commencement.

2.0 PROJECT AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES

Parcels within Solar Project

Property Owner	Mark D. Stolipher	Mark D. Stolipher	Nancy Stolipher*	Franklintown Farm Trust
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A. Cogle

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Owner: Gregory L. & Barbara P.

Jenkins

Address: PO Box 94 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

4. TM 19 PAR 17

Owner: Constance D. & Donald L. Richards

Address: PO Box 136 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

5. TM 19 PAR 13

Owner: Paul Michael Chapman

Address: PO 184 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

6. TM 19 PAR 15

Owner: John Henry Yates Estate Address: 132 Hidden Hollow Dr.

Kearneysville, WV 25430 Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

7. TM 19 PAR 14

Owner: Harriett Taylor Address: PO Box 81 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

8. TM 19 PAR 18

Owner: James L. & Gloria L. Grove

Address: 130 Grove Way Summit Point, WV 25446 Zoned: Industrial/Commercial

9. TM 19 PAR 8.5

Owner: Thomas W. & Jan L. Loy

Address: PO Box 43 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

10. TM 19 PAR 8

Owner: James Corey Larue Address: PO Box 291 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Rural

11. TM 19 PAR 8.1

Owner: Elizabeth & James Slusser Mancuso

Address: 2882 Withers Larue Rd.

Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

12. TM 19 PAR 8.2

Owner: James J. & Carisa A. Helinski

Address: PO Box 204 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

13. TM 19 PAR 8.3

Owner: Charles D. and Carrie B. Lamp

Address: PO Box 25 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

14. TM 18 PAR 6.16

Owner: Gene Schneider

Address: 1113 Franklintown Rd.

Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

15. TM 18 PAR 6.14

Owner: Kenneth R. & Linda Hawthorne

Address: 58 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

16. TM 18 PAR 6.7

Owner: Tammy & Brian Sokel

Address: 45 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

17. TM 18 PAR 6.4

Owner: Charles A. Brewer et al. Address: 887 Franklintown Rd.

Summit, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

18. TM 18 PAR 6.3

Owner: Timothy M. & Kelye H. McKee

Address: Franklintown Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

19. TM 18 PAR 6.9

Owner: Jarad G. & Carolynn L.

Hawthorne

Address: 199 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

20. TM 18 PAR 6.10

Owner: Joseph P. & Traci M. Terango

Address: 198 Kelcar Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

21. TM 18 PAR 6.2

Owner: Edna M. Boyd Address: PO Box 39 Rippon, WV 25441

Zoned: Rural

22. TM 19 PAR 2

Owner: Bradford D. & Leisa W. Luttrell

Address: 585 Boyer Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

23. TM 19A PAR 5

Owner: Joshue S. McCarthy & Dorothy

Singhas

Address: 235 Singhas Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

24. TM 19A PAR 1.1

Owner: Laurice Berry Address: PO 73 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

25. TM 19A PAR 3

Owner: Martha A. Payton -EST

Address: 64 Payton Way Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

26. TM 19A PAR 37

Owner: Mark Stolipher Address: PO Box 190 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

27. TM 19A PAR 31

Owner: Locust Grove Cemetery

Address: N / A Zoned: Rural

28. TM 19A PAR 33

Owner: Harry E. Yates Jr. Address: PO Box 103 Rippon, WV 25441 Zoned: Rural

29. TM 19A PAR 35

Owner: Nancy C. Stolipher*

Address: 1599 Roper North Fork Rd.

Charles Town, WV 25414

Zoned: Rural

30. TM 19A PAR 32

Owner: Nancy C. Stolipher*

Address: 1599 Roper North Fork Rd.

Charles Town, WV 25414

Zoned: Rural

31. TM 19A PAR 36

Owner: Victoria D. Curry Address: 93 Woods Ln. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

32. TM 19A PAR 36

Owner: Charles A. Twyman Jr. Address: 2507 Lewisville Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

33. TM 12A PAR 1

Owner: Jeffery D. & Valerie D.

Gallahan

Address: 29 Quail Run Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

34. TM 12A PAR 33

Owner: Howard R. & Janet C.

Youngblood

Address: 44 Quail Run Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

35. TM 12A PAR 32

Owner: Frank E. Ferro

Address: 64 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

36. TM 12A PAR 31

Owner: Michael T. & Barbara L.

Milleson

Address: 94 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

37. TM 12A PAR 30

Owner: Jefferey B. Albert Address: 126 Pheasant Hill Rd. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

38. TM 12 PAR 2.16

Owner: Codie R. Gustines & Jenifer A.

Moreno

Address: 48 Carnegie Links Dr. Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

39. TM 12 PAR 2.13

Owner: Cara L. McCormick Address: 2789 Wither Larue Rd.

Martinsburg, WV 25405

Zoned: Rural

40. TM 12 PAR 2.20

Owner: James Fitzwater Jr. & Kelly

Pelkey-Fitzwater

Address: 83 Webber Springs Dr.

Inwood, WV 25428

Zoned: Rural

41. TM 12 PAR 2.2

Owner: Allan W. & Lorraine E. Thatcher

Address: 2921 Withers Larue Rd.

Summit Point, WV 25446

Zoned: Rural

42. TM 12 PAR 17.5

Owner: Jane A. Rutherford Et al. Address: 3578 Bakerton Rd. Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Zoned: Rural

43. TM 29 PAR 1

Owner: Clifton 1834 LLC Address: 1625 K St., Ste. 1025 Washington, D.C. 20006-1604

Zoned: Rural

3.0 TRAFFIC IMPACT DATA

Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of the Adjoining Roadways

The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of the adjoining roadways to the project site (data per the 2017 WVDOT Data Viewer) are:

- Withers Larue Road (at Route 340) = 694 ADT / 69 VPH Peak Hour
- Lewisville Road = 200 ADT / 20 VPH Peak Hour
- Franklintown Road = 200 ADT / 20 VPH Peak Hour
- Route 340 (at Withers Larue Road) = 15,166 ADT / 1517 VPH
 ADT = Average Daily Traffic
 VPH = Vehicles Per Hour

Trip Generation of the Proposed Site

"Solar Facility" is not listed on table 24-119.B.5.b, nor is it included in the International Transportation Manual; therefore, trip generation data developed for a previously proposed Solar facility project located in Jefferson County, West Virginia will be presented for this project.

Per "Wild Hill Solar Project – Concept Plan Submittal Materials, November 2020"

Maintenance and Operations Traffic Trip Generation

Due to the limited personnel, the operations and maintenance of the Project will result in minimal vehicular traffic generation. Two to three utility type maintenance vehicles would be anticipated to support the site operations. These vehicles would be anticipated to generate an average of two trips per day with a maximum of four trips per day. The maintenance and operations work efforts would generally require vehicular trips to the site outside of the AM and PM peak traffic periods. Occasional water delivery trucks (one per week) would be anticipated to the Project but the need would be sporadic, and their delivery times would vary during the day and would generally be outside of the AM and PM peak traffic periods. Typical operation and maintenance procedures for the facility would include:

^{*} All properties listed as being owned by Nancy Stolipher have been deeded to Mark Stolipher per Transfer on Death Deed (DB 1253 pg 57).

- Inspection of each of the solar panel sites on a frequency of at least once per week.
- Informal site inspections and corrective maintenance for the facility occurring on an as-needed basis.
- Conducting ground maintenance of the facility during growing season months; a
 couple times per year if mechanically mowing, or multiple times per week if
 managing alternate strategies such as sheep grazing.

Due to the minimal trips generated by the maintenance and operations of the facility, the existing low volume of traffic along the site access roadways, and the rural nature of the site (not an urbanized congested location), the traffic impacts on the roadway operating level of service will be negligible.

Trip Generation for Franklintown Farm Solar Project:

- Vehicles per Day = 3 vpd
- Maximum and Average Trips Per Day = Max-4 vpd / Ave-2 vpd

Highway Problem Area:

One Highway Problem Area (HPA) is identified within a 1.0-mile radius of the Project (Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan, dated 2015). The summary of the identified HPA is as follows:

Problem Area ID No. 28: Meyerstown Road, 0.85 mile from the project, Reasoning: 90-degree turn

Nearest Key Intersection:

- (1) Route 340/1 Lewisville Road with Route 340 Berryville Pike (Primary) from 0.51 mile from proposed entrance.
- (2) Route 19 Withers Larue Road with Route 340 Berryville Pike (Primary) from 1.45 miles from proposed entrance (from Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan, dated 2015).

4.0 STORMWATER NARRATIVE

Stormwater Management for this Project will follow the amended Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance, Article I D.2.h for Solar Energy Facilities. A Stormwater Management Report with documentations and drawings will be submitted to Jefferson County for review and approval.

The Project will also develop the required Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, and Groundwater Protection Plan as part of the application to register for the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for this construction.

The solar facility will be constructed on agricultural land, normally planted in row crops, hay/straw, or used for grazing. Deep-rooted perennial vegetation will be planted under and around the solar arrays to create a meadow condition, and areas beneath the solar panels that require mowing will not be cut less than 4 inches in height.

Applicant representatives met with the Jefferson County Engineering Staff to discuss their internal changes in their review and approval of Stormwater Management (SWM) design for Solar Facilities. Franklintown Solar's SWM Report will include design aspects to meet the County's SWM ordinance and their updated review process.

Note: Pursuant to the Ordinance, the full Stormwater Management Plan will be submitted and approved by staff prior to issuance of a Zoning Certificate.

5.0 BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are a technology that allows energy to be stored and dispatched on demand. Units consist of batteries housed in a container, connected to the power grid. These batteries will either be in a centralized BESS Yard near the substation or dispersed throughout the Project, co-located near some of the electrical inverters. Each battery container has its own HVAC and a power conversion system and are tested to meet the most stringent standards such as UL9540/UL9540A.

BESS are safeguarded by advanced safety features and monitored remotely for safe and efficient operation. Battery energy storage systems are equipped with sensors that track battery temperatures and enable storage facilities to turn off batteries if they get too hot or too cold. Battery management systems also monitor the performance of each individual cell voltage and other key parameters then aggregate that data in real time to assess the entire system's operation, detect anomalies, and adjust the system to maintain safety. They often contain state-of-the-art software designed to safely operate and monitor energy storage systems. Each BESS container is equipped with an independent fire detection, alarm, and suppression system comprising smoke detectors, heat detectors, a horn/strobe device, and an INERGEN suppression system (gas mixture of nitrogen, argon, and carbon dioxide).

6.0 SETBACKS, LANDSCAPING, AND BUFFERS

In locations where the project abuts parcels primarily in agricultural use, a 100-foot setback to the fence will be established. These locations will not include buffer screens.

In locations where the project abuts parcels primarily in residential use, a 50-foot setback to the fence will be established. Within the 50-foot setback, a 20-foot-wide vegetative buffer will be planted with two, staggered rows of evergreen trees planted 10-foot on center. The evergreen trees will be a minimum of 6 feet tall at planting.

Franklintown Road bisects the project north to south. Along both sides of the road, a 50-foot setback to the fence will be established. Within the 50-foot setback, a buffer screen will be planted along both sides of Franklintown Road. This 20-foot-wide vegetative buffer will be planted with two, staggered rows of evergreen trees planted 10-foot on center. The evergreen trees will be a minimum of 6 feet tall at planting.

Existing vegetation and trees will be retained to the greatest extent possible along outside property boundaries and buffer areas to assist in natural screening. A minimum 50-foot strip of existing vegetation may replace the planted buffer with approval from the Zoning Administrator.

In locations where the solar panels are located within 200 feet of any residence, Category 1 Historic Resource or similar use, a 20-foot-wide vegetative buffer will be planted with two, staggered rows of evergreen trees planted 10-foot on center. The evergreen trees will be a minimum of 6 feet tall at planting.

The project also abuts the Locust Grove Cemetery along the south side of the project, adjacent to Franklintown Road. The project fence will be set back 100 feet from the edge of the cemetery, along with appropriate buffering. The 20-foot-wide vegetative buffer will be planted with two, staggered rows of evergreen trees planted 10-foot on center. The evergreen trees will be a minimum of 6 feet tall at planting. In addition, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) will be performed prior to construction to confirm any unmarked graves.

All equipment and facilities associated with the solar farm will be set back a minimum of 50 feet from delineated wetlands.

7.0 GROUNDCOVER PLAN

The area around and under the solar panels will be seeded with native or naturalized perennial vegetation to create a meadow condition.

8.0 SITE LIGHTING

Light fixtures are located only at the Substation and BESS Yard. Full cutoff light fixtures are turned on/off via a light switch by operators. The lights will normally be OFF unless activated by operations personnel. Lighting shall be shielded and directed down to prevent glare and to minimize light trespass.

9.0 SITE ACCESS & SECURITY

Permanent site access for the Project includes four entrances off of Franklintown Road and one entrance off of Lewisville Road (County Route 340/1). Emergency access and egress for the Project will be via both vehicular and man gates located throughout the perimeter of the Project. These gates will be equipped with key lock boxes to allow first responders access to the site 24/7 in case of emergency. Sixteen-foot-wide gravel access roads will be installed throughout the site to allow for adequate vehicular access.

The facility will be monitored remotely 24/7. In addition, a local operations team will visit at least once per week. A 7-foot chain-link security fence will encompass the exterior of the facility to deter unauthorized entry, as well as a secondary fence around the BESS and substation. The secondary fence around the BESS and substation will consist of a 6-foot chain-link fence, plus 1 foot of barbed wire (7 feet high in total). All gates will be locked with knox padlock so that only EMS/first responders and operators can gain access. Signage will be posted at both entrances with 24/7 emergency contact phone numbers.

10.0 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Project will develop a site-specific Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to outline response procedures to protect people, property, and the environment during an emergency or disaster situation. The ERP is developed in coordination with Health and Safety professionals, facility operators, equipment manufacturers, and local first responders. The Project Team will work closely with local first responders throughout development, construction, and operations of the Project. Additional training and resources will be provided to local first responders to ensure they can execute necessary elements related to the plan and protocols. Mock emergency drills are often held during construction and operations, in coordination with first responders, to ensure readiness and validate that the ERP is effective. The Applicant will also provide annual training to first responders (or more frequent as requested) on applicable NFPA standards such as NFPA 855 - Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems, NFPA 1 – Fire Code, NFPA 70 – National Electric Code (NEC), and the International Fire Code (IFC).

11.0 DECOMMISSIONING OUTLINE

A Decommissioning Plan will be created that outlines the requirements of the Applicant to remove all equipment and materials associated with the Project at the end of its useful life. The Applicant will be responsible for all decommissioning and restoration activities required to return the land to its original condition. Below is an outline of the Decommissioning Plan.

DECOMMISSIONING DURING CONSTRUCTION, ABANDONMENT, OR COMPLETION OF PROJECT

- Completed useful life of the Project (30 years life expected) or if the Project is deenergized for greater than 6 months, decommissioning plan will go into effect.
- Or unlikely event that construction cannot be completed.

DECOMMISSIONING AFTER CEASING OPERATION

• Operational lifespan of 30 or more years. Proper maintenance, component replacement and repowering can extend life.

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DURING DECOMMISSIONING

• General environmental protection and mitigation measures would be implemented. (Similar to construction phase).

PRE-DISMANTLING ACTIVITIES

- De-energized and isolated from all external electrical lines.
- Staging areas would be delineated at appropriate locations.
- Temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures will be implemented.

EQUIPMENT DISMANTLING AND REMOVAL

Solar Panels

- Each panel will be disconnected and unfastened from the mounting rack and removed.
- Fixed racks be disassembled and removed from the site.
- The pilings will be removed.
- The metal racking components may be reused or recycled for future use.

Electrical Equipment and Collector System Inverters

- Electrical Equipment and Collector System Inverters will be removed and shipped off-site for eventual reuse or disposal.
- The piles and associated foundations will be removed from the site.
- Electrical Equipment and Collector System Inverters will be decommissioned up to the point of interconnection.

Substation and BESS Yard

- All aboveground structure and electrical equipment will be removed.
- Land to be restored to original grade.
- Concrete foundations removed to at least 3 feet below original grade.
- All granular and geotextile materials would be removed.

Underground Cables and Conduits

- Underground cables and conduits that are buried less than 2 feet below grade will be removed in their entirely and shipped to a recycling facility.
- Topsoil excavated during cable removal activities will be segregated and stockpiled for later use.
- Subsurface soils will be stockpiled separately from topsoil.
- Following the removal of the cable and conduits, the excavations will be backfilled with the soils previously excavated.

- The subgrade will be compacted to a density of approximately 90 percent of Standard Proctor.
- Topsoil will be redistributed across the disturbed area.

Access Roads

- All access roads will be removed.
- All granular and geotextile materials would be removed from the site by dump truck.

Storage Infrastructure and Perimeter Fence

- Storage and operation infrastructure (e.g., temporary construction trailer) will be removed from the site by truck.
- Foundations associated with these facilities would be removed to a depth of at least 3 feet below original grade.
- Perimeter fencing would be removed and recycled or reused unless landowner(s) prefers to retain portions of fence.

SITE REHABILITATION/RESTORATION

Rehabilitation Plan will be developed at the time of decommissioning to include:

- Agricultural areas will be restored.
- Access roads and other compacted areas to be de-compacted.
- Disturbed areas will be immediately returned to agricultural uses.
- Erosion and sediment control left in place until ground cover is fully established.

Water Quality

• Jefferson County to be consulted for any decommissioning work near streams/waterbodies.

Agricultural Lands

Any agricultural lands that have become compacted would be de-compacted.

Spills

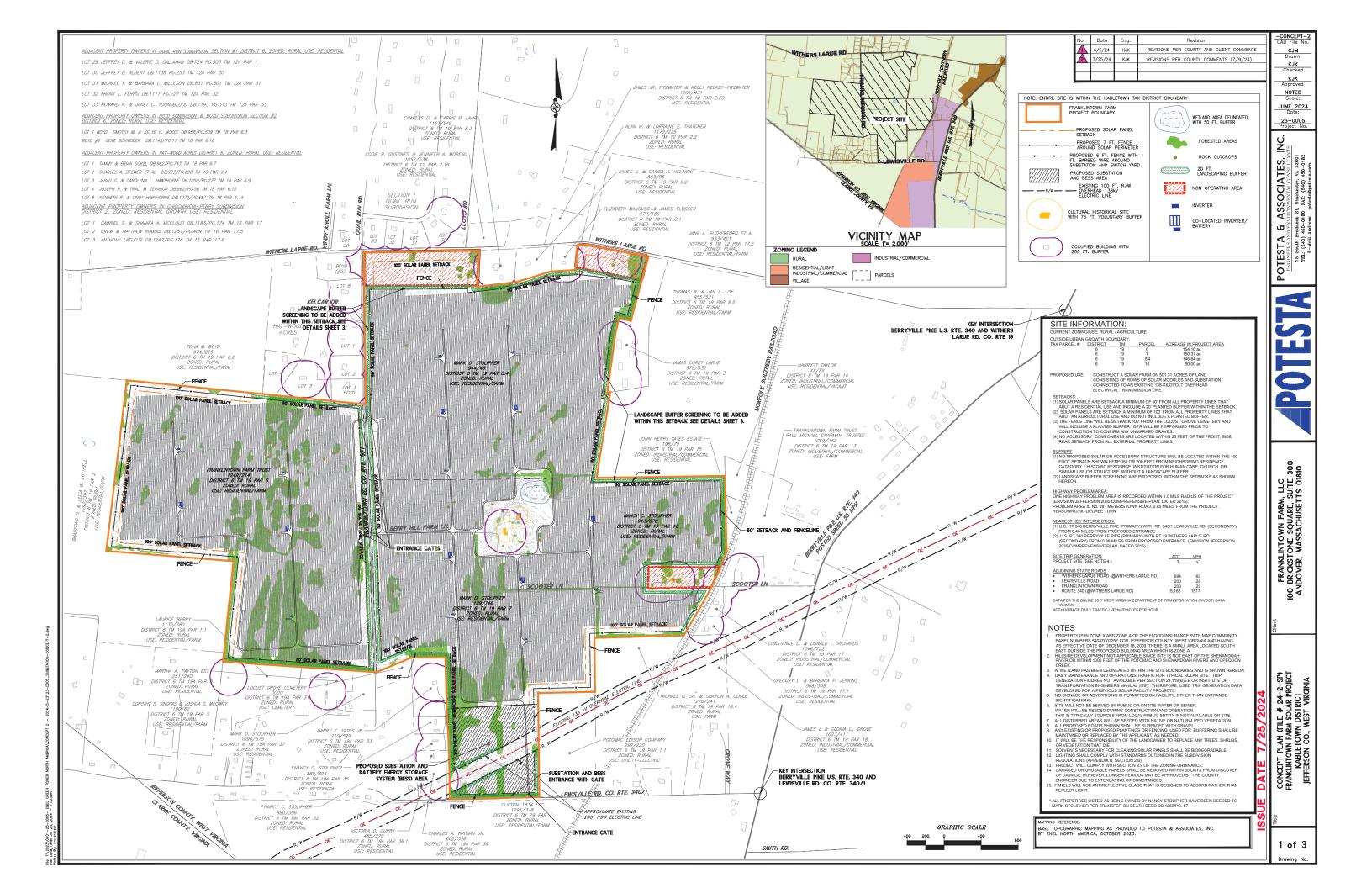
• Strict spill prevention and spill response procedures will be in place.

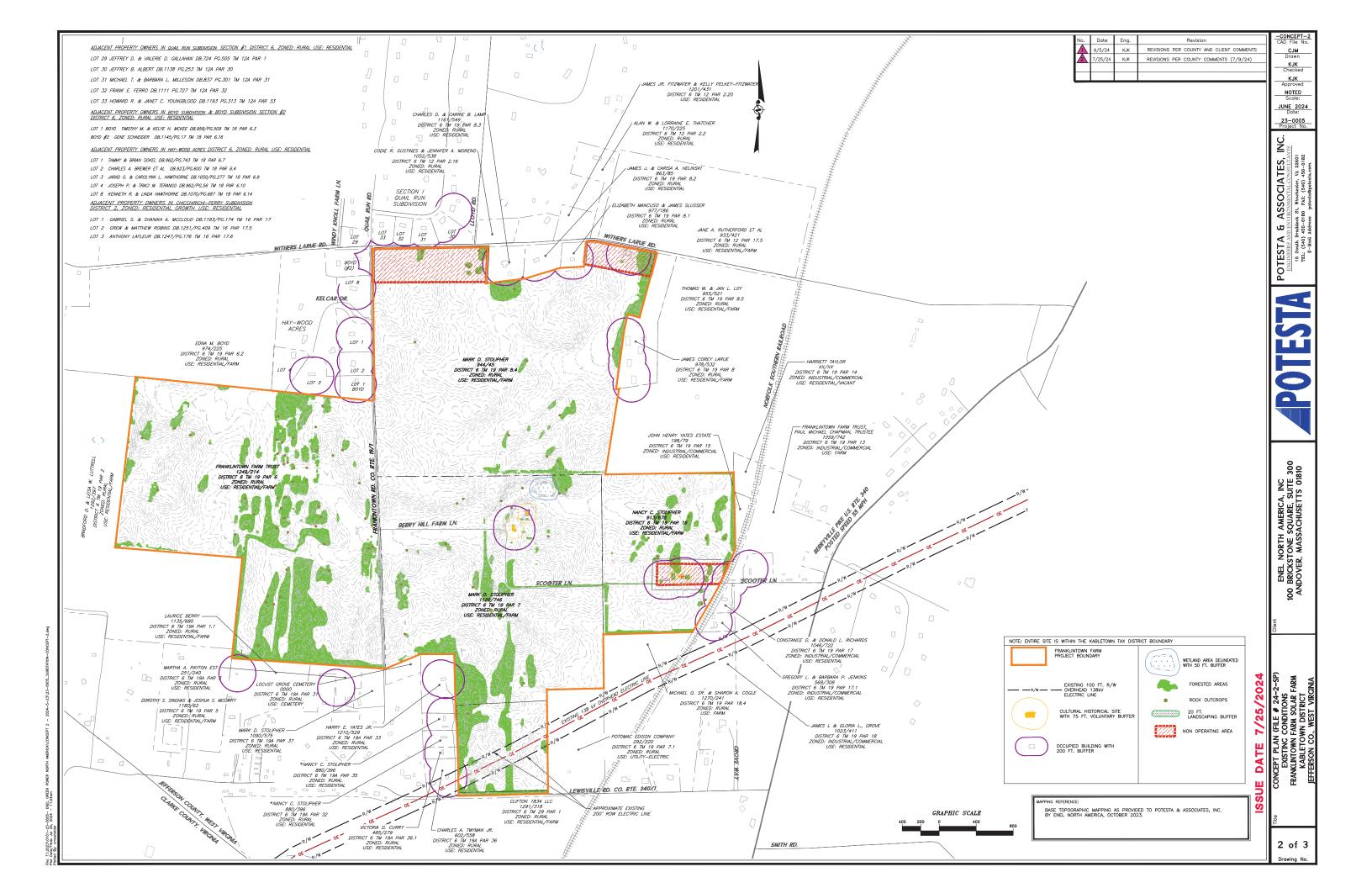
MANAGING EXCESS MATERIALS AND WASTE

Typical waste materials and modes of disposal:

- Concrete foundations Crush and recycle as granular material.
- Solar Panels Reuse or recycle.
- Steel and aluminum racks and mounts Salvage for reuse or recycle for scrap.
- Cabling Recycle.
- Inverter step-up transformers, inverters, and circuit breakers Salvage for reuse or recycle for scrap.
- Granular material Reuse or dispose in landfill.
- Oils/lubricants Recycle.
- Hazardous materials Dispose through licensed hauler.
- Geotextile material Dispose in landfill.
- Miscellaneous non-recyclable materials Dispose in landfill.

Note: Pursuant to the Ordinance, proof of application with the WVDEP for a decommissioning plan and bond shall be submitted to the Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning when such application is filed pursuant to WV State Code §22-32-1, et sec.





, E ASSOCIATES, III

ND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT

Braddock St, Whenbrester, VA 22801

> 450-0180 PAX: (540) 450-0182

POTESTA BENGINEERS AND

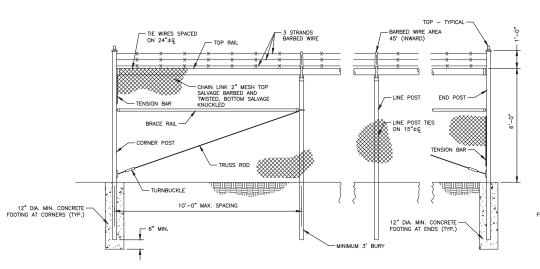
3 of 3

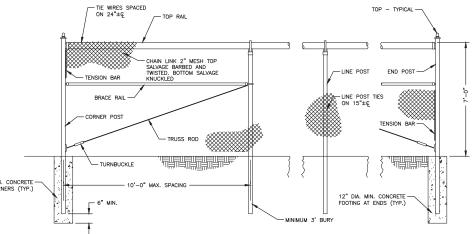
Growth Rate Height at Height and **Botanical Name** Spread at Maturity EVERGREEN TREES 10' O.C. B&B 1000 astern Red Cedar 12-18 50' x 25' 12-24 Cryptomeria japo 10' O.C. 12-14 B&B Sugi' Thuja x 'Green Gian' 10' O.C. B&B 1000

EVERGREEN BUFFER PLANT SCHEDULE EVERGREEN TREE TREE TRUNK PLAN SOIL SHOULDER -

PLANTING DETAIL

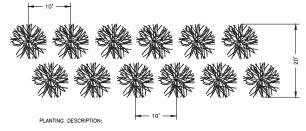
TREE STAKING DETAIL





TYPICAL SUBSTATION FENCE DETAIL





TWO ROWS OF EVERGREENS, 10' ON CENTER, PLANTED AT MINIMUM 6' HIGH

PROPOSED LANDSCAPE **BUFFER LAYOUT**

GENERAL LANDSCAPE NOTES

- 15. ALL PROPOSED ROADS SHOWN SHALL BE SURFACED WITH GRAVEL.
- 16. SOLAR PANELS THAT ARE LOCATED WITHIN 200' OF ANY RESIDENCE, CATEGORY I HISTORIC RESOURCE, INSTITUTION FOR HUMAN CARE, CHURCH, ETC. SHALL PROVIDE A 20' WIDE BUFFER ALONG COMMON PROPERTY LINES.
- ACCESSORY COMPONENTS WITHIN 200' OF ANY RESIDENCE, CATEGORY I HISTORIC RESOURCE, INSTIT HUMAN CARE, CHURCH, ETC. SHALL COMPLY WITH SEC. 4.11A..

18. EXISTING VEGETATION AND TREES WILL BE RETAINED TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE AT OUTSIDE PROPERTY BOUNDARIES AND BUFFER AREAS TO ASSIST IN NATURAL SCREENING. EXISTING VEGETATION MAY BE UTILIZED, IN LIEU OF A PLANTED BUFFER, AS APPROVED BY THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ILLUSTRATING HOW THE EXISTING VEGETATION SATISFIES THE INTENT OF THE ORDINANCE.

12" DIA. MIN. CONCRETE FOOTING AT CORNERS (TYP.)

DATE

24-2-SP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Applicant's Supplemental Information

Staff Report Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Avanta 22, 2024

August 22, 2024

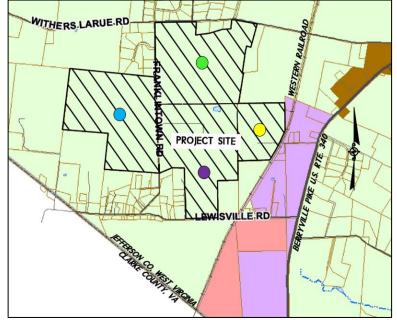
24-4-CUP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Request

Item #1 Request for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Solar Energy Facility, as defined in Article 2 of the Zoning Ordinance. Project Name: Franklintown Farm Solar Project. The proposal consists of constructing an 80-megawatt solar energy facility on 502 acres. The project consists of row of solar modules, a new substation to connect the solar facility to the existing overhead electrical transmission line, and a 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The Project also includes internal access roads, commercial entrance(s), security fencing, a buffer screen, and stormwater management.

Applicant:	Franklintown Farm LLC / Attn: Ashley Smith, P.E. Enel North America, Inc.		
Consultant	Potesta & Associates, Inc. / Attn: Joe Knechtel		
Property Owner	Property Location Map		
	2998 Withers Larue Rd, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 060019000800004; Parcel/Project Size: 146.84 ac	•	
Mark D. Stolipher	322 & 288 Scooter Ln, Charles Town, WV Parcel ID: 06001900160000; Parcel/Project Size: 50 ac	0	
	261 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 06001900070000; Parcel/Project Size: 150.31 ac	•	
Michael Paul Chapman, Trustees	651 & 653 Franklintown Rd, Summit Point, WV Parcel ID: 06001900060000; Parcel/Project Size: 154.16 ac	0	

All of the subject parcels are zoned Rural.

☐ ☑ Zoning District
Major Industrial
Light Industrial
Industrial/Commercial
Office/Commercial Mixed-Use
General Commercial
Highway Commercial
Neighborhood Commercial
Residential/Light Industrial/Commercial
Residential Growth
Planned Neighborhood Development
Rural
Village
☐ Incorporated Town



Current	08/22/24: Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Conditional Use Permit Public Hearing
Applications:	09/10/24: Planning Commission Meeting Concept Plan Workshop (File #24-2-SP)
Site Visit Conducted:	Site visit was not conducted.

Staff Report Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting August 22, 2024

24-4-CUP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Request

Summary of Request and Purpose of Ordinance Requirements

Article 2 defines Solar Energy Facility as:

"A facility that generates electricity from sunlight by utilization of photovoltaic (PV) technology and distributes the generated electrical power. On-site components of the facility may include solar panels and other accessory components including, without limitation, Essential Utility Equipment, transformers, inverters, cabling, electrical lines, substations, and other improvements necessary to support generation, collection, storage, and transmission of electrical power."

The entire project area is located outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and Preferred Growth Area (PGA). As such, the proposal requires evaluation by the Board of Zoning Appeals for compliance with the Conditional Use Permit criteria outlined in Section 6.3, as well as the criteria listed in Section 8.20.

Property Description

The project area will occur over four separate contiguous parcels, comprised of a total of 502 acres. The properties are currently used for agricultural purposes.

The property designated as 261 Berry Hill Farm Lane contains a Category II Historic Structure – Berry Hill House. Pursuant to Section 3.4D of the Zoning Ordinance, Category II sites are classified as important by the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission and include sites that may be National Register eligible. Sites in this category may have been altered or changed to such a degree that they no longer retain the same level of integrity as the original condition.



Staff Report Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting August 22, 2024

24-4-CUP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Request

Conditional Use Permit Process

The applicant has provided information summarizing how the proposed project will comply with the criteria outlined in Sections 6.3 and 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance. Per Section 8.20A.2.b, the project decommissioning plan and bond shall be in accordance with the WV Department of Environmental Protection, pursuant to WV State Code §22-32-1, et. sec. or its successor. The applicant acknowledged the decommissioning requirements in their application.

Section 6.3 of the Zoning Ordinance states:

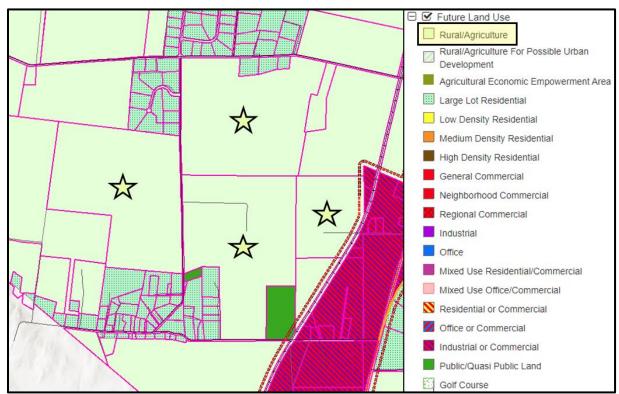
"The Board of Zoning Appeals shall have the authority over the issuance or denial of a conditional use permit for uses listed as "Conditional Uses (CU)" in each zoning district. The Board shall have the authority to impose such reasonable conditions and restrictions as are directly related to and incidental to the proposed conditional use permit:

A. The Board shall consider each Conditional Use Permit request that is filed in accordance with this Ordinance and the procedural requirements of the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board may require reasonable conditions or special requirements which allows for the proper integration of the proposed uses into the community and are directly related to and incidental to the proposed conditional use permit. The following General Standards shall be considered by the Board in approving or denying the CUP:"

1. The proposed use is compatible with the goals of the adopted Comprehensive Plan. (Sec. 6.3A.1)

The applicant has addressed this criteria on Page 4 of their application packet.

The subject parcels are shown as "Rural/Agricultural" on the Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Guide (see exhibit below) and are located outside of the Charles Town Urban Growth Boundary.



Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting August 22, 2024

24-4-CUP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Request

The Plan supports allowing non-residential uses in the Rural zoning district to process via the Conditional Use Permit process (see excerpts below). In March 2017, the Zoning Ordinance was amended to update the Conditional Use Permit process in accordance with the recommendations of the adopted Comprehensive Plan.

The Plan also includes several references to encourage the creation of and the use of renewable energy sources. In April 2022, the County Commission amended the Plan to clarify and state that solar energy facilities are allowed to process via the conditional use permit process when located in areas outside of an Urban Growth Boundary and Preferred Growth Area (see Infrastructure and Technology Recommendation 8 on Page 93 of the amended Plan – listed below). The Zoning Ordinance was subsequently amended on June 16, 2022 to adopt Section 8.20 with provisions to process Solar Energy Facilities.

Excerpts from the Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan

...This Plan further recommends amending the Zoning Ordinance to eliminate the LESA point system and to develop procedures that would allow the use of a more traditional CUP process in the Rural District for non-residential uses. This CUP process should require a public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals to determine if the use is compatible in scale and intensity with the rural environment and poses no threat to public health, safety, and welfare." (Page 36, Rural Land Use)

Amend the Zoning Ordinance to eliminate the Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) system and to modify the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process in the Rural Zoning District, which would be used for compatible non-residential development only." (Page 39, Recommendation #4.b – Rural Land Use Planning Recommendations (Goal 2))

This Plan recommends that the use of the CUP in the Rural District be limited to non-residential uses not permitted in the Rural District which are compatible in scale and intensity with the rural environment and that pose no threat to public health, safety, and welfare." (Page 74, Rural Economic Activities)

Recommendation 5: Amend the Zoning and Land Development Ordinance to permit additional non-residential rurally compatible uses.

Recommendation 5b: Amend local land use regulations to permit non-agriculturally related commercial uses by the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process in the Rural zone if the use is agriculturally and rurally compatible in scale and intensity, poses no threat to public health, safety, and welfare, and if the use helps to preserve farmland and open space and continue agricultural operations. (Page 77, Agricultural and Rural Economy Recommendations (Goal 8))"

Recommendation 8: Encourage public entities to utilize alternative and renewable energy sources for a variety of needs, specifically Solar Energy Facilities in areas inside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area as a Principal Permitted Use, and outside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area, by the Conditional Use Process. (amended by action of the County Commission 04-05-22 and affirmed by the Planning Commission on 04-12-22.)

Recommendation 8.a Enable the construction of renewable energy generation facilities by residents and businesses.

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2. The proposed use is compatible in intensity and scale with the existing and potential land uses on the adjoining and confronting properties, and poses no threat to public health, safety and welfare. (Sec. 6.3A.2)

The applicant has addressed this criteria on Pages 5-7 of their application packet.



3. The proposed site development shall be such that the use will not hinder nor discourage the appropriate development and use of adjacent land and buildings. (Sec. 6.3A.3)

The applicant has addressed this criteria on page 7 of their application packet.

4. Neighborhood character and surrounding property values shall be safeguarded by requiring implementation of the landscaping buffer requirements found in Appendix B and Section 4.11 of this Ordinance. (Sec. 6.3A.4)

The applicant has addressed this criteria on Pages 7 & 8 of their application packet and within the Site Information notes on the Concept Plan.

The applicant shall comply with the buffer requirements established in Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Concept Plan exhibit reflects compliance with the landscape buffer requirements.

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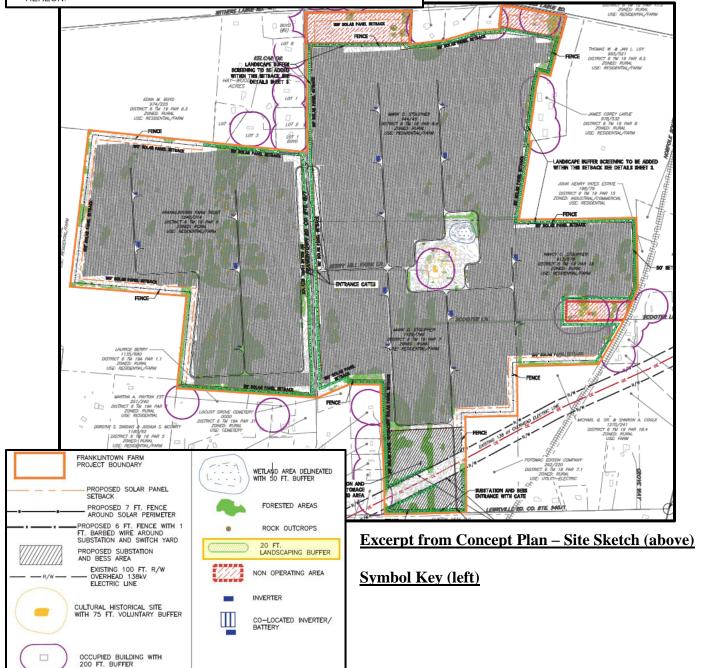
SETBACKS:

- (1) SOLAR PANELS ARE SETBACK A MINIMUM OF 50' FROM ALL PROPERTY LINES THAT ABUT A RESIDENTIAL USE AND INCLUDE A 20' PLANTED BUFFER WITHIN THE SETBACK.
- (2) SOLAR PANELS ARE SETBACK A MINIMUM OF 100' FROM ALL PROPERTY LINES THAT ABUT AN AGRICULTURAL USE AND DO NOT INCLUDE A PLANTED BUFFER.
- (3) THE FENCE LINE WILL BE SETBACK 100' FROM THE LOCUST GROVE CEMETERY AND WILL INCLUDE A PLANTED BUFFER. GPR WILL BE PERFORMED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION TO CONFIRM ANY UNMARKED GRAVES.
- (4) NO ACCESSORY COMPONENTS ARE LOCATED WITHIN 25 FEET OF THE FRONT, SIDE, REAR SETBACK FROM ALL EXTERNAL PROPERTY LINES.

BUFFERS

- (1) NO PROPOSED SOLAR OR ACCESSORY STRUCTURE WILL BE LOCATED WITHIN THE 100 FOOT SETBACK SHOWN HEREON, OR 200 FEET FROM NEIGHBORING RESIDENCE, CATEGORY 1 HISTORIC RESOURCE, INSTITUTION FOR HUMAN CARE, CHURCH, OR SIMILAR USE OR STRUCTURE, WITHOUT A LANDSCAPE BUFFER.
- (2) LANDSCAPE BUFFER SCREENING ARE PROPOSED WITHIN THE SETBACKS AS SHOWN HEREON

Excerpt from Concept Plan Site Information Notes (left)



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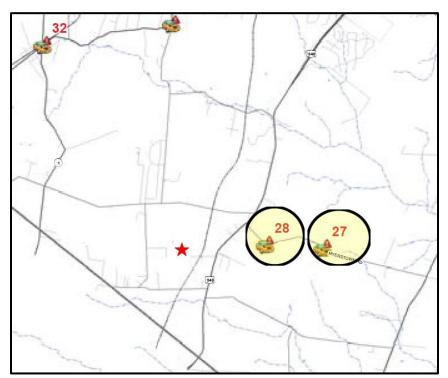
24-4-CUP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Conditional Use Permit Request

5. Commercial and Industrial Uses shall be in conformance with Section 8.9 of this Ordinance. (Sec. 6.3A.5)

As part of the Conditional Use Permit application, the applicant was informed of this criteria and shall comply with this standard. The applicant acknowledged and stated they will comply with this requirement on page 8 of their application packet & Note #13 on the Concept Plan.

6. For properties in the Rural zoning district, roadway adequacy shall be assessed by the Comprehensive Plan's Highway Road Classification Map. (Sec. 6.3A.6)

The applicant provided trip generation data on Pages 8 & 9 of their application packet. The facility, once operational, is anticipated to generate 2-3 vehicle trips per day.



The applicant represented that the closest highway problem area is within a one mile radius of the project (see Problem Area #28, noted on Highway Problem Areas Map exhibit below). The proposed access points for the project do not utilize the roadways identified as problem areas.

Problem Area #27 = Meyerstown Road – one mile east of US 340. Problem = two 90-degree turns.

Problem Area #28 =

Meyerstown Road $-\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of US 340. Problem = 90 degree turn.

7. Historic Landmarks Commission's Findings related to the proposed land use. (Sec. 6.3A.7)

The applicant addressed this criteria on Page 9 of their application packet.

The project site includes the property located at 261 Berry Hill Farm Lane. The County's GIS data reflects that this house is a Category II Historic Structure identified by the Historic Landmarks Commission. The Concept Plan depicts a voluntary 75' buffer around Berry Hill House / Category II structure, which is located within a 200'occupied structure buffer. Setback Note #3 on the Concept Plan states "The fence line will be setback 100' from the Locust Grove Cemetery and will include a planted buffer. GPR will be performed prior to construction to confirm any unmarked graves."

*GPR = Ground Penetrating Radar

Section 3.4D.4.b of the Zoning Ordinance defines Category II resources as follows:

These sites are classified as important. This category includes Jefferson County Landmarks, historic sites that may have been altered or changed to such a degree that they no longer retain the same level of integrity as the original condition.

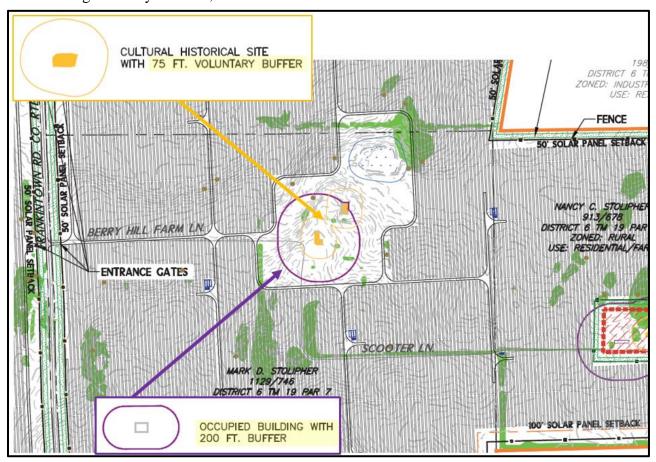
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The Ordinance states that the Historic Landmarks Commission may make reasonable recommendation to the Board of Zoning Appeals on the suitability of a proposed non-residential use for the building seeking a Conditional Use Permit and may include the following findings:

- a. Compatibility of the proposed use with the historic structure;
- b. Any modifications to the building's façade is consistent and compatible with the building's architecture, style, and massing; and
- c. Proposed parking and other activities are suitably located so as to preserve the historic character.

As part of the Concept Plan process, the Historic Landmarks Commission was notified of the proposed project. Staff also verbally confirmed with the HLC on 08/07/2024 that they received notice of the project and had been in contact with the applicant. The HLC verbally represented that they were satisfied with the buffer proposals for the Berry Hill House and efforts to ensure protection of the existing cemetery. To date, no written comments were received from the HLC.



8. Any signs associated with the proposed Conditional Use shall be reviewed by the Board in accordance with Section 10.6. (Sec. 6.3A.8)

Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance states that no signage or advertising is permitted on the solar energy facility, other than an identifying sign at the entrance of the facility, which shall be approved administratively in accordance with Article 10.

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Attachments:

- 1. Section 6.3 of the Zoning Ordinance
- 2. Section 8.9 of the Zoning Ordinance
- 3. Section 8.20 of the Zoning Ordinance
- 4. Appendix C of the Zoning Ordinance

Section 6.2 Variances³²

The Board of Zoning Appeals shall consider requests for variances from the terms of the Ordinance.²³

- A. The Board shall approve a variance request if the Board finds that a variance:
 - 1. Will not adversely affect the public health, safety or welfare, or the rights of adjacent property owners or residents;
 - 2. Arises from special conditions or attributes which pertain to the property for which a variance is sought and which were not created by the person seeking the variance;
 - 3. Would eliminate an unnecessary hardship and permit a reasonable use of the land; and
 - 4. Will allow the intent of the Zoning and Land Development Ordinance to be observed and substantial justice done. ^{17, 21}
- B. The owner or authorized representative of the owner of the property which is the subject of a variance request shall complete and sign forms provided for this purpose by the Board, and shall pay the associated fees. The variance request shall be filed with the Board in the Office of Planning and Zoning.
- C. Notification for a variance must be conducted according to the requirements of Section 6.1B.
- D. A public hearing must be conducted according to the requirements of Section 6.1C and such hearing may be continued according to the requirements of Section 6.1D.

Section 6.3 Conditional Use Permit³²

The Board of Zoning Appeals shall have the authority over the issuance or denial of a conditional use permit for uses listed as "Conditional Uses (CU)" in each zoning district. The Board shall have the authority to impose such reasonable conditions and restrictions as are directly related to and incidental to the proposed conditional use permit:^{2,32}

- A. The Board shall consider each Conditional Use Permit request that is filed in accordance with this Ordinance and the procedural requirements of the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board may require reasonable conditions or special requirements which allows for the proper integration of the proposed uses into the community and are directly related to and incidental to the proposed conditional use permit. The following General Standards shall be considered in approving or denying the CUP:
 - 1. The proposed use is compatible with the goals of the adopted Comprehensive Plan.
 - 2. The proposed use is compatible in intensity and scale with the existing and potential land uses on the adjoining and confronting properties, and poses no threat to public health, safety and welfare.
 - 3. The proposed site development shall be such that the use will not hinder nor discourage the appropriate development and use of adjacent land and buildings.
 - 4. Neighborhood character and surrounding property values shall be safeguarded by requiring implementation of the landscaping buffer requirements found in Appendix B and Section 4.11 of this Ordinance.
 - 5. Commercial and Industrial Uses shall be in conformance with Section 8.9 of this Ordinance.
 - 6. For properties in the Rural zoning district, roadway adequacy shall be assessed by the Comprehensive Plan's Highway Road Classification Map. If a rural parcel is not shown as commercial on the Future Land Use Guide or does not front on a Principal Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Major Collector road (as identified in the Comprehensive Plan), the applicant shall submit trip generation data, including Average Daily and Peak Hour trips, for the BZA to review

- in conjunction with the Highway Problem Areas Map when determining roadway adequacy for the proposed use.
- 7. For Historic Sites, the Historic Landmarks Commission, with the property owner's consent, may visit the property to review the proposed land development plan and use for sites designated as Category I or II. The Historic Landmarks Commission may make reasonable recommendation to the Board of Zoning Appeals on the suitability of a proposed multi-family dwelling or non-residential use for the building seeking a Conditional Use Permit. The Historic Landmarks Commission's recommendations may include the following findings:³⁵
 - a. Compatibility of the proposed use with the historic structure;
 - b. Any modifications to the building's façade is consistent and compatible with the building's architecture, style, and massing; and
 - c. Proposed parking and other activities are suitably located so as to preserve the historic character.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may consider these findings and if determined appropriate, may require compliance with some or all of the Historic Landmarks Commission's recommendations as a condition of approval.

- 8. Any signs associated with the proposed Conditional Use shall be reviewed by the Board in accordance with Section 10.6.³⁶
- B. The owner or authorized representative of the owner of the property for which the Conditional Use Permit is being requested shall complete and sign forms provided for this purpose by the Board, and shall pay the associated fees. The Conditional Use Permit request shall be filed with the Board at the Office of Planning and Zoning.
- C. Staff will notify the adjacent and confronting property owners of the date, time, and location of the Public Hearing by registered mail. Notification for a Conditional Use Permit must be conducted according to the requirements of Section 6.1B.
- D. A public hearing must be conducted according to the requirements of Section 6.1C and such hearing may be continued according to the requirements of Section 6.1D.
- E. If there are no negative public comments received by the Board, the Board shall issue the Conditional Use Permit but may require reasonable conditions.

Section 6.4 Seasonal Uses^{5, 7, 32}

Seasonal uses must be approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals pursuant to a public hearing according to the requirements of Section 6.1C. Newspaper notification requirements of Section 6.1B apply. Seasonal uses cannot be approved for longer than one year at a time. 17, 21, 23

Section 6.5 Special Exception Permit^{26, 32, 36}

- A. Special Exception uses listed in this section may be approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals subject to a public hearing in accordance with the following.
 - 1. The public hearing is subject to the notification requirements of Section 6.1B.
 - 2. The public hearing shall be conducted according to the requirements of Section 6.1C.
 - 3. Such hearing may be continued according to the requirements of Section 6.1D.

- B. Standards for Hunting, Shooting and Fishing Clubs²⁰
 - 1. 75 foot setback for all structures and parking.
 - 2. 150 yard setback for all shooting facilities.
 - 3. Height
 - a. As is for conversion or reconstruction that does not exceed 135 percent of the original footprint of existing structures
 - b. 35 feet for new structures
 - 4. Landscaping requirements of this Ordinance apply, with the following exception:
 - a. Perimeter landscaping shall be as approved by staff in order to preserve existing vegetation.
 - 5. Minimum of 150 acres under common ownership.
- C. Special Exceptions for Hunting, Shooting and Fishing Clubs²⁰
 - 1. Limits exceeding requirements outlined above can be increased with Board of Zoning Appeals approval provided that the Board of Zoning Appeals find that the increase is compatible with the neighborhood after taking into consideration neighborhood character, traffic, and buffering. Such decision shall be rendered after a public hearing as outlined in the Board of Zoning Appeals Rules of Procedure.

Section 8.9 Industrial and Commercial Uses²³

A. Industrial and commercial uses in all districts shall comply with the following standards:

1. Noise

All noise shall be muffled so as not to be objectionable due to intermitting, beat frequency, or shrillness. Noise levels shall not exceed the following sound levels dB(A). The sound-pressure level shall be measured at the property line with a sound level meter.

Sound Measured In	DAY	<u>NIGHT</u>
Sound Wedstred III	<u> 7 AM - 6 PM</u>	<u>6 PM - 7 AM</u>
Adjoining Agricultural or Residential Growth District	60 dB(A)	50 dB(A)
Residential Uses in R-LI-C District	65 dB(A)	55 dB(A)
Commercial Uses	70 dB(A)	60 dB(A)
Light Industrial Uses adjacent to noise source	85 dB(A)	80 dB(A)

The following sources of noise are exempt:

- a. Transportation vehicles not under the control of the industrial use.
- b. Occasionally used safety signals, warning devices and emergency pressure relief valves.
- c. Temporary construction activity between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

2. Odor

No operation shall result in the creation of odors of such intensity and character as to be detrimental to the health and welfare or the public or which interferes with the comfort of the public. Odor thresholds shall be in accordance with ASTM d139-57 "Standard Method for Measurement of Odor in Atmospheres (Dilution Method)" or its equivalent.

Odorous material released from any operation or activity shall not exceed the odor threshold concentration beyond the state line, measured either at ground level or habitable elevation.

3. Smoke

No smoke, dust, fumes, or particulate matter shall be perceptible at any lot line. Further, the regulations and standards governing the control of air pollution shall be the same as those adopted by the State of West Virginia.

For the purpose of grading the density or equivalent capacity of smoke, the Ringelmann Chart as published by the United States Bureau of Mines shall be used.

The emission of smoke darker than Ringelmann No. 1 from any chimney, stack, vent, opening, or combustion process is prohibited.

The total emission rate of dust and particulate matter from all vents, stacks, chimneys, flues or other opening or any process, operation, or activity except solid waste incinerators within the boundaries of any lot, will not exceed the levels set forth below.

Particulate matter emission from materials or products subject to becoming wind borne will be kept to a minimum by paving, sodding, oiling, wetting, covering or other means, such as to render the surface wind resistant. Such sources include vacant lots, unpaved roads, yards and storage piles or bulk material such as coal, sand, cinders, slag, sulfur, etc.

4. Ambient Air Quality Standard

Particulate Matter

Suspended

Annual Arithmetic Mean ug/m 65 24-hour Maximum b, ug/m 140

Settleable

Annual Arithmetic Average, mg/cm/ /month 0.35 Monthly Maximum 0.7

5. Vibration

No vibration shall be produced which is transmitted through the ground and is discernible without the aid of instruments at any point beyond the lot line nor shall any vibration produced exceed 0.002g peak measured at or beyond the lot line using either seismic or electronic vibration-measuring equipment.

6. Glare and Heat

No direct or sky-reflected glare, whether from floodlights or from high temperature processes, such as combustion or welding or otherwise, so as to be visible at the lot line, shall be permitted. There shall be no emission or transmission of heat or heated air so as to be discernable at the lot line.

7. Toxic Matter

The ambient air quality standards for the State of West Virginia shall be the guide to the release of airborne toxic materials across lot lines. Where toxic materials are not listed in the ambient air quality standards of the State, the release of such materials shall be in accordance with the fractional quantities permitted below, of those toxic materials currently listed in the threshold limit values adopted by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

Unless otherwise stated, the measurement of toxic matter shall be at ground level or habitable elevation, and shall be the average of any twenty-four (24) hours sampling period.

The release of airborne toxic matter will not exceed one-thirteenth of the threshold limit value across lot lines.

Such materials shall include but are not limited to: all primary explosives such as lead azide, lead styphnate, fulminates and tetracene; all high explosives such as TNT, RDX, HMX, PETN, and picric acid; propellants and components thereof, such as dry derivatives; pyrotechnics and fireworks such as acetylates, tetrazoles, and ozonides; unstable oxidizing agents such as perchloric acid, perchlorates, and hydrogen peroxide in concentration greater than thirty-five (35) per cent; and nuclear fuels, fissionable materials and products, and reactor elements such as Uranium 235 and Plutonium 239.

The storage, utilization or manufacture of materials or products which decompose by detonation is prohibited.

8. Fire Hazards

The storage, utilization or manufacture of solid materials which are active to intense burning shall be conducted within spaces having fire resistive construction of no less than two (2) hours and protected with an automatic fire extinguishing system.

The total capacity of flammable liquids and gasses shall not exceed those quantities permitted in the following Table for each of the industrial districts:

<u>CAPACITY</u>	STORAGE
Liquids	60,000 gallons
Gasses	
- Above ground	150,000 SCF
- Below ground	300,000 SCF

SCF - Standard Cubic Feet at sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit and 29.92 inches Mercury.¹

The following setback requirements will apply to the location of any container which holds flammable liquids or gasses:

Container Setback from Lot Lines

Water Capacity	Containers		Between
per Container	Underground	Above Ground	Above Ground
(Gallons)	(Feet)	Containers (Feet)	Containers (Feet)
0 to 2,000	25	25	3
2,000 to 30,000	50	50	5
30,000 to 60,000	50	75	
In excess of 60,000	75	100	1/4 the sum of diameters of adjacent containers

9. Frontage Road

Easements or fee simple dedications will be provided along all limited access highways at the site plan or subdivision phases. Said easement/dedication shall not exceed 60 feet in width. The width may vary but must be adequate for extension, continuation or establishment of a minimum 20' wide paved frontage road.

10. Landscape Buffer

All commercial and industrial developments shall comply with Section 4.11 unless otherwise specified in this Ordinance.²⁷

A fifty (50) foot wide landscape buffer strip will be provided along all limited access highways. Said buffer shall be adjacent to the frontage road. In the case where existing roads not adjacent to controlled access highway serve as frontage road the landscape buffer may be placed against the highway right-of-way.

All front setbacks (building and parking lot) are to be measured from the landscape buffer. (See diagram)

ROW LIMITS OF

CONTROLLED ACCESS



- ★ Maximum 60' easement or dedication for frontage road
- ★★ 50' landscaped buffer strip
- **★★★** Setbacks

This provision shall also apply to any ramps or access roads connecting to a controlled access highway within ½ mile of a controlled access highway.⁵

Section 8.10 Model Homes/Sales Offices²³

Model homes with a staffed sales office for sales exclusively within the residential subdivision in which they are located are permitted provided that they are contained on the first lot on either or both sides of any road/right-of-way that enters the subdivision; provided also that they are so designated on the preliminary and final plats during the subdivision process.

Model homes with a staffed sales office in any other location within the subdivision must be approved or denied by the Board of Zoning Appeals after a public hearing advertised for 15 days. ^{17, 21}

Model homes without staffed sales offices are permitted internally within the subdivision. 12

Section 8.11 Petroleum Products Refining or Storage²³

Petroleum refining or storage (above ground in tanks) requires adherence to all state and federal laws, as well as National Fire Underwriters Codes.

Section 8.12 West Virginia Legal Fireworks²³

Sales of fireworks are permitted in the Industrial-Commercial, Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial, General Commercial, Highway Commercial, Highway Commercial, Light Industrial, and Major Industrial zoning districts provided all other restrictions such as setbacks and the requirements of the Jefferson County Subdivision and Land Development Regulations are met.^{8, 27}

Section 8.13 Dormitory²³

A dormitory shall be located on the same property or campus as the use it is intended to serve. A dormitory shall not offer accommodations to the general public or to persons who are visiting the property or campus primarily for the purpose of being a spectator at a sporting event or other gathering held at the facility. A dormitory may include one common kitchen or dining facility and common gathering rooms for social purposes for use only by its temporary occupants.

Section 8.14 Special Event Facilities³⁹

The purpose of this sections is to create a process by which a property owner in the Rural, Residential Growth, and Village zoning districts may establish a Special Event Facility. A Special Event Facility in any other zoning district may process in accordance with Appendix C.

B. Setback Standards to operate a Nature Center and Preserve:

Enclosed structures over 250 square feet that are solely for the purpose of housing animals shall be setback 50 feet.

All structures and motorized trails shall meet commercial setbacks of 25 feet with the exception that accessory structures under 250 square feet that are associated with the maintenance of the land use shall be setback ten feet.

All non-motorized trails and non-amplified outdoor activity areas shall meet a minimum ten foot setback. Motorized vehicles associated with the maintenance of the land use are permitted within the non-motorized trails.

C. Landscaping Standards to operate a Nature Center and Preserve:

In lieu of this Ordinance's landscaping standards, a ten foot woodland preservation buffer shall be required along the perimeter of the land use. This ten foot buffer is not required along the interior property lines of the land use. There shall be no clearing or cutting within the buffer with the exception of removing dead, dying, and/or diseased trees. The woodland preservation buffer may be used for passive recreation such as pedestrian, bike, or equestrian trails provided that:

- 1. No trees, shrubs, hedges, or walls are removed.
- 2. Not more that 20% of the width of the buffer is impervious surface.
- 3. The total width of the buffer area is maintained.

D. Noise Standards to operate a Nature Center and Preserve:

This land use is restricted to the noise standards of Section 8.9A.1 of this Ordinance. The Residential Growth District measurement shall apply when the use is adjacent to a lot that contains a residence, or is zoned Rural or Residential Growth.

Section 8.19 Crematorium³⁷

A. Crematorium, Livestock

A Livestock Crematorium shall process as a Conditional Use Permit in all zoning districts other than Rural, unless such use is determined by the Zoning Administrator to be accessory to an active agricultural use.

B. Crematorium, Pet

A Pet Crematorium shall process as a Principal Permitted or Conditional Use in zones as designated in Appendix C. In the Rural Zoning District, a Pet Crematorium may process utilizing the Site Plan Exemption for the Rural District.

Section 8.20 Solar Energy Facilities⁴³

Solar Energy Facilities shall process as a Principal Permitted Use in areas inside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area as delineated on the Future Land Use Guide in the Comprehensive Plan. Solar Energy Facilities shall process as a Conditional Use in areas outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and Preferred Growth Area (PGA).

All projects shall process a Concept Plan in accordance with the requirements listed below under Subsection B. For projects that require processing a Conditional Use Permit, a Concept Plan shall process subsequent to the Board of Zoning Appeals approval.

For projects that will occur across parcels located both inside and outside the County's UGB/PGA areas, an applicant may choose to process in two phases, with the first phase addressing the parcels located within the UGB/PGA areas as a Principal Permitted Use and the second phase processing a Conditional Use Permit to allow the Board to evaluate compatibility of the second the phase outside of the UGB/PGA areas. Should the Board issue a Conditional Use Permit, a Concept Plan shall process and shall include an exhibit depicting the full-buildout of the entire Solar Energy Facility project.

A Pre-Proposal Conference is recommended for all solar projects, pursuant to the Jefferson County Subdivision and Land Development Regulations.

A. Process for Solar Energy Facilities as a Conditional Use

- 1. Projects which will occur on properties located outside of the UGB/PGA areas as delineated on the Future Land Use Guide shall process a Conditional Use in accordance with Article 6.
- 2. In addition to the criteria established in Article 6, the following exhibits shall be included with the Conditional Use Permit application for the Board's evaluation:
 - a. Submit a sketch depicting the location of the proposed project and delineate the distance of the panels from the external property lines.
 - b. Submit a brief description of the timeline of the lease or operating plan, and an overview of the plan for removal of the solar energy facility. The decommissioning plan and bond shall be in accordance with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), pursuant to WV State Code §22-32-1, et. sec. or its successor.
- 3. Should the Board issue a Conditional Use Permit, the applicant shall proceed with application for a Concept Plan, pursuant to the criteria listed below under subsection B.

B. Process for Solar Energy Facilities as a Principal Permitted Use

- 1. A Concept Plan, pursuant to the Minor Site Development Concept Plan standards established in the Jefferson County Subdivision and Land Development Regulations is required; except that after the Planning Commission direction is given, the next steps are Application for a Zoning Certificate and Building Permit. In addition to the Concept Plan requirements outlined in the Subdivision Regulations, the Concept Plan shall also include the following criteria:
 - a. Property or Properties Location;
 - b. Access Points:
 - c. Anticipated location of all proposed components of the Solar Energy Facility. Each proposed solar panel is not required to be shown on the Concept Plan, if compliance with setbacks can be established by what is depicted on the Concept Plan; and
 - d. Landscaping, Buffering, Ground Cover Plan, and Fencing. The landscaping plan shall include a note stating, "It will be the responsibility of the landowner to replace any trees, shrubs, or vegetation that die."

If the project is to be completed in phases, the Concept Plan shall reflect phasing of the project.

2. Decommissioning Outline

a. A narrative outlining the decommissioning of the Solar Energy Facility shall be included with the Concept Plan. This narrative shall include a description of the timeline of the lease or operating plan, and a general plan for removal of the Solar Energy Facility.

- b. The company shall provide to the Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning proof of application for a decommissioning plan and bond when such application is filed with the WVDEP as required by WV State Code §22-32-1, et. sec. or its successor.
- c. Staff shall be notified by certified mail at least 60 days in advance of the intended decommissioning of the Solar Energy Facility. Staff will place the notice on the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting under "non-actionable correspondence".
- d. Failure of the Lessee or Property Owner to meet and/or comply with the decommissioning plan as approved by the WVDEP may result in legal action pursuant to Article 3, Section 3.3 of this Ordinance and/or any applicable State Law.

C. Setbacks, Landscaping, and Buffer Standards for a Solar Energy Facility

1. Multiple adjacent properties under the same ownership or lease by the same company shall be considered one property for the purpose of these regulations. Internal boundary lines on adjacent properties under the same ownership or lease by the same company are not subject to the setbacks or buffer requirements provided below.

2. Setbacks

- Solar Panels
 - i. Front, Side, and Rear Setbacks shall be 100 feet from all external/perimeter property lines and from the edge of the State ROW or Easement of any State Road.
 - ii. The above referenced setback may be decreased to 50 feet provided it includes a six foot high opaque buffer within the setback area comprised of two rows of evergreen trees that are six feet tall at the time of planting or a solid fence. Alternatively, a 50 foot strip of existing, mature woodlands may be allowed in lieu of a planted buffer or fence if documentation is submitted documenting how the existing mature woodlands complies with the required buffer standard.
 - iii. Solar panels and accessory components may be located on a common side or rear lot line of contiguous property owned by the same entity.
- b. Accessory components, excluding solar panels and underground utilities.
 - i. Front, side, and rear setbacks shall be 25 feet from all external/perimeter property lines and from the edge of the State ROW or Easement of any State Road.

3. Landscaping and Buffer Standards

- a. Solar Panels that are located within 200 feet of any residence, Category 1 Historic Resource, Institution for Human Care, Church, or similar use or structure as determined by the Zoning Administrator, shall provide a 20 foot wide buffer along common property lines. The buffer shall be provided anywhere within the 200 foot radius from the structures/uses herein and is not required to be provided along the entire length of the common property line.
- b. The buffer screen may be either vegetative or opaque fencing and may be placed anywhere within the buffer area. No structures, materials, or vehicular parking shall be permitted within the side and rear yard buffers. Existing, natural vegetation may be used in lieu of a planted buffer if documentation is submitted to the Zoning Administrator verifying how the existing natural vegetation complies with the required buffer standard.
- c. Accessory Components (excluding solar panels) that are located within 200 feet of any residence, Category 1 Historic Resource, Institution for Human Care, Church, or similar use as determined by the Zoning Administrator, shall comply with the commercial provisions of

Section 4.11, with the exception that the Zoning Administrator can allow the use of existing, natural vegetation as appropriate to achieve the intent of the required buffering.

4. Security and Access

- a. A security fence with secured gates shall be erected around the operating areas of the Solar Energy Facility with a minimum height of six feet and a maximum height of ten feet.
 - i. Arrangements shall be made with the appropriate Fire Department for Access. A letter documenting approval of access from the Fire Department shall be provided with the Zoning Certificate application. The Fire Department shall respond within 15 days of the date of the letter. If no response is provided, the Fire Department shall be deemed by this Ordinance to have approved the access.
 - ii. Upon three business days' notice by the Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning, access shall be provided to Staff.
- D. A Zoning Certificate based on an approved Concept Plan is required prior to initiating any use regarding Solar Energy Facilities.

In addition to the standards found in Section 8.20, any Zoning Certificate regarding Solar Energy Facilities shall be issued conditioned on all other State Regulations and approvals being granted, including, but not limited to, the WV Public Service Commission, WVDEP applicable NPDES Permits and Decommissioning Bonds, Fire Marshal approval, Building Permits through the Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning, and approval of the Stormwater Management Report pursuant to the Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance.

E. Stormwater Management

Stormwater Management shall be required in accordance with the Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance. Solar Energy Facilities may be exempt from providing stormwater management if the conditions for granting exemption under Article I.D.2.h of the Stormwater Management Ordinance are satisfied.

F. General Requirements

- 1. Design, construction, and installation of the Solar Energy Facility shall conform to applicable industry standards, including those of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or other similar certifying organizations and shall comply with the West Virginia Fire and Building Codes, including compliance with the Jefferson County Building Code.
- 2. Prior to commencing the transmission of electricity, the Solar Energy Facility shall provide documentation evidencing an interconnection agreement or similar agreement with the applicable public utility or approved entity in accordance with applicable law.
- 3. Generation of electrical power shall be limited to photovoltaic panels, provided that any on-site buildings may utilize integrated photovoltaic building materials.
- 4. Solvents necessary for the cleaning of the Solar Panels shall be biodegradable.
- 5. Internal wiring, excluding that which is on or between the Solar Arrays, connected to substations or between Solar Panels, shall be located underground, except where necessary to mitigate impact to environmental and/or terrain features.
- 6. Onsight lighting shall be the minimum necessary for security and onsite management and maintenance and shall comply with the standards outlined in the Subdivision Regulations.

- 7. Photovoltaic Panels shall use antireflective glass that is designed to absorb rather than reflect light.
- 8. Ground Cover comprised of natural vegetation is required. Ground cover that uses native or naturalized perennial vegetation and that provides foraging habitat that is beneficial for songbirds, gamebirds, and pollinators is encouraged but not required.
- 9. Collocation of other agricultural activities such as small market hand-picked crops, grazing, and apiary activities are permitted and encouraged.
- 10. No signage or advertising is permitted on the Solar Energy Facility other than an identifying sign at the entrance of the Facility that shall be approved by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Article 10. All other signage must be approved by Special Exception by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- 11. Solar Energy Facilities shall comply with Article 8, Section 8.9 of this Ordinance.
- 12. The Solar Energy Facility Use is not considered abandoned until such time it is Decommissioned.
- 13. Damaged or unusable panels shall be repaired, replaced, or removed within 60 days from discovery of damage; provided, however, longer periods may be approved by the County Engineer due to extenuating circumstances.

Land Use	NC	GC	нс	LI	MI	PND ¹	ос	R	RG	RLIC	IC	V	Additional Standards
Commercial Uses continued													Sec. 8.9
Restaurant, Fast Food, Drive-Through ⁴⁰	NP	P	P	P	CU	CU	P	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Restaurant, Fast Food, Limited	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Retail Sales and Services, General	NP	P	P	P	NP	P	NP	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Retail Sales Limited	P	P	P	P	NP	P	P	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Retail Store, Large	NP	CU	P	CU	NP	CU	NP	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU	
Shipping and Mailing Services	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Short Term Rental ⁴¹	CU	NP	NP	NP	NP	P	NP	P	P	P	NP	P	Sec. 8.16
Solar Energy Facility ⁴³	NP	Se	e Sect	tion 8.	20	NP	NP	S	See Se	ction 8.2	0	NP	Sec. 8.20
Special Event Facility	P	P	P	P	NP	P	P	CU	CU	P	P	CU	Sec. 8.14
Storage, Commercial	NP	P	P	P	CU	P	NP	CU	CU	P	P	CU	
Veterinary Services	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	P	CU	P	P	CU	
Wireless Telecommunications Facilities	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Art. 4B
Agricultural Uses*													
Agricultural Uses, as defined in Article 2	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Agricultural Repair Center	NP	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	NP	
Agricultural Tourism	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Crematorium, Livestock ³⁷	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU	P	CU	CU	CU	CU	Sec. 8.19
Farm Brewery	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Sec. 8.5
Farm Winery or Distillery	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Sec. 8.5
Farm Market	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Sec. 8.6
Farmer's Market	P	P	P	NP	NP	P	NP	P	CU	P	NP	CU	Sec. 8.6
Farm Vacation Enterprise	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Feed and/or Farm Supply Center	CU	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	NP	
Horticultural Nurseries and	Р	Р	P	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	CU	Р	Р	NP	
Commercial Greenhouses	Г	-	Г	Г	Г	Г	Г	Г		Г	•		
Landscaping Business	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	NP	
Rental of Existing Farm Building for		_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_		
Commercial Storage	NP	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	CU	P	P	NP	
Structure must have existed for 5 years						-				-			2 0 1 1
Special Event Facility, Agricultural	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Sec. 8.14
Accessory Uses													
Accessory Uses	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	

NC Neighborhood Commercial

OC Office / Commercial Mixed-Use

GC General Commercial

R Rural

HC Highway Commercial

RG Residential Growth District

LI Light Industrial

RLIC Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial District

MI Major Industrial

IC Industrial-Commercial District

PND Planned Neighborhood Development

V Village District

- P Permitted Uses
- NP Not Permitted Uses
- CU Conditional Uses (subject to requirements of district and/or other requirements of this Ordinance)
 - ** Accessory Use to a planned residential community, if permitted pursuant to Section 5.4 and processed as a CU
 - The Planning Commission may amend the permitted uses for a development in the PND District per Article 5.
 - ² Approval process is per the Salvage Yard Ordinance.



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JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

* Submitted by applicant on 08-22-24

Franklintown Farm Solar Project

Pre-Construction Acoustical Assessment

PREPARED FOR Franklintown Farm Solar, LLC

DATE August 9, 2024

REFERENCE 0744173



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

dBA	A-weighted decibels
EEI	Edison Electric Institute
ERM	Environmental Resources Management, Inc.
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
MVA	Mega-volt Ampere
MW	Megawatts



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of Report

On behalf of Franklintown Farm Solar, LLC (Client), Environmental Resources Management, Inc. (ERM) completed a pre-construction noise assessment of the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar Project (Project). The Project will include an 80 MW solar energy facility with 20 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) and will consist of approximately 147,000 photovoltaic modules located on approximately 499 acres in Jefferson County, West Virginia. The primary noise generating sources associated with the Project include the solar inverters, solar transformers, and substation transformer. Figure 1 in Appendix A presents an overview of the Project, including the location of the Project sources in relation to other Project facilities and the surrounding properties.

ERM completed an acoustical modeling analysis to evaluate whether the contribution of operational noise from the Project would comply with the Jefferson County zoning ordinance pertaining to allowable noise levels from industrial and commercial uses. This report presents the results of ERM's acoustical analysis of the Project.

1.2 General Information on Noise

Noise is typically measured on the A-weighted scale (dBA). The A-weighting scale has been shown to provide a good correlation with the human response to sound and is the most widely used descriptor for community noise assessments (Harris, 1991). The faintest sound that can be heard by a healthy ear is about 0 dBA, while an uncomfortably loud sound is about 120 dBA. In order to provide a frame of reference, some common sound levels are listed below.

•	Pile Driver at 100 feet	90 to 100 dBA
•	Chainsaw at 30 feet	90 dBA
•	Truck at 100 feet	85 dBA
•	Noisy Urban Environment	75 dBA
•	Lawn Mower at 100 feet	65 dBA
•	Average Speech	60 dBA
•	Average Office	50 dBA
•	Rural Residential During the Day	40 dBA
•	Quiet Suburban nighttime	35 dBA
•	Soft Whisper at 15 feet	30 dBA

NOISE REGULATIONS

The Jefferson County Zoning and Land Development Ordinance includes regulations applicable to solar energy systems and requires that solar energy systems comply with the noise requirements provided in Section 8.9 – A.1 of the ordinance. The noise requirement states that industrial and



commercial uses in Jefferson County shall comply with specific noise limits when measured at the Project property line. The most restrictive limit applies to adjoining agricultural or residential growth district zones, with noise limits of 60 dBA during the day (7 am to 6 pm) and 50 dBA at night (6 pm to 7 am). For residential uses in Light Industrial zoned properties, less restrictive limits of 65 dBA during the day and 55 dBA at night apply. Construction noise is exempt from the ordinance provided that it occurs between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00p.m.

The area surrounding the Project site is zoned mainly rural, where the most restrictive 50 dBA at night limit applies. A residential/light industrial zone, where the nighttime limit is 55 dBA, is located on the southeastern side of the Project site. The zones are depicted in Figure 1 of Appendix A.

No State of West Virginia noise standards applicable to the Project were identified.

ACOUSTICAL MODELING

3.1 Methodology

ERM performed computer modeling to calculate noise levels that will be generated during Project operation and used the commercially available CadnaA model developed by DataKustik GmBH (2006) for the analysis. The software has the ability to account for spreading losses, ground and atmospheric effects, shielding from barriers and buildings, and reflections from surfaces. The software is standards-based. ERM used the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9613 standard for air absorption and other noise propagation calculations (ISO 1996). ERM took credit for a partially acoustically absorptive ground surface (0.5 setting in the model). A setting of "0" corresponds to an acoustically reflective surface, such as pavement or water, while a setting of 1.0 corresponds to loose soils and grassy surfaces. ERM included the existing topographic features in the area.

The noise model allowed for the quantification of noise levels from multiple sources, based on the sound characteristics (overall level, frequency data etc.) emitted from each source to calculate the expected noise levels from Project operations at the Project property line and surrounding areas.

Modeling was conducted to develop noise contour maps that demonstrate noise levels throughout the Project area. A summary of the equipment sources included in the noise modeling assessment, their locations, and their height above grade are provided in Table 1. Table 2 provides the noise emissions data and the derivation for each source.



CLIENT: Franklintown Farm Solar, LLC

Table 1: Equipment Source Listing

Source	Number of Each	Source Height Above Grade (feet)
Solar Inverters	72ª	6
3.5 MVA Auxiliary Transformer	18	10
Substation 89 MVA Transformer	1	10

^a There are 18 inverter blocks that each contain 4 inverters for a total of 72 inverters. Each inverter block contains one 3.5 MVA transformer.

Table 2. Noise Emissions Derivation for Project Sources

Equipment	Noise Emissions Data	Data Source
Solar Inverters	71 dBA at 50 feet	TMEIC ^a
3.5 MVA Auxiliary Transformer	47 dBA at 50 feet	EEI b
Substation 98 MVA		
Substation 98 MVA Transformer	65 dBA at 50 feet	EEI ^b

a. TMEIC Solar Ware Ninja Model PVU-0840GR. Data are for one inverter block (4 inverters).

3.2 Noise Model Results

The noise modeling results are presented as noise contours in Figure 2 of Appendix A. Noise contours are presented herein rather than results at discrete receptor points in order to demonstrate the modeled Project noise levels at any location along the Project property line, which is where the Jefferson County noise ordinance limits of 50 dBA for adjacent residential zones and 55 dBA for residential for adjacent Light Industrial zones are applicable.

A review of Figure 2 reveals that modeled Project noise levels are demonstrated to be in compliance with the ordinance. The 50 dBA noise contour, which represents the most restrictive nighttime limit for residentially zoned areas, remains inside the Project boundary.

The noise levels presented herein are for daytime conditions when all Project sources are operating at full load conditions. Lower noise levels will occur during nighttime hours when the solar inverters are not operating.



b. Emissions data developed utilizing the methodology found in Edison Electric Institute's "Electric Power Plan Environmental Noise Guide" based on maximum transformer MVA rating.

4. CONCLUSION

This report presents the results of the acoustical assessment ERM conducted for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project in Jefferson County, West Virginia. The assessment included a detailed noise model of the major facility noise generating equipment operating under full load conditions and a comparison to the noise regulations within the Jefferson County Zoning and Land Development ordinance.

The operational noise assessment revealed that Project-generated noise levels would be in compliance with the applicable noise regulations for the Rural and Residential in Light Industrial zoned parcels around the Project site. Operational Project noise levels were shown to be less than 50 dBA at all locations on the Project property line, with 50 dBA being the most restrictive limit within the zoning ordinance. Notably, lower noise levels than those presented in this report will occur during nighttime hours when the solar inverters are not operating.

REFERENCES

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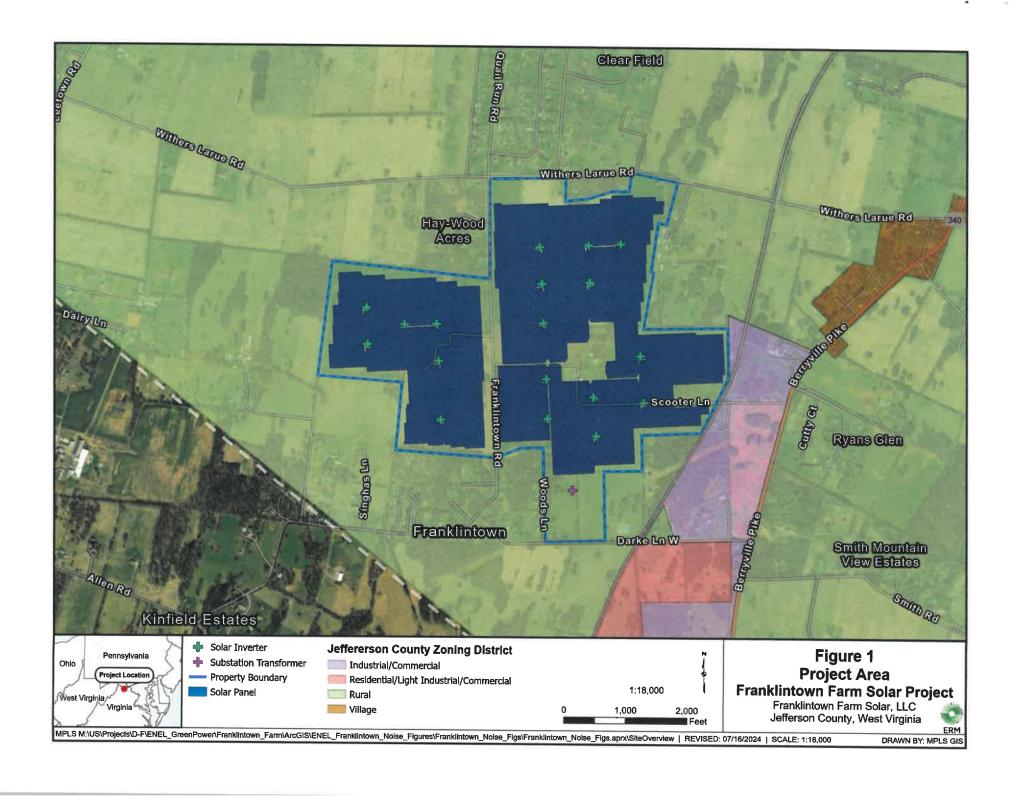
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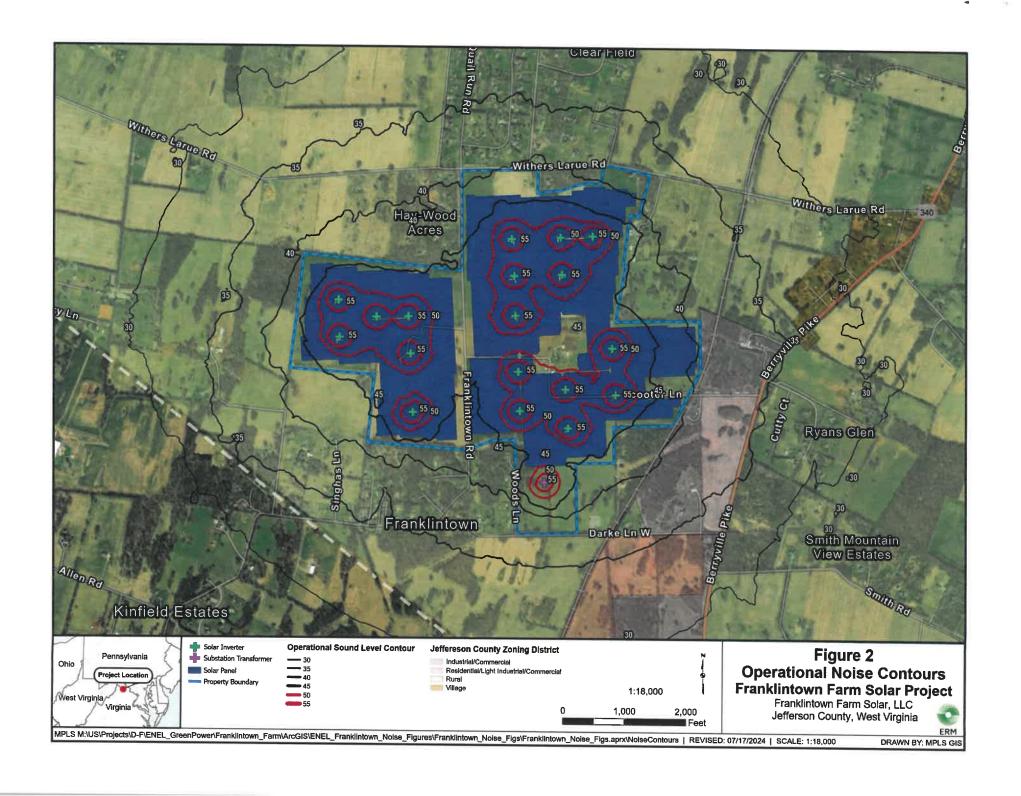
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APPENDIX A FIGURES







October 26, 2023

Mr. Sam Judd Enel North America, Inc. 16105 W 113th Street, Suite 105 Lenexa, KS 66219 Richard C. Kirkland, Jr., MAI 9408 Northfield Court Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Phone (919) 414-8142 rkirkland2@gmail.com

www.kirklandappraisals.com RECEIVED

AUG 2 2 2024

JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

RE: Franklintown Solar, Withers Larue Road, Franklintown, Jefferson County, WV

Mr. Judd

At your request, I have considered the impact of an 80 MW solar farm with a 20 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) proposed to be constructed on a portion of a 501.31-acre assemblage of land off Withers Larue Road, Franklintown, Jefferson County, West Virginia. Specifically, I have been asked to give my professional opinion on whether the proposed solar farm will have any impact on adjoining property value and whether "the location and character of the use, if developed according to the plan as submitted and approved, will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located."

To form an opinion on these issues, I have researched and visited existing and proposed solar farms in states adjoining West Virginia as I found no existing utility scale solar farms in West Virginia. I have also researched articles through the Appraisal Institute and other studies, and discussed the likely impact with other real estate professionals. I have not been asked to assign any value to any specific property.

This letter is a limited report of a real property appraisal consulting assignment. My client is Enel North America, Inc, represented to me by Mr. Sam Judd. My findings support the Application. The effective date of this consultation is October 26, 2023.

Conclusion

The adjoining properties are well set back from the proposed solar panels and supplemental vegetation is proposed to enhance the areas where the existing trees do not currently provide a proper screen. The closest non-participating home will be a minimum of 200 feet from the nearest panel.

The matched pair analysis shows no impact on home values due to abutting or adjoining a solar farm as well as no impact to abutting or adjacent vacant residential or agricultural land where the solar farm is properly screened and buffered. The criteria that typically correlates with downward adjustments on property values such as noise, odor, and traffic all indicate that a solar farm is a compatible use for rural/residential transition areas and that it would function in a harmonious manner with this area.

Data from the university studies, broker commentary, and other appraisal studies support a finding of no impact on property value adjoining a solar farm with proper setbacks and landscaped buffers.

Very similar solar farms in very similar areas have been found by hundreds of towns and counties not to have a substantial negative effect to abutting or adjoining properties, and many of those findings of no impact have been upheld by appellate courts. Similar solar farms have been approved with adjoining agricultural uses, schools, churches, and residential developments.

Based on the data and analysis in this report, it is my professional opinion that the solar farm proposed at the subject property will have no impact on the value of adjoining or abutting properties and that the proposed use is in harmony with the area in which it is located. I note that some of the positive implications of a solar farm that have been expressed by people living next to solar farms include protection from future development of residential developments or other more intrusive uses, reduced dust, odor and chemicals from former farming operations, protection from light pollution at night, it is quiet, and there is minimal traffic.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Kirkland, Jr., MAI

NC Certified General Appraiser A4359

WV Temporary Appraisal Permit TEMP23-113

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I. Proposed Project and Adjoining Uses

Proposed Use Description

This 80 MW solar farm with a 20 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) is proposed to be constructed on a portion of a 501.31-acre assemblage of land off Withers Larue Road, Franklintown, Jefferson County, West Virginia.

Adjoining Properties

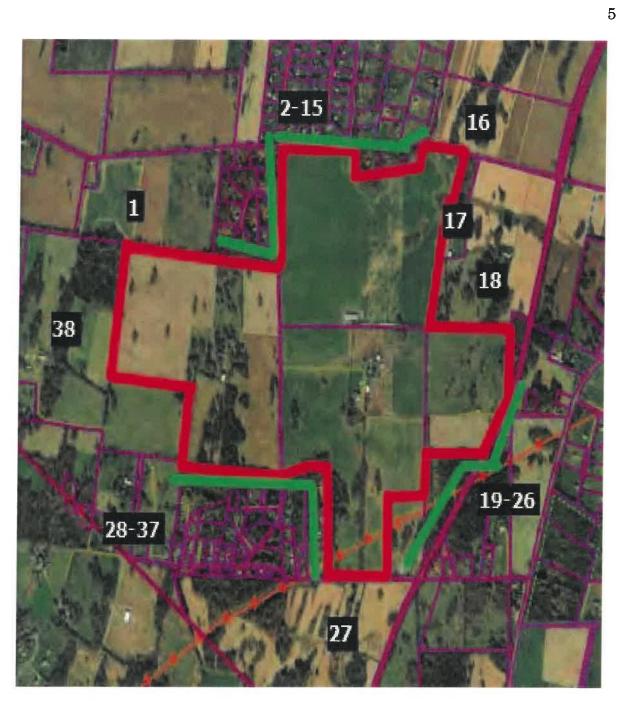
I have considered adjoining uses and included a map to identify each parcel's location. The siteplan was not complete as of the time of this analysis but the minimum setback from an adjoining residential use is 200 feet. The actual distance from adjoining homes will likely vary significantly and will trend to greater than that amount, but could be as close as 200 feet.

Adjoining land is primarily a mix of residential and agricultural uses, which is very typical of solar farm sites.

The breakdown of those uses by acreage and number of parcels is summarized below.

Adjoining Use Breakdown

	Acreage	Parcels
Residential	22.44%	80.95%
Agricultural	42.86%	7.14%
Agri/Res	32.31%	7.14%
Commercial	2.19%	2.38%
Cemetery	0.21%	2.38%
Total	100.00%	100.00%



Surrounding Uses

	and the same		GIS Data		Adjoin	Adjoin
#	MAP ID	Owner	Acres	Present Use	Acres	Parcels
1	06 1800060002000	Boyd	118.81	Agricultural	16.69%	2.38%
2	06 1800060010000	Terango	2.95	Residential	0.41%	2.38%
3	06 1800060009000	Hawthrone	3.75	Residential	0.53%	2.38%
4	06 1800060003000	McKee	2.01	Residential	0.28%	2.38%
5	06 1800060004000	Brewer	2.04	Residential	0.29%	2.38%
б	06 1800060007000	Sokel	3.03	Residential	0.43%	2.38%
7	06 1800060014000	Hawthrone	3.26	Residential	0.46%	2.38%
8	06 1800060016000	Schneidner	3.28	Residential	0.46%	2.38%
9	06 12A0001000000	Gallahan	1.49	Residential	0.21%	2.38%
10	06 12A0001000000	Youngblood	1.70	Residential	0.24%	2.38%
11	06 12A0032000000	Ferro	1.32	Residential	0.18%	2.38%
12	06 12A0031000000	Milleson	1.65	Residential	0.23%	2.38%
13	06 12A0030000000	Albert	2.39	Residential	0.34%	2.38%
14	06 1200020016000	Moreno	2.65	Residential	0.37%	2.38%
15	06 1200020020000	Lamp	3.49	Residential	0.49%	2.38%
16	06 1900080002000	Helenski	2.87	Residential	0.40%	2.38%
17	06 1900080001000	Mancuso	1.59	Residential	0.22%	2.38%
18	06 1200020020000	Fitzwater	10.88	Residential	1.53%	2.38%
19	06 1200020002000	Thather	10.88	Residential	1.53%	2.38%
20	06 1200170005000	Rutherford	49.14	Agricultural	6.90%	2.38%
21	06 1900080000000	Larue	10.07	Residential	1.41%	2.38%
22	06 1900080005000	Loy	74.23	Agri/Res	10.43%	2.38%
23	06 1900140000000	Taylor	2.16	Residential	0.30%	2.38%
24	06 1900150000000	Yates	1.33	Residential	0.19%	2.38%
25	06 1900130000000	Chapman	17.55	Residential	2.47%	2.38%
26	06 1900170000000	Richards	1.03	Residential	0.14%	2.38%
27	06 1900170001000	Jenkins	1.33	Residential	0.19%	2.38%
28	06 1900180002000	Grove	28.23	Agri/Res	3.97%	2.38%
29	06 1900180004000	Cogle	17.09	Residential	2.40%	2.38%
30	06 1900070001000	Potomac	15.57	Utility	2.19%	2.38%
31	06 2900010000000	Clifton 1834	137.10	Agricultural	19.26%	2.38%
32	06 19A0036000000	Twyman	3.08	Residential	0.43%	2.38%
33	06 19A0036000100	Ситу	0.92	Residential	0.13%	2.38%
34	06 19A0032000000	Stolipher	1.55	Residential	0.22%	2.38%
35	06 19A0035000000	Stolipher	1.51	Residential	0.21%	2.38%
36	06-19A0033000000	Yates	5.36	Residential	0.75%	2.38%
37	06 19A0031000000	Locust Grove	1.47	Cementery	0.21%	2.38%
38	06 19A0037000000	Stolipher	2.00	Residential	0.28%	2.38%
39	06 19A0003000000	Payton	8.00	Residential	1.12%	2.38%
40	06 19A0001000100	Berry	11.02	Residential	1.55%	2.38%
41	06 1900050000000	McCarty	14.53	Residential	2.04%	2.38%
42	06 1900020000000	Luttrell	127.52	Agri/Res	17.92%	2.38%
		Total	711.800		100.00%	100.00%

II. <u>Demographics</u>

I have pulled the following demographics for a 1-mile, 3-mile and 5-mile radius around the proposed solar farm project.

I note that the census projects a decline in population within the 1 and 3-mile radii indicated in the coming years.





Housing Profile

201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln 201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, West Virginia, 25446 Ring: 1 mile radius Prepared by Esri

Population		Households	
2010 Total Population	417	2023 Median Household Income	\$152,819
2020 Total Population	406	2028 Median Household Income	\$159,960
2023 Total Population	394	2023-2028 Annual Rate	0.92%
2028 Total Population	379		
2023-2028 Annual Rate	-0.77%		

	Census 2010		2023		2028	
Housing Units by Occupancy Status and Tenure	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Housing Units	174	100.0%	174	100.0%	174	100.0%
Occupied	175	100.6%	168	96.6%	163	93.7%
Owner	140	80.5%	127	73.0%	123	70.7%
Renter	35	20.1%	41	23.6%	40	23.0%
Vacant	0	0.0%	6	3.4%	10	5.7%

	20	2023		2028	
Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	129	100.0%	124	100.0%	
<\$50,000	5	3.9%	2	1.6%	
\$50,000-\$99,999	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	
\$100,000-\$149,999	3	2.3%	1	0.8%	
\$150,000-\$199,999	5	3.9%	3	2.4%	
\$200,000-\$249,999	3	2.3%	2	1.69	
\$250,000-\$299,999	3	2.3%	2	1.69	
\$300,000-\$399,999	80	62.0%	86	69.49	
\$400,000-\$499,999	21	16.3%	22	17.79	
\$500,000-\$749,999	8	6.2%	6	4.89	
\$750,000-\$999,999	0	0.0%	0	0.09	
\$1,000,000-\$1,499,999	0	0.0%	0	0.09	
\$1,500,000-\$1,999,999	O	0.0%	0	0.09	
\$2,000,000+	0	0.0%	0	0.09	
Median Value	\$355,625		\$360,465		
Average Value	\$351,938		\$366,532		

Census 2010 Housing Units	Number	Percent
Total	174	100.0%
In Urbanized Areas	0	0.0%
In Urban Clusters	0	0.0%
Over Herring Holte	174	100.0%



Housing Profile

201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln 201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, West Virginia, 25446 Ring: 3 mile radius

Prepared by Esri

Population		Households	
2010 Total Population	1,945	2023 Median Household Income	\$123,074
2020 Total Population	1,942	2028 Median Household Income	\$138,912
2023 Total Population	1,939	2023-2028 Annual Rate	2.45%
2028 Total Population	1,904		
2023-2028 Annual Rate	-0.36%		

	Censu	s 2010	20	23	20	28
Housing Units by Occupancy Status and Tenure	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Housing Units	747	100.0%	760	100.0%	763	100.0%
Occupied	721	96.5%	722	95.0%	718	94.1%
Owner	594	79.5%	576	75.8%	574	75.2%
Renter	127	17.0%	146	19.2%	144	18.9%
Vacant	27	3.6%	38	5.0%	46	6.0%

	20	23	20	128
Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	576	100.0%	572	100.09
<\$50,000	12	2.1%	5	0.99
\$50,000-\$99,999	2	0.3%	0	0.09
\$100,000-\$149,999	8	1.4%	3	0.59
\$150,000-\$199,999	21	3.6%	11	1.99
\$200,000-\$249,999	27	4.7%	18	3.19
\$250,000-\$299,999	41	7.1%	36	6.3%
\$300,000-\$399,999	279	48.4%	303	53.09
\$400,000-\$499,999	112	19.4%	117	20.5%
\$500,000-\$749,999	62	10.8%	66	11.59
\$750,000-\$999,999	5	0.9%	5	0.99
\$1,000,000-\$1,499,999	7	1.2%	8	1.4%
\$1,500,000-\$1,999,999	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
\$2,000,000+	0	0.0%	0	0.09
Median Value	\$363,441		\$370,297	
Average Value	\$386,111		\$403,322	

Census 2010 Housing Units	Number	Percent
Total	747	100.0%
In Urbanized Areas	0	0.0%
In Urban Clusters	9	1.2%
Rural Housing Units	739	98.9%



Housing Profile

201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln 201-299 Berry Hill Farm Ln, Summit Point, West Virginia, 25446 Ring: 5 mile radius Prepared by Esri

Population		Households	
2010 Total Population	10,155	2023 Median Household Income	\$106,175
2020 Total Population	10,967	2028 Median Household Income	\$113,728
2023 Total Population	11,339	2023-2028 Annual Rate	1.38%
2028 Total Population	13,851		
2023-2028 Annual Rate	4.08%		

	Census	5 2010	20	23	20	28
Housing Units by Occupancy Status and Tenure	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Housing Units	3,955	100.0%	4,378	100.0%	5,307	100.0%
Occupied	3,686	93.2%	4,127	94.3%	4,976	93.8%
Owner	2,945	74.5%	3,307	75.5%	4,149	78.2%
Renter	741	18.7%	820	18.7%	827	15.6%
Vacant	272	6.9%	251	5.7%	331	6.2%

	20	23	20	28
Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	3,306	100.0%	4,150	100.0%
<\$50,000	39	1.2%	25	0.6%
\$50,000-\$99,999	19	0.6%	16	0.4%
\$100,000-\$149,999	58	1.8%	43	1.0%
\$150,000-\$199,999	122	3.7%	107	2,6%
\$200,000-\$249,999	270	8.2%	241	5.8%
\$250,000-\$299,999	430	13.0%	491	11.8%
\$300,000-\$399,999	1,224	37.0%	1,746	42.1%
\$400,000-\$499,999	510	15.4%	675	16.3%
\$500,000-\$749,999	460	13.9%	585	14.1%
\$750,000-\$999,999	118	3.6%	151	3.6%
\$1,000,000-\$1,499,999	53	1.6%	66	1.6%
\$1,500,000-\$1,999,999	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
\$2,000,000+	2	0.1%	3	0.1%
Median Value	\$358,415		\$365,979	
Average Value	\$402,647		\$414,163	

Census 2010 Housing Units	Number	Percent
Total	3,955	100.0%
In Urbanized Areas	0	0.0%
In Urban Clusters	1,693	42.8%
Rural Housing Units	2,262	57.2%

III. Methodology and Discussion of Issues

Standards and Methodology

I conducted this analysis using the standards and practices established by the Appraisal Institute and that conform to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. The analyses and methodologies contained in this report are accepted by all major lending institutions, and they are used in West Virginia and across the country as the industry standard by certified appraisers conducting appraisals, market analyses, or impact studies and are considered adequate to form an opinion of the impact of a land use on neighboring properties. These standards and practices have also been accepted by the courts at the trial and appellate levels and by federal courts throughout the country as adequate to reach conclusions about the likely impact a use will have on adjoining or abutting properties.

The aforementioned standards compare property uses in the same market and generally within the same calendar year so that fluctuating markets do not alter study results. Although these standards do not require a linear study that examines adjoining property values before and after a new use (e.g. a solar farm) is developed, some of these studies do in fact employ this type of analysis. Comparative studies, as used in this report, are considered an industry standard.

The type of analysis employed is a Matched Pair Analysis or Paired Sales Analysis. This methodology is outlined in **The Appraisal of Real Estate**, Twelfth Edition by the Appraisal Institute pages 438-439. It is further detailed in **Real Estate Damages**, Third Edition, pages 33-36 by Randall Bell PhD, MAI. Paired sales analysis is used to support adjustments in appraisal work for factors ranging from the impact of having a garage, golf course view, or additional bedrooms. It is an appropriate methodology for addressing the question of impact of an adjoining solar farm. The paired sales analysis is based on the theory that when two properties are in all other respects equivalent, a single difference can be measured to indicate the difference in price between them. Dr. Bell describes it as comparing a test area to control areas. In the example provided by Dr. Bell he shows five paired sales in the test area compared to 1 to 3 sales in the control areas to determine a difference. I have used 3 sales in the control areas in my analysis for each sale developed into a matched pair.

Determining what is an External Obsolescence

An external obsolescence is a use of property that, because of its characteristics, might have a negative impact on the value of adjacent or nearby properties because of identifiable impacts. Determining whether a use would be considered an external obsolescence requires a study that isolates that use, eliminates any other causing factors, and then studies the sales of nearby versus distant comparable properties. The presence of one or a combination of key factors does not mean the use will be an external obsolescence, but a combination of these factors tend to be present when market data reflects that a use is an external obsolescence.

External obsolescence is evaluated by appraisers based on several factors. These factors include but are not limited to:

- 1) Traffic. Solar Farms are not traffic generators.
- 2) Odor. Solar farms do not produce odor.
- 3) Noise. Solar farms generate no noise concerns. A wide range of noise studies that have been completed have found them consistent with agricultural and residential areas. The noise is even less at night.

- 4) Environmental. Solar farms do not produce toxic or hazardous waste. Grass is maintained underneath the panels so there is minimal impervious surface area.
- 5) Appearance/Viewshed. This is the one area that potentially applies to solar farms. However, solar farms are generally required to provide significant setbacks and landscaping buffers to address that concern. Furthermore, any consideration of appearance of viewshed impacts has to be considered in comparison with currently allowed uses on that site. For example if a residential subdivision is already an allowed use, the question becomes in what way does the appearance impact adjoining property owners above and beyond the appearance of that allowed subdivision or other similar allowed uses.
- 6) Other factors. I have observed and studied many solar farms and have never observed any characteristic about such facilities that prevents or impedes neighbors from fully using their homes or farms or businesses for the use intended.

Market Imperfection

Throughout this analysis, I have specifically considered the influence of market imperfection on data analysis. Market imperfection is the term that refers to the fact that unlike a can of soup at the supermarket or in your online shopping cart, real estate cannot be comparison shopped for the best price and purchased at the best price for that same identical product. Real estate products are always similar and never identical. Even two adjacent lots that are identical in almost every way, have a slight difference in location. Once those lots are developed with homes, the number of differences begin to multiply, whether it is size of the home, landscaping, layout, age of interior upfit, quality of maintenance and so on.

Neoclassical economics indicates a perfectly competitive market as having the following: A large number of buyers and sellers (no one person dominates the market), no barriers or transaction costs, homogeneous product, and perfect information about the product and pricing. Real estate is clearly not homogeneous. The number of buyers and sellers for a particular product in a particular location is limited by geography, financing, and the limited time period within a property is listed. There are significant barriers that limit the liquidity in terms of time, costs and financing. Finally, information on real estate is often incomplete or partial – especially at the time that offers are made and prices set, which is prior to appraisals and home inspections. So real estate is very imperfect based on this definition and the impact of this are readily apparent in the real estate market.

What appear to be near-identical homes that are in the same subdivision will often sell with slight variations in price. When multiple appraisers approach the same property, there is often a slight variation among all of those conclusions of value, due to differences in comparables used or analysis of those comparables. This is common and happens all of the time. In fact, within each appraisal, after making adjustments to the comparables, the appraiser will typically have a range of values that are supported that often vary more than +/-5% from the median or average adjusted value.

Based on this understanding of market imperfection, it is important to note that very minor differences in value within an impact study do not necessarily indicate either a negative or positive impact. When the impacts measured fall within that +/-5%, I consider this to be within typical market variation/imperfection. Therefore it may be that there is a negative or positive impact identified if the impact is within that range, but given that it is indistinguishable from what amounts to the background noise or static within the real estate data, I do not consider indications of +/-5% to support a finding of a negative or positive impact.

Impacts greater than that range are however, considered to be strong indications of impacts that fall outside of typical market imperfection. I have used this as a guideline while considering the impacts identified within this report.

Relative Solar Farm Sizes

Solar farms have been increasing in size in recent years. Much of the data collected is from existing, older solar farms of smaller size, but there are numerous examples of sales adjoining 75 to 80 MW facilities that show a similar trend as the smaller solar farms. This is understandable given that the primary concern relative to a solar farm is the appearance or view of the solar farm, which is typically addressed through setbacks and landscaping buffers. The relevance of data from smaller solar farms to larger solar farms is due to the primary question being one of appearance. If the solar farm is properly screened, then little of the solar farm would be seen from adjoining property regardless of how many acres are involved.

Larger solar farms are often set up in sections where any adjoining owner would only be able to see a small section of the project even if there were no landscaping screen. Once a landscaping screen is in place, the primary view is effectively the same whether you are adjoining a 5 MW, 20 MW or 100 MW facility.

I have split out the data for the matched pairs adjoining larger solar farms only to illustrate the similarities later in this report. I note that I have matched pairs adjoining solar farms up to 500 MWs in size showing no impact on property value.

Steps Involved in the Analysis

The paired sales analysis employed in this report follows the following process:

- 1. Identify sales of property adjoining existing solar farms.
- 2. Compare those sales to similar property that does not adjoin an existing solar farm.
- 3. Confirmation of sales are noted in the analysis write ups.
- 4. Distances from the homes to panels are included as a measure of the setbacks.
- 5. Topographic differences across the solar farms themselves are likewise noted along with demographic data for comparing similar areas.

There are a number of Sale/Resale comparables included in the write ups, but most of the data shown is for sales of homes after a solar farm has been announced (where noted) or after a solar farm has been constructed.

IV. Research on Solar Farms

A. Appraisal Market Studies

I have also considered a number of impact studies completed by other appraisers as detailed below.

CohnReznick – Property Value Impact Study: Adjacent Property Values Solar Impact Study: A Study of Eight Existing Solar Facilities

Patricia McGarr, MAI, CRE, FRICS, CRA and Andrew R. Lines, MAI with CohnReznick completed an impact study for a proposed solar farm in Cheboygan County, Michigan completed on June 10, 2020. I am familiar with this study as well as a number of similar such studies completed by CohnReznick. I have not included all of these studies but I submit this one as representative of those studies.

This study addresses impacts on value from eight different solar farms in Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, Virginia and North Carolina. These solar farms are 19.6 MW, 100 MW, 11.9 MW, 23 MW, 71 MW, 61 MW, 40 MW, and 19 MW for a range from 11.9 MW to 100 MW with an average of 31 MW and a median of 31.5 MW. They analyzed a total of 24 adjoining property sales in the Test Area and 81 comparable sales in the Control Area over a five-year period.

The conclusion of this study is that there is no evidence of any negative impact on adjoining property values based on sales prices, conditions of sales, overall marketability, potential for new development or rate of appreciation.

Christian P. Kaila & Associates - Property Impact Analysis - Proposed Solar Power Plant Guthrie Road, Stuarts Draft, Augusta County, Virginia

Christian P. Kaila, MAI, SRA and George J. Finley, MAI developed an impact study as referenced above dated June 16, 2020. This was for a proposed 83 MW facility on 886 acres.

Mr. Kaila interviewed appraisers who had conducted studies and reviewed university studies and discussed the comparable impacts of other development that was allowed in the area for a comparative analysis of other impacts that could impact viewshed based on existing allowed uses for the site. He also discussed in detail the various other impacts that could cause a negative impact and how solar farms do not have such characteristics.

Mr. Kaila also interviewed County Planners and Real Estate Assessor's in eight different Virginia counties with none of the assessor's identifying any negative impacts observed for existing solar projects.

Mr. Kaila concludes on a finding of no impact on property values adjoining the indicated solar farm.

Fred Beck, MAI, CCIM - Impact Analysis in Lincoln County 2013

Mr. Fred Beck, MAI, CCIM completed an impact analysis in 2013 for a proposed solar farm that concluded on a negative impact on value. That report relied on a single cancelled contract for an adjoining parcel where the contracted buyers indicated that the solar farm was the reason for the cancellation. It also relied on the activities of an assessment impact that was applied in a nearby county.

Mr. Beck was interviewed as part of the Christian Kalia study noted above. From that I quote "Mr. Beck concluded on no effect on moderate priced homes, and only a 5% change in his limited research of higher priced homes. His one sale that fell through is hardly a reliable sample. It also was misleading on Mr. Beck's part to report the lower re-assessments since the primary cause of the

re-assesments were based on the County Official, who lived adjacent to the solar farm, appeal to the assessor for reductions with his own home." In that Clay County Case study the noted lack of lot sales after announcement of the solar farm also coincided with the recession in 2008/2009 and lack of lot sales effectively defined that area during that time. I contacted the Clay County Assessor who indicated that there is no set downward adjustment for properties adjoining solar farms in the county at this time.

I further note, that I was present at the hearing where Mr. Beck presented these findings and the predominance of his argument before the Lincoln County Board of Commissioner's was based on the one cancelled sale as well as a matched pair analysis of high-end homes adjoining a four-story call center. He hypothesized that a similar impact from that example could be compared to being adjacent solar farm without explaining the significant difference in view, setbacks, landscaping, traffic, light, and noise. Furthermore, Mr. Beck did have matched pairs adjoining a solar farm in his study that he put in the back of his report and then ignored as they showed no impact on property value.

Also noted in the Christian Kalia interview notes is a response from Mr. Beck indicating that in his opinion "the homes were higher priced homes and had full view of the solar farm." Based on a description of screening so that "the solar farm would not be in full view to adjoining property owners. Mr. Beck said in that case, he would not see any drop in property value."

NorthStar Appraisal Company – Impact Analysis for Nichomus Run Solar, Pilesgrove, NJ, September 16, 2020

Mr. William J. Sapio, MAI with NorthStar Appraisal Company considered a matched pair analysis for the potential impact on adjoining property values to this proposed 150 MW solar farm. Mr. Sapio considered sales activity in a subdivision known as Point of Woods in South Brunswick Township and identified two recent new homes that were constructed and sold adjoining a 13 MW solar farm and compared them to similar homes in that subdivision that did not adjoin the solar farm. These homes sold in the \$1,290,450 to \$1,336,613 price range and these homes were roughly 200 feet from the closest solar panel.

Based on this analysis, he concluded that the adjoining solar farm had no impact on adjoining property value.

Mary McClinton Clay, MAI - McCracken County Solar Project Value Impact Report, July 10, 2021

Ms. Mary Clay, MAI reviewed a report by Kirkland Appraisals in this case and also provided a differing opinion of impact. She cites a number of other appraisal studies and interestingly finds fault with heavily researched opinions, while praising the results of poorly researched studies that found the opposing view.

Her analysis includes details from solar farms that show no impact on value, but she dismisses those.

She cites the University of Texas study noted later in this report, but she cites only isolated portions of that study to conclude the opposite of what that study specifically concludes.

She cites the University of Rhode Island study noted alter in this report, but specifically excludes the conclusion of that study that in rural areas they found no impact on property value.

She cites lot sales near Spotsylvania Solar without confirming the purchase prices with brokers as indicative of market impact and has made no attempt to compare lot prices that are contemporaneous. In her 5 lot sales that she identifies, all of the lot prices decline with time from 2015 through 2019. This includes the 3 lot sales prior to the approval of the solar farm. The lot sales she cites showing a drop are all related to the original developer of that subdivision 20+ years

ago liquidating all of their lots in that time period and shows significant drops on all of the lots due to it being a liquidation value. More recent lot sales show lot prices over \$100,000 with the most recent land sale adjoining the solar farm having sold in December of 2021 for \$140,000. I spoke with Chris Kalia, MAI out of VA about these lot sales and he confirmed along with two other appraisers in that market that he connected me with that the lot sales Ms. Clay identified were all related to that liquidation and not related to the solar farm. All three appraisers agreed that they had seen no negative impacts from Spotsylvania Solar and that lot prices among builders and home owners were going up and home prices in the neighborhood were likewise going up. Additional analysis on Spotsylvania Solar is shown later in this report with a new section of homes and new price points significantly higher than historical sales in this subdivision.

She considers data at McBride Place Solar Farm and does a sale/resale analysis based on Zillow Home Value Index, which is not a reliable indication for appreciation in the market. She then adjusted her initial sales prior to the solar farm over 7 years to determine what she believes the home should have appreciated by and then compares that to an actual sale. She has run no tests or any analysis to show that the appreciation rates she is using are consistent with the market but more importantly she has not attempted to confirm any of these sales with market participants. I have spoken with brokers active in the sales that she cites and they have all indicated that the solar farm was not a negative factor in marketing or selling those homes.

She has considered lot sales at Sunshine Farms in Grandy, NC. She indicates that the lots next to the solar farm are selling for less than lots not near the solar farm, but she is actually using lot sales next to the solar farm prior to the solar farm being approved. She also ignores recent home sales adjoining this solar farm after it was built that show no impact on property value.

She also notes a couple of situations where solar developers have purchased adjoining homes and resold them or where a neighbor agreement was paid as proof of a negative impact on property value. Given that there are over 2,500 solar farms in the USA as of 2018 according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration and there are only a handful of such examples, this is clearly not an industry standard but a business decision. Furthermore, solar developers are not in the business of flipping homes and are in a position very similar to a bank that acquires a home as OREO (Other Real Estate Owned), where homes are frequently sold at discounted prices, not because of any drop in value, but because they are not a typically motivated seller. Market value requires an analysis of a typically motivated buyer and seller. So these are not good indicators of market value impacts.

The comments throughout this study are heavy in adjectives, avoids stating facts contrary to the conclusion and shows a strong selection bias.

Kevin T. Meeks, MAI - Corcoran Solar Impact Study, Minnesota, 2017

Mr. Kevin Meeks, MAI reviewed a report by Kirkland Appraisals in this case and also provided additional research on the topic with additional paired sales. The sales he considered are well presented and show that they were confirmed by third parties and all of the broker commentary is aligned with the conclusion that the adjoining solar farms considered had no impact on the adjoining home values.

Mr. Meeks also researched a 100 MW project in Chisago County, known as North Star Solar Garden in MN. He interviewed local appraisers and a broker who was actively marketing homes adjoining that solar farm to likewise support a finding of no impact on property value.

John Keefe, Chisago County Assessor, Chisago County Minnesota Assessor's Office, 2017

This study was completed by the Chisago County Minnesota Assessor's Office on property prices adjacent to and in close vicinity of a 1,000-acre North Star solar farm in Minnesota. The study concluded that the North Star solar farm had "no adverse impact" on property values. Mr. Keefe further stated that, "It seems conclusive that valuation has not suffered."

Tim Connelly, MAI - Solar Impact Study of Proposed Solar Facility, New Mexico, 2023

This study is a detailed review of an Impact Study completed by Kirkland Appraisals, LLC for Rancho Viejo Solar. It goes through all of the analysis and confirms the applicability and reliability of the methods and conclusions. Mr. Connelly, MAI concurs that "the proposed solar project will not have a negative impact on market value, marketability, or enjoyment of property in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project."

Donald Fisher, ARA, 2021

Donald Fisher has completed a number of studies on solar farms and was quoted in February 15, 2021 stating, "Most of the locations were in either suburban or rural areas, and all of those studies found either a neutral impact or, ironically, a positive impact, where values on properties after the installation of solar farms went up higher than time trends."

Jennifer N. Pitts, MAI - Study of Residential Market Trends Surrounding Six Utility-Scale Solar Projects in Texas, 2023

This study was completed by Real Property Analytics with Ms. Pitts along with Erin M. Kiella, PhD, and Chris Yost-Bremm, PhD. This analysis considered these solar farms through different stages of the market from announcement of the project, during construction, and after construction. They found no indication of a negative impact on sales price, the ratio of sales price to listing price, or the number of Days on Market. They also researched individual sales and interviewed local brokers who confirmed that market participants were knowledgeable of the solar projects and did not result in a negative impact on sales price or marketing time.

Conclusion of Impact Studies

Of the ten studies noted eight included actual sales data to derive an opinion of no impact on value. The two studies to conclude on a negative impact includes the Fred Beck study based on no actual sales data, and he has since indicated that with landscaping screens he would not conclude on a negative impact. The other study by Mary Clay shows improper adjustments for time, a lack of confirmation of sales comparables, and exclusion of data that does not support her initial position.

I have relied on these studies as additional support for the findings in this impact analysis.

B. Articles

I have also considered a number of articles on this subject as well as conclusions and analysis as noted below.

Farm Journal Guest Editor, March 22, 2021 - Solar's Impact on Rural Property Values

Andy Ames, ASFMRA (American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers) published this article that includes a discussion of his survey of appraisers and studies on the question of property value related to solar farms. He discusses the university studies that I have cited as well as Patricia McGarr, MAI.

He also discusses the findings of Donald A. Fisher, ARA, who served six years at the Chair of the ASFMRA's National Appraisal Review Committee. He is also the Executive Vice President of the CNY Pomeroy Appraiser and has conducted several market studies on solar farms and property impact. He is quoted in the article as saying, "Most of the locations were in either suburban or rural areas, and all of those studies found either a neutral impact, or ironically, a positive impact, where values on properties after installation of solar farms went up higher than time trends."

Howard Halderman, AFM, President and CEO of Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management attended the ASFMRA solar talk hosted by the Indiana Chapter of the ASFMRA and he concludes that other rural properties would likely see no impact and farmers and landowners shown even consider possible benefits. "In some cases, farmers who rent land to a solar company will insure the viability of their farming operation for a longer time period. This makes them better long-term tenants or land buyers so one can argue that higher rents and land values will follow due to the positive impact the solar leases offer."

More recently in August 2022, Donald Fisher, ARA, MAI and myself led a webinar on this topic for the ASFMRA discussing the issues, the university studies and specific examples of solar farms having no impact on adjoining property values.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory - Top Five Large-Scale Solar Myths, February 3, 2016

Megan Day reports form NREL regarding a number of concerns neighbors often express. Myth #4 regarding property value impacts addresses specifically the numerous studies on wind farms that show no impact on property value and that solar farms have a significantly reduced visual impact from wind farms. She highlights that the appearance can be addressed through mitigation measures to reduce visual impacts of solar farms through vegetative screening. Such mitigations are not available to wind farms given the height of the windmills and again, those studies show no impact on value adjoining wind farms.

North Carolina State University: NC Clean Energy Technology Center White Paper: Balancing Agricultural Productivity with Ground-Based Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Development (Version 2), May 2019

Tommy Cleveland and David Sarkisian wrote a white paper for NCSU NC Clean Energy Technology Center regarding the potential impacts to agricultural productivity from a solar farm use. I have interviewed Tommy Cleveland on numerous occasions and I have also heard him speak on these issues at length as well. He addresses many of the common questions regarding how solar farms work and a detailed explanation of how solar farms do not cause significant impacts on the soils, erosion and other such concerns. This is a heavily researched paper with the references included.

North Carolina State University: NC Clean Energy Technology Center White Paper: Health and Safety Impacts of Solar Photovoltaics, May 2017

Tommy Cleveland wrote a white paper for NCSU NC Clean Energy Technology Center regarding the health and safety impacts to address common questions and concerns related to solar farms. This is a heavily researched white paper addressing questions ranging from EMFs, fire safety, as well as vegetation control and the breakdown of how a solar farm works.

C. Broker Commentary

In the process of working up the matched pairs used later in this report, I have collected comments from brokers who have actually sold homes adjoining solar farms indicating that the solar farm had no impact on the marketing, timing, or sales price for the adjoining homes. I have comments from brokers noted within the solar farm write ups of this report including brokers from Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. I have additional commentary from other states including New Jersey and Michigan that provide the same conclusion.

V. <u>University Studies</u>

I have also considered the following studies completed by four different universities related to solar farms and impacts on property values.

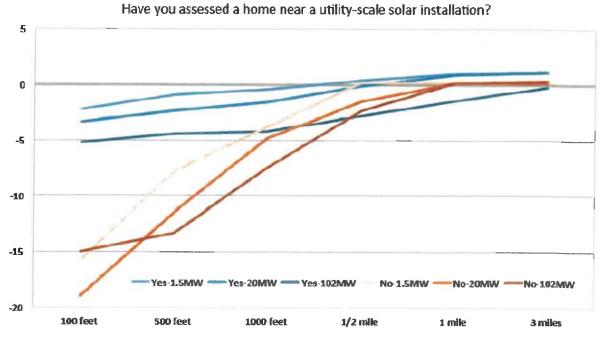
A. University of Texas at Austin, May 2018 An Exploration of Property-Value Impacts Near Utility-Scale Solar Installations

This study considers solar farms from two angles. First it looks at where solar farms are being located and concludes that they are being located primarily in low density residential areas where there are fewer homes than in urban or suburban areas.

The second part is more applicable in that they conducted a survey of appraisers/assessors on their opinions of the possible impacts of proximity to a solar farm. They consider the question in terms of size of the adjoining solar farm and how close the adjoining home is to the solar farm. I am very familiar with this part of the study as I was interviewed by the researchers multiple times as they were developing this. One very important question that they ask within the survey is very illustrative. They asked if the appraiser being surveyed had ever appraised a property next to a solar farm. There is a very noticeable divide in the answers provided by appraisers who have experience appraising property next to a solar farm versus appraisers who self-identify as having no experience or knowledge related to that use.

On Page 16 of that study they have a chart showing the responses from appraisers related to proximity to a facility and size of the facility, but they separate the answers as shown below with appraisers with experience in appraising properties next to a solar farm shown in blue and those inexperienced shown in brown. Even within 100 feet of a 102 MW facility the response from experienced appraisers were -5% at most on impact. While inexperienced appraisers came up with significantly higher impacts. This chart clearly shows that an uninformed response widely diverges from the sales data available on this subject.

Chart B.2 - Estimates of Property Value Impacts (%) by Size of Facility,
Distance, & Respondent Type



Furthermore, the question cited above does not consider any mitigating factors such as landscaping buffers or screens which would presumably reduce the minor impacts noted by experienced appraisers on this subject.

The conclusion of the researchers is shown on Page 23 indicated that "Results from our survey of residential home assessors show that the majority of respondents believe that proximity to a solar installation has either no impact or a positive impact on home values."

This analysis supports the conclusion of this report that the data supports no impact on adjoining property values. The only impact suggested by this study is -5% if a home was within 100 feet of a 100 MW solar farm with little to no landscaping screening. The proposed project has a landscaping screening, is much further setback than 100 feet from adjoining homes, and is less than 100 MW.

B. University of Rhode Island, September 2020

Property Value Impacts of Commercial-Scale Solar Energy in Massachusetts and Rhode Island

The University of Rhode Island published a study entitled **Property Value Impacts of Commercial-Scale Solar Energy in Massachusetts and Rhode Island** on September 29, 2020 with lead researchers being Vasundhara Gaur and Corey Lang. I have read that study and interviewed Mr. Corey Lang related to that study. This study is often cited by opponents of solar farms but the findings of that study have some very specific caveats according to the report itself as well as Mr. Lang from the interview.

While that study does state in the Abstract that they found depreciation of homes within 1-mile of a solar farm, that impact is limited to non-rural locations. On Pages 16-18 of that study under Section 5.3 Heterogeneity in treatment effect they indicate that the impact that they found was limited to non-rural locations with the impact in rural locations effectively being zero. For the study they defined "rural" as a municipality/township with less than 850 population per square mile.

They further tested the robustness of that finding and even in areas up to 2,000 population per square mile they found no statistically significant data to suggest a negative impact. They have not specifically defined a point at which they found negative impacts to begin, as the sensitivity study stopped checking at the 2,000-population per square mile.

Where they did find negative impacts was in high population density areas that was largely a factor of running the study in Massachusetts and Rhode Island which the study specifically cites as being the 2nd and 3rd most population dense states in the USA. Mr. Lang in conversation as well as in recorded presentations has indicated that the impact in these heavily populated areas may reflect a loss in value due to the scarce greenery in those areas and not specifically related to the solar farm itself. In other words, any development of that site might have a similar impact on property value.

Based on this study I have checked the population for the Kabletown Division of Jefferson County, which has a population of 12,139 population for 2023 based on HomeTownLocator using Census Data and a total area of 45.46 square miles. This indicates a population density of 267 people per square mile which puts this well below the threshold indicated by the Rhode Island Study.

I therefore conclude that the Rhode Island Study supports the indication of no impact on adjoining properties for the proposed solar farm project.

Kabletown District Data & Demographics (As of July 1, 2023)

POPULATION	
Total Population	12.139 (100%)
Population in Households	12,057 (99.3%)
Population in Families	10 462 (86.2%)
Population in Group Quarters 1	82 (0.7%)
Population Density	267
Diversity Index ²	47

HOUSING	
Total HU (Housing Units)	4.536 (100%)
Owner Occupied HU	3,500 (77.2%)
Renter Occupied HU	781 (17.2%)
Vacant Housing Units	255 (5.6%)
Median Home Value	\$327,621
Average Home Value	\$343.550
Housing Affordability Index ³	144

INCOME	
Median Household Income	\$111,108
Average Household Income	\$141,485
% of Income for Mortgage ⁴	18%
Per Capita Income	\$49,907
Wealth Index ⁵	148

HOUSEHOLDS	
Total Households	4,281
Average Household Size	2.82000000000
Family Households	3,211
Average Family Size	3

C. Georgia Institute of Technology, October 2020 Utility-Scale Solar Farms and Agricultural Land Values

This study was completed by Nino Abashidze as Post-Doctoral Research Associate of Health Economics and Analytics Labe (HEAL), School of Economics, Georgia Institute of Technology. This research was started at North Carolina State University and analyzes properties near 451 utility-scale ground-mount solar installations in NC that generate at least 1 MW of electric power. A total of 1,676 land sales within 5-miles of solar farms were considered in the analysis.

This analysis concludes on Page 21 of the study "Although there are no direct effects of solar farms on nearby agricultural land values, we do find evidence that suggests construction of a solar farm may create a small, positive, option -value for land owners that is capitalized into land prices. Specifically, after construction of a nearby solar farm, we find that agricultural land that is also located near transmission infrastructure may increase modestly in value."

This study supports a finding of no impact on adjoining agricultural property values and in some cases could support a modest increase in value.

D. Master's Thesis: ECU by Zachary Dickerson July 2018

A Solar Farm in My Backyard? Resident Perspectives of Utility-Scale Solar in Eastern North Carolina

This study was completed as part of a Master of Science in Geography Master's Thesis by Zachary Dickerson in July 2018. This study sets out to address three questions:

- 1. Are there different aspects that affect resident satisfaction regarding solar farms?
- 2. Are there variations in satisfaction for residents among different geographic settings, e.g. neighborhoods adjacent to the solar farms or distances from the solar farms?
- 3. How can insight from both the utility and planning sectors, combined with knowledge gained from residents, fill gaps in communication and policy writing in regard to solar farms?

This was done through survey and interview with adjacent and nearby neighbors of existing solar farms. The positive to neutral comments regarding the solar farms were significantly higher than negative. The researcher specifically indicates on Page 46 "The results show that respondents generally do not believe the solar farms pose a threat to their property values."

The most negative comments regarding the solar farms were about the lack of information about the approval process and the solar farm project prior to construction.

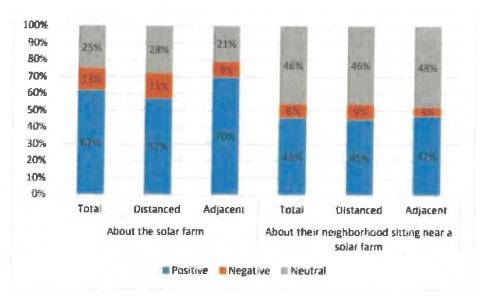
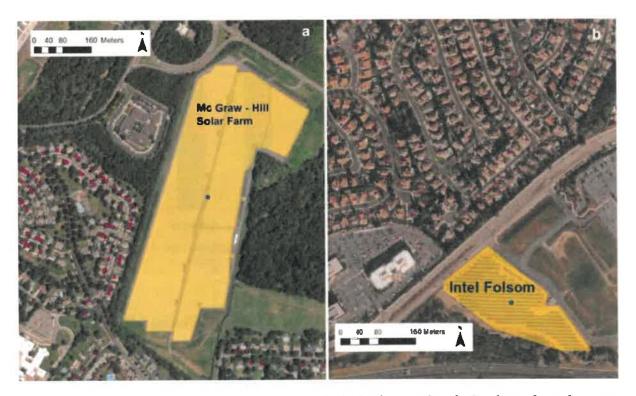


Figure 11: Residents' positive/negative word choices by geographic setting for both questions

E. Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, March 2023

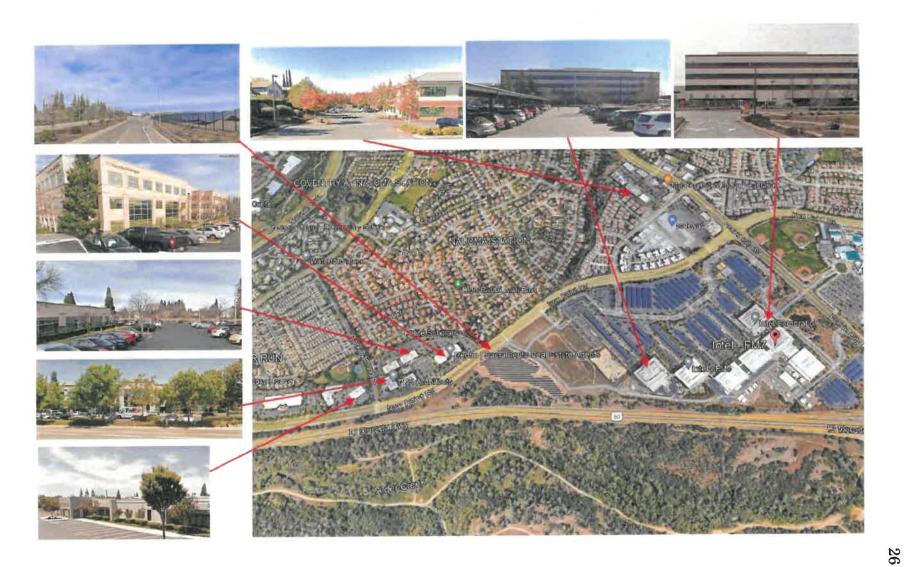
Shedding light on large-scale solar impacts: An analysis of property values and proximity to photovoltaics across six U.S. states

This study was completed by researchers including Salma Elmallah, Ben Hoen, K. Sydny Fujita, Dana Robson, and Eric Brunner. This analysis considers home sales before and after solar farms were installed within a 1-mile radius and compared them to home sales before and after the solar farms at a 2-4 mile radius. The conclusion found a 1.5% impact within 1 mile of a solar farm as compared to homes 2-4 miles from solar farms. This is the largest study of this kind on solar and addresses a number of issues, but also does not address a number of items that could potentially skew these results. First of all, the study found no impact in the three states with the most solar farm activity and only found impacts in smaller sets of data. The data does not in any way discuss actual visibility of solar farms or address existing vegetation screens. This lack of addressing this is highlighted by the fact that they suggest in the abstract that vegetative shading may be needed to address possible impacts. Another notable issue is the fact that they do not address other possible impacts within the radii being considered. This lack of consideration is well illustrated within the study on Figure A.1 where they show satellite images of McGraw Hill Solar Farm in NJ and Intel Folsom in CA. The Folsom image clearly shows large highways separating the solar farm from nearby housing, but with tower office buildings located closer to the housing being considered. In no place do they address the presence of these towers that essentially block those homes from the solar farm in some places. An excerpt of Fig. A.1. is shown below.



For each of these locations, I have panned out a little further on Google Earth to show the areas illustrated to more accurately reflect the general area. For the McGraw Hill Solar Farm you can see there is a large distribution warehouse to the west along with a large offices and other industrial uses. Further to the west is a large/older apartment complex (Princeton Arms). To the east there are more large industrial buildings. However, it is even more notable that 1.67 miles away to the west is Cranbury Golf Club. Given how this analysis was set up, these homes around the industrial buildings are being compared to homes within this country club to help establish impacts from the solar farm. Even considering the idea that each set is compared to itself before and after the solar farm, it is not a reasonable supposition that homes in each area would appreciate at the same rates even if no solar farm was included. Furthermore the site where the solar farm is located an all of the surrounding uses not improved with residential housing to the south is zoned Research Office (RO) which allows for: manufacturing, preparation, processing or fabrication of products, with all activities and product storage taking place within a completely enclosed building, scientific or research laboratories, warehousing, computer centers, pharmaceutical operations, office buildings, industrial office parks among others. Homes adjoining such a district would likely have impacts and influences not seen in areas zoned and surrounded by zoning strictly for residential uses.





On the Intel Folsom map I have shown the images of two of the Intel Campus buildings, but there are roughly 8 such buildings on that site with additional solar panels installed in the parking lot as shown in that image. I included two photos that show the nearby housing having clear and close views of adjoining office parking lots. This illustrates that the homes in that 1-mile radius are significantly more impacted by the adjoining office buildings than a solar farm located distantly that are not within the viewshed of those homes. Also, this solar farm is located on land adjoining the Intel Campus on a tract that is zoned M-1 PD, which is a Light Industrial/Manufacturing zoning. Furthermore, the street view at the solar farm shows not only the divided four-lane highway that separates the office buildings and homes from the solar farm, but also shows that there is no landscaping buffer at this location. All of these factors are ignored by this study. Below is another image of the Folsom Solar at the corner of Iron Point Road and Intel West Driveway which shows just how close and how unscreened this project is.



Compare that image from the McGraw Hill Street view facing south from County Rte 571. There is a distant view and much of the project is hidden by a mix of berms and landscaping. The analysis makes no distinction between these projects.



The third issue with this study is that it identifies impacts following development in areas where they note that "more adverse home price impacts might be found where LSPVPS (large-scale photovoltaic project) displace green space (consistent with results that show higher property values

near green space." The problem with this statement is that it assumes that the greenspace is somehow guaranteed in these areas, when in fact, they could just as readily be developed as a residential subdivision and have the same impacts. They have made no effort to differentiate loss of greenspace through other development purposes such as schools, subdivisions, or other uses versus the impact of solar farms. In other words, they may have simply identified the impact of all forms of development on property value. This would in fact be consistent with the comments in the Rhode Island study where the researchers noted that the loss of greenspace in the highly urban areas was likely due to the loss of greenspace in particular and not due to the addition of solar panels.

Despite these three shortcomings in the analysis – the lack of differentiating landscape screening, the lack of consideration of other uses within the area that could be impacting property values, and the lack of consideration of alternative development impacts – the study still only found impacts between 0 and 5% with a conclusion of 1.5% within a 1-mile radius. As discussed later in this report, real estate is an imperfect market and real estate transactions typically sell for much wider variability than 5% even where there are no external factors operating on property value.

I therefore conclude that the minor impacts noted in this study support a finding of no impact on property value. Most appraisals show a variation between the highest and lowest comparable sale that is substantially greater than 1.5% and this measured impact for all its flaws would just be lost in the static of normal real estate transactions.

F. Masters Thesis: Loyola University Chicago by Simeng Hao May 2023 Assessing Property Value Impacts Near Utility-Scale Solar in the Midwest

This study considered 70 utility-scale facilities built in the Midwest from 2009 to 2022 using data from the Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory. Using the difference-in-differences, method he found that proximity to solar projects increased property values by 0.5% to 2.0%.

Included in this study is a summary of seven other studies including many of those noted above that considered a total of 3,296 projects with results ranging from 1.7% decline in value to no impact. Only 2 of the studies identified found negative results that ranged from 0.82% to 1.7% impact on property value, while the other five studies found no consistent negative impact.

Given that 5 of the 7 studies identified show no negative impact and the analysis by Mr. Hao shows a positive relationship up to 2%, I consider this analysis to support my conclusions on no impact on property value. While statistical studies note impacts of +/- 2%, as noted earlier in this report, market imperfection is generally greater than that rate and supports a conclusion of no impact. Essentially, while the statistical studies are showing minor variation, applying that to any one particular property whether plus or minus, would be unsupportable given that market imperfection is greater than that purported adjustment.

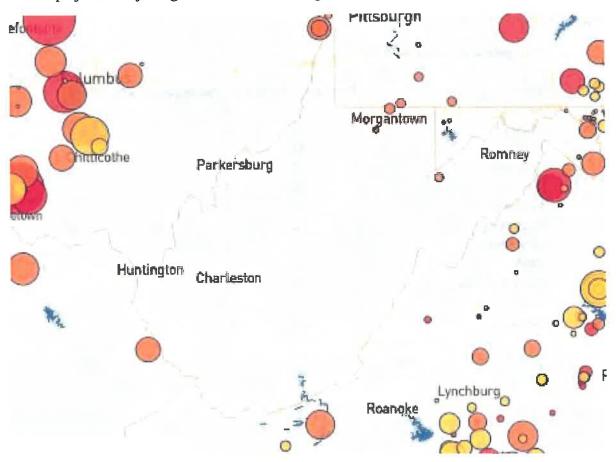
VI. Assessor Surveys

While there are no utility scale solar farms in West Virginia that I have identified, I have completed surveys in a number of states of Assessors and how they handle properties next to solar farms. I have shown the breakdown of those responses below. I have not had any assessor indicate a negative adjustment due to adjacency to a solar farm in any state. These responses total 188 with 170 definitively indicating no negative adjustments are made to adjoining property values, 18 providing no response to the question, and 0 indicating that they do address a negative impact on adjoining property value.

Summary of Assessor Surveys				
State	Responses	No Impact	Yes Impact	No Comment
North Carolina	39	39		
Virginia	16	16		
Indiana	31	31		
Colorado	15	7		8
Georgia	33	33		
Kentucky	10	6		4
Mississippi	4	2		2
New Mexico	5	5		
Ohio	24	20		4
South Carolina	11	11		
Totals	188	170		18

VII. Summary of Solar Projects in and around West Virginia

I have researched the solar projects in West Virginia. I identified the solar farms through the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) Major Projects List and found just three solar farms currently in development in West Virginia and none that are currently built. Other search methods similarly showed no utility scale solar in West Virginia for analysis, which leaves me with focusing on impacts of solar projects in adjoining states as well as throughout the Southeast.



I have considered a list of 182 solar farms from my files that are either existing or under development that have been researched at one point or another in my work files. This list is shown on the following pages to illustrate typical sizes, acreages involved, and mix of adjoining uses.

I note that I excluded solar farms from Maryland as most of those were located on the far side of Maryland near the coast.

					Total	Used	Avg. Dist	Closest	Adjoi	ning U	se by Ac	re
Solar # Name	State	County	City	MW	Acres	Acres	to home	Home	Res	Agri	Ag/Res	Com
115 Buckingham I	VA	Buckingham	Cumberland	19.8	481.2		N/A	N/A	8%	73%	18%	0%
121 Scott	VA	Powhatan	Powhatan	20	898.4		1,421	730	29%	28%	44%	0%
204 Walker-Correctional	VA	New Kent	Barhamsville	20	484.7		516	103	13%	68%	20%	0%
205 Sappony	VA	Sussex	Stony Creek	20	322.7				2%	98%	0%	0%
216 Beetle	VA	Southampton	Boykins	40	422.2		1,169	310	0%	10%	90%	0%
222 Grasshopper	VA	Mecklenburg	Chase City	80	946.3				6%	87%	5%	1%
226 Belcher/Desper	VA	Louisa	Louisa	88	1238			150	19%	53%	28%	0%
228 Bluestone Farm	VA	Mecklenburg	Chase City	4.99	332.5				0%	100%	0%	0%
257 Nokesville	VA	Prince William	Nokesville		331				12%	49%	17%	23%
261 Buckingham II	VA	Buckingham	Buckingham	19.8	460.1				6%	79%	15%	0%
262 Mount Jackson	VA	Shenandoah	Mount Jackson	15.65	652.5				21%	51%	14%	13%
263 Gloucester	VA	Gloucester	Gloucester	20	203.6		508	190	17%	55%	28%	0%
267 Scott II	VA	Powhatan	Powhatan		701		4		41%	25%	34%	0%
270 TWE Myrtle	VA	Suffolk	Suffolk	15	259	120	1,115	150	34%	48%	17%	0%
272 Churchview	VA	Middlesex	Church View	20	567.9				9%	64%	27%	0%
303 Turner	VA	Henrico	Henrico	20	463.1		N/A	N/A	21%	37%	0%	42%
311 Sunnybrook Farm	VA	Halifax	Scottsburg		527.9	340	N/A	N/A	15%	59%	26%	0%
	VA	Halifax	Alton		513		N/A	N/A	7%	71%	22%	0%
* 155	VA	Halifax	Crystal Hill		628.7	218	1,570	140	6%	41%	35%	18%
353 Amazon East	VA	Accomack	Oak Hall	80	1000		645	135	8%	75%	17%	0%
	VA	Halifax	Alton		502		749	100	2%	58%	40%	0%
	VA	Halifax	Nathalie		1134	960	821	250	7%	55%	38%	0%
363 Remington	VA	Fauquier	Remington	20	277.2	125	2,755	1,280	10%	41%	31%	18%
	VA	Culpepper	Stevensburg	100	2267	1800	788	200	8%	62%	29%	0%
	VA	Culpeper	Culpeper		12.53		N/A	N/A	15%	0%	86%	0%
	VA	Northampton	Kendall Grove	20	180.2		N/A	N/A	5%	0%	92%	3%
	VA	Clarke	White Post	10	234.8		N/A	N/A	14%	39%	46%	1%
	VA	Bedford	Bedford	3	101	20	N/A	N/A	8%	0%	66%	26%
	VA	Isle of Wight	Smithfield	19.7	211.1		606	190	9%	0%	91%	0%
	VA	Louisa	Louisa	20	499.5		1,195	110	24%	55%	18%	4%
	VA	Halifax	Clover	91	1312		885	185	5%	61%	17%	18%
	VA	Essex	Center Cross	20	106.1		693	360	3%	70%	27%	0%
•	VA	Southampton	Newsoms	100	3244		-	-	3%	78%	17%	3%
	VA	King and Queen	Shacklefords	110	1700	1173	641	165	14%	72%	13%	1%
•	VA	Halifax	Clover	80	776.2	422	523	195	15%	62%	24%	0%
**		Lancaster	White Stone	2	184	25	831	560	30%	0%	70%	0%
		Middlesex	Topping	15	120	120	1,095	185	59%	32%	0%	10%
•		Page	Stanley	20	360.7	110	2,207	225	12%	22%	65%	0%
		Greensville	Emporia	80	798.3	595	862	300	6%	23%	71%	0%
		Chesterfield	Chesterfield	_	518	308	2,106	350	4%	78%	18%	0%
		Middlesex	Hartfield	5	60.61	38.67	878	205	12%	86%	0%	2%
		Isle of Wight	Windsor	85	760.9	760.9	459	160	8%	71%	21%	0%
		Spotsylvania	Paytes	500	6412	3500			9%	52%	11%	27%
		King William	Aylett	77	1262	576	1,617	680	7%	68%	25%	0%
		Prince George	Disputanta	26.5		564.5	555	115	12%	67%	21%	0%
		Warren	Bowling Green	2		17.36	720	720	1%	64%	0%	36%
540 W. 1. 0		Clark	Winchester	8.5	181.5	63	2,110	2,040	0%	96%	3%	0%
		Kenton Grant	Walton	2		58.03	891	120	21%	0%	60%	19%
			Crittenden	2.7	181.7	34.1	1,035	345	22%	27%	51%	0%
		Metcalfe Garrard	Summer Shade Lancaster	55	968.2		1,731	375	6%	25%	69%	0%
-		Surry	Spring Grove	50	752.8		976	240	8%	36%	51%	5%
_		Albemarle	Scottsville	150	2182	1000	1,860	110	7% 9%	62%	31%	0%
· ·		Dinwiddie	Dinwiddie	138	2261	1000	1,106	215		63%	28%	0%
		Greensville	Emporia	5	64.1 2076	37.8	873	270	28%	40%	32%	0%
		Greensville Louisa	•	150.2		1387	1,091	240	4% 14%	85%	11%	0%
			Louisa New Market	31 5	749.4		598 624	180	14%	71%	14%	1%
		Rockingham Russell	New Market Russell Springs	31.5		323.6 420.8	624 759	190	15%	27%	51%	7%
		Russell Greene	Greensburg	60	585.7	395		150 285	24% 8%	28%	47%	0%
		Greene Taylor	Campbellsville	55	518.9		1,140 540	285	8% 11%	51% 70%	41% 18%	0%
659 Cooperative Shelby 1		Shelby	Simpsonville	2.1	35	35	340	220	6%	11%	32%	0% 52%
-35 cooperative biterby 1		~va~j		4.1	00	30			370	11/0	JZ 70	J4/0

					Total	Used	Avg. Dist	Closest	Adjoir	aing Us	e by Acı	re
Solar # Name	State	County	City	MW			to home		Res	Agri	Ag/Res	
GGO P. W. Proven	KY	Mercer	Harrodsburg	10	50	50	1,026	565	3%	44%	29%	25%
660 E.W. Brown 664 Watlington	VA		South Boston	20	240.1	137	536	215	24%	48%	28%	0%
_	KY		Lebanon	121	1540	1281	1,162	200	5%	38%	56%	0%
672 Spout Spring	VA		Appomattox	60	881.1	673.4	836	335	16%	30%	46%	8%
695 Madison	KY		Richmond	100	1357	1357	575	90	17%	51%	32%	0%
696 Fleming	KY		Elizaville	188	2350	2350	1,036	175	12%	37%	50%	0%
699 Mercer County	KY	Mercer	Harrodsburg	175	1828	1500	1,413	230	5%	33%	62%	0%
700 Ashwood	KY	Lyon	Fredonia	86	1538	1538	785	170	4%	46%	23%	27%
703 Lily Pond	VA	Dinwiddie	Carson	80	1107	600	628	110	13%	75%	12%	0%
704 Midway	VA	Albemarle	Batesville	8	136	90	858	340	20%	46%	34%	0%
716 Horus	KY	Simpson	Franklin	74.36	592.1	547.6	551	110	4%	46%	47%	3%
717 Meade County	KY	Meade	Big Spring		2087	830	-	-	5%	76%	19%	0%
720 Fleming 1	KY	Fleming	Flemingburgs	98	764.5	598.6	585	150	3%	48%	49%	0%
721 McCracken	KY	McCracken	Grahamville-Heath		883	752	1,076	380	1%	14%	14%	7 1%
722 Henderson KY	KY	Henderson	Henderson		1113	725.1	1,395	180	14%	57%	28%	1%
731 DG Amp Piqua	OH	Miami	Piqua	12.6	86.14	86.14	268	125	8%	16%	58%	18%
732 Celina	OH	Mercer	Celina	5	35.78	35.78	598	205	9%	19%	59%	13%
733 Campbell Soup	OH	Henry	Napoleon	10	62.46	62.46	286	160	4%	53%	0%	43%
734 DG Amp Bowling	OH	Wood	Bowling Green	20	237.2	166	1,240	1,240	1%	99%	0%	0%
736 Pleasant Prairie	OH	Franklin	Galloway	250	2271	2054	618	300	15%	38%	20%	26%
737 Hardin	OH	Hardin	Roundhead	300	1717	1717	484	300	5%	85%	9%	0%
738 Yellowood	OH	Clinton	Lynchburg	300	4802	4330	918	300	6%	73%	21%	0%
739 Cadence	OH	Union	Marysville	275	9654			300	11%	75%	13%	2%
749 Martin	VA	Goochland	Richmond	5	114.2	114.2	1,491	470	7%	54%	39%	0%
750 Palmer	VA	Fluvanna	Zion Crossroads	5	57			1 6 5	31%	55%	0%	14%
752 Hollyfield	VA	King William	Manquin	17	779.9	113.7	4,242	700	3%	80%	17%	0%
755 Danville	VA	Pittsylvania	Danville	6	72.08	72.08		135	22%	63%	15%	0%
756 Martin Trail	VA	Halifax	Clover	б	43				6%	13%	81%	0%
757 Route 360	VA	Halifax	Clover	5.65	110			1,275	6%	18%	76%	0%
768 Bullhead	OH	Hillsdale	Jonesville	2	156.5			1,224	19%	57%	24%	1%
769 Cavalier	VA	Surry/Isle of Wight	Elberon	240	5050		•	215	2%	78%	20%	0%
770 Bluebird KY	KY	Harrison	Cynthia	90	1866		,			23%	75%	0%
771 Martin	KY	Martin	Threeforks	100	4122		4,029			94%	2%	0%
772 Riverstone	VA	Buckingham	Arvonia	149.5	1939				4%	90%	6%	0%
773 Sunfish	VA	Orange	Culpeper	80		679.5	-			13%	38%	44%
776 West Lake	VA	Franklin	Harrisburg	20	592.8		-	-		18%	49%	22%
777 Aditya	VA	Louisa	Louisa	11	94.67					85%	0%	0%
781 Waller	VA	Lancaster	Burgess		1400					72%	0%	0%
783 Rhudes Creek	KY	Hardin	Cecilia	100	1078					62%	30%	0%
794 Russelville	KY	Logan	Russelville	173	1612					51%	45%	0%
795 Harris Staunton	VA	Halifax	South Boston	47	697					89%	8%	0%
796 Blue Moon	KY	Harrison	Cynthiana	74.9		949.9				55%	39%	0%
803 Hickory	VA	Chesterfield	Chesterfield	4.7	95.21					22%	70%	0%
804 Hardin KY	KY	Hardin	Elizabethtown	85		877.7	-	470		37%	55%	0%
805 PA Solar Park	PA	Carbon	Nesquehoning	20	258.2				7%	92%	0%	1%
806 Lebanon, PA	PA	Lebanon	Annville	75	973.4					17% 73%	75% 24%	0% 0%
807 White Tail (Nittany)		Franklin	Mowersville	13.5		134.8						
808 Stonefield	KY	Hardin	Elizabethtown	120	902.2		-			47%		0% 1%
809 Mountain Brook	VA	Franklin	Wirtz	20		2 258.2		300	1%	21% 75%		0%
810 White Tail 2	PA	Franklin	St. Thomas	20		7 292.7			12%			3%
811 Randolph	VA	Charlotte	Randolph	800	19000					55%		0%
812 Prince Edward	VA	Prince Edward	Win shout :-	25	263	369.2						0%
813 Redbud	VA	Frederick	Winchester	30								0% 4%
826 Dover Sun Park	PA	York	Dover	75		893.1 178.9						4% 6%
827 G Morris	PA	Dauphin	Gratz	17	685							0%
828 Cepheus	OH	Defiance	Sherwood	68 20		5 126.0				57%		6%
829 OFW	VA	Shenandoah	Mount Jackson West Mansfield	20	3851					78%		1%
830 Fountain Point	OH	Logan	Shenandoah	70		6 461.				100%		0%
831 Knight	VA	Rockingham	Dayton	4	50.7							0%
833 Dayton Wayland	VA VA	Rockingham Pittsylvania	Dayton	7	3143							0%
834 Firefly	vn	1 ittsyrvailla			31-10	. 511	-	200	2270	, 570	1070	0,0

					Total	Used	Avg. Dist	Closest	Adjoi	ning U	se by Ac	те
Solar # Name	Stat	e County	City	MW	Acres	Acres	to home	Home	Res	Agri	Ag/Res	Com
835 Hardin 2	OH	Hardin	McGuffey	150	1524			220	6%	91%	1%	1%
854 Reeve 855 Pine Grove	VA KY	Prince Edward Madison	Pamplin Bybee	5 50	164.7 475			1,195	7%	71%	22%	0%
857 Telesto	KY	Hardin	Elizabethtown	110	1180		•	155 500	15% 15%	31% 58%	54% 2 7 %	0% 0%
858 360 Solar Center	VA	Chesterfield	Moseley	100	2000			235	13%	97%	21%	0%
859 Hummingbird	KY	Fleming	Flemingsburg	200	3115		,	290	5%	37%	58%	0%
864 Purdy	VA	Greensville	Purdy	65	596			250	5%	66%	29%	0%
865 Clover Creek	VA	Halifax	Clover	90	1472			310	10%	89%	1%	0%
868 Keeneland	KY	Barren	Glasgow	38	613	613		105	6%	46%	48%	0%
870 Pineside	VA	Buckingham	Scottsville	74.9	2242	2242	2,484	500	22%	51%	27%	0%
872 Rosalind	VA	Greensville	Emporia	160	1795	1795	654	500	8%	86%	7%	0%
876 Chestnut, OH	ОН	Marion	Marion	68	548	512	641	175	11%	73%	17%	0%
879 Wheelhouse	VA	Lunenburg	Victoria	912.5				900	7%	41%	51%	0%
880 Elam	VA	Prince Edward	Pamplin	138.9	3		,	425	22%	66%	12%	0%
881 Helios	VA	Pulaski	Pulaski	11.45	141.76			225	48%	28%	24%	0%
882 Enon	VA	Stafford	Stafford	3	36.76			120	37%	63%	0%	0%
885 Amelia	VA	Princess Amelia	Amelia Court	10	347			1,650	4%	2%	94%	0%
886 Fulton	OH	Fulton	Fayette	200	1703			210	7%	68%	25%	0%
887 Richwood 891 Elizabethtown	OH PA	Union	Richwood	300	2171	2171	1,491	310	15%	70%	15%	0%
893 Dogwood KY	KY	Lancaster Christian	Elizabethtown Hopkinsville	2 125	32.18		406	155	18%	82%	0%	0%
894 Montour	PA	Columbia	Grovainia	25.5	1565 407.21		1,628 795	350 180	8% 24%	61% 28%	31%	0%
895 Liberty	PA	Montour	Mooresburg	15.65	300.46		1,099	240	18%	18%	48% 64%	0% 0%
900 Land of Promise	VA	Chesapeake	Chesapeake	5	134.66		1,338	785	44%	48%	8%	0%
901 Pocaty	VA	Chesapeake	Chesapeake	2	27.22		632	445	21%	79%	0%	0%
902 Granite Hill	PA	Adams	Hunterstown	70	849.72		1,086	125	4%	21%	76%	0%
903 Snowdrop	PA	Crawford	Edinboro	20	401.5		593	185	28%	54%	17%	2%
904 Sycamore Trail	PA	Crawford	Cambridge Sprngs	20	182.91		579	235	22%	28%	51%	0%
905 Ragland	KY	McCracken	Paducah	125	4158	4158	1,162	225	9%	83%	7%	0%
936 Willow	VA	Franklin	Rocky Mount	12	149	149	543	230	33%	58%	9%	0%
937 Carver	VA	Isle of Wight	Windsor	71	1584.6	1585	857	130	5%	50%	45%	0%
938 Alameda	VA	Fauqiuer	Bealeton	70	810	810	626	160	14%	47%	23%	16%
939 White Oak	VA	Fluvanna	Kidds Store	43	434.7	347	724	400	7%	63%	30%	0%
940 Plank Road	VA	Cumberland	Farmville	10	143.96	144	798	100	21%	69%	0%	11%
941 Skyline	VA	Rockingham	Keezletown	73	733	733	596	155	10%	41%	48%	0%
946 Bellefontaine	OH	Logan	Bellefontaine	48	204.36	204.4	455	280	29%	70%	0%	1%
947 Arvonia	VA	Buckingham	Arvonia	79.8	1065.3	595.1	754	285	18%	63%	18%	0%
951 Fork Union	VA	Fluvanna	West Bottom	116	781.54	781.5	745	390	13%	68%	5%	14%
955 Piney River	VA	Amherst	Piney River	50	431	431	985	350	9%	18%	62%	11%
958 Clover Creek KY	KY	Breckinridge	Hardinsburg	200	3908	3908	1,777	300	6%	64%	19%	11%
965 Cranberry Hollow 967 Augusta	PA VA	Montgomery Augusta	Skippack	150	1717.3	1717	917	200	51%	26%	8%	15%
968 Swallotail	VA VA	Augusta Fluvanna	Lyndhurst West Bottom	100 16	1536.7 241.28	1537 241.3	585 480	280	10%	70%	13%	7%
972 Moonlight	VA	Isle of Wight	Smithfield	44	236.75	236.8	382	285 165	13% 5%	68% 92%	19% 3%	0%
973 Mantle Rock	KY	Livingston	Hampton	65	562	562	1,836	360	1%	25%	3% 74%	0% 0%
974 Confroy	VA	Halifax	Halifax	5	226.91	226.9	2,171	1,125	25%	35%	40%	0%
977 Wood Duck	KY	Barren	Glasgow	100	2259.4	1127	1,297	280	6%	35%	59%	0%
980 Fisherville	VA	Augusta	Fisherville	2	24.09	24.09	617	115	28%	72%	0%	0%
982 Solomons Creek	VA	Powhatan	Powhatan	5	152.9	152.9	1,274	300	67%	13%	17%	3%
989 Banjo Creek	KY	Graves	Mayfield	120	1270	1270	824	180	21%	56%	23%	0%
990 Perrin Creek	VA	Halifax	South Boston	3	86.25	86.25	1,232	640	20%	47%	33%	0%
992 Song Sparrow	KY	Ballard	Paducah	104	661	661	767	235	5%	79%	16%	0%
994 Arthofer	PA	Northampton	Mooresburg	2.5	10.48	10.48	250	120	47%	53%	0%	0%
997 Gage	KY	Balard	La Center	240	1748	1748	704	150	4%	65%	31%	0%
999 Sinai	VA	Halifax	South Boston	9.9	104.93	43.8	546	220	25%	29%	0%	47%
1001 Effort	PA	Monroe	Effort		453.41	453.4	473	120	37%	22%	41%	0%
1004 Bealeton		Fauqiuer	Bealeton	14	161.69	161.7	1,171	230	3%	33%	24%	40%
1010 Caledon		King George	Berthaville	22	1331.3	1331	4,668	585	7%	90%	4%	0%
1013 Wilson		Erie	Wattsburg	80	946.16	946.2	1,420	230	10%	68%	20%	2%
1022 Frontier	KY	Washington, Marior	Springfield	120	921.72	921.7	2,050	275	3%	26%	71%	0%
					Total 1	Used A	Avg. Dist (Closest A				
Colon Promo	100		ALCOHOL STORY				o home I				Ag/Res (
Solar Farms	182		Average	76.0	1045	895	1069	331	13%	53%	30%	5%
			Median	45.5 912.5	565 19000	462 9735	862 4668	230	9% 67%	55%	24%	0%
			~	2.0	19000	9735	4668 250	2040 65	67% 0%	100% 0%	94%	71%
			Low	2.0	J	3	250	03	J 76	U 70	0%	0%

VIII. Market Analysis of the Impact on Value from Solar Farms

I have researched hundreds of solar farms in numerous states to determine the impact of these facilities on the value of adjoining properties. This research has primarily been in North Carolina, but I have also conducted market impact analyses in Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Oregon, Mississippi, Maryland, New York, California, Missouri, Florida, Montana, Georgia, Kentucky, and New Jersey.

I have derived a breakdown of the adjoining uses to show where solar farms are located. A summary showing the results of compiling that data over hundreds of solar farms is shown later in the Scope of Research section of this report.

I also consider whether the properties adjoining a solar farm in one location have characteristics similar to the properties abutting or adjoining the proposed site so that I can make an assessment of market impact on each proposed site. Notably, in most cases solar farms are placed in areas very similar to the site in question, which is surrounded by low density residential and agricultural uses. In my over 1,000 studies, I have found a striking repetition of that same typical adjoining property use mix in over 90% of the solar farms I have looked at. Matched pair results in multiple states are strikingly similar, and all indicate that solar farms – which generate very little traffic, and do not generate noise, dust or have other harmful effects – do not negatively impact the value of adjoining or abutting properties.

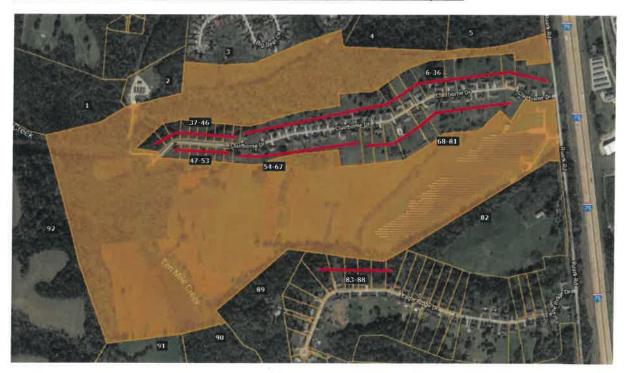
Most of the solar farms that I have looked at are only a few years old and have not been in place long enough for home or land sales to occur next to them for me to analyze. There is nothing unusual about this given the relatively rural locations of most of the solar farms where home and land sales occur much less frequently than they do in urban and suburban areas and the number of adjoining homes is relatively small. However, there are a growing number of projects that are 10 years old with sales and resales of homes adjoining solar farms that provide a growing body of data on this subject.

I review the solar farms that I have looked at periodically to see if there are any new sales. If there is a sale, thenI have to be sure it is not an inhouse sale or to a related family member. A great many of the rural sales that I find are from one family member to another, which makes analysis impossible given that these are not "arm's length" transactions. There are also numerous examples of sales that are "arm's length" but are still not usable due to other factors such as adjoining significant negative factors such as a coal fired plant or at a landfill or prison. I have looked at homes that require a driveway crossing a railroad spur, homes in close proximity to large industrial uses, as well as homes adjoining large state parks, or homes that are over 100 years old with multiple renovations. Such sales are not usable as they have multiple factors impacting the value that are tangled together. You cannot isolate the impact of the coal fired plant, the industrial building, or the railroad unless you are comparing that sale to a similar property with similar impacts. Matched pair analysis requires that you isolate properties that only have one differential to test for, which is why the type of sales noted above is not appropriate for analysis.

After my review of all sales and elimination of the family transactions and those sales with multiple differentials, I am left with the matched pairs shown in this report to analyze. I do have additional matched pair data in other areas of the United States that were not included in this report due to being located in states less comparable to West Virginia than those shown. The only other sales that I have eliminated from the analysis are home sales under \$100,000, which there have not been many such examples, but at that price range it is difficult to identify any impacts through matched pair analysis. I have not cherry picked the data to include just the sales that support one direction in value, but I have included all of them both positive and negative with a preponderance of the evidence supporting no impact to mild positive impacts.

A. Data from States Adjoining West Virginia

Matched Pair - Crittenden Solar, Crittenden, Grant County, KY



This solar farm was built in December 2017 on a 181.70-acre tract but utilizing only 34.10 acres. This is a 2.7 MW facility with residential subdivisions to the north and south.

I have identified five home sales to the north of this solar farm on Clairborne Drive and one home sale to the south on Eagle Ridge Drive since the completion of this solar farm. The home sale on Eagle Drive is for a \$75,000 home and all of the homes along that street are similar in size and price range. According to local broker Steve Glacken with Cutler Real Estate these are the lowest price range/style home in the market. I have not analyzed that sale as it would unlikely provide significant data to other homes in the area.

Mr. Glacken has been selling lots at the west end of Clairborne for new home construction. He indicated in 2020 that the solar farm near the entrance of the development has been a complete non-factor and none of the home sales are showing any concern over the solar farm. Most of the homes are in the \$250,000 to \$280,000 price range. The vacant residential lots are being marketed for \$28,000 to \$29,000. The landscaping buffer is considered light, but the rolling terrain allows for distant views of the panels from the adjoining homes along Clairborne Drive.

The first home considered is a bit of an anomaly for this subdivision in that it is the only manufactured home that was allowed in the community. It sold on January 3, 2019. I compared that sale to three other manufactured home sales in the area making minor adjustments as shown on the next page to account for the differences. After all other factors are considered the adjustments show a -1% to +13% impact due to the adjacency of the solar farm. The best indicator is 1250 Cason, which shows a 3% impact. A 3% impact is within the normal static of real estate transactions and therefore not considered indicative of a positive impact on the property, but it strongly supports an indication of no negative impact.

Adjoini	ng Residen	tial Sales Af	ter Solar F	arm Appr	oved								
Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date So	ld Sales	Ртісе	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	250 Claiborne	0.96	1/3/203	19 \$120	,000	2000	2,016	\$59.52	3/2	Drive	Manuf	
	Not	1250 Cason	1.40	4/18/20	18 \$95	,000	1994	1,500	\$63.33	3/2	2-Det	Manuf	Carport
	Not	410 Reeves	1.02	11/27/20	018 \$80	,000	2000	1,456	\$54.95	3/2	Drive	Manuf	
	Not	315 N Fork	1.09	5/4/20	19 \$107	7,000	1992	1,792	\$59.71	3/2	Drive	Manuf	
Adjustr	nents											Avg	
Solar	Addres	s Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Othe	er To	tal 9	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	250 Claibo	orne							\$120	,000			373
Not	1250 Cas	on \$2,08	1	\$2,850	\$26,144		-\$5,000	0 -\$5,0	00 \$116	,075	3%		
Not	410 Reev	res \$249		\$0	\$24,615				\$104	,865	13%		
Not	315 N Fo	rk -\$1,09	1	\$4,280	\$10,700				\$120	,889	-1%		
												59/	

I also looked at three other home sales on this street as shown below. These are stick-built homes and show a higher price range.

Parcel	Solar	Ad	dress	Acres	Date Sol	d Sales	Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/B	A Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	300 C	laiborne	1.08	9/20/201	8 \$212	2,720	2003	1,568	\$135.66	3/3	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
	Not	460 C	laiborne	0.31	1/3/201	9 \$229	9,000	2007	1,446	\$158.37	3/2	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
	Not	2160	Sherman	1.46	6/1/201	9 \$265	5,000	2005	1,735	\$152.74	3/3	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
	Not	215 L	exington	1.00	7/27/201	8 \$231	,200	2000	1,590	\$145.41	5/4	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
Adjusti	ments												Avg	
Solar	Addr	ess	Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/B/	A Park	Oth	ier To	tal	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	300 Clai	borne								\$213	3,000			488
Not	460 Clai	borne	-\$2,026		-\$4,580	\$15,457	\$5,000)		\$242	2,850	-14%		
Not	2160 Sh	erman	-\$5,672		-\$2,650	-\$20,406				\$23€	5,272	-11%		
MOL														
Not	215 Lex	ington	\$1,072		\$3,468	-\$2,559	-\$5,00	0		\$228	3,180	-7%		

This set of matched pairs shows a minor negative impact for this property. I was unable to confirm the sales price or conditions of this sale. The best indication of value is based on 215 Lexington, which required the least adjusting and supports a -7% impact.

Parcel	Solar	Ad	dress	Acres	Date Sol	d Sales	Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/B	A Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	350 C	laiborne	1.00	7/20/203	8 \$245	5,000	2002	1,688	\$145.14	3/3	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
	Not	460 C	laiborne	0.31	1/3/201	9 \$229	,000	2007	1,446	\$158.37	3/2	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
	Not	2160	Sherman	1.46	6/1/201	9 \$26	5,000	2005	1,735	\$152.74	3/3	2-Car	R/FBsmt	Brick
	Not	215 L	exington	1.00	7/27/20	18 \$23	1,200	2000	1,590	\$145.41	5/4	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
Adjusti	nents												Avg	
Solar	Addr	ess	Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	A Park	Oth	er To	tal	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Solar Adjoins	Addr		Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/B/	A Park	Oth		tal 5,000	% Diff	% Diff	Distance 720
	Addr	borne	Time -\$3,223	Site	YB -\$5,725	GLA \$30,660	BR/B / \$5,000		Oth	\$245		% Diff -4%	% Diff	
Adjoins	Addre 350 Clai	borne borne		Site					Oth	\$245 \$255	5,000		% Diff	
Adjoins Not	Addr 350 Clai 460 Clai	borne borne erman	-\$3,223	Site	-\$5,725	\$30,660)	Oth	\$245 \$255 \$248	5,000 5,712	-4%	% Diff	

The following photograph shows the light landscaping buffer and the distant view of panels that was included as part of the marketing package for this property. The panels are visible somewhat on the left and somewhat through the trees in the center of the photograph. The first photograph is from the home, with the second photograph showing the view near the rear of the lot.





This set of matched pairs shows a no negative impact for this property. The range of adjusted impacts is -4% to +2%. The best indication is -1%, which as described above is within the typical market static and supports no impact on adjoining property value.

Adjoining	Residential	Sales	After Solar	Farm	Approved
Velorning	Kesidentian	Cares	MILL SOIM	L. OIL THE	Whiteaca

Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	370 Claiborne	1.06	8/22/2019	\$273,000	2005	1,570	\$173.89	4/3	2-Car	2-Story	Brick
	Not	2160 Sherman	1.46	6/1/2019	\$265,000	2005	1,735	\$152.74	3/3	2-Car	R/FBsmt	Brick
	Not	2290 Dry	1.53	5/2/2019	\$239,400	1988	1,400	\$171.00	3/2.5	2-Car	R/FBsmt	Brick
	Not	125 Lexington	1.20	4/17/2018	\$240,000	2001	1,569	\$152.96	3/3	2-Car	Split	Brick

Adjustm	nents										Avg	
Solar	Address	Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	370 Claiborne								\$273,000			930
Not	2160 Sherman	\$1,831		\$0	-\$20,161				\$246,670	10%		
Not	2290 Dry	\$2,260		\$20,349	\$23,256	\$2,500			\$287,765	-5%		
Not	125 Lexington	\$9,951		\$4,800					\$254,751	7%		

This set of matched pairs shows a general positive impact for this property. The range of adjusted impacts is -5% to +10%. The best indication is +7%. I typically consider measurements of +/-5% to be within the typical variation in real estate transactions. This indication is higher than that and suggests a positive relationship.

The photograph from the listing shows panels visible between the home and the trampoline shown in the picture.



Adjoini	ng Residential S	ales After S	olar Farm	Approved							
Solar	r Address	Acres	Date Sol	d Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoin	is 330 Claiborn	e 1.00	12/10/20	19 \$282,500	2003	1,768	\$159.79	3/3	2-Car	Ranch	Brick/pool
Not	895 Osborne	1.70	9/16/201	9 \$249,900	2002	1,705	\$146.57	3/2	2-Car	Ranch	Brick/pool
Not	2160 Sherma	n 1.46	6/1/201	9 \$265,000	2005	1,735	\$152.74	3/3	2-Car R	/FBsmt	Brick
Not	215 Lexingto	n 1.00	7/27/201	8 \$231,200	2000	1,590	\$145.41	5/4	2-Car	Ranch	Brick
Solar Adjoins Not Not Not	Address 330 Claiborne 895 Osborne 2160 Sherman 215 Lexington	Time \$1,790 \$4,288 \$9,761	\$1 -\$2	YB GLA ,250 \$7,387 2,650 \$4,032 ,468 \$20,706	BR/BA \$5,000 -\$5,000	Park	Other \$0 \$20,000 \$20,000		7 6% 0 -3%	Avg % Diff	Distance 665

This set of matched pairs shows a general positive impact for this property. The range of adjusted impacts is -3% to +6%. The best indication is +6%. I typically consider measurements of +/-5% to be within the typical variation in real estate transactions. This indication is higher than that and suggests a positive relationship. The landscaping buffer on these is considered light with a fair visibility of the panels from most of these comparables and only thin landscaping buffers separating the homes from the solar panels.

I also looked at four sales that were during a rapid increase in home values around 2021, which required significant time adjustments based on the FHFA Housing Price Index. Sales in this time frame are less reliable for impact considerations as the peak buyer demand allowed for homes to sell with less worry over typical issues such as repairs.

The home at 250 Claiborne Drive sold with no impact from the solar farm according to the buyer's broker Lisa Ann Lay with Keller Williams Realty Service. As noted earlier, this is the only manufactured home in the community and is a bit of an anomaly. There was an impact on this sale due to an appraisal that came in low likely related to the manufactured nature of the home. Ms. Lay indicated that there was significant back and forth between both brokers and the appraiser to address the low appraisal, but ultimately, the buyers had to pay \$20,000 out of pocket to cover the difference in appraised value and the purchase price. The low appraisal was not attributed to the solar farm, but the difficulty in finding comparable sales and likely the manufactured housing.

Adjoining	Residential Sal	es After S	olar Farm I	Built							
Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sol	1 Sales	Price I	Built GI	BA \$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	250 Claiborne	1.05	1/5/2022	\$210	,000	2002 1,5	92 \$131.9	1 4/2	Drive	Ranch	Manuf
Not	255 Spillman	0.64	3/4/2022	\$166	,000	1991 1,1	96 \$138.8	3/1	Drive	Ranch	Remodel
Not	546 Waterworks	0.28	4/29/202	1 \$179	,500	2007 1,0	46 \$171.6	1 4/2	Drive	Ranch	3/4 Fin B
Not	240 Shawnee	1.18	6/7/2021	\$180	,000	1977 1,3	52 \$133.1	3/2	Gar	Ranch	N/A
										Avg	
Solar	Address	Time	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	Avg % Diff	Distance
	Address 250 Claiborne	Time	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total \$210,000		_	Distance 365
		Time -\$379		GLA 43,971	BR/B #		Other -\$20,000			_	
Adjoins Not	250 Claiborne 255 Spillman		\$9,130 \$					\$210,000 \$208,722	1%	_	
Adjoins Not	250 Claiborne 255 Spillman 346 Waterworks	-\$379 \$1,772	\$9,130 \$ -\$4,488 \$	43,971			-\$20,000 -\$67,313	\$210,000 \$208,722	1%	_	

The photograph of the rear view from the listing is shown below.



The home at 260 Claiborne Drive sold with no impact from the solar farm according to the buyer's broker Jim Dalton with Ashcraft Real Estate Services. He noted that there was significant wood rot and a heavy smoker smell about the house, but even that had no impact on the price due to high demand in the market.

Adjoining	g Residential Sal	es After 8	olar Farm B	ailt							
Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	ate Sold Sales Price			A \$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	260 Claiborne	1.00	10/13/202	\$175,0	00 20	001 1,4	56 \$120.19	3/2	Drive	Ranch	N/A
Not	355 Oakwood	0.58	10/27/202	\$186,0	00 20	002 1,0	88 \$170.96	3/2	Gar	Ranch	3/4 Fin B
Not	30 Ellen Kay	0.50	1/30/2020	\$183,0	00 19	988 1,9	50 \$93.85	3/2	Gar	2-Story	N/A
Not	546 Waterworks	s 0.28	4/29/2021	\$179,5	00 20	007 1,0	46 \$171.61	4/2	Drive	Ranch	3/4 Fin B
										Avg	
Solar	Address	Time	YB	GLA :	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	260 Claiborne							\$175,000			390
Not	355 Oakwood	\$18,339	-\$930 \$	50,329		-\$10,000	-\$69,750	\$173,988	1%		
Not	30 Ellen Kav	\$31,974	\$11.895 -	37,088		-\$10,000		\$179,781	-3%		
	546 Waterworks	. ,		56,287			-\$67,313	\$171,510	2%		
1100	O TO WALLIWOIRD	40,120	40,000 4	,			, - / ,	,,		0%	

The photograph of the rear view from the listing is shown below.



These next two were brick and with unfinished basements which made them easier to compare and therefore more reliable. For 300 Claiborne I considered the sale of a home across the street that did not back up to the solar farm and it adjusted to well below the range of the other comparables. I have included it, but would not rely on that which means this next comparable strongly supports a range of 0 to \pm 3% and not up to \pm 19%.

distance	Residential	Solas After	Salar	Farm Built
morning	Vesiden riai	omes wirei	SOIM	raim built

Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	300 Claiborne	0.89	12/18/2021	\$290,000	2002	1,568	\$184.95	3/3	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt
Not	405 Claiborne	0.41	2/1/2022	\$267,750	2004	1,787	\$149.83	3/2	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt
Not	39 Pinhook	0.68	3/31/2022	\$299,000	1992	1,680	\$177.98	3/2	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt
Not	5 Pinhook	0.70	4/7/2022	\$309,900	1992	1,680	\$184.46	3/2	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt

										Avg	
Solar	Address	Time	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	300 Claiborne							\$290,000			570
Not	405 Claiborne	-\$3,384	-\$2,678	-\$26,251				\$235,437	19%		
Not	39 Pinhook	-\$8,651	\$14,950	-\$15,947				\$289,352	0%		
Not	5 Pinhook	-\$9,576	\$15,495	-\$16,528				\$299,291	-3%		
										E0/	

The photograph of the rear view from the listing is shown below.



This same home, 300 Claiborne sold again on October 14, 2022 for \$332,000, or \$42,000 higher or 15% higher than it had just 10 months earlier. The FHFA Home Price Index indicates an 8.3% increase over that time for the overall market, suggesting that this home is actually increasing in value faster than other properties in the area. An updated photo from the 2022 listing is shown below.



The home at 410 Claiborne included an inground pool with significant landscaping around it that was a challenge. Furthermore, two of the comparables had finished basements. I made no adjustment for the pool on those two comparables and considered the two factors to cancel out

Adjoinin	g Residential Sa	les After	Solar Farm	Built								
Solar	Address	Acres	Date So	ld Sales	Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	410 Claiborne	0.31	2/10/20	21 \$275	,000	2006	1,595	\$172.41	3/2	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt/Pool
Not	114 Austin	1.40	12/23/2	20 \$248	,000	1994	1,650	\$150.30	3/2	2-Car	Br Rnch	Bsmt
Not	125 Liza	0.29	6/25/20	21 \$315	,000	2005	1,913	\$164.66	4/3	2-Car	Br Rnch	Ktchn Bsmt
Not	130 Hannahs	0.42	2/9/20	21 \$295	,000	2007	1,918	\$153.81	3/3	2-Car	Br Rnch	Fin Bsmt
											Avg	
Solar	Address	Time	YB	GLA	BR/B	A 1	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
Adjoins	410 Claiborne								\$275,000			1080
Not	114 Austin	\$3,413	\$14,880	-\$6,613				\$20,000	\$279,680	-2%		
Not	125 Liza	-\$11,945	\$1,575	-\$41,890	-\$10,0	00			\$252,740	8%		
Not	130 Hannahs	\$83	-\$1,475	-\$39,743	-\$10,0	00			\$243,864	11%		
											6%	

The nine matched pairs considered in this analysis includes five that show no impact on value, one that shows a negative impact on value, and three that show a positive impact. The negative indication supported by one matched pair is -7% and the positive impacts are +6% and +7%. The two neutral indications show impacts of -5% to +5%. The average indicated impact is +2% when all nine of these indicators are blended.

Furthermore, the comments of the local real estate brokers strongly support the data that shows no negative impact on value due to the proximity to the solar farm.

Matched Pair - Walton 2, Walton, Kenton County, KY

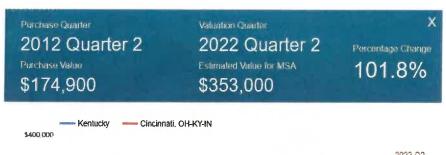


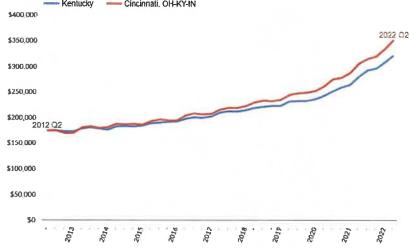
This project was built in 2017 on 58.03 acres for a 2 MW project with the closest home 120 feet from the closest panel.

The home located on Parcel 1 (783 Jones Road, Walton, KY) in the map above sold on May 4, 2022 for \$346,000. This home is 410 feet from the nearest solar panel. I have considered a Sale/Resale analysis of this home as it previously sold on May 7, 2012 for \$174,900. This analysis compares that 2012 purchase price and uses the FHFA House Price Index Calculator to identify what real estate values in the area have been appreciating at to determine where it was expected to appreciate to. I have then compared that to the actual sales price to determine if there is any impact attributable to the addition of the solar farm.

As can be seen on the calculator form, the expected value for \$174,900 home sold in 2nd quarter 2012 would be \$353,000 for 2nd quarter 2022. This is within 2% of the actual sales price and supports a finding of no impact on property value.

I have not attempted a paired sales analysis with other sales, as this property also has the nearby recycling and car lot that would be a potential factor in comparing to other sales. But based on aerial imagery, these same car lots were present in 2012 and therefore has no additional impact when comparing this home sale to itself.





3. Matched Pair - Clarke County Solar, Double Tollgate Road, White Post, Clarke County, VA



This project is a 20 MW facility located on a 234-acre tract that was built in 2017.

I have considered a recent sale or Parcel 3. The home on this parcel is 1,230 feet from the closest panel as measured in the second map from Google Earth, which shows the solar farm under construction.

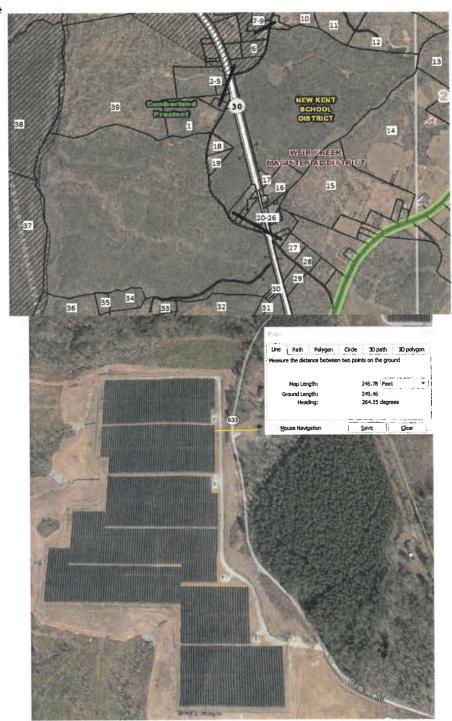
I've compared this home sale to a number of similar rural homes on similar parcels as shown below. I have used multiple sales that bracket the subject property in terms of sale date, year built, gross living area, bedrooms and bathrooms. Bracketing the parameters insures that all factors are well balanced out in the adjustments. The trend for these sales shows a positive value for the adjacency to the solar farm.

Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Approved											
Solar	Address	Астев	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	833 Nations Spr	5.13	1/9/2017	\$295,000	1979	1,392	\$211.93	3/2	Det Gar	Ranch	Unfin bsmt
Not	85 Ashby	5.09	9/11/2017	\$315,000	1982	2,333	\$135.02	3/2	2 Gar	Ranch	
Not	541 Old Kitchen	5.07	9/9/2018	\$370,000	1986	3,157	\$117.20	4/4	2 Gar	2 story	
Not	4174 Rockland	5.06	1/2/2017	\$300,000	1990	1,688	\$177.73	3/2	3 Gar	2 story	
Not	400 Sugar Hill	1.00	6/7/2018	\$180,000	1975	1,008	\$178.57	3/1	Drive	Ranch	

Adjoining	Residential Sales A	fter Solar	Farm Approv	ed	Adjoining	Sales Adj	usted						
Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Time	Acres	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff
Adjoins	833 Nations Spr	5.13	1/9/2017	\$295,000								\$295,000	
Not	85 Ashby	5.09	9/11/2017	\$315,000	-\$6,300		-\$6,615	-\$38,116		-\$7,000	\$15,000	\$271,969	8%
Not	541 Old Kitchen	5.07	9/9/2018	\$370,000	-\$18,500		-\$18,130	-\$62,057		-\$7,000	\$15,000	\$279,313	5%
Not	4174 Rockland	5.06	1/2/2017	\$300,000			-\$23,100	-\$15,782		-\$12,000	\$15,000	\$264,118	10%
Not	400 Sugar Hill	1.00	6/7/2018	\$180,000	-\$9,000	\$43,000	\$5,040	\$20,571	\$10,000	\$3,000	\$15,000	\$267,611	9%
												Average	8%

The landscaping screen is primarily a newly planted buffer with a row of existing trees being maintained near the northern boundary and considered light.

4. Matched Pair - Walker-Correctional Solar, Barham Road, Barhamsville, New Kent County, VA



This project was built in 2017 and located on 484.65 acres for a 20 MW with the closest home at 110 feet from the closest solar panel with an average distance of 500 feet.

I considered the recent sale identified on the map above as Parcel 19, which is directly across the street and based on the map shown on the following page is 250 feet from the closest panel. A limited buffering remains along the road with natural growth being encouraged, but currently the

panels are visible from the road. Alex Uminski, SRA with MGMiller Valuations in Richmond VA confirmed this sale with the buying and selling broker. The selling broker indicated that the solar farm was not a negative influence on this sale and in fact the buyer noticed the solar farm and then discovered the listing. The privacy being afforded by the solar farm was considered a benefit by the buyer. I used a matched pair analysis with a similar sale nearby as shown below and found no negative impact on the sales price. Property actually closed for more than the asking price. The landscaping buffer is considered light.

Adiainiaa	Donislandial	0-1	A 64	6-1	T2	A
Adjoining	Residential	Sales.	Aiter	Solar	rarm	Approved

Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	5241 Barham	2.65	10/18/2018	\$264,000	2007	1,660	\$159.04	3/2	Drive	Ranch	Modular
Not	17950 New Kent	5.00	9/5/2018	\$290,000	1987	1,756	\$165.15	3/2.5	3 Gar	Ranch	
Not	9252 Ordinary	4.00	6/13/2019	\$277,000	2001	1,610	\$172.05	3/2	1.5-Gar	Ranch	
Not	2416 W Miller	1.04	9/24/2018	\$299,000	1999	1,864	\$160.41	3/2.5	Gar	Ranch	

Adioi	ninø	Sales	Adim	sted

Solar	Address	Time	Ac/Loc	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	Dist
Adjoins	5241 Barham								\$264,000		250
Not	17950 New Kent		-\$8,000	\$29,000	-\$4,756	-\$5,000	-\$20,000	-\$15,000	\$266,244	-1%	
Not	9252 Ordinary	-\$8,310	-\$8,000	\$8,310	\$2,581		-\$10,000	-\$15,000	\$246,581	7%	
Not	2416 W Miller		\$8,000	\$11,960	-\$9,817	-\$5,000	-\$10,000	-\$15,000	\$279,143	-6%	

Average Diff 0%

I also spoke with Patrick W. McCrerey of Virginia Estates who was marketing a property that sold at 5300 Barham Road adjoining the Walker-Correctional Solar Farm. He indicated that this property was unique with a home built in 1882 and heavily renovated and updated on 16.02 acres. The solar farm was through the woods and couldn't be seen by this property and it had no impact on marketing this property. This home sold on April 26, 2017 for \$358,000. I did not set up any matched pairs for this property as it was such a unique property that any such comparison would be difficult to rely on. The broker's comments do support the assertion that the adjoining solar farm had no impact on value. The home in this case was 510 feet from the closest panel.

Matched Pair - Sappony Solar, Stony Creek, Sussex County, VA

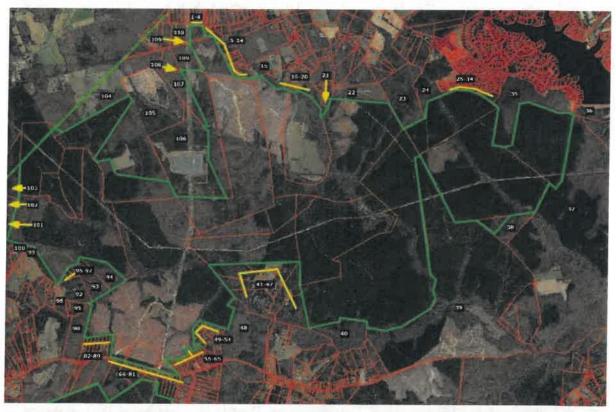


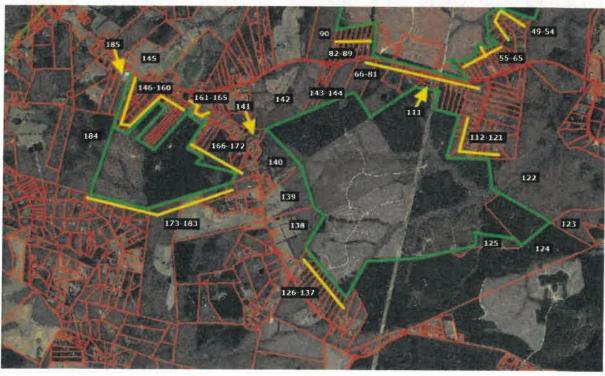
This project is a 30 MW facility located on a 322.68-acre tract that was built in the fourth quarter of 2017.

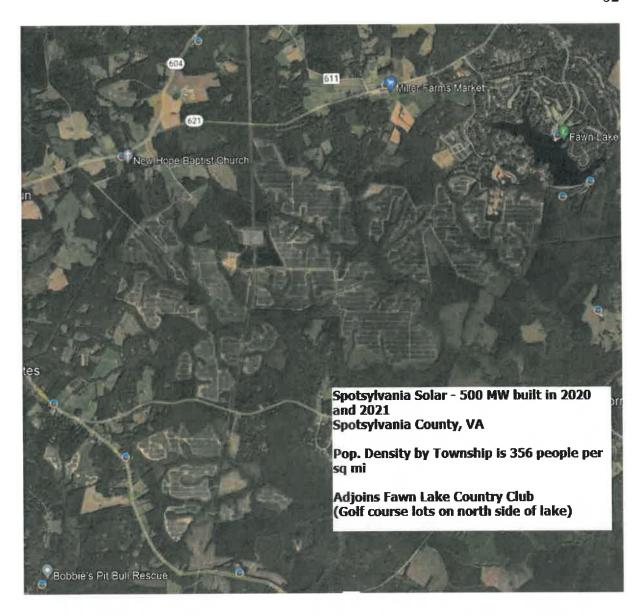
I have considered the 2018 sale of Parcel 17 as shown below. From Parcel 17 the retained trees and setbacks are a light to medium landscaped buffer.

Adjoin	Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Approved												
Parcel	Solar	Ad	dress	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GLA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	12511	Palestine	6.00	7/31/2018	\$128,400	2013	1,900	\$67.58	4/2.5	Open	Manu	f
	Not	15698	Concord	3.92	7/31/2018	\$150,000	2010	2,310	\$64.94	4/2	Open	Manu	f Fence
	Not	23209	Sussex	1.03	7/7/2020	\$95,000	2005	1,675	\$56.72	3/2	Det Crpt	Manu	f
	Not	6494	Rocky Br	4.07	11/8/2018	\$100,000	2004	1,405	\$71.17	3/2	Open	Manu	f
Adjoi	ning Sa	les Adj	usted								Av	g	
Tin	ne i	Site	YB	GLA	BR/B/	A Park	Othe	er S	rotal	% Dif	f % D	iff	Distance
								\$1	28,400				1425
\$0)		\$2,250	-\$21,2	99 \$5,000)		\$1	35,951	-6%			
-\$5,6	560 \$1	3,000	\$3,800	\$10,20	9 \$5,000	\$1,500		\$1	22,849	4%			
-\$8	43		\$4,500	\$28,18	35			\$1	31,842	-3%			
											-14	%	

6. Matched Pair - Spotsylvania Solar, Paytes, Spotsylvania County, VA







This solar farm is being built in four phases with the area known as Site C having completed construction in November 2020 after the entire project was approved in April 2019. Site C, also known as Pleinmont 1 Solar, includes 99.6 MW located in the southeast corner of the project and shown on the maps above with adjoining parcels 111 through 144. The entire Spotsylvania project totals 617 MW on 3500 acres out of a parent tract assemblage of 6,412 acres.

I have identified three adjoining home sales that occurred during construction and development of the site in 2020.

The first is located on the north side of Site A on Orange Plank Road. The second is located on Nottoway Lane just north of Caparthin Road on the south side of Site A and east of Site C. The third is located on Post Oak Road for a home that backs up to Site C that sold in September 2020 near the completion of construction for Site C.

Spotsylvania Solar Farm

Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	12901 Orng Plnk	5.20	8/27/2020	\$319,900	1984	1,714	\$186.64	3/2	Drive	1.5	Un Bsmt
Not	8353 Gold Dale	3.00	1/27/2021	\$415,000	2004	2,064	\$201.07	3/2	3 Gar	Ranch	
Not	6488 Southfork	7.26	9/9/2020	\$375,000	2017	1,680	\$223.21	3/2	2 Gar	1.5	Barn/Patio
Not	12717 Flintlock	0.47	12/2/2020	\$290,000	1990	1,592	\$182.16	3/2.5	Det Gar	Ranch	·

Adjoining Sales Adjusted												
Address	Time	Ac/Loc	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	Dist		
12901 Orng Plnk								\$319,900		1270		
8353 Gold Dale	-\$5,219	\$20,000	-\$41,500	-\$56,298		-\$20,000		\$311,983	2%			
6488 Southfork	-\$401	-\$20,000	-\$61,875	\$6,071		-\$15,000		\$283,796	11%			
12717 Flintlock	-\$2,312	\$40,000	-\$8,700	\$17,779	-\$5,000	-\$5,000		\$326,767	-2%			

I contacted Keith Snider to confirm this sale. This is considered to have a medium landscaping screen.

Solar	Address		Data Sald	Calas D		D : 14	CD4	A (0.0.4)	DD (D 1	5 1		
Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales P	rice	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	9641 Nottoway	11.00	5/12/2020	\$449,9	900	2004	3,186	\$141.21	4/2.5	Garage	2-Story	Un Bsmt
Not	26123 Lafayette	1.00	8/3/2020	\$390,0	000	2006	3,142	\$124.12	3/3.5	Gar/DtG	2-Story	
Not	11626 Forest	5.00	8/10/2020	\$489,9	900	2017	3,350	\$146.24	4/3.5	2 Gar	2-Story	
Not	10304 Pny Brnch	6.00	7/27/2020	\$485,0	000	1998	3,076	\$157.67	4/4	2Gar/Dt2	Ranch	Fn Bsmt
Adjoinin	g Sales Adjusted	1										
Addr		е	Ac/Loc	YB	GL	A	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	
9641 No	ttoway									\$449,90	U	1950
26123 La	fayette -\$2,6	61	\$45,000	-\$3,900	\$4,3	69 -	\$10,000	-\$5,000		\$417,80	9 7%	
11626 F	Forest -\$3,6	24		\$31,844	-\$19,	187		-\$5,000		\$430,24	6 4%	
10304 Pn	y Brnch -\$3,0	30		\$14,550	\$13,	875 -	\$15,000	-\$15,000	-\$10,000	\$470,39	6 -5%	
									Av	erage Dif	f 2%	

I contacted Annette Roberts with ReMax about this transaction. This is considered to have a medium landscaping screen.

Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GBA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
Adjoins	13353 Post Oak	5.20	9/21/2020	\$300,000	1992	2,400	\$125.00	4/3	Drive	2-Story	Fn Bsmt
Not	9609 Logan Hgt	5.86	7/4/2019	\$330,000	2004	2,352	\$140.31	3/2	2Gar	2-Story	
Not	12810 Catharpian	6.18	1/30/2020	\$280,000	2008	2,240	\$125.00	4/2.5	Drive	2-Story B	smt/Nd Pnt
Not	10725 Rbrt Lee	5.01	10/26/2020	\$295,000	1995	2,166	\$136.20	4/3	Gar	2-Story	Fn Bsmt

Adjoining Sales A	djusted									
Address	Time	Ac/Loc	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	Dist
13353 Post Oak								\$300,000		1171
9609 Logan Hgt	\$12,070		-\$19,800	\$5,388		-\$15,000	\$15,000	\$327,658	-9%	
12810 Catharpian	\$5,408		-\$22,400	\$16,000	\$5,000		\$15,000	\$299,008	0%	
10725 Rbrt Lee	-\$849		-\$4,425	\$25,496		-\$10,000		\$305,222	-2%	

Average Diff -4%

Average Diff

I contacted Joy Pearson with CTI Real Estate about this transaction. This is considered to have a heavy landscaping screen.

All three of these homes are well set back from the solar panels at distances over 1,000 feet and are well screened from the project. All three show no indication of any impact on property value.

There are a couple of recent lot sales located along Southview Court that have sold since the solar farm was approved. The most recent lot sales include 11700 Southview Court that sold on December 29, 2021 for \$140,000 for a 0.76-acre lot. This property was on the market for less than 2 months before closing within 6% of the asking price. This lot sold earlier in September 2019 for \$55,000 based on a liquidation sale from NTS to an investor.

A similar 0.68-acre lot at 11507 Stonewood Court within the same subdivision located away from the solar farm sold on March 9, 2021 for \$109,000. This lot sold for 18% over the asking price within 1 month of listing suggesting that this was priced too low. Adjusting this lot value upward by 12% for very strong growth in the market over 2021, the adjusted indicated value is \$122,080 for this lot. This is still showing a 15% premium for the lot backing up to the solar farm.

The lot at 11009 Southview Court sold on August 5, 2019 for \$65,000, which is significantly lower than the more recent sales. This lot was sold by NTS the original developer of this subdivision, who was in the process of liquidating lots in this subdivision with multiple lot sales in this time period throughout the subdivision being sold at discounted prices. The home was later improved by the buyer with a home built in 2020 with 2,430 square feet ranch, 3.5 bathrooms, with a full basement, and a current assessed value of \$492,300.

I spoke with Chris Kalia, MAI, Mark Doherty, local real estate investor, and Alex Doherty, broker, who are all three familiar with this subdivision and activity in this neighborhood. All three indicated that there was a deep sell off of lots in the neighborhood by NTS at discounted prices under \$100,000 each. Those lots since that time are being sold for up to \$140,000. The prices paid for the lots below \$100,000 were liquidation values and not indicative of market value. Homes are being built in the neighborhood on those lots with home prices ranging from \$600,000 to \$800,000 with no sign of impact on pricing due to the solar farm according to all three sources.





Fawn Lake Lot Sales

Parcel	Solar?	Address	Acres	Sale Date	Sale Price Ad	For Time	% Diff
A	Adjoins	11700 Southview Ct	0.76	12/29/2021	\$140,000		
	1 1 parcel away	11603 Southview Ct	0.44	3/31/2022	\$140,000	\$141,960	-1.4%
	2 Not adjoin	11507 Stonewood Ct	0.68	3/9/2021	\$109,000	\$118,374	15.4%
	3 Not adjoin	11312 Westgate Wy	0.83	10/15/2020	\$125,000	\$142,000	-1.4%
	4 Not adjoin	11409 Darkstone Pl	0.589	9/23/2021	\$118,000	\$118,000	15.7%
					Ave	erage	7.1%
					Me	dian	7.0%
					Least Adjuste	d	15.7%
					2nd Least Adju		-1.4%

Time Adjustments are based on the FHFA Housing Price Index

7. Matched Pair - Whitehorn Solar, Gretna, Pittsylvania County, VA



This project was built in 2021 for a solar project with 50 MW. Adjoining uses are residential and agricultural. There was a sale located at 1120 Taylors Mill Road that sold on December 20, 2021, which is about the time the solar farm was completed. This sold for \$224,000 for 2.02 acres with a 2,079 s.f. mobile home on it that was built in 2010. The property was listed for \$224,000 and sold for that same price within two months (went under contract almost exactly 30 days from listing). This sales price works out to \$108 per square foot. This home is 255 feet from the nearest panel.

I have compared this sale to an August 20, 2020 sale at 1000 Long Branch Drive that included 5.10 acres with a 1,980 s.f. mobile home that was built in 1993 and sold for \$162,000, or \$81.82 per square foot. Adjusting this upward for significant growth between this sale date and December 2021 relied on data provided by the FHFA House Pricing Index, which indicates that for homes in the Roanoke, VA MSA would be expected to appreciate from \$162,000 to \$191,000 over that period of time. Using \$191,000 as the effective value as of the date of comparison, the indicated value of this sale works out to \$96.46 per square foot. Adjusting this upward by 17% for the difference in year built, but downward by 5% for the much larger lot size at this comparable, I derive an adjusted indication of value of \$213,920, or \$108 per square foot.

This indicates no impact on value attributable to the new solar farm located across from the home on Taylors Mill Road.

8. Matched Pair - Altavista Solar, Altavista, Campbell County, VA



This project was mostly built in 2021 with final construction finished in 2022. This is an 80 MW facility on 720 acres just north of Roanoke River and west of Altavista. Adjoining uses are residential and agricultural.

I have done a Sale/Resale analysis of 3211 Leesville Road which is approximately 540 feet from the nearest solar panel. There was an existing row of trees between this home and the panels that was supplemented with additional screening for a narrow landscaped buffer between the home and the solar panels.

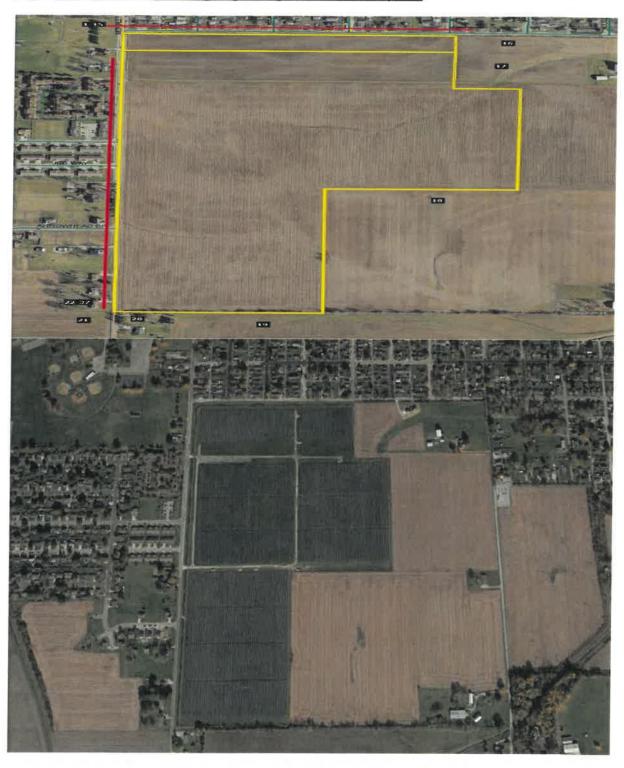
This home sold in December 2018 for \$72,500 for this 1,451 s.f. home built in 1940 with a number of additional outbuildings on 3.35 acres. This was before any announcement of a solar farm. This home sold again on March 28, 2022 for \$124,048 after the solar farm was constructed. This shows a 71% increase in value on this property since 2018. There was significant growth in the market between these dates and to accurately reflect that I have considered the FHFA House Price Index that is specific for the Lynchburg area of Virginia (the closest regional category), which shows an expected increase in home values over that same time period of 33.8%, which would suggest a normal growth in value up to \$97,000. The home sold for significantly more than this which certainly does not support a finding of a negative impact and in fact suggests a significant positive impact. However, I was not able to discuss this sale with the broker and it is possible that the home also was renovated between 2018 and 2022, which may account for that additional increase in value. Still give that the home increased in value so significantly over the initial amount there is no sign of any negative impact due to the solar farm adjacency.



Similarly, I looked at 3026 Bishop Creek Road that is approximately 600 feet from the nearest solar panel. This home sold on July 16, 2019 for \$120,000, which was before construction of the solar farm. This home sold again on February 23, 2022 for \$150,000. This shows a 25% increase in value over that time period. Using the same FHFA House Price Index Calculator, the expected increase in value was 29.2% for an indicated expected value of \$155,000. This is within 3% of the actual closed price, which supports a finding of no impact from the solar farm. This home has a dense wooded area between it and the adjoining solar farm.



9. Matched Pair - DG Amp Piqua, Piqua, Miami County, OH



This project is located on the southeast corner of Manier Street and N Washington Road, Piqua, OH. There are a number of nearby homes to the north, south and west of this solar farm.

I considered one adjoining sale and one nearby sale (one parcel off) that happened since the project was built in 2019. I did not consider the sale of a home located at Parcel 20 that happened in that time period as that property was marketed with damaged floors in the kitchen and bathroom, rusted baseboard heaters and generally was sold in an As-Is condition that makes it difficult to compare to move-in ready homes. I also did not consider some sales to the north that sold for prices significantly under \$100,000. The homes in that community includes a wide range of smaller, older homes that have been selling for prices ranging from \$25,000 to \$80,000. I have not been tracking home sales under \$100,000 as homes in that price range are less susceptible to external factors.

The adjoining sale at 6060 N Washington is a brick range fronting on a main road. I did not adjust the comparables for that factor despite the subdivision exposure on those comparables was superior. I considered the difference in lot size to be balancing factors. If I adjusted further for that main road frontage, then it would actually show a positive impact for adjoining the solar farm.

Adjoin	Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Approved											
Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GLA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
22	Adjoins	6060 N Washington	0.80	10/30/2019	\$119,500	1961	1,404	\$85.11	3/1	2 Gar	Br Rnch	Updates
	Not	1523 Amesbury	0.25	5/7/2020	\$119,900	1973	1,316	\$91.11	3/2	Gar	Br Rnch	Updates
	Not	1609 Haverhill	0.17	10/17/2019	\$114,900	1974	1,531	\$75.05	3/1	Gar	Br Rnch	Updates
	Not	1511 Sweetbriar	0.17	8/6/2020	\$123,000	1972	1,373	\$89.58	4/2	Gar	Br Rnch	Updates

Adjoining	Sales A	Avg								
Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total \$119,500	% Diff	% Diff	Distance 155
-\$1,920		-\$7,194	\$6,414	-\$5,000	\$7,500	\$0	\$119,700	0%		
\$126		-\$7,469	-\$7,625		\$7,500	\$0	\$107,432	10%		
-\$2,913		-\$6,765	\$2,222	-\$5,000	\$7,500	\$0	\$118,044	1%		
*									4%	

I also considered a home fronting on Plymouth Avenue which is one lot to the west of the solar farm with a rear view towards the solar farm. After adjustments this set of matched pairs shows no impact on the value of the property due to proximity to the solar farm.

Adjoin	Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Approved											
Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GLA	BR/BA	Park	Style Other	
	Nearby	1011 Plymouth	0.21	2/24/2020	\$113,000	1973	1,373	\$82.30	4/2	Gar	1.5 Stry Fnce/Shd	
	Not	1630 Haverhill	0.32	8/18/2019	\$94,900	1973	1,373	\$69.12	4/2	Gar	1.5 Stry N/A	
	Not	1720 Williams	0.17	12/4/2019	\$119,900	1968	1,682	\$71.28	4/1	2Gar	1.5 Br Fnce/Shd	
	Not	1710 Cambridge	0.17	1/22/2018	\$116,000	1968	1,648	\$70.39	4/2	Det 2	1.5 Br Fnce/Shd	

Adjoining	Sales Ad		Avg							
Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total \$113,000	% Diff	% Diff	Distance 585
\$1,519		\$0	\$0			\$10,000	\$106,419	6%		
\$829		\$2,998	-\$17,621	\$5,000			\$111,105	2%		
\$7,459		\$2,900	-\$15,485				\$110,873	2%		
. ,									3%	

I considered a home located at 6010 N Washington that sold on August 3, 2021. This property was sold with significant upgrades that made it more challenging to compare, but I focused on similar older brick ranches with updates in the analysis. The comparables suggest an enhancement to this property due to proximity from the solar farm, but it is more likely that the upgrades at the subject were superior. Still this strongly supports a finding of no impact on the value of the property due to proximity to the solar farm.

Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Buil	
	4

Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GLA	BR/BA	Park	Style Other	
24	Adjoins	6010 N Washington	0.80	8/3/2021	\$176,900	1961	1,448	\$122.17	4/2	2 Gar	Br Ranch Updates	3
	Not	1244 Severs	0.19	10/29/2021	\$149,900	1962	1,392	\$107.69	3/2	Gar	Br Ranch Updates	į.
	Not	1515 Amesbury	0.19	5/5/2022	\$156,500	1973	1,275	\$122.75	3/2	2 Gar	Br Ranch Updates	į
	Not	1834 Wilshire	0.21	12/3/2021	\$168,900	1979	1,265	\$133.52	3/2	2 Gar	Br Ranch Updates	ļ

Adjoining	Sales A	djusted							Avg	
Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
							\$176,900			155
-\$1,099		-\$750	\$4,221		\$7,000		\$159,273	10%		
-\$3,627		-\$9,390	\$16,988				\$160,471	9%		
-\$1,736		-\$14,357	\$19,547				\$172,354	3%		
									70/	

I considered a home located at 6240 N Washington that sold on October 15, 2021. The paired sale located at 532 Wilson included a sunroom that I did not adjust for. The -4% impact from that sale is related to that property having a superior sunroom and not related to proximity to the solar farm. The other two comparables strongly support that assertion as well as a finding of no impact on the value of the property due to proximity to the solar farm.

Adjoining Residential Sales After Solar Farm Built

Parcel	Solar	Address	Acres	Date Sold	Sales Price	Built	GBA	\$/GLA	BR/BA	Park	Style	Other
	Adjoins	6240 N Washington	1.40	10/15/2021	\$155,000	1962	1,582	\$97.98	2/1	Det 3	Ranch	
	Not	1408 Brooks	0.13	8/20/2021	\$105,000	1957	1,344	\$78.13	3/1	Drive	Ranch	
	Not	532 Wilson	0.14	7/29/2021	\$159,900	1948	1,710	\$93.51	3/2	Det Gar	Ranch	Sunroom
	Not	424 Pinewood	0.17	5/20/2022	\$151,000	1960	1.548	\$97.55	4/2	Gar	Ranch	

Adjoining	Sales Ad	ijusted							Avg	
Time	Site	YB	GLA	BR/BA	Park	Other	Total	% Diff	% Diff	Distance
							\$155,000			160
\$496		\$2,625	\$13,016		\$15,000		\$136,136	12%		
\$1,051		\$11,193	-\$9,575	-\$10,000	\$8,000		\$160,569	-4%		
-\$2,761		-\$2,265	\$2,653	-\$10,000	\$7,000		\$145,627	6%		

Based on these four matched pairs, the data at this solar farm supports a finding of no impact on property value due to the proximity of the solar farm for homes as close as 155 feet.

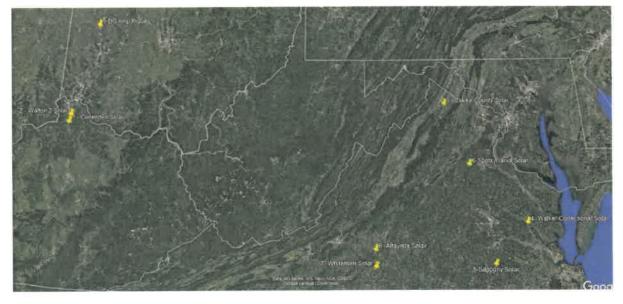
I also identified three new construction home sales on Arrowhead Drive that sold in 2022. I have reached out to the builder regarding those homes, but these homes sold between \$250,000 and \$275,000 each and were located within 350 feet of the solar farm. These sales show that the presence of the solar farm is not inhibiting new home construction in proximity to the solar farm.

Conclusion

The solar farm matched pairs shown above have similar characteristics to each other in terms of population, but with several outliers showing solar farms in far more urban areas. The median income for the population within 1 mile of a solar farm among this subset of matched pairs is \$60,198 with a median housing unit value of \$277,717. Most of the comparables are under \$300,000 in the home price, with \$483,333 being the high end of the set, though I have matched pairs in other states over \$1,600,000 in price adjoining large solar farms. The predominate adjoining uses are residential and agricultural. These figures are in line with the larger set of solar farms that I have looked at with the predominant adjoining uses being residential and agricultural and similar to the solar farm breakdown shown for West Virginia and adjoining states as well as the proposed subject property.

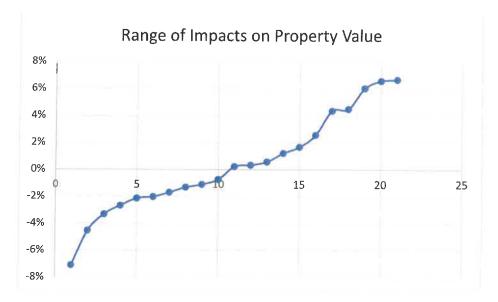
Based on the similarity of adjoining uses and demographic data between these sites and the subject property, I consider it reasonable to compare these sites to the subject property.

Mat	ched Pair Sum		752	Adj. Us	es By	Acreage		1 mile Radius (2010-2022 Data)					
		•				Topo						Med.	Avg. Housing
	Name	City	State	Acres	MW	Shift	Res	Ag	Ag/Res	Com/Ind	Population	Income	Unit
1	Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	34	2.70	40	22%	51%	27%	0%	1,419	\$60,198	\$178,643
2	Walton 2	Walton	KY	58	2.00	90	21%	0%	60%	19%	880	\$81,709	\$277,717
3	Clarke Cnty	White Post	VA	234	20.00	70	14%	39%	46%	1%	578	\$81,022	\$374,453
4	Walker	Barhamsville	VA	485	20.00	N/A	12%	68%	20%	0%	203	\$80,773	\$320,076
5	Sappony	Stony Crk	VA	322	20.00	N/A	2%	98%	0%	0%	74	\$51,410	\$155,208
6	Spotyslvania	Paytes	VA	3,500	500.00	160	37%	52%	11%	0%	74	\$120,861	\$483,333
7	Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	N/A	50.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	166	\$43,179	\$168,750
8	Altavista	Altavista	VA	720	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	\$50,000	\$341,667
9	DG Amp Piqua	Piqua	ОН	86	12.60	2	26%	16%	58%	0%	6,735	\$38,919	\$96,555
	Average			680	78.59	72	19%	46%	32%	3%	1,126	\$67,563	\$266,267
	Median			278	20.00	70	21%	51%	27%	0%	203	\$60,198	\$277,717
	High			3,500	500.00	160	37%	98%	60%	19%	6,735	\$120,861	\$483,333
	Low			34	2.00	2	2%	0%	0%	0%	7	\$38,919	\$96,555



On the following page is a summary of the 21 matched pairs for all of the solar farms noted above. They show a pattern of results from -7% to +7%. The average impacts is 0% and the median impact is 0%.

As can be seen in the chart of those results below, most of the data points are between -2% and +5%. This variability is common with real estate and consistent with market imperfection. I therefore conclude that these results strongly support an indication of no impact on property value due to the adjacent solar farm.



Residential Dwell	ing Matched I	Pairs Adjoin	ing Solar Fe	rms							
		_	_		Approx	m	Sale	O-1- D-1	Adi Bala		O/ TRIFF Water
Pair Solar Farm	City	State	Area			Tax ID/Address	Date Oct-19	\$119,500	Auj. Pric	e	% Diff Notes
1 DG Amp	Piqua	OH	Suburban	12.6	155	6060 N Washington 1511 Sweetbriar	Aug-20		\$118	044	1%
	D '.	011	Contractor	12.6	585	1011 Plymouth	Feb-20		φ110	,017	170
2 DG Amp	Piqua	OH	Suburban	12.0	303	1720 Williams	Dec-19		\$111	105	2%
0.50.4	Di	ОН	Suburban	12.6	155	6010 N Washington	Aug-21		ΨΙΙΙ	,,,,,,,,	270
3 DG Amp	Piqua	On	Suburban	12.0	100	1834 Wilshire	Dec-21	\$168,900	\$172	.354	3%
4 DC Amm	Piqua	ОН	Suburban	12.6	160	6240 N Washington	Oct-21	\$155,000	4	,,00,	0.0
4 DG Amp	riqua	OII	outur barr	12.0	100	424 Pinewood	May-22		\$145	,627	6%
5 Spotsylvania	Postee	VA	Rural	617	1270	12901 Orange Plnk	Aug-20		*	,	Medium
5 Spotsylvaina	Taytes	V/1	Narai	011	12.0	12717 Flintlock	Dec-20		\$326	5,767	-2%
6 Spotsylvania	Postee	VA	Rura1	617	1950	9641 Nottoway	May-20		,	•	Medium
o opoisyivama	Taytes		nara,	011		11626 Forest	Aug-20		\$430),246	4%
7 Spotsylvania	Paytes	VA	Rural	617	1171	13353 Post Oak	Sep-20				Heavy
, opolojivama	Tuytou	***				12810 Catharpin	Jan-20		\$299	800,6	0%
8 Walker	Barhamsville	VA	Rural	20	250	5241 Barham	Oct-18	\$264,000			Light
o mantor	1341114111011110					9252 Ordinary	Jun-19		\$246	5,581	7%
9 Clarke Cnty	White Post	VA	Rural	20	1230	833 Nations Spr	Aug-19	\$385,000			Light
2						2393 Old Chapel	Aug-20	\$330,000	\$389	9,286	-1%
10 Sappony	Stony Creek	VA	Rural	20	1425	12511 Palestine	Jul-18	\$128,400			Medium
	,					6494 Rocky Branch	Nov-18	\$100,000	\$13	1,842	-3%
11 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	373	250 Claiborne	Jan-19	\$120,000			
						315 N Fork	May-19	\$107,000	\$120	0,889	-1%
12 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	488	300 Claiborne	Sep-18	\$213,000			
						1795 Bay Valley	Dec-17	\$231,200	\$228	8,180	-7%
13 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	720	350 Claiborne	Jui-18	\$245,000			
						2160 Sherman	Jun-19	\$265,000	\$248	8,225	-1%
14 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	930	370 Claiborne	Aug-19	\$273,000			
						125 Lexington	Apr-18	\$240,000	\$25	4,751	7%
15 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	365	250 Claiborne	Jan-22	\$210,000	1		Light
						240 Shawnee	Jun-21			9,563	-5%
16 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	390	260 Claiborne	Oct-21				Light
						355 Oakwood	Oct-20			3,988	1%
17 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	570	300 Claiborne	Dec-21				Light
						39 Pinhook	Mar-22			9,352	0%
18 Crittenden	Crittenden	KY	Suburban	2.7	1080	410 Claiborne	Feb-21				Light
						114 Austin	Dec-20			9,680	-2%
19 Walton 2	Walton	KY	Suburban	2	410	783 Jones	May-22				Light
						783 Jones	May-12			3,000	-2%
20 Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	Rural	50	255	1120 Taylors Mill	Dec-21			2 000	Light 5%
					500	100 Long Branch	Aug-20			3,920	
21 Altavista	Altavista	VA	Rural	80	600	3026 Bishop Crk	Feb-22			E 000	Heavy -3%
						3026 Bishop Crk	Jul-19	\$120,000	, \$15	5,000	-370
					74.00						
				2000	Avg.	_					% Dif
			A	MW 100.71	Distance 692	5			Average		0%
			Average	12.60	570				Median		0%
			Median High	617.00	1,950				High		7%
			Low	2.00	155				Low		-7%
			~UW		200						

B. Southeastern USA Data - Over 5 MW

Conclusion - SouthEast Over 5 MW

	theast USA Or ched Pair Sun						Adi. U	ses By	Acreage		_1 mile	Radius /2	010-2022 Data)	
-		•	ä		2000	Topo		-			-	Med.	Avg. Housing	Veg.
4	Name AM Best	City Goldsboro	State NC	Acres 38	MW 5.00	Shift 2	Res 38%	Ag 0%	Ag/Res 23%	Com/Ind 39%	Pop.	Income	Unit	Buffer
1	Mulberry	Selmer	TN	160	5.00	60	13%	73%	10%	39%	1,523 467		\$148,375	Light
2	Leonard	Hughesville	MD	47	5.00	20	18%	75%	0%	5% 6%		\$40,936	\$171,746	Lt to Med
4	Gastonia SC	Gastonia	NC	35	5.00	48	33%	0%			525 4,689	\$106,550 \$35.057	\$350,000	Light
	Summit	Movock	NC	2.034	80.00		33% 4%	0%	23%	44%	,		\$126,562	Light
5	Tracy	-	NC	2,034 50		4			94%	2%	382	\$79,114	\$281,731	Light
6		Bailey			5.00	10	29%	0%	71%	0%	312		\$99,219	Heavy
7	Manatee McBride	Parrish	FL NC	1,180	75.00	20	2%	97%	1%	0%	48	\$75,000	\$291,667	Heavy
8		Midland		627	75.00	140	12%	10%	78%	0%	398	. ,	\$256,306	Lt to Med
9	Mariposa	Stanley	NC	36	5.00	96	48%	0%	52%	0%	1,716		\$137,884	Light
10	Clarke Cnty	White Post	VA	234	20.00	70	14%	39%	46%	1%	578	\$81,022	\$374,453	Light
11	Candace	Princeton	NC	54	5.00	22	76%	24%	0%	0%	448	\$51,002	\$107,171	Medium
12	Walker	Barhamsville	VA	485	20.00	N/A	12%	68%	20%	0%	203	\$80,773	\$320,076	Light
13	Innov 46	Hope Mills	NC	532	78.50	0	17%	83%	0%	0%	2,247	\$58,688	\$183,435	Light
14	Innov 42	Fayetteville	NC	414	71.00	0	41%	59%	0%	0%	568	\$60,037	\$276,347	Light
15	Sunfish	Willow Spring	NC	50	6.40	30	35%	35%	30%	0%	1,515	\$63,652	\$253,138	Light
16	Sappony	Stony Crk	VA	322	20.00	N/A	2%	98%	0%	0%	74	\$51,410	\$155,208	Light
17	Camden Dam	Camden	NC	50	5.00	0	17%	72%	11%	0%	403	\$84,426	\$230,288	Light
18	Grandy	Grandy	NC	121	20.00	10	55%	24%	0%	21%	949	\$50,355	\$231,408	Light
19	Champion	Pelion	SC	100	10.00	N/A	4%	70%	8%	18%	1,336	\$46,867	\$171,939	Light
20	Barefoot Bay	Barefoot Bay	FL	504	74.50	0	11%	87%	0%	3%	2,446	\$36,737	\$143,320	Lt to Med
21	Miami-Dade	Miami	FL	347	74.50	0	26%	74%	0%	0%	127	\$90,909	\$403,571	Light
22	Spotyslvania	Paytes	VA	3,500	617.00	160	37%	52%	11%	0%	74	\$120,861	\$483,333	Md to Hvy
23	Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	N/A	50.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	166	\$43,179	\$168,750	None to Lt
24	Altavista	Altavista	VA	720	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	\$50,000	\$341,667	Light
	Average			506	58.83	36	25%	47%	22%	6%	883	\$62,000	\$237,816	
	Median			234	20.00	20	18%	56%	11%	0%	458	\$55,049	\$230,848	
	High			3,500	617.00	160	76%	98%	94%	44%	4,689	\$120,861	\$483,333	
	Low			35	5.00	0	2%	0%	0%	0%	7	\$35,057	\$99,219	

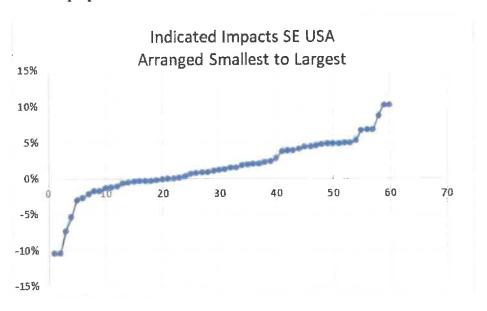
The solar farm matched pairs pulled from the solar farms shown above have similar characteristics to each other in terms of population, but with several outliers showing solar farms in more urban areas. The median income for the population within 1 mile of a solar farm is \$55,049 with a median housing unit value of \$230,848. Most of the comparables are under \$300,000 in the home price, with \$483,333 being the high end of the set, though I have matched pairs in multiple states over \$1,600,000 adjoining solar farms. The adjoining uses show that residential and agricultural uses are the predominant adjoining uses. These figures are in line with the larger set of solar farms that I have looked at with the predominant adjoining uses being residential and agricultural and similar to the solar farm breakdown shown for Virginia and adjoining states as well as the proposed subject property.

Based on the similarity of adjoining uses and demographic data between these sites and the subject property, I consider it reasonable to compare these sites to the subject property.

I have pulled 56 matched pairs from the above referenced solar farms to provide the following summary of home sale matched pairs and land sales next to solar farms. The summary shows that the range of differences is from -10% to +10% with an average of +1% and median of +1%. This means that the average and median impact is for a slight positive impact due to adjacency to a solar farm. However, this +1 to rate is within the typical variability I would expect from real estate. I therefore conclude that this data shows no negative or positive impact due to adjacency to a solar farm.

While the range is seemingly wide, the graph below clearly shows that the vast majority of the data falls between -5% and +5% and most of those are clearly in the 0 to +5% range. This data strongly supports an indication of no impact on adjoining residential uses to a solar farm.

I therefore conclude that these matched pairs support a finding of no impact on value at the subject property for the proposed project, which as proposed will include a landscaped buffer to screen adjoining residential properties.



C. Summary of National Data on Solar Farms

I have worked in over 20 states related to solar farms and I have been tracking matched pairs in most of those states. On the following pages I provide a brief summary of those findings showing 38 solar farms over 5 MW studied with each one providing matched pair data supporting the findings of this report.

The solar farms summary is shown below with a summary of the matched pair data shown on the following page.

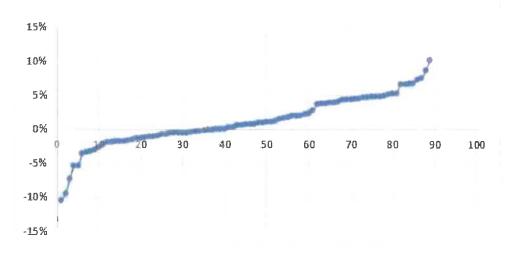
Ma	tched Pair Sur	nmary				Adj. Uses By Acreage			1 mile Radius (2020 Data)					
						Торо						Med.	Avg. Housing	
	Name	City		Acres		Shift		Ag		Com/Ind	Population	Income	Unit	Veg. Buffer
1		Goldsboro	NC	38	5.00	2	38%	0%	23%	39%	1,523		\$148,375	Light
2	-	Selmer	TN	160	5.00	60	13%	73%	10%	3%	467		\$171,746	Lt to Med
3		Hughesville	MD	47	5.00	20	18%	75%	0%	6%		\$106,550	\$350,000	Light
4	Gastonia SC	Gastonia	NC	35	5.00	48	33%	0%	23%	44%	4,689		\$126,562	Light
5	Summit	Moyock	NC	2,034		4	4%	0%	94%	2%	382		\$281,731	Light
6	Tracy	Bailey	NC	50	5.00	10	29%	0%	71%	0%	312		\$99,219	Heavy
7	Manatee	Parrish	FL	1,180		20	2%	97%	1%	0%	48		\$291,667	Heavy
8	McBride	Midland	NC	627	75.00	140	12%	10%	78%	0%	398		\$256,306	Lt to Med
9	Grand Ridge	Streator	IL	160	20.00	1	8%	87%	5%	0%	96		\$187,037	Light
10	Dominion	Indianapolis	IN	134	8.60	20	3%	97%	0%	0%	3,774	\$61,115	\$167,515	Light
11	Mariposa	Stanley	NC	36	5.00	96	48%	0%	52%	0%	1,716		\$137,884	Light
12	Clarke Cnty	White Post	VA	234	20.00	70	14%	39%	46%	1%	578		\$374,453	Light
13	Flemington	Flemington	ŊJ	120	9.36	N/A	13%	50%	28%	8%	,	\$105,714	\$444,696	Lt to Med
14	Frenchtown	Frenchtown	NJ	139	7.90	N/A	37%	35%	29%	0%		\$111,562	\$515,399	Light
15	McGraw	East Windsor	NJ	95	14.00	N/A	27%	44%	0%	29%		\$78,417	\$362,428	Light
16	Tinton Falls	Tinton Falls	NJ	100	16.00	N/A	98%	0%	0%	2%	4,667		\$343,492	Light
17	Simon	Social Circle	GA	237	30.00	71	1%	63%	36%	0%	203	\$76,155	\$269,922	Medium
18	Candace	Princeton	NC	54	5.00	22	76%	24%	0%	0%	448	\$51,002	\$107,171	Medium
19	Walker	Barhamsville	VA	485	20.00	N/A	12%	68%	20%	0%	203	\$80,773	\$320,076	Light
20	Innov 46	Hope Mills	NC	532	78.50	0	17%	83%	0%	0%	2,247	\$58,688	\$183,435	Light
21	Innov 42	Fayetteville	NC	414	71.00	0	41%	59%	0%	0%	568	\$60,037	\$276,347	Light
22	Demille	Lapeer	MΠ	160	28.40	10	10%	68%	0%	22%	2,010	\$47,208	\$187,214	Light
23	Turrill	Lapeer	MΙ	230	19.60	10	75%	59%	0%	25%	2,390	\$46,839	\$110,361	Light
24	Sunfish	Willow Spring	NC	50	6.40	30	35%	35%	30%	0%	1,515	\$63,652	\$253,138	Light
25	Picture Rocks	Tucson	AZ	182	20.00	N/A	6%	88%	6%	0%	102	\$81,081	\$280,172	None
26	Avra Valley	Tucson	AZ	246	25.00	N/A	3%	94%	3%	0%	85	\$80,997	\$292,308	None
27	Sappony	Stony Crk	VA	322	20.00	N/A	2%	98%	0%	0%	74	\$51,410	\$155,208	Medium
28	Camden Dam	Camden	NC	50	5.00	0	17%	72%	11%	0%	403	\$84,426	\$230,288	Light
29	Grandy	Grandy	NC	121	20.00	10	55%	24%	0%	21%	949	\$50,355	\$231,408	Light
30	Champion	Pelion	SC	100	10.00	N/A	4%	70%	8%	18%	1,336	\$46,867	\$171,939	Light
31	Eddy II	Eddy	TX	93	10.00	N/A	15%	25%	58%	2%	551	\$59,627	\$139,088	Light
32	Somerset	Somerset	TX	128	10.60	N/A	5%	95%	0%	0%	1,293	\$41,574	\$135,490	Light
33	DG Amp Piqua	Piqua	OH	86	12.60	2	26%	16%	58%	0%	6,735	\$38,919	\$96,555	Light
34		Barefoot Bay	FL	504	74.50	0	11%	87%	0%	3%	2,446	\$36,737	\$143,320	Lt to Med
35	Miami-Dade	Miami	FL	347	74.50	0	26%	74%	0%	0%	127	\$90,909	\$403,571	Light
36	Spotyslvania	Paytes	VA	3,500	500.00	160	37%	52%	11%	0%	74	\$120,861	\$483,333	Med to Hvy
37	Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	N/A	50.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	166	\$43,179	\$168,750	None to Lt
38	Altavista	Altavista	VA	720	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	\$50,000	\$341,667	Light
39	Hattiesburg	Hattiesburg	MS	400	50.00	N/A	10%	85%	5%	0%	1,065	\$28,545	\$129,921	Med
	Average			372	40.43	32	24%	53%	19%	6%	1,431	\$64,314	\$240,236	
	Median			160	20.00	10	15%	59%	6%	0%	551	\$60,037	\$230,288	
	High			3,500	500.00	160	98%	98%	94%	44%	7,684	\$120,861	\$515,399	
	Low			35	5.00	0	1%	0%	0%	0%	7	\$28,545	\$96,555	

From these 39 solar farms, I have derived 89 matched pairs. The matched pairs show no negative impact at distances as close as 105 feet between a solar panel and the nearest point on a home. The range of impacts is -10% to +10% with an average and median of +1%.

		Avg.		
	MW	Distance		% Dif
Average	48.43	569	Average	1%
Median	16.00	400	Median	1%
High	617.00	2,020	High	10%
Low	5.00	145	Low	-10%

While the range is broad, the two charts below show the data points in range from lowest to highest. There is only 3 data points out of 89 that show a negative impact. The rest support either a finding of no impact or 9 of the data points suggest a positive impact due to adjacency to a solar farm. As discussed earlier in this report, I consider this data to strongly support a finding of no impact on value as most of the findings are within typical market variation and even within that, most are mildly positive findings.





Distance Between Homes and Panels

D. Larger Solar Farms

I have also considered larger solar farms to address impacts related to larger projects. Projects have been increasing in size and most of the projects between 100 and 1000 MW are newer with little time for adjoining sales. I have included a breakdown of solar farms with 20 MW to 80 MW facilities with one 500 MW facility.

Matched Pair Summary - @20 MW And Larger						Adj. Uses By Acreage					1 mile Radius (2010-2020 Data)			
						Торо						Med.	Avg. Housing	
	Name	City	State	Acres	MW	Shift	Res	Ag	Ag/Res	Com/Ind	Population	Income	Unit	
1	Summit	Moyock	NC	2,034	80.00	4	4%	0%	94%	2%	382	\$79,114	\$281,731	
2	Manatee	Parrish	FL	1,180	75.00	20	2%	97%	1%	0%	48	\$75,000	\$291,667	
3	McBride	Midland	NC	627	75.00	140	12%	10%	78%	0%	398	\$63,678	\$256,306	
4	Grand Ridge	Streator	IL	160	20.00	1	8%	87%	5%	0%	96	\$70,158	\$187,037	
5	Clarke Cnty	White Post	VA	234	20.00	70	14%	39%	46%	1%	578	\$81,022	\$374,453	
6	Simon	Social Circle	GA	237	30.00	71	1%	63%	36%	0%	203	\$76,155	\$269,922	
7	Walker	Barhamsville	VA	485	20.00	N/A	12%	68%	20%	0%	203	\$80,773	\$320,076	
8	Innov 46	Hope Mills	NC	532	78.50	0	17%	83%	0%	0%	2,247	\$58,688	\$183,435	
9	Innov 42	Fayetteville	NC	414	71.00	0	41%	59%	0%	0%	568	\$60,037	\$276,347	
10	Demille	Lapeer	MI	160	28.40	10	10%	68%	0%	22%	2,010	\$47,208	\$187,214	
11	Turrill	Lapeer	MI	230	19.60	10	75%	59%	0%	25%	2,390	\$46,839	\$110,361	
12	Picure Rocks	Tucson	AZ	182	20.00	N/A	6%	88%	6%	0%	102	\$81,081	\$280,172	
13	Avra Valley	Tucson	AZ	246	25.00	N/A	3%	94%	3%	0%	85	\$80,997	\$292,308	
14	Sappony	Stony Crk	VA	322	20.00	N/A	2%	98%	0%	0%	74	\$51,410	\$155,208	
15	Grandy	Grandy	NC	121	20.00	10	55%	24%	0%	21%	949	\$50,355	\$231,408	
16	Barefoot Bay	Barefoot Bay	FL	504	74.50	0	11%	87%	0%	3%	2,446	\$36,737	\$143,320	
17	Miami-Dade	Miami	FL	347	74.50	0	26%	74%	0%	0%	127	\$90,909	\$403,571	
18	Spotyslvania	Paytes	VA	3,500	500.00	160	37%	52%	11%	0%	74	\$120,861	\$483,333	
19	Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	N/A	50.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	166	\$43,179	\$168,750	
20	Altavista	Altavista	VA	720	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	\$50,000	\$341,667	
	Average			644	69.08		19%	64%	17%	4%	658	\$67,210	\$261,914	
	Median			347	40.00		12%	68%	2%	0%	203	\$66,918	\$273,135	
	High			3,500	500.00		75%	98%	94%	25%	2,446	\$120,861	\$483,333	
	Low			121	19.60		1%	0%	0%	0%	7	\$36,737	\$110,361	

The breakdown of adjoining uses, population density, median income and housing prices for these projects are very similar to those of the larger set. The matched pairs for each of these were considered earlier and support a finding of no negative impact on the adjoining home values.

I have included a breakdown of solar farms with 50 MW to 617 MW facilities adjoining.

Mat	Matched Pair Summary - @50 MW And Larger						Adj. Uses By Acreage					1 mile Radius (2010-2020 Data)		
						Topo						Med.	Avg. Housing	
	Name	City	State	Acres	MW	Shift	Res	Ag	Ag/Res	Com/Ind	Population	Income	Unit	
1	Summit	Moyock	NC	2,034	80.00	4	4%	0%	94%	2%	382	\$79,114	\$281,731	
2	Manatee	Parrish	FL	1,180	75.00	20	2%	97%	1%	0%	48	\$75,000	\$291,667	
3	McBride	Midland	NC	627	75.00	140	12%	10%	78%	0%	398	\$63,678	\$256,306	
4	Innov 46	Hope Mills	NC	532	78.50	0	17%	83%	0%	0%	2,247	\$58,688	\$183,435	
5	Innov 42	Fayetteville	NC	414	71.00	0	41%	59%	0%	0%	568	\$60,037	\$276,347	
6	Barefoot Bay	Barefoot Bay	FL	504	74.50	0	11%	87%	0%	3%	2,446	\$36,737	\$143,320	
7	Miami-Dade	Miami	FL	347	74.50	0	26%	74%	0%	0%	127	\$90,909	\$403,571	
8	Spotyslvania	Paytes	VA	3,500	500.00	160	37%	52%	11%	0%	74	\$120,861	\$483,333	
9	Whitehorn	Gretna	VA	N/A	50.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	166	\$43,179	\$168,750	
10	Altavista	Altavista	VA	720	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	\$50,000	\$341,667	
	Average Median High			1,095 627 3,500	115.85 75.00 500.00		19% 15% 41%	58% 67% 97%	23% 0% 94%	1% 0% 3%	274	\$67,820 \$61,858 \$120,861	\$283,013 \$279,039 \$483,333	
	Low			347	50.00		2%	0%	0%	0%	7	\$36,737	\$143,320	

The breakdown of adjoining uses, population density, median income and housing prices for these projects are very similar to those of the larger set. The matched pairs for each of these were considered earlier and support a finding of no negative impact on the adjoining home values.

The data for these larger solar farms is shown in the SE USA and the National data breakdowns with similar landscaping, setbacks and range of impacts that fall mostly in the +/-5% range as can be seen earlier in this report.

Below I show a summary of 238 projects ranging in size from 50 MW up to 1,000 MW with an average size of 119.7 MW and a median of 80 MW. The average closest distance for an adjoining home is 365 feet, while the median distance is 220 feet. The closest distance is 50 feet. The mix of adjoining uses is similar with most of the adjoining uses remaining residential or agricultural in nature. This is the list of solar farms that I have researched for possible matched pairs and not a complete list of larger solar farms in those states.

Total Number of Solar Farms Researched Over 50 MW 238

		Total	Used	Avg. Dist	Closest	Adjoini	ng Use	by Acre	
	Output (MW)	Acres	Acres	to home	Home	Res	Agri	Agri/Res	Com
Average	119.7	1521.4	1223.3	1092	365	10%	68%	18%	4%
Median	80.0	987.3	805.5	845	220	7%	72%	12%	0%
High	1000.0	19000.0	9735.4	6835	6810	98%	100%	100%	70%
Low	50.0	3.0	3.0	241	50	0%	0%	0%	0%

IX. Distance Between Homes and Panels

I have measured distances at matched pairs as close as 105 feet between panel and home to show no impact on value. This measurement goes from the closest point on the home to the closest solar panel. This is a strong indication that at this distance there is no impact on adjoining homes.

However, in tracking other approved solar farms across Kentucky, North Carolina and other states, I have found that it is common for there to be homes within 100 to 150 feet of solar panels. Given the visual barriers in the form of privacy fencing or landscaping, there is no sign of negative impact.

I have also tracked a number of locations where solar panels are between 50 and 100 feet of single-family homes. In these cases the landscaping is typically a double row of more mature evergreens at time of planting. There are many examples of solar farms with one or two homes closer than 100-feet, but most of the adjoining homes are further than that distance.

X. Topography

As shown on the summary charts for the solar farms, I have been identifying the topographic shifts across the solar farms considered. Differences in topography can impact visibility of the panels, though typically this results in distant views of panels as opposed to up close views. The topography noted for solar farms showing no impact on adjoining home values range from as much as 160-foot shifts across the project. Given that appearance is the only factor of concern and that distance plus landscape buffering typically addresses up close views, this leaves a number of potentially distant views of panels. I specifically note that in Crittenden in KY there are distant views of panels from the adjoining homes that showed no impact on value.

General rolling terrain with some distant solar panel views are showing no impact on adjoining property value.

XI. Scope of Research

Total Solar Farms Considered: 705

I have researched over 1,000 solar farms and sites on which solar farms are existing and proposed in Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia as well as other states to determine what uses are typically found in proximity with a solar farm. The data I have collected and provide in this report strongly supports the assertion that solar farms are having no negative consequences on adjoining agricultural and residential values.

Beyond these references, I have quantified the adjoining uses for a number of solar farm comparables to derive a breakdown of the adjoining uses for each solar farm. The chart below shows the breakdown of adjoining or abutting uses by total acreage.

	Res	Ag	Res/AG	Comm	Ind	Avg Home	Closest Home	All Res I	Uses
Average	19%	53%	20%	2%	6%	887	344	91%	8%
Median	11%	56%	11%	0%	0%	708	218	100%	0%
High	100%	100%	100%	93%	98%	5,210	4,670	100%	98%
Low	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	90	25	0%	0%

I have also included a breakdown of each solar farm by number of adjoining parcels to the solar farm rather than based on adjoining acreage. Using both factors provides a more complete picture of the neighboring properties.

							Closest	All Res All	Comm
	Res	Ag	Res/AG	Comm	Ind	Avg Home	Home	Uses	Uses
Average	61%	24%	9%	2%	4%	887	344	93%	6%
Median	65%	19%	5%	0%	0%	708	218	100%	0%
High	100%	100%	100%	60%	78%	5,210	4,670	105%	78%
Low	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	90	25	0%	0%

Res = Residential, Ag = Agriculture, Com = Commercial

Total Solar Farms Considered: 705

Both of the above charts show a marked residential and agricultural adjoining use for most solar farms. Every single solar farm considered included an adjoining residential or residential/agricultural use.

XII. Specific Factors Related To Impacts on Value

I have completed a number of Impact Studies related to a variety of uses and I have found that the most common areas for impact on adjoining values typically follow a hierarchy with descending levels of potential impact. I will discuss each of these categories and how they relate to a solar farm.

- 1. Hazardous material
- 2. Odor
- 3. Noise
- 4. Traffic
- 5. Stigma
- 6. Appearance

1. Hazardous material

A solar farm presents no potential hazardous waste byproduct as part of normal operation. Any fertilizer, weed control, vehicular traffic, or construction will be significantly less than typically applied in a residential development and especially most agricultural uses.

The various solar farms that I have inspected and identified in the addenda have no known environmental impacts associated with the development and operation.

2. Odor

The various solar farms that I have inspected produced no odor.

3. Noise

Whether discussing passive fixed solar panels, or single-axis trackers, there is no negative impact associated with noise from a solar farm. The transformer has a hum similar to an HVAC that can only be heard in close proximity and the buffers on the property are sufficient to make emitted sounds effectively inaudible from the adjoining properties. A wide variety of noise studies have been conducted on solar farms to illustrate compatibility between solar properties and nearby residential uses. The noise factor is even less at night.

The various solar farms that I have inspected were inaudible from the roadways.

4. Traffic

The solar farm will have no onsite employee's or staff. The site requires only minimal maintenance. Relative to other potential uses of the site (such as a residential subdivision), the additional traffic generated by a solar farm use on this site is insignificant.

5. Stigma

There is no stigma associated with solar farms and solar farms and people generally respond favorably towards such a use. While an individual may express concerns about proximity to a solar farm, there is no specific stigma associated with a solar farm. Stigma generally refers to things such as adult establishments, prisons, rehabilitation facilities, and so forth.

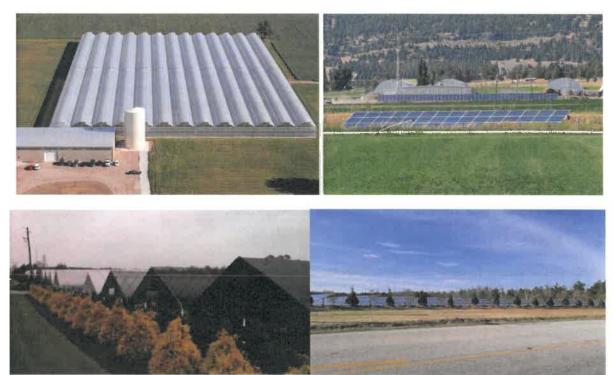
Solar panels have no associated stigma and in smaller collections are found in yards and roofs in many residential communities. Solar farms are adjoining elementary, middle and high schools as well as churches and subdivisions. I note that one of the solar farms in this report not only adjoins

a church, but is actually located on land owned by the church. Solar panels on a roof are often cited as an enhancement to the property in marketing brochures.

I see no basis for an impact from stigma due to a solar farm.

6. Appearance

I note that larger solar farms using fixed or tracking panels are a passive use of the land that is in keeping with a rural/residential area. As shown below, solar farms are comparable to larger greenhouses. This is not surprising given that a greenhouse is essentially another method for collecting passive solar energy. The greenhouse use is well received in residential/rural areas and has a similar visual impact as a solar farm.



The solar panels are all less than 15 feet high, which means that the visual impact of the solar panels will be similar in height to a typical greenhouse and lower than a single-story residential dwelling. Were the subject property developed with single family housing, that development would have a much greater visual impact on the surrounding area given that a two-story home with attic could be three to four times as high as these proposed panels.

Whenever you consider the impact of a proposed project on viewshed or what the adjoining owners may see from their property it is important to distinguish whether or not they have a protected viewshed or not. Enhancements for scenic vistas are often measured when considering properties that adjoin preserved open space and parks. However, adjoining land with a preferred view today conveys no guarantee that the property will continue in the current use. Any consideration of the impact of the appearance requires a consideration of the wide variety of other uses a property already has the right to be put to, which for solar farms often includes subdivision development, agricultural business buildings such as poultry, or large greenhouses and the like.

Dr. Randall Bell, MAI, PhD, and author of the book **Real Estate Damages**, Third Edition, on Page 146 "Views of bodies of water, city lights, natural settings, parks, golf courses, and other amenities are considered desirable features, particularly for residential properties." Dr. Bell continues on Page

147 that "View amenities may or may not be protected by law or regulation. It is sometimes argued that views have value only if they are protected by a view easement, a zoning ordinance, or covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs), although such protections are relatively uncommon as a practical matter. The market often assigns significant value to desirable views irrespective of whether or not such views are protected by law."

Dr. Bell concludes that a view enhances adjacent property, even if the adjacent property has no legal right to that view. He then discusses a "borrowed" view where a home may enjoy a good view of vacant land or property beyond with a reasonable expectation that the view might be partly or completely obstructed upon development of the adjoining land. He follows that with "This same concept applies to potentially undesirable views of a new development when the development conforms to applicable zoning and other regulations. Arguing value diminution in such cases is difficult, since the possible development of the offending property should have been known." In other words, if there is an allowable development on the site then arguing value diminution with such a development would be difficult. This further extends to developing the site with alternative uses that are less impactful on the view than currently allowed uses.

This gets back to the point that if a property has development rights and could currently be developed in such a way that removes the viewshed such as a residential subdivision, then a less intrusive use such as a solar farm that is easily screened by landscaping would not have a greater impact on the viewshed of any perceived value adjoining properties claim for viewshed. Essentially, if there are more impactful uses currently allowed, then how can you claim damages for a less impactful use.

7. Conclusion on Specific Factors

On the basis of the factors described above, it is my professional opinion that the proposed solar farm will not negatively impact adjoining property values. The only category of impact of note is appearance, which is addressed through setbacks and landscaping buffers. The matched pair data supports that conclusion.

XIII. Conclusion

The matched pair analysis shows no negative impact in home values due to abutting or adjoining a solar farm as well as no impact to abutting or adjacent vacant residential or agricultural land. The proposed setbacks are further than those measured showing no impact for similar price ranges of homes and for areas with similar demographics to the subject area. The criteria that typically correlates with downward adjustments on property values such as noise, odor, and traffic all support a finding of no impact on property value. Similar paired sales showed no impact from adjoining battery storage facilities.

Very similar solar farms in very similar areas have been found by hundreds of towns and counties not to have a substantial injury to abutting or adjoining properties, and many of those findings of no impact have been upheld by appellate courts. Similar solar farms have been approved adjoining agricultural uses, schools, churches, and residential developments.

I have found no difference in the mix of adjoining uses or proximity to adjoining homes based on the size of a solar farm and I have found no significant difference in the matched pair data adjoining larger solar farms versus smaller solar farms. The data in the Southeast is consistent with the larger set of data that I have nationally, as is the more specific data located in and around West Virginia.

Based on the data and analysis in this report, it is my professional opinion that the solar farm proposed at the subject property will have no negative impact on the value of adjoining or abutting property. I note that some of the positive implications of a solar farm that have been expressed by people living next to solar farms include protection from future development of residential developments or other more intrusive uses, reduced dust, odor and chemicals from former farming operations, protection from light pollution at night, it's quiet, and there is no traffic.

XIV. Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

The closest home to the BESS will be determined later, but would remain at least 200 feet from the nearest home.

I considered the following battery storage facilities in a variety of states for a comparison of similar battery energy storage systems (BESS) in proximity to residential uses. I have also searched these areas for recent sales to see if there is any impact on property values near these battery storage facilities, which will be addressed in the following section.

The primary use of this larger set is to show compatibility of BESS and residential uses as well as showing typical setbacks between these uses. These measured distances are from the closest point on the home to the closest piece of equipment. Where I have N/A, the facility does not have an aerial image that I can use to measure that distance. These distances were measured using GoogleEarth.

Summary of Battery Data

#	Name	City/State	Acres	Capacity		Average Distance Adjoining Home
1	Ozone Park	Queens, NY	0.35	3 MW	30	203
2	Pomona	Rockland, NY	28.5	N/A	270	1196
3	Asheville	Asheville, NC	12.36	9 MW	130	452
4	East Hampton	E. Hampton, NY	17.58	5 MW	470	733
5	Diablo	Concord, CA	11.45	200 MW	320	361
6	Prospect	W. Columbia, TX	2.3	10 MW	400	400
7	Brazoria	Brazoria, TX	17.58	9.95 MW	130	438
8	Gambit	Angleton, TX	6.24	100 MW	215	243
9	Churchtown	Pennsville, NJ	3.13	10 MW	N/A	N/A
10	West Chicago	Chicago, IL	5	19.8 MW	430	450
11	McHenry	McHenry, IL	2.75	19.8 MW	260	283
12	Plumstead	Hornerstown, NJ	14.39	19.8 MW	155	943
13	Vista	Vista, CA	0.88	40 MW	130	172
14	Chisholm	Ft Worth, TX	21.74	200 MW	840	875
15	Port Lavaca	Prt Lavaca, TX	1.44	9.9 MW	N/A	N/A
16	Magnolia	Houston, TX	0.87	9.95 MW	180	190
				Average	283	496
				Median	238	419
				High	840	1,196
				Low	30	172

A. BESS Paired Sales Analysis/Market Research

I considered the following battery storage facilities in a variety of states where I was able to identify adjoining residential home sales. These home sales were then compared to similar homes in the area that sold in the same time frame but were not in proximity to the BESS. This is called a paired sales analysis and I have used this to determine if there is any impact that could be attributed to the adjacency/proximity to the BESS.

1 - Ozone Park Batteries

This system is located on 99th Street in Jamaica, Queens, New York. The below image shows the battery pack parcel outlined in red with a bowling alley to the north, a school to the south and homes to the east and west as well as a church to the west. Based on aerial imagery, this site was installed in early to mid-2018.

The two closest structures are the school at 65 feet and a church at 30 feet from the batteries. The nearby homes are on the opposing blocks, but the proximity to the school does illustrate a high confidence in public safety related to the battery facility and acceptance within that community.



SII	TEOU	ndin	g Uses
200	1104	HULLI	E VSC

		GIS Data	ı	Adjoin	Adjoin	Distance (ft)
#	Address	Acres	Present Use	Acres	Parcels	Home/Battery
1	98-18 Rockaway	0.76	Bowling	11.69%	6.67%	N/A
2		0.95	Office	14.62%	6.67%	N/A
3	10735 100th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	245
4	10737 100th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	260
5	10739 100th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	275
6	10741 100th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	290
7	10743 100th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	305
8	10915 98th St	3.74	School	57.54%	6.67%	65
9		0.27	School	4.15%	6.67%	N/A
10	10656 98th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	200
11	10654 98th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	195
12	10650 98th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	190
13	10646 98th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	190
14	10636 98th St	0.06	Residential	0.92%	6.67%	195
15	10645 (8th St	0.18	Church	2.77%	6.67%	30
	Total	6.500		100.00%	100.00%	203

Min 30

The closest recent home sale is 10726 101st Street that sold on October 9, 2018, after the battery storage facility was installed. This home is 345 feet from the closest battery and has a very obstructed view of that area based on the shrubs around the battery storage site as well as a strip of landscape greenery between the two sites. The sales price was \$600,000 for this 3 BR/1.5 BA home that was built in 1930 on a 0.06-acre site.

I compared this to a similar home built in 1930 in the same style and same size that sold at 10762 101st Street on October 9, 2018 for \$590,000. This home is just down the street but further from the battery storage system and sold on the same day for \$10,000 less. The proximity to the battery does not correlate to value impact in this instance as the home further away sold for less. This second home is across the street from the three-story John Adams High School which likely accounts for the lower price for this second property compared to the first which was adjacent to the same school, but not across from the building itself.

The matched pairs support a finding of no impact on value due to proximity to the battery system.

2 - Pomona Batteries

This battery storage system is located at 23 Diltz Road, Pomona, Rockland, New York. This location is more remote than the other system with greater distances separating homes from batteries, but all of the adjoining uses are residential or park. This battery site is located at the end of a road for estate-like homes on large acreage adjoining or in close proximity to Harriman State Park. There are some sales on Dritz Road adjoining the battery site and none of the broker statements identify that as a concern. But given the park, the Mahwah River exposure it is difficult to use these sales for matched pairs as there are too many unique factors and matched pairs require one unique factor.

Still, the site shows harmonious use in connection with residential uses. The closest identified home is 270 feet.



3 - Asheville Energy Storage System

This 9 MW battery storage system is located on a parcel with a substation built in 2020 (substation was bult much earlier). This facility has significant residential development around it but no recent sales to consider.





There is a nearby home sale that is located on Tax Parcel 8047 (just below the identifier for Parcel 9). This home is 550 feet from the nearest battery equipment and most of that distance is heavily

wooded. This home has a street address of 95 Forest Lake Drive, Asheville, NC and it sold on April 26, 2022 for \$510,000 for this 4 BR/3 BA ranch with 1,931 square feet including the daylight basement area. The home also has a 2 car garage. I did not attempt a paired sale as this home has no visibility of the BESS despite the proximity and arguably has a better view with less screening to the substation, which is also closer to the home.

Similarly, new homes are being built to the south on Rangley Drive with prices ranging from \$431,000 to \$566,000. These homes include those that back up to the Parcels 11 through 14 in the adjacent parcel map.

4 – East Hampton Energy Storage System

This 5 MW battery storage system is located on a parcel with a substation and a natural gas peaker plant. This makes it difficult to use for analysis given the multiple uses on this parcel, but I have included a visual of homes in the general area that have sold recently for reference. There is significant wooded acreage separating this BESS and nearby homes.



5 – Diablo Energy Storage System

This 200 MW battery storage system is located on a parcel with significant adjacency to industrial uses and residential uses. For these reasons it would be difficult to measure impacts due to the other adjoining industrial uses that might also have an impact. Given that most of the adjoining uses are industrial, I have not dug further on this one.

6 - Prospect Energy Storage System

This 10 MW battery storage system is located on a parcel adjoining a large substation in Brazoria, TX. The only adjoining home is 400 feet away. This home has not sold since the BESS was completed in 2019. Furthermore, this home has an unobstructed view of the substation which would make it a difficult home for impact analysis.

7 – Brazoria Energy Storage System

This 9.95 MW battery storage system is located on a parcel adjoining multiple homes within 150 feet of the battery equipment. There have been no recent sales since this was built in 2020.



8 - Gambit Energy Storage

This 102.4 MW battery storage system is located off W. Live Oak Street, Angleton, Texas. This is a new facility and placed online in June 2021. This system is a good location as there are no other externalities adjoining it to potentially impact the analysis. The substation associated with this is located to the east along N. Walker Street.



While I cannot do any analysis of impact from the most recent adjoining sales as they all occurred before this site was built, but the adjoining homes to the north are selling with new homes ranging from \$400,000 to \$600,000.

The most recent adjoining home sale to the west was 852 Marshall Road that sold on April 5, 2021 and presumably they were aware of the battery storage facility as it would have been under construction at the time of sale. This brick ranch with 3 BR, 1 BA with 1,220 s.f. of gross living area and built in 1980 on 0.40 acres sold for \$165,000, or \$135 per s.f.

I have compared that sale to 521 Catalpa Street that sold on September 11, 2020 for \$155,000 for a 3 BR, 2 BA brick ranch with 1,220 s.f. built in 1973 with a single car garage. Adjusting this price upward by 9% for growth in the market for time, 3.5% for difference in age, downward by \$6,000 for the additional bathroom, and \$4,000 for the garage, the adjusted indicated value of this home is \$164,375, which is right in line with 852 Marshall Road and supports a finding of no impact on property value.

I have also compared that sale to 521 W Mimosa Street that sold on February 26, 2021 for \$150,000 for this brick ranch with 3 BR, 1.5 BA with 1,194 s.f. built in 1976. Adjusting this sale upward by 4% for growth in the market over time, upward 2% for difference in age, and downward by \$5,000 for the additional half bathroom, I derive an adjusted indication of \$154,000. This is 7%

less than the home price at 852 Marshall Road which suggests an enhancement due to proximity to the battery storage system.

I have also compared this sale to 1164 Thomas Drive that sold on May 20, 2020 for \$187,000 for this brick ranch with 2-car garage, 3 BR, 2 BA with 1,259 s.f. and built in 1998. Adjusting this upward by 13% for growth over time, downward by 9% for difference in age of construction, downward by \$8,000 for the garage, downward \$6,000 for the additional bathroom, I derive an indicated value of \$180,480. This is a 9% difference suggesting a negative impact on property value. However, this comparable required the largest amount of adjustments and is not considered as heavily as the other two comparables. This home is 18 years newer and with better bathroom situation as a 1-bathroom house is a significant issue for most buyers.

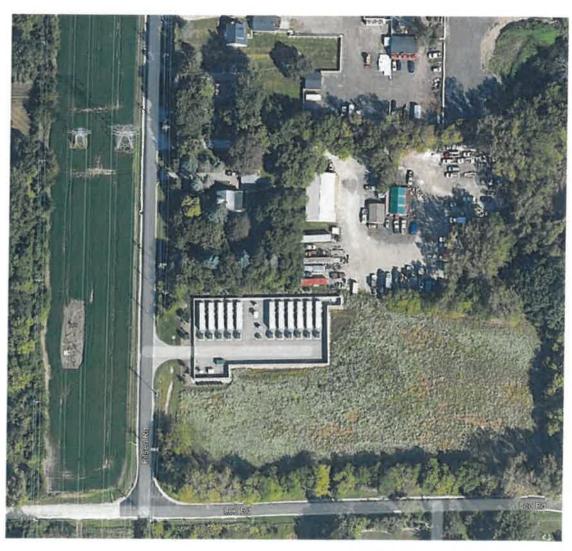
The second comparable considered required the least adjustment and suggests a positive impact on property value. The median indication is the first comparable which shows no impact on property value. Given this data set I conclude that the best indication from these matched pairs supports a finding of no impact on property value. The home at 852 Marshall is 180 feet from the project outline shown.

9 - Churchtown Battery Storage

This 10 MW battery storage system is located off N. Broadway, Pennsville, NJ. The aerial imagery does not show this system yet so I was not able to determine distances to adjoining homes or identify any adjoining homes. Given the large substation, adjoining baseball fields and religious facilities this would be a challenging site for an impact analysis in any case.

10 - West Chicago Battery Storage

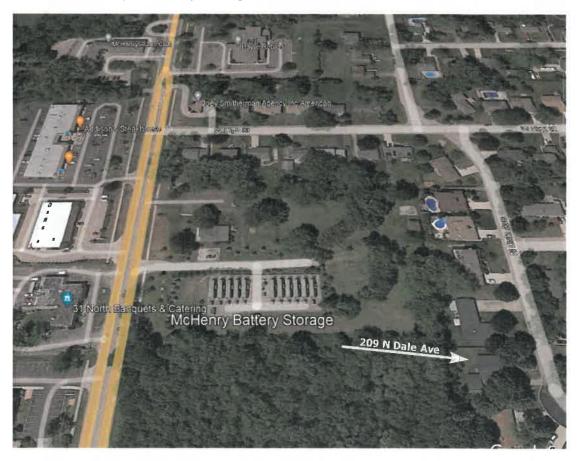
This 19.8 MW battery storage system is located off Pilsen Road, Chicago, Illinois. This facility has condominium and single family housing to the north and single family housing nearby to the south, but also adjoining an outdoor storage area and a large powerline easement. I was not able to do any analysis on this site as there have been no recent sales identified.



11 - McHenry Battery Storage

This 19.8 MW battery storage system is located off Illinois Highway 31, McHenry, Illinois that was built around 2016. This is facility fronts on the highway but has rear adjacency to a number of houses.

There were two recent home sales along W. High Street, but they effectively adjoin the small commercial use between the battery storage facility. That complication makes it difficult to determine if the commercial use was the impact or if the commercial use buffered any impact making any finding off of analysis suspect and uncertain.



I have however considered the recent sale of 209 N Dale Avenue that adjoins the battery storage site and is 290 feet from the nearest equipment.

That home sold on June 30, 2021 for \$265,000 for a vinyl-siding ranch with 3 BR, 2.5 BA, built in 1960 with a gross living area of 1,437 square feet, or \$184.41 per s.f. The property has 5 attached garage spaces. As identified in the listing the home was completely renovated with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. This was listed by Lynda Steidinger with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Starck Real Estate and the buyers agent was Ivette Rodriguez Anderson with Keller Williams.

The home directly across the street, 208 N Dale Avenue, sold on June 16, 2021 for \$275,000 for a cedar siding and stone ranch with 3 BR, 2.5 BA, built in 1961, with a gross living area of 1,446 s.f., or \$190.18 per s.f. This home also has 1,101 square feet of finished basement space that is currently used as an office but could be an additional bedroom. This home also has been updated and includes stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops.

The size difference is nominal and the additional 3-car garage bays at the 209 N Dale is considered to be balanced by the finished basement space at 208 N Dale, though the finished office space is somewhat superior to garage space. But balancing those two factors out the difference in price per square foot is 3%. This is considered negligible and attributable to the slightly superior finished basement space and not any impact relative to the battery storage facility.

I also looked at 3802 Clover Avenue, which is two blocks to the north. This stone and siding ranch with 3 BR, 2 BA, built in 1956, with a gross living area of 1,200 s.f. sold on October 21, 2021 for \$231,000 or \$192.50 per s.f. The property has been updated with a new kitchen and a new bay window and includes a partially finished basement with an additional bathroom in it and the total basement area is an additional 1,200 s.f. This is the smallest home in the neighborhood that I found and it further illustrates that the price per square foot typically goes up as the size goes down. Adjusting this gross sale price upward by \$36,498 for the smaller size based on 80% of the price per square foot for this purchase, I derive an adjusted sales price to compare to the subject property of \$267,498. I consider the basement to balance out the extra garage space at the subject. This indicates a difference of 1% from the purchase price of the 209 N Dale Avenue, which is attributable to the 4 months difference in time. I consider this comparable to further support a finding of no impact on value.

While I haven't written up the other sales in the neighborhood there are numerous recent home sales ranging from \$172,000 to \$306,000, but most of these homes are also over 2,000 square feet in size. The subject property sold for more per square foot than most of these other sales partly due to the smaller overall size, partly due to the significant renovations, and partly due to the additional garage space. Still, this shows that the 209 N Dale Avenue sale is not being impacted by the battery storage facility and has in fact been updated above what is typical for the neighborhood, though given the similar updates at 208 N Dale Avenue, this may be the trend for the area.

The two sales compared to the 209 N Dale Avenue sale supports a finding of no impact on property value due to the battery storage facility.

12 - Plumsted Energy Storage

This 19.8 MW battery storage system is located on Monmouth Road, Cream Ridge, New Jersey. There is only one adjoining home as shown in the image to the south, but it is located just 148 feet from the nearest piece of equipment and 96 feet from the fence line. There were existing trees, but they were supplemented with a 12-foot wooden privacy fence with smaller evergreens between the fence and property line. The privacy fence at this location is oversized as the battery units include HVAC units on top of the battery pods that extend the height of the units greater than required at the subject property. The road frontage was not landscaped and chainlink fencing was used on the rest of the property.

The adjoining home at 797 Monmouth Road has not sold recently and no further analysis is possible at this site.



13 - Vista Energy Storage System

This 40 MW battery storage system is located off Olive Avenue, Vista, California. This facility has significant commercial development around it but also housing to the south as close as 115 feet from the closest equipment as shown in the aerial map below.



14 - Chisholm Grid Energy Storage

This 200 MW battery storage system is located at 9400 Asphalt Drive, Fort Worth, Texas. This is a new facility and in close proximity to those homes near the substation.

The property to the west of the BESS is an asphalt plant with a lot of vacant land separating the homes from the active plant. Still this complicates any analysis of this from an impact analysis standpoint. I therefore have not attempted to do so.



15 - Port Lavaca BESS

This 9.9 MW battery storage system is located in Port Lavaca, Texas. It was built in 2020 and is entirely surrounded by agricultural and utility uses. I have not attempted any impact analysis on this facility.

16 - BRP Magnolia BESS

This 9.95 MW battery storage system is located off Floyd Road, League City, near Houston, Texas. There have not been any adjoining home sales since it was built so no analysis is currently possible. The adjoining homes are between 180 and 200 feet from the BESS equipment.



Summary

I was able to complete paired sales analysis on three of these situations with data coming from Ozone Park in NY, Gambit in TX and McHenry in IL.

The paired sales analysis identifies no impact on adjoining properties based on actual home sales adjoining similar projects.

Most of the situations identified showed homes closer to a BESS than the sales identified. But I can only measure for impacts once a home has sold.

The sales data supports a finding of no impact on property value for homes ranging from 180 to 345 feet from the nearest equipment. The proposed project has no home closer than 200 feet, which is sufficient to protect property value as shown by these comparables.

XV. Conclusion

The matched pair analysis shows no negative impact in home values due to abutting or adjoining a solar farm as well as no impact to abutting or adjacent vacant residential or agricultural land. The criteria that typically correlates with downward adjustments on property values such as noise, odor, and traffic all support a finding of no impact on property value.

Very similar solar farms in very similar areas have been found by hundreds of towns and counties not to have a substantial injury to abutting or adjoining properties, and many of those findings of no impact have been upheld by appellate courts. Similar solar farms have been approved adjoining agricultural uses, schools, churches, and residential developments.

I have found no difference in the mix of adjoining uses or proximity to adjoining homes based on the size of a solar farm and I have found no significant difference in the matched pair data adjoining larger solar farms versus smaller solar farms. The data in the Southeast is consistent with the larger set of data that I have nationally, as is the more specific data located in and around North Carolina.

Based on the data and analysis in this report, it is my professional opinion that the solar farm proposed at the subject property will have no negative impact on the value of adjoining or abutting property. I note that some of the positive implications of a solar farm that have been expressed by people living next to solar farms include protection from future development of residential developments or other more intrusive uses, reduced dust, odor and chemicals from former farming operations, protection from light pollution at night, it is quiet, and there is no traffic.

The BESS component will be at least 200 feet from nearby homes and sufficient to protect adjoining property value, which therefore also supports a finding of no impact on property value.

XVI. Certification

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- 1. The statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct;
- The reported analyses, opinions, and conclusions are limited only by the reported assumptions and limiting conditions, and are my personal, unbiased professional analyses, opinions, and conclusions;
- I have no present or prospective interest in the property that is the subject of this report and no personal interest with respect to the parties involved;
- 4. I have no bias with respect to the property that is the subject of this report or to the parties involved with this assignment;
- 5. My engagement in this assignment was not contingent upon developing or reporting predetermined results;
- 6. My compensation for completing this assignment is not contingent upon the development or reporting of a predetermined value or direction in value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the intended use of the appraisal;
- The reported analyses, opinions, and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared, in conformity with the requirements of the Code of Professional Ethics and Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice of the Appraisal Institute;
- My analyses, opinions and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared, in conformity with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.
- The use of this report is subject to the requirements of the Appraisal Institute relating to review by its duly authorized representatives;
- 10. I have not made a personal inspection of the property that is the subject of this report, and;
- 11. No one provided significant real property appraisal assistance to the person signing this certification.
- As of the date of this report I have completed the continuing education program for Designated Members of the Appraisal Institute;
- 13. I have not performed services, regarding the property that is the subject of this report within the three-year period immediately preceding acceptance of this assignment.

Disclosure of the contents of this appraisal report is governed by the bylaws and regulations of the Appraisal Institute and the National Association of Realtors.

Neither all nor any part of the contents of this appraisal report shall be disseminated to the public through advertising media, public relations media, news media, or any other public means of communications without the prior written consent and approval of the undersigned.

Richard C. Kirkland, Jr., MAI State Certified General Appraiser

of Child fr



Richard C. Kirkland, Jr., MAI 9408 Northfield Court Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Mobile (919) 414-8142 rkirkland2@gmail.com www.kirklandappraisals.com

Professional Experience	
Kirkland Appraisals, LLC, Raleigh, N.C.	2003 – Present
Commercial appraiser	
Hester & Company, Raleigh, N.C.	
Commercial appraiser	1996 – 2003
Professional Affiliations	
MAI (Member, Appraisal Institute) designation #11796	2001
NC State Certified General Appraiser # A4359	1999
VA State Certified General Appraiser # 4001017291	
SC State Certified General Appraiser # 6209	
KY State Certified General Appraiser # 5522	
TN State Certified General Appraiser # 6240	
FL State Certified General Appraiser # RZ3950	
GA State Certified General Appraiser # 321885	
MI State Certified General Appraiser # 1201076620	
PA State Certified General Appraiser # GA004598	
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Highest and Best Use and Market Analysis	
Advanced Sales Comparison and Cost Approaches	1999 1999
Advanced Income Capitalization	1998
Valuation of Detrimental Conditions in Real Estate	1999
Report Writing and Valuation Analysis	1999
Property Tax Values and Appeals	1997
Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, A & B	1997
Basic Income Capitalization	1996
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JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

Franklintown Farm Solar Project

Franklintown Farm, LLC

Jefferson County, West Virginia

Glare Analysis

August 12, 2024



Capitol Airspace Group capitolairspace.com (703) 256 - 2485

* Submitted by applicant on 08-22-2024



Summary

Franklintown Farm, LLC is proposing to construct photovoltaic (PV) arrays in Jefferson County, West Virginia (Figure 1). On behalf of Franklintown Farm, LLC, Capitol Airspace performed an independent glare analysis utilizing ForgeSolar's GlareGauge toolset to identify the potential for glare impacts. Specifically, this analysis considered the potential for glare impacts on High View Farm Airport (61VA) approaches, as well as nearby residences, roadways, and railroads.

The results of this analysis indicate that there are no predicted glare occurrences for High View Farm Airport (61VA) approaches as a result of the proposed single-axis tracking PV arrays. Additionally, it should be noted that the current FAA policy no longer considers the potential for glare impacts on aircraft approach paths resulting from off-airport PV projects. Since High View Farm (61VA) does not have an air traffic control tower (ATCT), an assessment of potential glare impacts on ATCT personnel was not required.

The results of this analysis predict green glare occurrences for a nearby roadway as a result of the proposed single-axis tracking PV panel array. These results are based on the application of FAA glare standards in the absence of non-aviation regulatory guidelines.



Figure 1: Franklintown Farm Solar project PV panel area (gray) with GlareGauge sub-array assessment areas (purple outlines)



Methodology

In cooperation with the Department of Energy (DOE), the FAA developed and validated the Sandia National Laboratories Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool (SGHAT), now licensed through ForgeSolar as GlareGauge. ForgeSolar has enhanced GlareGauge for glare hazard analysis beyond the aviation environment. These enhancements include a route module for analyzing roadways as well as an observation point (OP) module for analyzing residences. However, it should be noted that GlareGauge does not automatically account for physical obstructions between reflectors and receptors.

GlareGauge analyzes the potential for glare over the entire calendar year in one-minute intervals from when the sun rises above the horizon until the sun sets below the horizon. The glare hazard determination relies on several approximations including observer eye characteristics, angle of view, and typical blink response time. When GlareGuage identifies glare, the associated ocular impact is quantified into three categories based on the retinal irradiance and subtended angle (size/distance) of the glare source. These three categories are Green – low potential for after-image, Yellow – potential for after-image, and Red – potential for retinal burn (*Figure 2*).

The FAA policy for *Review of Solar Energy System Projects on Federally Obligated Airports* requires that proposed on-airport solar projects will not result in ocular impacts (no glare of any category) on the airport's ATCT cab. Although not required, the FAA encourages that off-airport solar energy systems in proximity to airports with ATCTs are assessed for potential ocular impact.

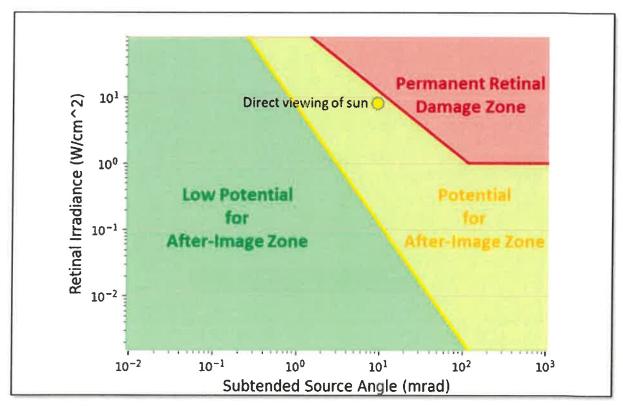


Figure 2: GlareGauge glare hazard plot depicting ocular impact as a function of retinal irradiance and subtended source angle



Data

Capitol Airspace conducted this analysis in accordance with industry best practices and, as appropriate, the FAA policy for *Review of Solar Energy System Projects on Federally Obligated Airports (86 FR 25801)*. This included the assessment of impact upon low-level ground receptors (e.g., houses and roads) within one-half statute mile of the study area, as well as airport approach paths within five statute miles of the study area. Aerial imagery was used to determine observation point receptor locations in collaboration with Franklintown Farm, LLC. The USGS 1/3 arc-second Digital Elevation Model (DEM) was used to determine observation point ground elevations.

PV array specifications (*Table 1*) as well as location and height information were provided by Franklintown Farm, LLC. Based on this data, the single-axis tracking arrays will rotate to track the sun through the range of rotation determined by the maximum tracking angle. When the sun's position is outside the range of rotation, the single-axis tracking arrays will use a slope-aware shade backtracking strategy to reduce row-to-row shading (*Figure 3*). Backtracking will begin and end at a 10-degree resting angle as defined by the Resting Angle/Backtracking Limit parameter.

Runway end coordinates, elevations, threshold crossing heights (TCH), and visual glidepath angles (VGPA) were obtained from the FAA National Flight Data Center (NFDC) National Airspace System Resource (NASR) dataset. When the NASR dataset did not contain this data, or contained erroneous data, aerial imagery, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 1/3 arc-second Digital Elevation Model (DEM), and the FAA approved default settings (TCH: 50 feet, VGPA: 3.00°) were used.

Table 1: Franklintown Farm Solar project PV array specifications

Parameter	Value		
Rotation Axis Height	6 feet		
Axis Tracking	Single-axis rotation		
Tracking Axis Orientation	180°		
Max Tracking Angle	±55°		
Backtracking Strategy	Shade-slope		
Resting Angle/Backtracking Limit	10°		
Ground Coverage Ratio (GCR)	0.46		
Panel Material	Smooth, With Anti-Reflection Coating		

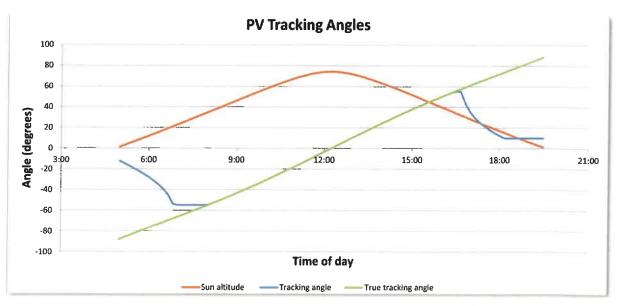


Figure 3: Sample PV panel tracking angle plot for June 21st



Results

High View Farm Airport (61VA)

GlareGauge assessed the potential for glare occurrences along two approach path receptors (hashed black lines, *Figure 4*). Each approach path was assessed using a pilot restricted view with a vertical view restriction of 30 degrees downward and an azimuthal view restriction of 50 degrees left and right (100-degree total field-of-view). The GlareGauge results do not predict glare occurrences for any approach paths as a result of single-axis tracking PV arrays.

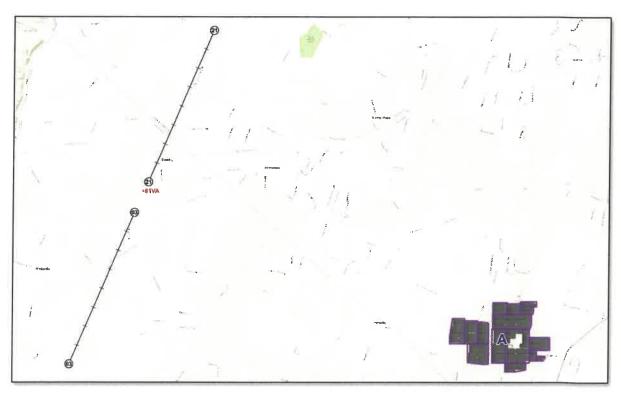


Figure 4: High View Farm Airport (61VA) approach paths (hashed black lines) in proximity to the Franklintown Farm Solar project

Runway 03

The GlareGauge results do not predict glare occurrences along the approach path.

Runway 211

The GlareGauge results do not predict glare occurrences along the approach path.

¹ High View Farm Airport (61VA) contains erroneous runway end location placement provided in NASR for Runway 21. Therefore, Capitol Airspace corrected and assessed this flight path using aerial imagery.



Observation Points

GlareGauge assessed the potential for glare occurrences at 208 discrete observation point receptors (black points, *Figure 5*). Each observation point was assessed at an eight-foot first story viewing height and a 16-foot second story viewing height. The GlareGauge results do not predict glare occurrences for any of the 208 observation points at either viewing height as a result of single-axis tracking PV arrays.

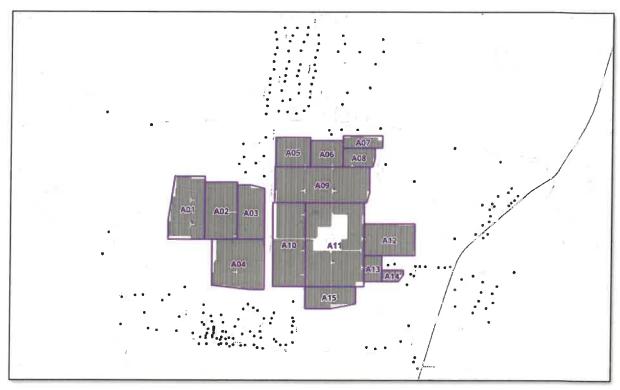


Figure 5: Discrete observation point receptors (black points) in proximity to the Franklintown Farm Solar project



Routes

GlareGauge assessed the potential for glare occurrences along 24 route receptors. Each of the 23 roadways (dashed black lines, *Figure 6*) was assessed at a four-foot car viewing height and an eight-foot truck viewing height. The railroad (hashed black line, *Figure 6*) was assessed at a 12-foot locomotive cab viewing height. The GlareGauge results do not predict glare occurrences for 23 of the 24 route receptors, including the railroad, as a result of single-axis tracking PV arrays.



Figure 6: Route receptors (dashed and hashed black lines) in proximity to Franklintown Farm Solar project

The GlareGauge results predict brief green glare occurrences for one of the 24 route receptors in the morning and afternoon from November to January (*Table 2 & Figure 8*). Specifically, green glare would emanate from sub-array A04 (faded green area, *Figure 7*). Green glare is associated with a low potential for temporary after-image. These results are based on the application of FAA glare standards in the absence of non-aviation regulatory guidelines.

It is important to note that the glare resulting from the proposed single-axis tracking arrays occurs during late-afternoon backtracking when the sun altitude is no greater than 25 degrees above the horizon. Capitol Airspace conducted additional analysis to determine the backtracking limit that would eliminate the identified glare occurrences. The results of the mitigation analysis determined that no backtracking limit would completely eliminate the predicted green glare occurrences.



Table 2: Predicted glare occurrences for route receptors in proximity to the Franklintown Farm Solar project

Receptor Glare	Date		Monthly	Time (HH:MM)		Daily Duration (Minutes)		
		Start	End	Frequency	Earliest	Latest	Longest	Average
Route 01	None	-	-	_	_	-	-	-
Route 02	None		1 1	-	_	-	-	140
Route 03	Green	26-Nov	14-Jan	Contiguous	10:19	16:29	40	25
Route 04	None	_	-	-	-	-	~	-
Route 05	None		a	16.	-	ă ă	_	-
Route 06	None	-	-	-	_	-		-
Route 07	None		-	_	-	-	_	-
Route 08	None	_	-	-	-	-		_
Route 09	None	-	-	-	-	-	183	
Route 10	None	-	-	~	-	-	-	(6
Route 11	None	-	-	**	-	-	~	-
Route 12	None	-	-	-	_	-	-	_
Route 13	None	-	-		-	_	-	-
Route 14	None	-	- 1	-	_		_	
Route 15	None	_	-	_		- 1	~	
Route 16	None	-	-	-		-	-	-
Route 17	None	_	-		_	_	_	_
Route 18	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Route 19	None	7	-	-		-	-	-
Route 20	None	2	- 1	-	-	-	~	-
Route 21	None	-	-	4	-		-	-
Route 22	None		-				-	_
Route 23	None		- 1	_	-	p	-	
Railroad	None	-	-				_	_



Figure 7: Route 03 with segments receiving glare (green lines) from Sub-Array A04

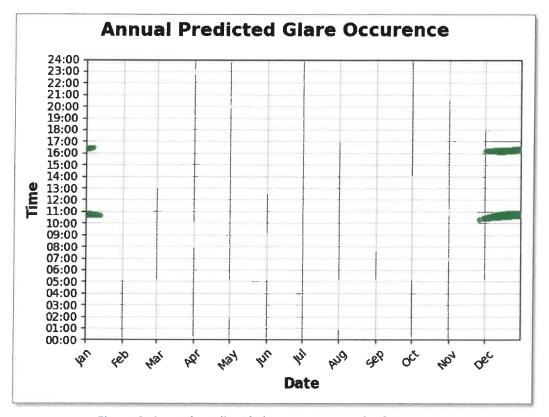


Figure 8: Annual predicted glare occurrence plot for Route 03



Conclusion

Capitol Airspace performed a glare analysis utilizing ForgeSolar's GlareGauge toolset to identify the potential for glare impacts resulting from the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar project. Specifically, this analysis considered the potential for glare impacts on High View Farm Airport (61VA) approaches. This analysis also considered the potential for glare impacts on low-level receptors like residences, roadways, and railroads in proximity to the proposed arrays.

Aircraft Approaches

GlareGauge does not predict glare occurrences for aircraft approaching High View Farm Airport (61VA). Additionally, it should be noted that the current FAA policy no longer considers the potential for glare impacts on aircraft approach paths resulting from off-airport PV projects. Since High View Farm Airport (61VA) does not have an ATCT, an assessment of potential glare impacts on ATCT personnel was not required.

Low-Level Receptors

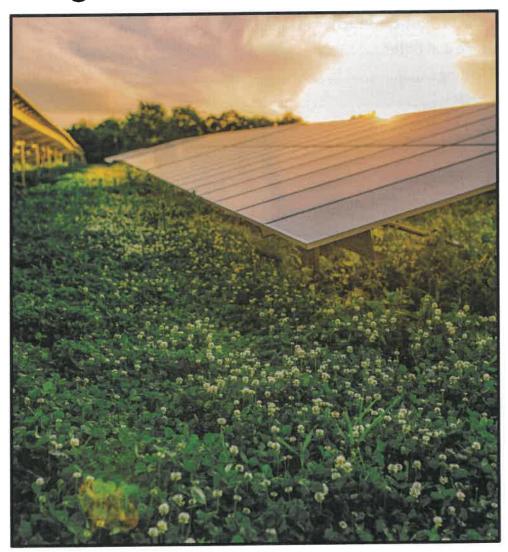
GlareGauge predicts green glare occurrences for a nearby residence and roadways from November to January. The glare resulting from the proposed single-axis tracking array occurs during morning and afternoon backtracking when sun altitude angles are no greater than 25 degrees above the horizon. Capitol Airspace conducted additional analysis to determine the backtracking limit that would eliminate the identified glare occurrences. The results of the mitigation analysis determined that no backtracking limit would completely eliminate the predicted green glare occurrences.

These results are based on the application of FAA glare standards in the absence of non-aviation regulatory guidelines. As noted in the methodology, this glare analysis does not consider vegetation, fencing, or other natural obstructions. This glare analysis takes the most conservative approach in assessing the possibility of glare occurrences.

The GlareGauge component data used to conduct this analysis is available upon request. If you have any questions regarding the findings in this analysis, please contact *Rick Coles* or *Travis Harrison* at (703) 256-2485.

Franklintown Solar

Vegetation Management Plan





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JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

Developed by Conservation Blueprint, LLC.

for Franklintown Solar LLC

Prepared: April 2024 Revised: August 2024

* Submitted by applicant on 08-22-2024

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Introduction

Franklintown Solar LLC (Franklintown) is developing a solar energy facility that is planned to cover approximately 461 acres in Jefferson County, West Virginia and generate up to 80 megawatts of energy. The solar facility is being built with a typical minimum lower panel height between the ground and the leading edge of the panel of 20". Franklintown has developed this Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) to guide the activities of site preparation, installation of prescribed seed mixtures, management and control of invasive species and noxious weeds and the overall management of the established vegetation on the site.

The primary goal of this plan is to provide detailed guidance on how to establish a final vegetative cover that works with project operations, increases the benefits of plant diversity on the site, controls erosion and runoff, controls invasive plant species on the site and works with long-term management and maintenance on the site. In addition, Franklintown is working with The Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund (BBHF) to enroll this site into their Solar Synergy program (SolarSynergy - BEE AND BUTTERFLY HABITAT FUND (beeandbutterflyfund.org). This program is designed to incorporate pollinator heath and habitat benefits into the site's vegetation management as well as document climate change attributes like carbon sequestration changes on the site over time.

This plan addresses the proposed revegetation and vegetation management within the project boundary of Franklintown. This plan provides guidance on the existing site conditions, site preparation methods, seed mixtures, planting methods and maintenance recommendations to meet the vegetation goals over the 35-year lifespan of the Franklintown Solar facility.

This document is intended to apply adaptive management practices, implement Integrated Vegetation Management approaches, and serve as a working document. Updates and revisions will be made as new information is obtained with respect to the vegetation management, site characteristics and availability of management practices at the time of procurement of services. The successful establishment and management of vegetation that produces pollinator health and habitat benefits requires a specific plan that incorporates several fundamental steps for the site preparation, planting, seed mixture design and future management of the planting.

One of the most important aspects of the Franklintown Vegetation Management Plan and its guidance is to ensure the invasive, early successional plant species that will show up on the site are controlled quickly and not allowed to become established. There are five primary tools available for site managers to control invasive, early successional plant species. Those tools and how they are to be implemented are described in detail in this plan and are a combination of:

- The timing and frequency of mechanical and/or herbicide weed control.
- 2. Establishing cover crops with an allelopathic nature.
- 3. The timing and planting method of final vegetative cover establishment.
- 4. The application of management activities to the final vegetative cover planting.
- 5. Site monitoring by a vegetation expert on a scheduled basis to identify vegetative needs and their proposed solutions.

Vegetation Installation Plan

1. Crop Herbicide Residual Affect Review.

For areas of the project that were cropped in the past 2 years, it is critical that the herbicide use history for that entire period be obtained and reviewed prior to the planting of the project seed mixtures. Because some herbicides likely used on the site to produce both Corn and Soybeans can remain active in the soil for as long as 18 to 24 months, the past herbicide use needs to be considered to ensure that a potential herbicide residual affect period will not negatively impact the establishment of the project seed mixtures or individual components of the seed mixture.

The vegetation installation company installing the vegetative cover on Franklintown will have soil suitability tests conducted on the site to determine if there is an herbicide residual on the site and to assess the soil's nutrient availability. Soil tests will be conducted by a qualified agronomic laboratory. All tests will be completed before seed mixtures are scheduled for planting and with enough lead time to develop alternative strategies and/or seed mixtures if an herbicide residual effect is identified.

If a past crop herbicide use on the site is listed as having a residual affect that would negatively impact the germination and growth of any of the seed mixture components, a cover crop mixture will be designed by a vegetation management specialist and established to bridge the herbicide residual affect period.

2. Site Preparation Activities

Proper site preparation is the single, most important factor that will determine both the initial establishment and the long-term success of the final vegetative cover planting. All site preparation activities will be conducted in a manner to maintain compliance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Areas of the project that are in existing grassland vegetation and have not had that cover removed or terminated because of grading activities, agricultural crop production, tree removal or site construction will have that vegetation maintained on the site as the final vegetative cover.

The areas of the project identified for planting the Solar Array Area and Buffer Area Seed Mixtures have all had, or will have, a significant portion of the existing vegetation on the sites removed and controlled through the agricultural practices, tree removal or grading activities conducted on them. These locations will very likely have invasive, early successional plant species (weeds) start showing up on them as soon as agricultural crops and their herbicide applications are concluded, or the grading activities have removed the existing vegetation.

Some of the conditions that need to be achieved for proper site preparation include:

- A planting surface that is free of stones, soil clods, large roots, branches, construction materials or other materials that may negatively affect the planting and seedling development.
- Soils with sufficient pore space in them to permit the root development and penetration of seedlings. This is important both for the establishment of the seed mixture as well as the ability of the site to percolate moisture into and through the soil in the future.
- Soil compaction rates of 200 pounds per square inch or less.
- Adequate nutrients (N, P and K) for seed germination and seedling growth.
- Fine-grained soil materials that can maintain and hold soil moisture and nutrients.
- Site civil design and construction must achieve adequate drainage to prevent ponding or saturated soils. Stormwater management features operating as designed.
- The final seed bed should be characterized by a loose, firm, and smooth soil that will aid in seed to soil contact required for a successful final vegetative cover planting and establishment.
- <u>Step 1</u>: Areas of the project that are growing agricultural crops in 2025 prior to Franklintown construction should be encouraged to have their final agricultural crop be planted to soybeans. Planting the areas of the site that are in agricultural production to soybeans prior to the establishment of the final vegetative cover produces several significant benefits:
 - The soybean crop will naturally fix nitrogen from the atmosphere into the soil that will be a boost to the growth and establishment of the final vegetative cover planting.
 - This crop will not produce the furrows or extensive crop residue that will be found in fields that were planted to corn. This can help reduce the amount of additional tillage activities needed to prepare the site for planting.
 - This crop and the amount of residue associated with it would allow for the site to be broadcast seeded during the winter if that is the planting option that is selected.
 - There is a significantly reduced likelihood of soybean crops producing an adverse and long-term herbicide residual effect compared to high likelihood of an adverse and long-term herbicide residual effect with corn and other agricultural crops.
- Step 2: Prior to planting the final vegetative cover seed mixtures, apply two tillage activities to the locations of the project that were formerly agricultural fields. Tillage activities are applied to former crop fields to level out the crop rows (furrows), reduce crop residue that were the result of agricultural activities and/or terminate any existing weed growth that has started on the site. Crop rows and furrows will likely be common on agricultural fields that were formerly planted to corn. The first tillage application should be a vertical tillage to remove the rows in the field but should not be conducted deeper than 3". Tillage activities that are conducted deeper than 3" will disrupt the soil structure making the site slower to dry out following rain events and more susceptible to ruts and compaction during the construction process. The second tillage application should be applied with a field finisher. The preferred timeline for tillage application should be as early in the spring as field conditions will allow.

- <u>Step 3</u>: Following the completion of tillage or grading activities, the solar array area seed mixture or the cover crop seed mixture should be planted within 48 hours. Failure to plant the seed mixture as soon as possible following the tillage or grading activities allows the soil to dry out and decreases the value of the seed bed for seed germination.
- <u>Step 4:</u> If the planting of the final vegetative cover or the cover crop is not able to be completed within 48 hours of final tillage, the site shall be monitored for the emergence of weeds. If the timeline of activities on the project has allowed volunteer plants to develop and show up on the site, a Glyphosate herbicide application will be applied to eliminate those plants from the seed bed.

A Glyphosate application will eliminate winter annual and/or early spring plant growth that will be highly competitive to a newly established final vegetative cover. Existing vegetation will be terminated with a Glyphosate herbicide application. Glyphosate herbicide application will be applied in the following manner:

- Apply a Glyphosate herbicide application at a rate of 2 quarts/acre.
- ➤ Herbicide should be applied while air temperatures are between 60° and 85°F.
- > Herbicide should be applied when relative humidity is less than 80%.
- ➤ Herbicide should be applied with no more than 10 gallons of solution (herbicide plus water) per acre and include Ammonium Sulfate (AMS) at a rate of 17 pounds/100 gallons of water.
- > Herbicide should be applied on a sunny or mostly sunny time of the day.
- Herbicide should not be applied within 2 hours of sunrise or sunset.
- Apply in manner where the herbicide makes contact with the still green and growing vegetation.

All herbicide applications used on the project shall be EPA-registered at that time of application, shall be applied by a current West Virginia licensed applicator, and shall only be applied in accordance with the label recommendations, applicable law, and landowner requirements.

Herbicide applications will not be required in areas of the project where the existing vegetation is being maintained on the site like rights-of-way, ditches, former pastures where grading activities did not occur, etc. Those areas will typically not need to be established with a new seeding of the array area seed mixture or a cover crop.

Site preparation activities that include tillage, grading, de-compacting soils, and other instances of soil disturbance will ultimately stimulate the germination of weed seeds that have remained dormant in the soil bank, sometimes for decades. If the site is planted with the solar array area seed mixture or a cover crop seed mix within 48 hours of soil disturbance, the negative effects from weed seed stimulation and growth can be reduced or mitigated.

In most cases, these seeds will be represented by invasive, weedy plant species that often come with an allelopathic effect that is detrimental to the establishment of a final vegetative cover. Having a plant(s) with an allelopathic nature refers to:

The beneficial or harmful effects of one plant on another plant by the release of chemicals from plant parts by leaching, root exudation, volatilization, residue decomposition and other processes in both natural and agricultural systems. (Allelopathy - Wikipedia)

Challenging plant species known to occur on the site include kochia, ragweed, bindweed, mare's tail, pigweed, and other weedy plant species. These plant species can be difficult to control and produce significant management issues for the project into the future.

In all cases, these volunteer plant species should be controlled and removed from the site as soon, as completely and as quickly as possible. The worst-case scenario would be to have these species to appear on the site, be allowed to grow and produce the following problems:

- Becoming competitive with a newly established final vegetative cover.
- Be allowed to grow to the point of producing an allelopathic effect on the planted and newly established final vegetative cover.
- Produce a viable seed creating a situation that negatively affects both the
 establishment of the final vegetative cover for the project and produce
 significant, costly management issues going forward.

If these volunteer plant species are allowed to grow and expand without early and timely management activities being applied, they may jeopardize the successful establishment of the final vegetative cover.

3. Pre-construction vs. Post-construction Planting Strategies

Option 1: Pre-Construction Final Vegetative Cover Establishment

Establishment of a final vegetative cover in a pre-construction fashion is preferred and will be determined based on how much of the site will be graded and how much of the site will need to be replanted based on construction activities. Establishing the final cover pre-construction offers several key advantages that include:

- Not needing to establish and subsequently manage and/or terminate a cover crop.
- Being able to complete all the necessary site preparation activities more effectively.
- Being able to plant the entire site with a no-till grass drill that will increase the seed germination rate and shorten the timeline needed to achieve fully established vegetation. This technique will produce the best results for a well-established final vegetative cover.
- Eliminating the outcome where the final vegetative cover is established differently under the solar panels vs. in the alley rows.

 Establishing the final cover in a manner that will allow for more effective and complete weed control and management.

In general, pre-construction establishment of the cover is a cost-effective option when 30% or less of the site will be graded or have the final vegetative cover destroyed through construction activities.

Option 2: Post-Construction Final Vegetative Cover Establishment

If the decision is made to establish the final vegetative cover during or following construction, the site will be prepared following the Site Preparation Activities listed in this VMP and then established to a cover crop as early in the growing season as possible. The cover crop will provide soil stabilization and weed suppression throughout the construction period until a timeline and condition has been reached to plant the final vegetative cover. A cover crop on the site will be established using one of the cover crop options listed in Appendix E. The final vegetative cover will be established following construction on the site following the planting timelines and techniques listed (Appendix C).

Soil compaction greater than 200 pounds per square inch produces a negative planting environment by compressing soil particles together and reducing the pore space between those particles. Compacted soil does not have the pore spaces for newly germinated seeds to allow for root expansion and growth as well a reduced rate in water infiltration and drainage. Any soil compaction rates that exceed 200 pounds per square inch will negatively affect seed germination, plant growth and overall seeding establishment success and will require soil decompaction activities.

Prior to planting a seed mixture, the entity installing the final vegetative cover should test the level of soil compaction on the site. Any areas where the soil has been compacted by construction or agricultural activities that exceed 200 pounds per square inch will need to be de-compacted prior to replacing the topsoil and/or preparing the site for planting. For shallow decompaction, a disk may be used with a minimum of two passes. For deeper, more significant compaction, a winged subsoiler or straight ripper shank should be used followed by a disk with a minimum of two passes. Following soil decompaction efforts, the vegetation contractor will review the site to determine if additional soil decompaction efforts are necessary.

4. Planting Timeline and Dates

The available planting window for seed mixtures is determined by two primary factors: soil temperature and the available moisture both at the time of planting and for the next 80 days. In all cases, the final vegetative cover planting should begin within 48 hours following grading and other site preparation activities. Planting activities that occur more than 48 hours following soil disturbance activities increase the opportunity for significant weed competition on the site and/or drying out of soil moisture.

<u>Solar Array Seed Mix:</u> The approved seed mixture (Appendix A) can be planted following these timelines:

- Average Freeze Dates for Jefferson County, West Virginia: Please note these important dates that have been used for determining planting window availability (<u>Interactive map: average date of last spring freeze</u> across the United States | NOAA Climate.gov and <u>Frost and Freeze Information</u> (weather.gov):
 - 1. Average last freeze date in the spring is April 20th.
 - 2. Average first freeze date in the fall is November 1st.
- Any plantings that occur during the listed time periods using an air seeder, broadcast seeding or hydroseeder will require a minimum of 70 days and up to 140 days to germinate and develop seedling growth and secondary roots mature enough to survive the rigors of heat, drought and/or freezing (Appendix C).
 - This is a longer period than would be observed if the same seed mixture were planted with a grass drill (a minimum of 55 days and up to 85 days) as the seed to soil contact conditions and access to moisture are highly variable. During this period, the seed germination and seedling growth is highly susceptible to impacts and delays from heat, lack of moisture and/or termination due to freezing.
- Planting may be completed using an air seeder, hydroseeder or no-till grass drill in the winter and spring between the time in the fall when the soil temperatures reach 50° F or less and May 31st. The goal of a spring planting should be to complete the planting as early in this timeline as possible. The seed mixture will be planted following the site preparation and cover crop options outlined in the Site Preparation and planting for seed mixture section of the Vegetation Management Plan.
- Planting may be completed using a broadcast seeding operation in the
 winter and spring between the time in the fall when the soil
 temperatures reach 50° F or less and April 30th. The seed mixture will
 be planted following the site preparation and cover crop options
 outlined in the Site Preparation and planting for seed mixture section of
 the VMP.
- Planting may be completed using an air seeder or hydroseeder in the late summer/early fall between the dates of August 1st and August 23rd. The goal of a fall planting should be to complete the planting as early in this timeline as possible. The seed mixture will be planted following the site preparation options outlined in the Site Preparation and cover crop section of the VMP.

 Planting may be completed using a no-till grass drill in the late summer/early fall between the dates of August 1st and September 7th.
 The goal of a fall planting should be to complete the planting as early in this timeline as possible. The seed mixture will be planted following the site preparation options outlined in the Site Preparation and cover crop section of the VMP.

Planting outside of the listed planting window dates may make the newly establishing plants become highly susceptible to termination due to freezing. With an average first freeze date of November 1st, the latest date an air seeder or hydroseeder planting should be used during the growing season is August 23rd (70 days before the average first freeze) and the latest date a drill seeding should be used during the growing season is September 7th (55 Days to average first freeze) (Appendix C).

Array Area Seed Mix: Available Planting Dates by Planting Method

Planting Method	Spring		Late Summer		Winter - Dormant Seeding	
	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date
No-till Drill	February	May	August	September	Soil Temp @	Until the Soil
	15 th	31 st	1 st	7 th	50° F or less	is Frozen
Hydro-seeder	February	May	August	August	Soil Temp @	February
	15 th	31 st	1 st	23 rd	50° F or less	15 th
Air-seeder	February	May	August	August	Soil Temp @	February
	15 th	31 st	1 st	23 rd	50° F or less	15 th
Broadcast seeding	February 1 st	April 30 th	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 1 st

<u>Buffer Array Seed Mix:</u> The approved seed mixture (Appendix B) can be planted following these timelines:

- Average Freeze Dates for Jefferson County, West Virginia: Please note these
 important dates that have been used for determining planting window
 availability (Interactive map: average date of last spring freeze across the United
 States | NOAA Climate.gov and Frost and Freeze Information (weather.gov):
 - 1. Average last freeze date in the spring is April 20th.
 - 2. Average first freeze date in the fall is November 1st.

 Any plantings that occur during the listed time periods using an air seeder, broadcast seeding or hydroseeder will require a minimum of 70 days and up to 140 days to germinate and develop seedling growth and secondary roots mature enough to survive the rigors of heat, drought and/or freezing (Appendix C).

This is a longer period than would be observed if the same seed mixture were planted with a drill (a minimum of 55 days and up to 85 days) as the seed to soil contact conditions and access to moisture are highly variable. During this period, the seed germination and seedling growth is highly susceptible to impacts and delays from heat, lack of moisture and/or termination due to freezing.

- Planting may be completed using an air seeder, hydroseeder or no-till grass drill in the winter and spring between the time the soil temperatures reach 50° F or less and May 31st. The goal of a spring planting should be to complete the planting as early in this timeline as possible. The seed mixture will be planted following the site preparation and cover crop options outlined in the Site Preparation and planting for seed mixture section of the Vegetation Management Plan.
- Planting may be completed using a broadcast seeding operation in the winter and spring between the time the soil temperatures reach 50° F or less and April 30th. The seed mixture will be planted following the site preparation and cover crop options outlined in the Site Preparation and planting for seed mixture section of the VMP.

Buffer Area Seed Mix: Available Planting Dates by Planting Method

Planting Method	Spring		Late Summer		Winter - Dormant Seeding	
	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date
No-till Drill	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	Until the Soil is Frozen
Hydro-seeder	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 15 th
Air-seeder	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50 ^o F or less	February 15 th
Broadcast seeding	February 1 st	April 30 th	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 1 st

5. Cover Crop Planting

For areas of the project being planted to the Solar Array Area and Buffer Area Seed Mixtures that were: 1) Formerly in agricultural crops, 2) Where the existing vegetation has been terminated, removed, or altered during construction or 3) Site preparation activities disturbed existing vegetation will be required to establish a cover crop if there is a timeline to bridge between when:

- A) The vegetation has been removed and/or terminated and the start of an available listed planting timeline window for the final vegetative cover.
- B) The start of the growing season and the establishment of the final vegetative cover following construction.

Cover crops will be seeded on these areas to comply with the project SWPPP using one of the cover crop options listed (Appendix E). Cover crops will be established using a broadcast seeding, air seeding, hydroseeding or no-till drill method. The preferred establishment technique will be to plant the cover crop using a no-till drill.

The primary role of a cover crop is to suppress weed competition and growth. For this reason, it is critically important that a cover crop seed mixture be used that has significant allelopathic attributes. Having a plant(s) with an allelopathic nature refers to:

The beneficial or harmful effects of one plant on another plant by the release of chemicals from plant parts by leaching, root exudation, volatilization, residue decomposition and other processes in both natural and agricultural systems. (Allelopathy - Wikipedia)

In this case, the cover crop selected should have the ability to produce an allelopathic effect and help to diminish the germination and growth of weed species seeds that are on the site. While many often view a cover crops role as soil stabilization and erosion control, the most important role for a cover crop on this project is weed growth suppression.

6. Planting Methods

All plant materials must be installed as outlined, at the correct time and as described in this Vegetation Management Plan. Any exceptions or changes to the installation must be approved by Franklintown and the contractor shall receive authorization in writing for any changes or deviations prior to the start of work.

The vegetation contractor will review the site and determine which planting method will produce the best final vegetative cover outcome. Depending on the seed mixture being planted and the listed available timelines for planting, seed mixtures may be planted using an air seeder, hydroseeder, no-till grass drill and/or by broadcast seeding. Seed mixtures that are being planted into a cover crop or other existing vegetation must be planted using a no-till grass drill unless that existing vegetation has been terminated and had the thatch removed to allow for sufficient seed to soil contact.

<u>Air Seeder or Hydroseeder</u>: For plantings that are established using an air seeder or hydroseeder, it is critically important that the site is prepared to provide a high ratio of seed to soil contact. If the seed being sown is blocked by existing or residual vegetation and does not contact the soil, it will not germinate and grow.

Additional considerations:

- > The seed mixture and any inert material must all be thoroughly mixed at the time of planting.
- ➤ A cultipacker must be used on the site following seeding to ensure the area has a firm seed bed and increased seed to soil contact to produce greater seed germination rates.
- ➤ Because this is a more specialized version of broadcast seeding a seed mixture and not placing the seed into the ground as would be accomplished with a drill, seeding rates using this method must be increased by 30% from the rates listed with the seed mixture in Appendix A and B. Increased seeding rates are being required to account for seed loss due to environmental conditions and/or animal damage.

No-till Grass Drill: Establishing the final vegetative cover using a no-till grass drill is the most preferred planting method. For plantings that are established using a no-till grass drill, it is critically important to ensure that seeds are not planted too deep. The ideal planting depth for any seed is 2x the diameter of the seed. For the seed mixtures designed for the Franklintown project, the appropriate planting depth for the seed mixture is 1/8" to 1/4" and not any deeper.

A no-till grass drill is a piece of equipment that is designed to insert and/or place the seed into the soil and then cover the seed with a press wheel or a cultipacker. Using a piece of equipment described as an agricultural "seeder" does not constitute the use of a 'no-till grass drill' for the purposes of this vegetation management plan. The use of a "seeder" will be considered a broadcast seeding application that is followed with a cultipacker and would require a 30% increase in the seed mixture planting rate.

- For an example of a No-till Grass Drill, please view: FLEXII Series Grass Drill TRUAX Company, Inc.
- For an example of an agricultural seeder, please view: Agricultural Seeders Landoll

<u>Broadcast Seeding</u>: A broadcast seeding is the least preferred planting method of all the planting options listed in this VMP. This planting method is the most susceptible to weather fluctuations and limitations, will take the longest time to germinate and establish, requires a 30% increased seeding rate, and offers the most restricted set of planting window timeline options.

For plantings using a broadcast seeding method, it is critically important that the site be prepared to provide a high ratio of Seed to Soil contact. If the seed being broadcast does not contact the soil, it will not germinate and grow.

Additional considerations for broadcast seeding:

- On sites where significant soil disturbance has occurred prior to, or during, the planting process, a cultipacker must be used on the site following broadcast seeding to help ensure the area has a firm seed bed and increased seed to soil contact and seed germination rates.
- > The seed mixture and any inert material must all be thoroughly mixed at the time of planting.
- Seed mixture seeding rates must be increased when broadcast seeding methods (ex: Hydro seeding, Air seeder, broadcaster, agricultural seeder, etc.) are being used to account for seed loss due to environmental conditions and/or animal damage. Broadcast seeding rates must be increased by 30%.
- Under optimal temperature and moisture conditions, the general timeline to establishment of the solar array area seed mixture based on planting technique applied:

Final Vegetative Cover Considerations	No-till Drill	Broadcast Seeding
Seed Germination Timeline	15 to 25 days	30 to 70 days
Minimum Timeline Needed for Seedling Growth & Maturity	40 to 60 days	40 to 70 days

Total Time Needed to Reach Minimal Establishment

55 to 85 days

70 to 140 days

7. Solar Array Area Seed Mixtures

Seed mixtures were designed to meet some very specific Franklintown and BBHF project objectives (Appendix G). These species have been reviewed and are commercially available at the time of the vegetation management plan development. The final seed mixture design and bid to be used on Franklintown will be provided following these seed mixture design components:

- Following the Solar Synergy program agreement between Franklintown and the BBHF, the solar array seed mixture will be sourced and obtained through the BBHF.
- Seed mixtures will exclude the use of Tier 1 and Tier 2 species from the list of Invasive Plant Species of West Virginia (Appendix F).
- The species included in the seed mixture shall be true to the scientific name as specified in the mixture listed in Appendix A and B. Seed mixture components will be listed by both common name and scientific name in the bidding and procurement process.
- All seed lots obtained for planting on the Franklintown project must be originally sourced from production fields within the United States of America (USA). No seed sources may be obtained that were sourced from outside of the USA.

- The seed mixture was designed and will be provided for Franklintown based on Pure Live Seed (PLS) Pounds/acre seeding rates and their corresponding seeds/ft² seeding rates (Appendix A).
- Seed mixtures designed and/or provided based on bulk pounds/acre will not be accepted.
- Seed lots used on the site must have a current test date that is less than 6 months old and document both the purity and germination rates of each and every individual component in the seed mixture. A single seed test that has been applied to the seed mixture will not be accepted.
- The seed tag generated for all seed mixtures procured for use on the site will contain the following information for each component of the seed mixture: Species Name, Lot Number, Purity, Germination Rate, Bulk pounds, PLS pounds, Percent of overall mixture, Test Date, Weed Seeds, Planting Rate per Acre, and Origin of the Seed (Appendix D).
- Seed mixture components must comply with the seed laws of the state the seed is being established in.
- No alterations have been made to the final seed mixture design. Any substitutions or changes to the seed mixtures must be approved by Franklintown in writing prior to approval and/or installation.
- The accepted seed mixture design being bid on and acquired will be reviewed and approved by a vegetation management specialist to ensure the listed seed mixture design requirements are correctly being met and have not been adjusted.

The Solar Array seed mixture was designed to include clover (*Trifolium* sp.) species to be able to withstand future mowing activities, provide significant regrowth opportunities, deliver soil health benefits, and produce significant pollinator health and habitat benefits (Appendix K). These species are regularly used in agricultural practices that include haying activities that remove the vegetation throughout the growing season.

An additional key consideration to the inclusion of clover or other native legume species in the array area seed mixture is their ability to naturally fix nitrogen. Several of the grass and forb species components of the array area seed mixture require a significant amount of nitrogen to be maintained successfully on the site each year. The inclusion of clover and other legume species in the seed mixture is a critical component that will produce significant long-term benefits to the grass establishment, growth, and longevity on the site.

In addition to the areas of the site inside the project fence that are currently identified for establishing a Solar Array Area seed mixture, there may be additional locations outside the project fence that will be established to a vegetative cover. In the event the projects' final location and design creates small or oddly shaped fields outside the fence, Franklintown may work with the adjoining landowners to establish a final vegetative cover seed mixture in locations they prefer to have returned or established to this vegetative cover.

8. Buffer Area Seed Mixtures

A Buffer Area seed mixture has been developed to enhance and expand the pollinator health and habitat benefits associated with the Franklintown project in cooperation with the BBHF and the Solar Synergy program. Prior to planting the Buffer Area Seed Mix, any established cover crop will be terminated with either a Glyphosate herbicide or mowing application. The application of Glyphosate herbicide will be applied following the guidelines listed on page 6 of this VMP.

The final seed mixture design will be provided following these seed mixture design components:

- Following the Solar Synergy program agreement between Franklintown and the BBHF, the buffer area seed mixture will be provided at no cost or at a discounted rate through the BBHF.
- The seed mixture will exclude the use of Tier 1 and Tier 2 species from the list of Invasive Plant Species of West Virginia (Appendix F).
- The species included in the seed mixture shall be true to the scientific name as specified in the mixture listed in Appendix B. Seed mixture components will be listed by both common name and scientific name in the bidding and procurement process.
- All seed lots obtained for planting on the Franklintown project must be originally sourced from production fields within the United States of America (USA). No seed sources may be obtained that were sourced from outside of the USA.
- The seed mixture was designed and will be provided for Franklintown based on Pure Live Seed (PLS) Pounds/acre seeding rates and their corresponding seeds/ft² seeding rates (Appendix B). Seed mixtures designed and/or provided based on bulk pounds/acre will not be accepted.
- Seed mixture components must comply with the seed laws of the state the seed is being established in.
- No alterations have been made to the final seed mixture design. Any substitutions or changes to the seed mixtures must be approved by Franklintown in writing prior to approval and/or installation.
- The accepted seed mixture design being bid and acquired will be reviewed and approved by a vegetation management specialist to ensure the listed seed mixture design requirements are correctly being met and have not been adjusted.

Within 7 to 10 days of the termination of the cover crop, the Buffer Area Seed Mix will be planted using one of the approved planting methods and within an approved planting timeline (Appendix C). The contractor installing the seed mixture will select a time during the available window based on construction activities.

9. Seed Storage Considerations

Once the solar array and/or buffer area seed mixtures has been delivered to the Franklintown site and are being stored pending planting, it is critically important that the seed be maintained and held in a manner that protects the seed germination rates and viability. Grass and forb seeds are easily degraded by environmental conditions, sometimes within a very short period. The primary environmental influences that can quickly degrade the germination rate of a seed lot are air temperature and relative humidity (Principles and practices of seed storage: Justice, Oren L: Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming: Internet Archive).

While seed lots are being maintained on site, their storage should be conducted based on "The Rule of 100". The Rule of 100 is a guide that monitors and notes the conditions when seed germination is susceptible to being degraded. In this rule, when the values for the air temperature (°F) are added to the Relative Humidity (% Relative Humidity) are added together and they exceed the value of 100, seed germination is negatively affected. As an example, if seed were stored in a location with a daily ambient air temperature that reaches 80 °F and a Relative Humidity that reaches 50%, those environmental factors would produce a score of 130 and be in a condition where seed degradation is likely to occur. Increased rates of Relative Humidity have the greatest negative impact on seed viability and can be of significant concern if seed lots are held on site through the summer period. The higher the Rule of 100 score, the faster the seed degradation will occur.

Seed viability on the site should be maintained by following these key factors:

- Make sure to obtain the original seed lots from a seed vendor that has stored their seed lots in a climate-controlled environment.
- Arrange to have seed lots delivered to Franklintown solar in allotments and as close to the
 actual planting date and schedule as possible. Seed orders should be able to be placed and
 delivered in allotments that reduce the need to store large amounts of seed on the site. An
 example would be to have allotments of 200 acres worth of seed mixtures delivered to the
 site on a weekly basis during the planting time period.
- Make sure to obtain original seed lots that have a current test date that is less than 6
 months old and are documenting both the purity and germination rates of each and every
 individual component in the seed mixture (Appendix D). A single seed test that has been
 applied to the seed mixture will not be accepted.
- Purchase seed lots that are younger (more current) and not part of a seed lot that has been stored for multiple years. Seed lots that are multiple years old may have a current test showing acceptable germination rates but are more susceptible to germination degradation.
- If seed lots need to be maintained on site for an extended period, they need to be stored in a climate-controlled environment.

10. Vegetation Contractor Qualifications

Contractors that are responsible for the implementation and delivery of the vegetation management plan will be knowledgeable of the tasks, procedures and practices that are outlined in the VMP (see page 27 for additional detailed qualification requirements). The contractor will use equipment to deliver the VMP that is of the appropriate size and function to work within the array area of the project. The individual plant species used to design the Franklintown seed mixtures all have a high likelihood of successful establishment when the guidance and requirements of this VMP are followed.

Vegetation Management Plan

A vegetation management specialist will determine the management options and implementation plans as the Franklintown project moves forward in the future. These plans will be implemented to ensure that a final vegetative cover is in place for the life of the project, is providing pollinator health and habitat benefits and is being managed to ensure the vegetation is compatible with the objectives of safe and reliable power generation.

All vegetative cover established on the Franklintown site will require regular, planned management activities. The following guidelines are intended to provide a plan during the establishment phase of the final vegetative cover. A vegetation management specialist will be used to provide guidance in the future that is based on what is occurring on the site during each growing season. That guidance will be designed and applied based on how the vegetative cover is moving through natural successional changes, weather conditions, weed competition, response to grazing activities and site conditions.

Establishment Management: Year 1

The management activities in Year 1 should be focused on controlling the competitive, invasive and/or noxious weed components of a newly established planting. When management activities and their timelines are strictly adhered to in Year 1, it can both increase the pace at which the final vegetative cover becomes fully established and significantly decrease the amount and intensity of Operation & Maintenance activities that need to occur in the future on the site.

Mowing: Mowing activities that follow the planting of the final vegetative cover in the first growing season are extremely critical. The timing, frequency and height of those mowing activities often determine the success or failure of a planting and/or the length of time required for the planting to be determined a success.

Conduct all mowing activities to ensure that the volunteer plant species that show up on the project location in the first growing season are not allowed to mature, flower and/or produce viable seeds. If weed control management efforts fail to be conducted or are late in being applied, the success of the final vegetative cover establishment will be in danger of failing and require re-planting activities.

Photographic examples of the Solar Array Area seed mixture establishment have been included in this VMP to provide additional management guidance and examples. Images are provided at the 2-month post planting stage (Appendix H) and the 4-month post planting stage (Appendix I). In the 2-month post planting example, the designed solar array seed mixture is beginning to germinate and grow, but it is also showing the competition that is also starting from volunteer weed species on the site. This photographic example demonstrates the moment in time when mowing activities need to begin to be applied to the new planting to control the volunteer weed species while they are young and vulnerable to the listed management activities.

When mowing activities are applied in an early, timely and regular manner, the final vegetative cover can begin to outcompete the volunteer weed species (Appendix I) and transition to a fully established vegetative cover in year 2 (Appendix J). When planted in the spring, it is likely the established vegetative cover will require 3 mowing events to control volunteer weed growth and establishment during the first growing season. Failure to apply early, timely and regular management to plantings in the first growing season leads to situations where the volunteer weeds become more and more challenging to control. Mow early and mow often in the first growing season.

Mowing activities during the first growing season should be conducted at a height of 4" to 6" above the ground. Mowing activities that are conducted at a lower height may damage the final vegetative cover as it is working to become established. When mowing activities are applied at the correct time, frequency and height, another advantage is that those mowing activities do not create a mulch that can serve to smother and inhibit the final vegetative cover as it is working to become established.

If vegetation has been allowed to reach a height of >20 inches prior to mowing, then mowing activities will be conducted with a flail-type mower to reduce the amount of mulch that will be deposited on young seedlings and fragile plant growth.

Mowing activities should not be conducted when soil is saturated to prevent soil compaction on the site. Management activities that create soil compaction can result in seed establishment failure, the establishment of invasive or noxious weeds, rutting on the site and/or creating water infiltration issues that lead to ponding on the site.

Establishment Management: Years 2 to 3

Mowing: The timing and frequency of mowing during the 2nd and 3rd years of establishment should be evaluated and recommended by a vegetation management specialist familiar with the establishment and management of pollinator habitat.

Mowing activities should be conducted in the following manner:

- > Use of a flail-type mower to prevent the build-up of a thatch that could negatively affect the establishment and growth of the installed seed mixture.
- Conduct all mowing activities with a mowing height of 8 to 12 inches tall.

- Conduct mowing activities prior to the vegetation getting tall enough (>20 inches) that a mowing activity would create a vegetative mulch that can smoother the included plant seedlings that are being established.
- In year 2, a total of 1-2 mowing, if necessary, will be conducted. In years 3 and beyond, mowing activities will be conducted when management of the Solar Array or Buffer Area seed mixtures requires it to control weed growth and density on the site. In general, this will likely range from 0-2 mowing activities per year.
- > The vegetation contractor should consider spot mowing to treat just those areas that are exhibiting aggressive, invasive, or noxious weed competition on the site.
- Conduct mowing activities to ensure that volunteer plant species that show up on the project location in the first few years of establishment (years 2-3) are not allowed to mature, flower and/or produce viable seeds.
- The pollinator value of seed mixture plantings can be maximized by conducting mowing activities at the proper height, proper timeline and later in the growing season. This will allow plants to produce the nectar and pollen resources that pollinators feed on as well as help redistribute ripened seed throughout the pollinator planting.

Mowing activities that are performed throughout the life of the project should be conducted in a manner to consider and protect ground nesting bird activities during the primary nesting season. For mowing activities completed between May 1st and August 31st, staff conducting mowing activities at the site should be trained to identify and protect avian ground nests.

During the early, initial years of the final vegetative cover establishment, mowing a site during the growing season can aid in the establishment of the cover if competition is present from undesirable and/or volunteer plant species. Mowing activity and frequency are determined based on the abundance and growth height of undesirable and/or volunteer plant species that show up in the planting. A review of the site should be conducted by a vegetation management specialist prior to mowing. A pollinator habitat tip video that outlines and demonstrates this technique can be viewed at:

https://youtu.be/ind8BaWzotc

Mowing Schedule for Site Management

Year	June	July	August
Growing Season 1	Mow at 4" to 6" tall	Mow at 4" to 6" tall	Mow at 4" to 6" tall
Growing Season 2	Mow at 8" to 12" tall	Mow at 8" to 12" tall	No Mow
	Mowing based on	Mowing based on	Mowing based on
	Vegetation Specialist	Vegetation Specialist	Vegetation Specialist
Growing Season 3	review	review	review

Herbicide Use:

If undesirable or invasive plant species show up during the year of establishment, it is important to address their control and removal as soon as possible. It is critically important that undesirable or invasive species are not allowed to mature enough to produce viable seeds. Depending on the plant species to be addressed, a plan of control is best accomplished through a combination of spot mowing, spot use of herbicides or both.

If the undesirable or invasive plant species are forb-based plants (broad leaved plants), the use of a non-selective herbicides like Glyphosate or broad-leaf herbicides (e.g., 2,4-D, Garlon, etc.) can be used on an individual plants or on a spot treatment basis. Care should be taken to limit the herbicide application to the specific plant species trying to be eliminated as the herbicide will also eliminate components of the final vegetative cover plant species and other actively growing vegetation it is applied to.

For the management and control of undesirable, volunteer grasses like Crabgrass (*Digitaria* spp.) or Foxtail (*Alopecurus* spp.) species, a specific herbicide application can be applied. The recommended herbicide application would be to use Frequency® in either a pre-emergent or post-emergent application that follows the label. Several key considerations about the use of herbicide include:

- Can be used in either a pre-emergent or post-emergent fashion, but pre-emergent is probably the most effective.
- If the clovers species in the planting are taller than 3", the herbicide application should stunt the white Dutch clover, but not eliminate it.
- If used as a post-emergent application, the herbicide requires the use of an adjuvant with it for effective control.
- Most of the grasses in the Franklintown Array Area seed mixture are listed as being tolerant to the herbicide.
- There is a limit of 4 ounces/acre/treatment. Total of 16 ounces/acre/year

For spot treatment of invasive grasses, Clethodim and/or a non-selective herbicide like Glyphosate can be used. Non-selective herbicides will terminate both grasses and broad-leaved plants that are actively growing and should be applied very carefully.

All herbicide applications used on the project shall be EPA-registered at that time of application, shall be applied by a current West Virginia licensed applicator and shall only be applied in accordance with the label recommendations, applicable law and landowner requirements.

<u>Replanting of Non-established Areas</u>: In the event that a portion of the project has experienced poor or non-establishment, the first step will be to determine the reason for the poor or non-establishment of the final vegetative cover. Reasons for poor or non-establishment and their remediation can include:

- ➤ If the reason for poor or non-establishment is related to either site preparation or existing vegetation competition, those issues will be addressed and controlled. The area will be replanted following the planting instructions listed in this VMP.
- ➤ If the reason is related to soil conditions or soil compaction, the area will be remediated to ensure a successful planting and replanted following the planting instructions listed.
- ➤ If the reason is related to weather, the area will be replanted when the appropriate weather conditions are obtained following the planting instructions listed. Care should be taken to replant as early in the available planting timeline as possible.
- If the reason for poor establishment is related to seed lots being stored on the site outside of the 'Rule of 100' environmental conditions and the seed germination rate was degraded, replacement seed lots will need to be acquired and replanted. See 'Rule of 100' description on page 17.
- ➤ If the reason for poor establishment was planting the seed mixture outside of the listed planting window options (Appendix C), replacement seed lots will need to be acquired and established using the correct methods during the correct available dates.
- In all cases, original planting and/or replanting should be conducted in the earliest possible portion of the available timeline listed for planting dates. Because most replanting activities will likely be conducted using broadcast seedings, please review and consider the significant limitations associated with broadcast seeding listed in this VMP, especially the number of days needed to reach a minimally established stand and the requirement for an increased planting rate (Appendix C).

Areas described as non-established include locations that are bare soil. These locations are important to be reviewed and addressed by the vegetation contractor as soon as possible as they are susceptible to erosion and the introduction of aggressive, invasive and/or noxious weeds. Franklintown may coordinate with a vegetation management specialist to determine the best course of action to identify and apply appropriate remediation activities.

Maintenance and Management

The control or elimination of undesired or invasive plant species should be addressed with a combination of management tools that could include mowing and/or herbicide use and apply Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) approaches. Other management tools like prescribed fire, grazing with cattle and disking that are often used on habitat or conservation projects will not be available or recommended for use on this site.

Where high quality pollinator resources and pollinator benefits are a project objective, there really are no projects or options where you can plant the pollinator seed mixture, walk away without a specific future management plan and have pollinator benefits continue into the future. Natural succession will move the plant community through a cycle where it eventually becomes dominated by grasses and the pollinator forb species component drops out with time. To maintain pollinator benefits, a specific management plan should be developed by a vegetation management specialist to guide the specific future management activities on the areas supporting pollinator health and habitat. Future management options include:

Mowing: Mowing vegetation growing under solar panels may be necessary to maintain safe and reliable power generation. Mowing can also be a pollinator-friendly management technique that can help maintain the diversity and vigor of a pollinator planting when the timing, height and frequency of the mowing are considered, controlled, and follow a specific plan. An example of the effective use of mowing in a pollinator planting can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/ind8BaWzotc

If pollinator health and habitat benefits are a priority for the project, the timing and frequency of mowing as a management and site maintenance activity should be evaluated and recommended by a vegetation management specialist familiar with the establishment and management of pollinator habitat. In addition, the timing of mowing activities to consider monarch butterfly needs is an example of one important consideration.

Naturalized Forb Species: The Solar Array seed mixture was designed and planted using clover (*Trifolium* sp.) species to be able to withstand future mowing activities along with a significant list of other project objectives and needs (Appendix K). These species are regularly used in agricultural practices that include haying activities that remove the vegetation throughout the growing season. An additional key consideration to the inclusion of clover in the array area seed mixture is its ability to fix nitrogen from the atmosphere and store it in the soil. Several of the grass species components of the array area seed mixture require a significant and annual amount of nitrogen to be maintained successfully on the site.

<u>Mowing Height</u>: All mowing activities related to establishment and future management should be completed with a mowing height of 8 to 12 inches above ground. This will allow the biannual and perennial plant species to continue developing and continue in the pollinator planting.

<u>Herbicide Use</u>: If grass competition in the project advances to the point where the grasses are outcompeting the forbs, herbicide application should be considered. The application of a grass-selected herbicide containing Clethodim 2E (e.g.: Arrow or Select or Selec

All herbicide applications used on the project shall be EPA-registered at that time of application, shall be applied by a current West Virginia licensed applicator, and shall only be applied in accordance with the label recommendations, applicable law and landowner requirements.

Spot Spraying and Spot Mowing: When undesirable or invasive plant species begin to occur on a project, it is important to address their control and removal as soon as possible. Depending on the plant species to be addressed, a plan of control is best accomplished through a combination of spot mowing, spot use herbicides or both. In all cases, volunteer and undesirable plants are always easier to control or eliminate when they are addressed with an herbicide and/or mowing application when they first appear on the site and are young, short, newly growing plants. Waiting until a plant matures to apply the control mechanism will decrease the effectiveness of either the herbicide application or mowing activity.

If the plant species are grass-based plants, the use of grass-selected herbicide can generally be used on a broader range without negatively impacting the pollinator plant species. If the undesirable or invasive plant species are forb-based plants, the use of a non-selective herbicide like Glyphosate can be used on an individual plant or spot treatment basis. Care should be taken to limit the herbicide application to the specific plant species trying to be eliminated as the herbicide will also eliminate the pollinator plant species.

Vegetation Quality Targets

1. Overall Target

The seed mixture listed, and the vegetation management guidelines provided in this VMP are designed to result in an established, stable vegetative cover that is compatible with safe and reliable electricity production, is beneficial to pollinator health and resources and works to deliver significant soil health benefits. When the site preparation guidelines are followed and the seed mixtures are properly planted, the site should become stable, well established, and able to be discharged. The permits and regulations for this project may impose additional requirements on the final performance and establishment of the vegetative plantings.

2. Established Seed Mixture Targets

By the conclusion of the first full growing season, at least 80% of the site shall be vegetated. To discharge the SWPPP permit for the project, at least 70% of the site must be covered with uniform perennial vegetation. By the conclusion of the third full growing season, at least 95% of the site shall be vegetated and at least 90% of the site must be covered with a uniform perennial vegetation. The seed mixtures designed for this project and the management plan, and activities listed are designed to ensure the proper site preparation activities have been performed to increase the seeding, germination and growth of the plants selected for inclusion in the seed mixtures.

3. Undesirable, Invasive and/or Noxious Weed Targets

All solar power sites will experience undesirable, invasive and/or noxious weed species that appear on their site. These species will show up on the site because of the seeds that are found on site and have remained dormant in the seed bank, often for decades. This is especially true of sites that were formerly in agricultural crop production. Once the herbicide regime being applied to agricultural crop production fields is removed, those species tend to show up early in the growing season and grow aggressively. In addition, they tend to be prolific seed producers and are often allelopathic (see detailed definition Appendix E).

All of the noxious and/or invasive plants that are prohibited in the state (Appendix F) shall be treated with an herbicide application and/or mowed at a frequency that is sufficient to prevent the plant from producing seeds and remove the plant from the project location over time. A focus will be placed on identification and control of any Tier 1 and Tier 2 species that are identified on the site.

It will be important that any noxious and/or invasive plants that occur on the site are identified and controlled as quickly as possible. A vegetation management specialist should be consulted to help determine control methods and options. If Undesirable, Invasive or Noxious weed species develop on the site, they will likely occur during the first two years following the initial planting. This will be the most critical timeframe during which frequent site reviews should be conducted by individuals able to identify individual undesirable, invasive and noxious plant species. The site should be monitored by a vegetation management specialist for both the

establishment of the seed mixtures and the presence of plants that need to be controlled and removed from the site.

4. Monitoring of the site

Site evaluations should be completed by a qualified and approved vegetation management specialist. Site evaluations should be completed every 6 to 8 weeks during the growing season in year 1 and year 2 of planting establishment. Once the array area seed mixtures are fully established, the site monitoring can be conducted one time per year during the growing season to evaluate the site for undesirable, invasive and/or noxious weed presence, future management recommendations and identification of sites in need of replanting.

This document is intended to apply adaptive management practices and serve as a working document. Updates and revisions will be made as new information is obtained with respect to the vegetation management, site characteristics and availability of management practices at the time of procurement of services.

Considerations for Companies Bidding on Installation Services

Franklintown has committed to installing a final vegetative cover that produces pollinator health and habitat benefits. Franklintown has developed this Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) to guide the activities of site preparation, installation of prescribed seed mixtures, management and control of invasive species and noxious weeds and the overall management of the established vegetation on the site that will also support those pollinator health and habitat outcomes.

Some of the factors that should be considered when bidding on the Franklintown Solar project include:

- Obtain the described seed mixture listed in Appendix A and B. All seed mixtures must adhere
 to the specifications outlined and described in this plan. Species shall be true to the scientific
 name as specified in the seed mixtures in Appendix A. All seed lots obtained for planting on
 the Franklintown project must be originally sourced from the United States of America. Any
 substitutions or changes to the seed mixtures must be approved by Franklintown prior to
 installation.
- 2. <u>Full completion of site preparation activities</u>. Proper site preparation is the single, most important factor that will determine both the initial establishment and long-term success of the final vegetative cover planting. Activities will include addressing any soil compaction issues on the site, termination of existing vegetation, determination of the need for using a cover crop on the site and review of previous herbicide use on the site.
- 3. <u>Seed Mixture Planting.</u> The available planting window for the Franklintown solar seed mixture is determined by two primary factors: soil temperature and the available moisture at both the time of planting and for the next 80 days. Establish the final vegetative cover using one of the approved planting methods during one of the listed available planting timeline windows listed.
- 4. <u>Seed Mixture Planting Depth.</u> The ideal planting depth for any seed is 2x the diameter of the seed. For the seed mixture designed for the Franklintown Solar project, the appropriate planting depth for the seed mixture is 1/8" and not any deeper.

The expectation is that the final vegetative cover will be fully established after a 3-year period. This does not mean that the final cover is not well-established sooner than a 3-year period, but several species included in the seed mixture become established and produce floral resources over a longer period of time. A successful outcome will be determined by following the guidelines listed in this VMP and the management that occurs in the first 3 years of the project.

Appendix A



Conservation Blueprint

Franklintown Solar - Array Area Seed Mix

20" Vegetative Height Restriction

Species	Scientific Name	PLS lbs per acre	Seeds per sq ft	% of Mixture	Bloom Period	Politinator Value
Autumn Bentgrass	Agrostis perennans	0.300	55.10	8.91%		
Fine Fescue Blend for Solar Projects	Festuca spp.	30.000	344.35	55,66%	_	
Path Rush	Juncus tenuis	0.200	73.46	11.87%		
Alsike Clover	Trifolium hybridum	2.000	31.24	5.05%	2	5
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus corriculatus	3.000	25.47	4.12%	2	5
Ladino or White Clover	Trifolium repens	3.000	49.03	7.92%	2	5
White Dutch Clover	Trifolium repens	2.000	40.02	6.47%	2	5
	Grasses Total:	30.500	472.911	76.44%		
	Wildflower/Forb/Legume Total:	10.000	145.758	23.56%		
	Filler Total:	0.000	0.000	0.00%		
	Total Mixture:	40.500	618.669	100.00%		

Bloom Period	Wildflowers Used in Mixture	% PLS Seeding Rate of Mix
1 = April to May	0	0.00%
2 = June to July	4	23.56%
3 = August to October	0	0.00%
Total :	4	*

L	5.00	Pollinator Value (0-5)
gr gr	combination of fac	s score is determined based on ctors described below. A score licates the mbture is designed value.

Bid Cost Per Acre:	
Date of Bid:	
Bid Expiration:	

The Pollinator Value Score is determined based on a combination of factors that include:

The pollen and/or nectar value of the plant species.

The ability of the plant species to establish and persist in pollinator seeding mixtures.

Bee Integrated Program research results of pollinator pollen analysis.

Unique pollinator biological life histories of the plant species.

The total bloom period length of the plant species.

The occurence in early bloom periods (Bloom Period 1) that are hard to challenging to provide resources for.

The commercial availability of the species for use in seeding mixtures.

Value of the plant species pollen and nectar to commercial beekeepers.

USGS Pollinator Library tool: https://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/pollinator/home

The Ecoregional Revegetation Application tool: http://www.nativerevegetation.org/era/

Botanical and beekeeping reference materials that list the pollinator value of species.

Field observations of floral resource use by pollinator species.

Note: The seed mixture listed and its planting rate are for drill seeding planting methods. Planting rates for Air Seeder, Hydroseeding and Broadcast seeding methods must be increased by 30% (see page 13 and 14 of this plan).

Appendix B



Conservation Blueprint

Franklintown Solar - Buffer Area Seed Mixture

No Vegetative Height Restrictions

Species	Scientific Name	PLS lbs per acre	Seeds per sq ft	% of Mixture	Bloom Period	Pollinator Value
Autumn Bentgrass	Agrostis perennans	0.065	11.94	19.29%		
Canada Wildrye	Elymus canadensis	0.850	2.22	3.60%		-
Little Bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	0.500	2.76	4.46%		
Path Rush	Juncus tenuis	0.035	12.86	20.78%		_
American Germander	Teucrum canadense	0.010	0.22	0.36%	2	4
Blackeved Susan	Rudbeckia hirta	0.100	3.62	5.85%	2	1
Blanketflower - G. pulchella	Gaillardia pulchella	0.100	0.43	0.69%	1	4
Blue Vervain	Verbena hastata	0.030	1.04	1.67%	2	5
Brown-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia tribba	0.050	0.62	1.01%	2	1
	Asclepias tuberosa					
Butterfly Milkweed	Solidago canadensis	0.060	0.10	0.16%	2	5
Canada Goldenrod		0.005	0.81	1.31%	2	5
Canada Milkvetch	Astragalus canadensis	0.100	0.62	1.00%	2	4
Common Evening Primrose	Oenothera biennis	0.030	0.95	1.53%	2	4
Common Milkweed	Asciepias syriaca	0.050	0.09	0.15%	2	5
Cuiver's Root	Veronicastrum virginicum	0.001	0.28	0.45%	3	4
Cup Plant	Silphium perfoliatum	0.050	0.07	0.12%	2	5
Dotted Mint	Monarda punctata	0.020	0.68	1.09%	2	4
False or Oxeye Sunflower	Heliopsis nellantholdes	0.150	0.36	0.58%	2	5
Foxglove Beardstongue	Penstemon digitalis	0.060	0.55	0.89%	1	5
	Zizia aurea		0.30	0.65%	1	
Golden Alexander	Solidago nemoraiis	0.100	-			5
Gray Goldenrod		0.010	0.23	0,37%	3	4
Hairy Beardstongue	Penstemon hirsulus	0.008	0.73	1.18%	1	5
Heal Ali	Prunella vulgaris	0.030	0.45	0.72%	1	4
Heath Aster	Symphyotrichum ericoides	0.006	0.69	1.12%	3	5
Illinois Bundleflower	Desmanthus illinoensis	0.300	0.59	0.95%	2	5
Lanceleaf Coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata	0.200	1.01	1.64%	2	4
Late or Giant Goldenrod, Native Source	Solidago gigantea	0.005	0.87	1.40%	3	5
New England Aster	Symphyotrichum novae- angliae	0.025	0.61	0.98%	3	5
New Jersey Tea	Ceanothus americanus	0.030	0.08	0.12%	2	4
Nodding Pink Onion	Allium cernuum	0.035	0.10	0.16%	2	4
Oats	Avena sativa	10.000	4.45	7.20%		
	Physostegia virginiana		0.20	0.33%	3	
Obedience Plant	Tradescartia ohiensis	0.050				4
Ohio Spiderwort	11. 120 H A	0.020	0.06	0.09%	1	4
Pale Purple Coneflower	Echinacea pallida	0.100	0.24	0.39%	2	5
Plains Coreopsis	Coreopsis tindtona	0.040	2.96	4.78%	2	2
Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	0.200	0.53	0.86%	2	5
Roundhead Lespedeza	Lespedeză capitată	0.070	0.28	0.45%	3	4
Seed Box	Ludwigia alternifolia	0.001	0.48	0.77%	3	3
Showy Partridgepea	Criamaecrista fasciculata	0.400	0.60	0.96%	2	5
mooth Blue Aster	Symphyotrichum leeve	0.020	0.47	0.75%	3	5
Stiff Goldenrod	Solidago rigida	0.035	0.54	0.87%	3	5
Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias incamata	0.020	0.07	0.11%	2	5
Fall Boneset	Eupatorium altissimum	0.025	0.46	0.74%	3	
	Pycnerthemum virginianum					4
Virginia Mountain Mint	Achillea millefolium	0.005	0.18	0.30%	2	4
Nestem Yarrow	CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	0.050	3.27	5.29%	1	2
Mild Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa	0.030	0.88	1.42%	2	5
Mild Quinine	Parthenium integrifolium	0.050	0.13	0.21%	2	2
Mild Senna	Senna hebecarpa	0.200	0.10	0.17%	2	2
Rice Hulls - Filler for low planting rate mixtures		4.000	0.00	0.00%	1	_
	Grasses Total:	1.450	29.780	48.13%		
	Wildflower/Forb/Legume Total:	12.881	32.094	51.87%		
	Filler Total:	4.000	0.000	0.00%		
	Total Mixture:	18.331	61.875	100.00%		

Bloom Period	Wildflowers Used in Mixture	% PLS Seeding Rate of Mix
1 = April to May	7	9.52%
2 = June to July	25	26.90%

4.12	Pollinator Value (0-5)				
The Pollinator value score is determined based on					

Species	Scientific Name	PLS lbs per acre	Seeds per sq ft	% of Mixture	Bioom Period	Pollinator Value
3 = August to October	11	8.24%	6 greater than 4.0 indicates the			
Total :	43			for great pollinator value.		

The Pollinator Value Score is determined based on a combination of factors that include:

The pollen and/or nectar value of the plant species.

The ability of the plant species to establish and persist in pollinator seeding mixtures.

Bee Integrated Program research results of pollinator pollen analysis.

Unique pollinator biological life histories of the plant species.

The total bloom period length of the plant species.

The occurence in early bloom periods (Bloom Period 1) that are hard to challenging to provide resources for.

The commercial availability of the species for use in seeding mixtures.

Value of the plant species pollen and nectar to commercial beekeepers.

USGS Pollinator Library tool: https://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/pollinator/home

The Ecoregional Revegetation Application tool: http://www.nativerevegetation.org/era/

Botanical and beekeeping reference materials that list the pollinator value of species.

Field observations of floral resource use by pollinator species.

Note: The seed mixture listed and its planting rate are for drill seeding planting methods. Planting rates for Air Seeder, Hydroseeding and Broadcast seeding methods must be increased by 30% (see page 13 and 14 of this plan).

Appendix C

The available planting dates for Franklintown are determined by a combination of the planting method selected and the predicted environmental conditions over the next 55 to 140 days. Planting seed mixtures outside of the timelines listed for each seed mixture will significantly reduce the likelihood of a full and successful vegetative establishment and will increase the likelihood of weed competition and the sites needing to be reseeded due to poor or non-establishment.

Array Area Seed Mix: Available Planting Dates by Planting Method

Diantina Mathad	Spring		Late Summer		Winter - Dormant Seeding	
Planting Method	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date
No-till Drill	February	May	August	September	Soil Temp @	Until the Soil
	15 th	31 st	1 st	7 th	50° F or less	is Frozen
Hydro-seeder	February	May	August	August	Soil Temp @	February
	15 th	31 st	1 st	23 rd	50° F or less	15 th
Air-seeder	February	May	August	August	Soil Temp @	February
	15 th	31 st	1 st	23 rd	50° F or less	15 th
Broadcast seeding	February 1 st	April 30 th	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 1 st

Buffer Area Seed Mix: Available Planting Dates by Planting Method

Dianting Mathed	Spring		Late Summer		Winter - Dormant Seeding	
Planting Method	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date
No-till Drill	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	Until the Soil is Frozen
Hydro-seeder	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 15 th
Air-seeder	February 15 th	May 31 st	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 15 th
Broadcast seeding	February 1 st	April 30 th	N/A	N/A	Soil Temp @ 50° F or less	February 1 st

Time Needed for Array Area Seed Mixture to Reach Seedling Maturity by Planting Method

Final Vegetative Cover Considerations	No-till Drill	Broadcast Seeding
Seed Germination Timeline	15 to 25 days	30 to 70 days
Minimum Timeline Needed for Seedling Growth & Maturity	40 to 60 days	40 to 70 days

Total Time Needed to Reach Minimal Establishment

55 to 85 days

70 to 140 days

Time Needed for Buffer Area Seed Mixture to Reach Seedling Maturity by Planting Method

Final Vegetative Cover Considerations	No-till Drill	Broadcast Seeding
Seed Germination Timeline	15 to 60 days	30 to 70 days
Minimum Timeline Needed for Seedling Growth & Maturity	60 to 100 days	70 to 110 days

Total Time Needed to Reach Minimal Establishment

75 to 160 days

100 to 180 days

Appendix D

Sample Seed Tag with Required Information

	Example Bolar Project						ACRES:		25
LOT NUMBER: 737 PROJECT NAME: Sol				S	EEDIN	G RATE/A	CRE:		100.9
SPECIES	LOT NUMBER	% MIX	ACTUAL PURITY	GERM	HARD/ DORMANT	TOTAL VIABLE	ORIGIN	BULK LBS	PLS LBS
Empire Birdsfoot Trefoil	BV62	0.23	98.69	62	22	84	CAN	0.11	0.096
Empire Birdsfoot Trefoil	BV62	2.72	98.68	62	22	84	CAN	1.38	1.143
Marco Polo White Clover	L17520227WC	0.84	98.96	63	27	90	OR	0.42	0.377
Marco Polo White Clover	L17520227WC	3.01	98.96	63	27	90	OR	1.52	1.356
Dixle Crimson Clover	W822CC221	2.13	99.63	87	6	93	OR	1.07	0.990
Horizon White Proso Millet	2358-TOTE	0.34	99.42	96	0	96	SD	0.17	0.165
Horizon White Proso Millet	2358-TOTE	5.36	99.42	96	0	96	SD	2.69	2.571
Certified Horizon White Proso Millet	VD22WPM1-50	9.45	99.65	98	0	98	SD	4.74	4.632
Certified Horizon White Proso Millet	VD22WPM1-50	10.23	99.65	98	0	98	SD	5.13	5.010
Variety Not Stated Blanketflower	BF211234	0.56	95.35	75	14	89	OR	0.29	0.248
IA Native Gray Goldenrod	200393	0.01	96.66	49	23	72	IA	0.00	0.003
A Native Gray Goldenrod	220324	0.09	99.63	41	68	99	IA	0.06	0.046
Eagle Western Yarrow	NBSBP20EAG1	0.15	91.16	97	0	97	WA	0.08	0.074
Variety Not Stated Buhlagrass	HSC2233C	12.13	49.00	80	0	80	FL	12.38	4.852
Variety Not Stated Bermudagrass	892180HC	7.13	48.00	85	0	86	CA	7.43	3.030
PA Native Path Rush	JUNTEN0120HW	0.11	93.56	0	93	93	PA	0.06	0.052
PA Native Path Rush	JUNTEN0120HW	0.42	93.56	0	93	93	PA	0.23	0.196
Solar Array Brand Fescue Mix		11.80	48.20	83.94	0	83.94	OR	12.24	4.951
OTHER CROP SEED:	0.11								
INERT MATTER:	33.18							50.00	29.790
WEED SEEDS:	0.01								
TEST DATE:	03/03/23								
NOXIOUS-WEED SEEDS:	NONE FOUND							PLS FACTOR:	0.595B
NET WEIGHT:	60,00 1	BULK POUN	DS						
TOTAL PLS:	29.79	URE LIVE	BEED POUNI	20					
Conservation Blueprint - 1070 18th Ave - St. Paul, NE 68873 - AMS #704 The Seller Disclaims any and all warranties associated with its sei Particular Purpose. Liability for Damages is Limited to the Purcha! Damages.									
Any	/ Example	Sol	ar Pr	oje	ct				
	Solar A	rray	Mix						
_	50 Acres								

Appendix E

Cover Crop Seed Mixture Options

Seed mixture options to be established on those locations calling for the use of a cover crop to provide soil stability and weed suppression during construction activities:

Spring: March to May

- Oats planted at a rate of 90 pounds/acre.....(40.08 seeds/ft²)
- Annual Rye at 5 lbs. + Crimson Clover at 10 lbs. + Oats at 25 lbs./acre(60.44 seed/ft²)
- Annual Ryegrass at 10 lbs. + Oats at 30 lbs./acre(52.11 seeds/ft²)

These seed mixtures will germinate and grow when adequate moisture is present and soil temperatures are 50° F or warmer.

Summer: June to August

German Millet at a rate of 20 lbs./acre(82.64 seed/ft²)

Fall & Winter: September to February

Planting Cereal Rye at a rate of 100 lbs./acre......(41.32 seed/ft²)
 This seed mixture will require termination prior to planting the final vegetative cover.

The primary role of a cover crop is to suppress weed competition and growth. For this reason, it is critically important that a cover crop seed mixture be used that has significant allelopathic attributes. Having a plant(s) with an allelopathic nature refers to:

The beneficial or harmful effects of one plant on another plant by the release of chemicals from plant parts by leaching, root exudation, volatilization, residue decomposition and other processes in both natural and agricultural systems. (Allelopathy - Wikipedia)

Appendix F

West Virginia Invasive Plant List

NEST VIRGINIA Invasi WVDNI Version

Invasive Plant Species of West Virginia

WVDNR Natural Heritage Program, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241 Version Mar 2009

Invasiveness ranking

1 Highly invasive species exhibit the most invasive tendencies in natural areas and native plant habitats. They may disrupt ecosystem processes and cause major alterations in plant community composition and structure. They establish readily in natural systems and spread rapidly.

Moderately invasive species may have minor influence on ecosystem processes, after plant community composition, and affect community structure in at least one layer. They may become dominant in the understory layer without threatening all species found in the community. These

species usually require a minor disturbance to become established.

Occasionally invasive species generally do not affect ecosystem processes but may alter plant community composition by outcompeting one or more native plant species. They often establish in severely disturbed areas. The disturbance may be natural or human origin, such as icestorm damage, windthrow, or road construction. These species spread slowly or not at all from disturbed sites.

Threat	Scientific Name	Common Name
1	Acer platanoides	Norway Maple
1	Ailanthus altissima	Tree-Of-Heaven
1	Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard
1	Arthraxon hispidus	Small Carpgrass
1	Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry
1	Bromus tectorum	Cheatgrass
1	Celastrus orbiculata	Asian Bittersweet
1	Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos	Spotted Knapweed
1	Coronilla varia	Purple Crown-Vetch
1	Dioscorea oppositifolia	Chinese Yam
1	Elaeagnus umbellata var. parvifolia	Autumn Olive
1	Euonymus alata	Winged Euonymus, Winged Spindletree
1	Euonymus fortunei	Winter Creeper
1	Hydrilla verticillata	Hydrilla
1	Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Iris
1	Lespedeza cuneata	Chinese Bushclover
1	Ligustrum vulgare	European Privet
1	Lonicera japonica	Japanese Honeysuckle
1	Lonicera maackii	Amur Honeysuckle
1	Lonicera morrowii	Morrow's Honeysuckle
1	Lonicera tatarica	Tatarian Honeysuckle
	Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife
	Microstegium vimineum	Japanese Stiltgrass
1	Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canarygrass
	Phellodendron japonicum	Cork Tree
	Phragmites australis	Common Reed
	Polygonum cuspidatum	Japanese Knotweed
	Polygonum perfoliatum	Asiatic Tearthumb
	Pueraria montana var. lobata	Kudzu
-	Pyrus calleryana	Bradford Pear
	Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose
	Rubus phoenicolasius	Wine Raspberry
	Schedonorus phoenix	Tall Fescue
1	Schedonorus pratensis	Meadow Fescue

Threat		Common Name	
1	Sorghum halepense	Johnson Grass	
1	Vinca minor	Lesser Periwinkle	
2	Aegopodium podagraria	Bishop's Goutweed	
2	Akebia quinata	Fiveleaf Akebia	
2	Ampelopsis brevipedunculata	Amur Peppervine	
2	Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	
2	Barbarea vulgaris	Garden Yellow-Rocket	
2	Bromus commutatus	Meadow Brome	
2	Bromus inermis ssp. inermis var. inermis	Smooth Bromegrass	
2	Bromus japonicus	Japanese Brome	
2	Bromus secalinus	Rye Brome	
2	Bromus sterilis	Poverty Brome	
2	Carduus nutans ssp. macrolepis	Nodding Plumeless-Thistle	
2	Centaurea nigrescens	Wocheiner Knapweed	
2	Chelidonium majus var. majus	Celandine	
2	Cirsium arvense	Canada Thistle	
2	Cirsium vulgare	Bull Thistle	
2	Conium maculatum	Poison-Hemlock	
2	Cynoglossum officinale	Gypsy-Flower	
2	Daucus carota	Queen Anne's-Lace	
2	Dipsacus fullonum	Fuller's Tease!	
2	Dipsacus laciniatus	Laciniate Wild Teasel	
2	Duchesnea indica		
2	Echium vulgare	Indian-Strawberry	
2	Elaeagnus angustifolia	Viper's Bugloss, Bluethistle, Bluedevil Russian-Olive	
2	-		
2	Frangula alnus Glechoma hederacea	Glossy False Buckthorn	
2	-	Ground-Ivy	
	Hesperis matronalis	Mother-Of-The-Evening	
	Hieracium caespitosum	Meadow Hawkweed	
2	Holcus lanatus	Common Velvetgrass	
	Hypericum perforatum	Common St. John's-Wort	
	Hypochaeris radicata	Hairy Cat's-Ear	
	Lespedeza bicolor	Japanese Bushclover	
	Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	
	Ligustrum obtusifolium	Border privet	
	Linaria vulgaris	Butter-And-Eggs	
	Lolium perenne ssp. multiflorum	Perennial Ryegrass	
	Lonicera ×bella	Bell's Honeysuckle	
2	Lonicera standishii	Standish's Honeysuckle	
	Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping Jenny	
	Melilotus officinalis	Sweetclover	
	Myriophyllum aquaticum	Parrot's-Feather	
	Myriophyllum spicatum	Eurasian Water-Milfoil	
	Ornithogalum nutans	Drooping Star Of Bethlehem	
	Ornithogalum umbellatum	Star Of Bethlehem	
2	Pastinaca sativa	Parsnip	
2	Paulownia tomentosa	Princess-Tree	
2	Perilla frutescens	Beefsteak Plant	
2	Poa compressa	Canada Bluegrass	
2	Poa pratensis ssp. pratensis	Kentucky Bluegrass	
	Poa trivialis	Rough Bluegrass	
	Polygonum caespitosum var. longisetum	Oriental Lady's-Thumb	
	Polygonum sachalinense	Giant Knotweed	
	Potamogeton crispus	Curly Pondweed	
	Ranunculus ficaria var. bulbifera	Lesser Celandine	
	Rhamnus cathartica	Common Buckthorn	

Threat	Scientific Name	Common Name
2	Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum	Watercress
2	Rumex acetosella	Common Sheep Sorrel
2	Sedum sarmentosum	Stonecrop
2	Spiraea japonica var. fortunei	Japanese Spiraea
2	Stellaria media	Common Chickweed
2	Stellaria media ssp. media	Common Chickweed
2	Stellaria media ssp. pallida	Common Chickweed
2	Ulmus pumila	Siberian Elm
2	Verbascum thapsus	Great Mullein
3	Achillea millefolium var. occidentalis	Western Yarrow
3	Acinos arvensis	Mother-Of-Thyme, Basil-Thyme
3	Agrostemma githago	Corn Cockle
3	Agrostis canina	Velvet Bent Grass
3	Agrostis capillaris	Colonial Bentgrass
3	Agrostis gigantea	Giant Bentgrass
3	Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bentgrass
3	Ajuga reptans	Blue Bugle
3	Albizia julibrissin	Silktree
3	Allium vineale ssp. vineale	Wild Garlic, Crow Garlic
3	Alternanthera philoxeroides	Alligator weed
3	Anthoxanthum odoratum ssp. odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass
3	Arrhenatherum elatius	Tall Oatgrass
3	Arrhenatherum elatius var. elatius	Tall Oat-Grass
3	Artemisia annua	Annual Wormwood
3	Artemisia vulgaris var. vulgaris	Common Mugwort
3	Arundo donax	Giant Reed
3	Berberis vulgaris	European Barberry
3	Broussonetia papyrifera	Paper-Mulberry
3	Buglossoides arvensis	Corn Gromwell
3	Cardamine impatiens	Bittercress
3	Carduus acanthoides	Spiny Plumeless-Thistle
3	Carduus crispus	Curled Thistle
3	Centaurea cyanus	Garden Cornflower
3	Centaurea jacea	Brown Knapweed
3	Centaurea nigra	Black Knapweed, Spanish-Buttos
3	Centaurea solstitialis	Yellow Starthistle
3	Cerastium fontanum ssp. vulgare	Common Mouse-Ear Chickweed
3	Cerastium glomeratum	Sticky Mouse-Ear Chickweed
3	Chenopodium album var. album	Lamb's Quarters
3	Chenopodium ambrosioides var. ambrosioides	Mexican Tea
3	Cichorium intybus	Chicory, Blue Sailors
3	Commelina communis	Asiatic Dayflower
3	Commelina communis var. communis	Asiatic Day-Flower
3	Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed
3	Cosmos bipinnatus	Common Cosmos
3	Cruciata pedemontana	Piedmont Bedstraw
3	Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda Grass
	Dactylis glomerata ssp. glomerata	Orchard Grass
	Datura stramonium	Jimson Weed
3	Dianthus armeria	Deptford-Pink
3	Egeria densa	Brazilian water-weed
3 .	Eleusine indica	Goose Grass, Yard Grass
3	Elymus repens	Creeping Wild Rye
	Epilobium hirsutum	Hairy Willow-Herb
3	Eragrostis cilianensis	Stinkgrass
3 ,	Eragrostis curvula	Weeping Lovegrass

Threat	Scientific Name	Common Name
3	Euphorbia esula var. esula	Leafy Spurge
3	Euphorbia lathyris	Caper Spurge, Mole Plant, Wolfs-Milk
3	Foeniculum vulgare	Sweet Fennel
3	Galium mollugo	False Baby's-Breath
3	Hedera helix	English Ivy
3	Hemerocallis fulva	Common Day Lily
3	Hernerocallis lilioasphodelus	Yellow Day Lily
3	Hibiscus syriacus	Rose-Of-Sharon, Shrubby Althea
3	Hieracium ×floribundum	Smooth Hawkweed
3	Hieracium aurantiacum	Devil's Paintbrush
3	Hieracium pilosella var. pilosella	Mouse-Ear Hawkweed
3	Hieracium piloselloides	Tall Hawkweed
3	Humulus japonicus	Japanese Hop
3	Ipomoea coccinea	Red Morning-Glory
3	Ipomoea hederacea	Ivy-Leaved Morning-Glory
3	Ipomoea purpurea	Morning-Glory
3	Kummerowia stipulacea	Korean Bushclover
3	Kummerowia striata	Japanese-Clover
3	Lactuca saligna	Willow Lettuce
3	Lamium amplexicaule	Henbit
3	Lamium purpureum var. purpureum	Purple Dead-Nettle
3	Lapsana communis	Nipplewort
3	Leonurus cardiaca ssp. cardiaca	Motherwort
3	Lepidium campestre	Cream-Anther Field Pepperwort
3	Lepidium densiflorum var. densiflorum	Dense Peppergrass
3	Lepidium perfoliatum	Clasping Pepperwort
3	Lepidium ruderale	Stinking Pepperweed
3	Ligustrum sinense	Chinese privet
3	Lonicera fragrantissima	Sweet Breath Of Spring
3	Lotus corniculatus	Garden Bird's-Foot-Trefoil
3	Malva moschata	Musk Mallow
3	Maiva neglecta	Common Mallow
3	Malva sylvestris	High Mallow
3	Malva verticillata	Whorled Mallow, Curled Mallow
3	Marrubium vulgare	White Horehound
3	Medicago lupulina	Black Medic
3	Mentha ?×verticillata	Whorled Mint
3	Mentha ×gracilis	Small-Leaved Mint
3	Mentha ×piperita	Peppermint
3	Mentha ×rotundifolia	Roundleaf Mint
3	Mentha aquatica	Water Mint
3	Mentha spicata	Spearmint
3	Microthlaspi perfoliatum	Perfoliate Pennycress
3	Miscanthus sinensis	Chinese Silver Grass
3	Morus alba	White Mulberry
		•
3	Murdannia keisak	Aneilema
3 3	Muscari botryoides	Grape Hyacinth
3	Myosoton aquaticum	Giant Chickweed
	Najas minor	Brittle Waternymph
3	Nepeta cataria	Catnip
3	Papaver dubium	Scarlet Poppy
3	Pennisetum glaucum	Pearl-Millet
3	Phalaris canariensis	Canary Grass
3	Phleum pratense	Timothy
3	Phyllostachys aureosulcata	Golden Bamboo
3	Phyllostachys nigra	Black Bamboo

Threa	Scientific Name	Common Name
3	Picea abies	Norway Spruce
3	Poa annua	Annual Bluegrass
3	Polygonum aviculare	Yard Knotweed
3	Polygonum convolvulus var. convolvulus	Black Bindweed
3	Polygonum orientale	Prince's Feather
3	Polygonum persicaria	Spotted Lady's-Thumb
3	Populus alba	White Poplar
3	Potentilla recta	Sulphur Cinquefoil
3	Prunella vulgaris	Common Self-Heal
3	Prunus avium	Sweet Cherry
3	Prunus mahaleb	Perfumed Cherry
3	Ranunculus acris var. acris	Tall Buttercup, Meadow Buttercup
3	Ranunculus arvensis	Corn Crowfoot
3	Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous Buttercup
3	Ranunculus flammula var. filiformis	Greater Creeping Spearwort
3	Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup
3	Ranunculus sardous	Hairy Buttercup
3	Raphanus raphanistrum	Wild Radish
3	Rhodotypos scandens	Jetbead, White Kerria
3	Rorippa sylvestris	Creeping Yellowcress
3	Rosa canina	Dog Rose
3	Rosa eglanteria	Sweetbrier
3	Rubus illecebrosus	Strawberry-Raspberry
3	Rumex crispus ssp. crispus	Curly Dock
3	Salix alba	White Willow
3	Saponaria officinalis	Bouncing-Bet
3	Senecio vulgaris Senna obtusifolia	Common Groundsel Coffeeweed
3 3	Setaria faberi	Giant Foxtail-Grass
3	Setaria italica	Foxtail Millet
3	Setaria verticillata	Bristly Foxtail
3	Setaria viridis var. viridis	Green Foxtail
3	Silene latifolia ssp. alba	White Campion
3	Sisymbrium altissimum	Tall Hedge-Mustard
3	Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
3	Solanum dulcamara var. dulcamara	Bittersweet
3	Sonchus arvensis ssp. uliginosus	Field Sowthistle
3	Sonchus asper ssp. asper	Spiny Sow Thistle
3	Sonchus oleraceus	Common Sowthistle
3	Stellaria graminea	Lesser Stitchwort
3	Torilis arvensis ssp. arvensis	Hedge Parsley
3	Tragopogon dubius	Meadow Goat's-Beard
3	Trapa natans	Water chestnut
3	Trifolium arvense	Rabbit-Foot Clover
3	Trifolium aureum	Yellow Hop Clover
3	Trifolium campestre	Low Hop Clover
3	Trifolium dubium	Small Hop Clover
3	Trifolium hybridum	Alsike Clover
3	Trifolium incarnatum	Crimson Clover
3	Trifolium pratense	Red Clover
3 3	Trifolium repens	White Clover Reversed Clover
3	Trifolium resupinatum Tussilago farfara	Colt's-Foot
3	russilago rarrara Typha ×glauca	Cattail
3	Urtica dioica ssp. dioica	Stinging Nettle
3	Veronica arvensis	Corn Speedwell
~		

Threat	Scientific Name	Common Name		
3	Veronica beccabunga	European Brooklime		
3	Veronica chamaedrys	Bird's-Eye Speedwell		
3	Veronica filiformis	Filiform Speedwell		
3	3 Veronica hederifolia Ivyleaf Speedwell			
3	Veronica longifolia	Long-Leaved Speedwell		
3	Veronica officinalis var. officinalis	Common Speedwell, Gypsyweed		
3	Veronica persica var. persica	Bird's Eye Speedwell		
3	Veronica polita	Field Speedwell		
3	Veronica serpyllifolia ssp. serpyllifolia	Thyme-Leaved Speedwell		
3	Viburnum opulus var. opulus	Guelder-Rose		
3	Vicia cracca ssp. cracca	Vetch		
3	Vicia grandiflora	Large-Flowered Vetch		
3	Vicia hirsuta	Vetch		
3	Vicia sativa ssp. nigra	Common Vetch		
3	Vicia sativa ssp. sativa	Spring Vetch		
3	Vicia sepium var. sepium	Bush Vetch		
3	Vicia tetrasperma	Four-Seeded Vetch		
3	Vicia villosa ssp. varia	Hairy-Fruit Vetch		
3	Vicia villosa ssp. villosa	Hairy Vetch		
3	Wisteria floribunda	Japanese Wisteria		
3	Wisteria sinensis	Chinese Wisteria		
3	Xanthium spinosum	Spiny Cocklebur		

Appendix G

Solar/Pollinator-friendly Seed Mixture Design Objectives For Franklintown Solar

The seed mixtures recommended for this solar project have been designed considering a wide range of co-equal, critically important and diverse set of objectives. While it is very challenging to meet each of the objectives listed in this summary, it can be accomplished with a very careful and thoughtful consideration of how these objectives are met and delivered. If a seed mixture design does not consider each of these objectives, it will very likely fail to deliver on one or more of the important objectives of the project.

Project Objectives Considered for Array Area Seed Mixture Design

- 1. <u>Vegetative Height Restrictions</u>. Increasingly, utility-scale solar projects are being designed with a lower panel height of 20" to 22" above the ground. Under those situations, a seed mixture established within the array area should be designed to have a maximum growth height of 18" to 20". While this objective produces significant constraints on how a seed mixture is designed, it is a critically important consideration that affects future Operations & Maintenance efforts, budget and the efficiency of the energy production on the site.
- 2. <u>Pollinator Value</u>: One of the key objectives of this site is to provide significant pollinator health and habitat benefits for a wide range of pollinating insects, birds, and mammals. The plant species used in the seed mixture designs for this site have a documented high pollinator value, extend their pollinator benefits over an entire growing season, and are designed to benefit a wide range of pollinator species.
- 3. <u>Carbon Sequestration Benefits:</u> The project goal of sequestering carbon from the atmosphere is a key component of the seed mixture design and function. Using plant species in seed mixtures like clover (*Trifolium* spp.) that are known to sequester carbon at higher rates and produce lignin can help meet these current and future objectives. The opportunity to 'bank carbon credits' is a potential vehicle by which the project can help meet sustainability, greenhouse gas emission and carbon neutral goals.
- 4. <u>Ease of Establishment</u>: In order to meet the requirements of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and/or Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), it is important that seed mixtures be designed to establish quickly. If a seed mixture were designed with a focus solely on use of native wildflowers or warm-season grass species, it would take an extended period of time for the site to reach full establishment. For this reason, the use of cover crops and/or plant species that establish quickly are being used in seed mixture designs.

- 5. Response to Future Mowing Activities: Once established, the seed mixture designed for use within the array area will likely experience mowing activities applied to manage and control weed growth on the site. It is critically important to select plant species in the seed mixture that can withstand the mowing pressure and persist on the site for 20 to 30 years. Unfortunately, most native wildflower and/or warm-season grass species cannot withstand the mowing pressure at a rate of 2x per year and would disappear from the planting within just a few years. In addition, native wildflower species that can withstand mowing pressure and meet the vegetative height restrictions of the project usually have significant commercial availability limitations.
- 6. Cost-effectiveness of the Seed Mixtures: For large, utility-scale projects, it is important that the cost of pollinator-friendly seed mixtures be presented in a cost-effective design and seeding rate. With careful consideration, the seed mixture for this site was designed to meet those cost objectives. Often, seed mixtures that emphasize the exclusive use of native grasses and wildflower species produce seed mixture that exceed project budgets and range from \$600 to \$2,000/acre because of the limited ability to access native wildflower species that meet all the rest of the objectives in this summary such as maximum growing height and ability to withstand periodic mowing.
- 7. Seeding Rates: For seed mixtures created and required to be used on the project are designed using a PLS seeds/ft² seeding rate of between 525 and 700 seeds/ft². This is a seeding rate that is significantly higher than would be designed and used on most conservation program plantings. The increased seeding rates are required to consider project and stand establishment factors like broadcast seeding, poor initial site preparation, planting outside of recommended timelines, initial weed competition, etc.
- 8. <u>Commercial Availability</u>: The size of utility-scale projects and the number of projects scheduled for completion in the next few years are placing a significant demand on the seed industry to have enough supply available to fill the demand for seed. If a seed mixture is designed using species that are not commercially available or are in a limited supply, it will significantly increase the cost of seed mixtures and place limitations on the ability to acquire those seed mixtures.
- 9. Longevity and Ability to Persist in Plantings: Most solar energy projects are leased for a minimum of 20 to 35 years. As such, it is important to select plant species with a documented ability to persist in plantings with minimal and limited future management. Most native wildflower and warm-season grass species require some form of regular, annual management activities to be maintained in a planting. Since some of the tools that would regularly be used to maintain this plant diversity (prescribed fire, cattle grazing, interseeding, etc.) are not an option on solar projects, plant species must be selected that are dominate and/or aggressive enough to be maintained with the limited options of mowing and/or herbicide application.

- 10. Adaptation to the Geography and Site Conditions: Seed mixtures should be designed to include plant species that are known to occur in the project area and perform well on the site's soil conditions (sandy, loamy, clay, etc.). This will help ensure a higher likelihood of successful establishment of the seed mixture planted. The resource used to document adaptation to the project's location is The Biota of North America Program (2014 BONAP North American Plant Atlas).
- 11. <u>Tolerance to Partial Shading</u>: Plant species (both grasses and forbs) that are known to tolerate and perform well in partial shading or areas with less than full sunlight is required in the Array Area seeding mixture. The use of Fescue and White Dutch Clover in array areas seed mixtures are known to perform well under those conditions and meet all the other listed set of objectives in this summary.
- 12. <u>Mixtures Designed Using PLS Seeds/ft² Calculations</u>: In order to design a seed mixture that considers the seeding rates, cost and quality of the seed lots used in a mixture, every seed mixture must be bid, acquired and planted using a seed calculator that applies PLS seeds/ft² technology. Seed mixtures should not be designed or used that are based on the number of pounds of seed/per acre. Using the more antiquated methods of pounds/acre will result in higher costing seed mixtures, potentially obtaining seed mixtures with lower performance and creating a project with a slower to establish final vegetative cover.
- 13. <u>Erosion Control Attributes</u>: Seed mixtures should be designed to establish quickly and provide extensive root growth in the top portion of the soil horizon. This will produce an increased ability to hold soil, prevent erosion and limit weeds on the site, especially during the establishment phase of the project. Seed mixtures that are being planted in the spring should consider the inclusion of Oats as a nurse crop to aid in establishment and protect newly establishing plantings during hot and dry summer months.
- 14. <u>Soil Health Benefits</u>: Seed mixtures that perform with increased soil health benefits, extended root depths, nitrogen-fixing capabilities and enhanced water percolation attributes will produce both short-term and long-term benefits that will benefit the site for many years to come.
- 15. <u>Fire Danger Considerations</u>: Seed mixtures designs that contain species that exceed a vegetative height of >22" tall at maturity and/or that have a warm-season growth cycle will have a higher danger of being susceptible to fire. The seed mixtures recommended for use within the solar array area of the project have been selected based on their low vegetative height at maturity and their cool-season growth cycle ability to have active, 'green' growth throughout the entire growing season.

- 16. <u>Albedo Affects</u>: As solar panel efficiencies increase and their overall costs decrease, more and more solar energy projects are being constructed with bi-facial panel designs. To increase the energy produced in a bi-facial panel design project, including plant species with documented, increased Albedo affects like white Dutch clover (*Trifolium repens*) will increase the projects overall efficiency and energy production.
- 17. <u>Grazing Considerations</u>: If grazing is a consideration for the future O&M activities on a solar project, the seed mixture should be designed to include species that provide grazing value and are able to maintain pollinator health and habitat benefits under grazing activities. The ability to deliver both pollinator health benefits with grazing activities is very challenging and the site should apply and follow a Grazing Management Plan. Grazing activities will need to be delivered in a plan that implements grazing paddocks, rotational grazing and refugee areas of the project on an annual basis:



Conservation Blueprint, LLC. 1070 18th Avenue St. Paul, NE 68873 308.390.0848

> Peter@ConservationBlueprint.com http://www.conservationblueprint.com/

Appendix H



July

A Solar Array Area seed mixture showing broadcast seeding establishment just 2 months after being planted. This photo represents the time when mowing should be applied as management activity in year 1. The volunteer weed species present in this image include: Mare's Tail, Giant Ragweed, Pigweed, Curl Dock, Dandelion and Velvet Leaf.

If allowed to grow without management activities being applied, these weed species will quickly outcompete the array area seed mix, being to bring allelopathic impacts to the planting and threaten the overall success of the final vegetative cover.

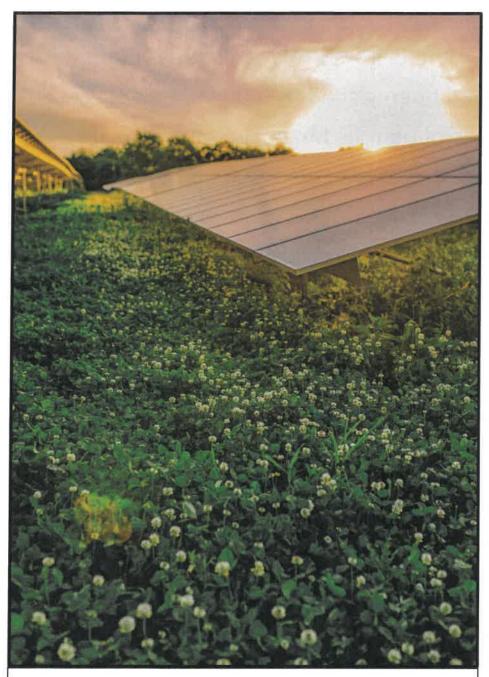
Appendix I



November

A Solar Array Area seed mixture showing no-till drill planting establishment just 4 months after being planted. This area was planted pre-construction and has had two mowing activities applied to it in the first growing season. This stand is well on its way to outcompeting volunteer weed species, providing key pollinator benefits and becoming fully established. In the future, this solar array area seed mixture will need minimal management activities applied to it and should not grow taller than the lower panel height.

Appendix J

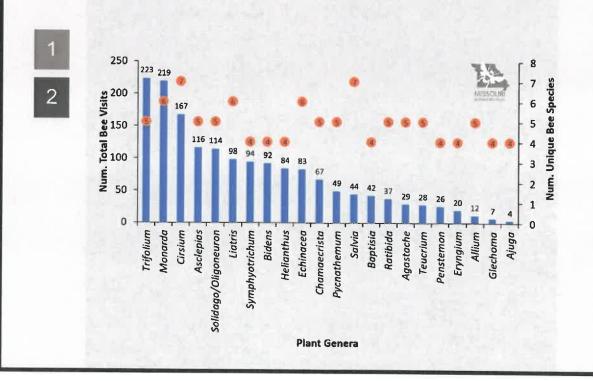


June

A Solar Array Area seed mixture showing broadcast seeding establishment in its second year after being planted. This area was planted pre-construction and had three mowing activities applied to it in the first growing season. This stand is fully established and will need minimal management activities applied to it going forward.

Appendix K

On the charts below, we've listed all plant genera that had been visited by at least 4 different species of bumble bees. The blue bar represents the number of bumble bee visits to each genus, while the orange dot represent the number of bumble bee species that visited each genus.



RECEIVED

JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

Support Solar Energy in Jefferson County!

Action petitioned for:

We, the undersigned, are residents of Jefferson County who urge our leaders to support the development of solar energy in Jefferson County. We oppose burdensome regulations and county government action that would prevent solar development. We support solar because of the jobs, economic growth, revenue generated for the county, the rights of private property owners, and the many other benefits that come with solar.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
John Bern	gry Refai	138 Madder Farm D	667 341-5172
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Action petitioned for:

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Printed Name	Signature	SHR Lord Fall Fax St	301-712-5342
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ď	Action petitioned for:	We, the undersigned, are residents of Jefferson County who urge our leaders to support the development of
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μ		county, the rights of private property owners, and the many other benefits that come with solar.

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Action petitioned for:

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Action petitioned for:

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
1. Stepherson	0.10	Z18 Bracked St.	843 991 9658
Brend Hymes	Fullapa	200 Budice St	30-437-7993
Cheri Plummer	On J	194 BRADDOCK St	803-318-9507
DeannaThom	os A ALAS	182 Braddock Sh	571-271-9849
Beryl Garner	Sy Ma	170 Braddocle Ft.	585-20230-0400
		Company Common	
Sara Perroots	J. P.	98 Burnlea Rd	
Cary Gaigw	July	118 Burnley Ed	702 - 160 - 1875
Karen Hambaker	Kares Hawisaker	67 Bullskin St	704-245-3541
Kelly Stout	Tilly Stort	159 Colston Rd	
Km Now	Kymeth R Now	79 Davis Sf	
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Action petitioned for:

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
GAM RONM	Janko	113 Taiber DR	307-500 2304
Ray Anderson	JAC	35 TriBuri DR	202 9575453
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MALL TIMMONS	un	196 COURIUR DR.	304-820-8609
LINOA JOHNSON	Jinda Stanton	236 CONFIER DR	304-382-6270
Mary Pelasco	1/1/2	241 Courier Or	954 990 3545
Marcu Pallard	Mular	211 Comi+ D-	336-8161-288
Chris Atkins	C. Fle	234 Chanagan D.	301-514-5525
Donald Birbel	Lon R 5	181 mudder Square Dr	304-876-6062
Jean Ange Pagl	fen And fingh	216 Maddex S, Dr	
Krist in Thatcher	KTH	154 Malder Frin Dr	304-616-0284

Action petitioned for:

We, the undersigned, are residents of Jefferson County who urge our leaders to support the development of solar energy in Jefferson County. We oppose burdensome regulations and county government action that would prevent solar development. We support solar because of the jobs, economic growth, revenue generated for the county, the rights of private property owners, and the many other benefits that come with solar.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
Hound Kung	Du Z	197 Charlwide De	484-861-1818
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Action petitioned for:

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Judy	Judy Jockman	600 South STreeT	307-725-0779
Debra Coffman	Dehr Cymen	556 BROOKE St.	304- 125-2497
Patrick Blanc	Fact Blen	543 Morison st	364-268-4842
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Support Solar Energy in Jefferson County!

Action petitioned for:

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
DENNER BECKNER	amkbu	637 MADDERFARN De.	301-758-2552
Joe 4415	25	207 W. Vish. St. Shephalan	304-676-8059
Dolors W Gugg	Rolos W. Syr	209 W. Washinsta	202-550 6964
Mary Lee Vanderander	Harybee Vanderonder	67 C Edward Lane	330-831-5773
ROBERT BERRYMAN	Adr	35 CEST BOOD CIRCLE	
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Patricialen	12	302 Maddes Farm) <u>(</u>
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Vernou Hunte	o Verna lle	inter 7 Devon	WAY 304-283-9735
Nebraha Ham Nov	14Debbrah AHo	ummand 155 Ashley Dr	Shephordstown 304-876-60A
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Mark Madellers	allachsu	164 Ashley Dr	So1 500 8157
John K. Hollida	y Joh K Hollid	lay 60 Chatfield Dr	2943 304-876-1534
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Support Solar Energy in Jefferson County!

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Duncan King	19970	515 Lord Fair fax St	
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Inessa Kline	Vanne	729 Throughbred Dr.	
ANDREW LONG	Asis	446 Thumper Dr.	
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Support Solar Energy in Jefferson County!

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
ROBERT BAUER	Polit Ban.	ZBUGS ET RANSON	
Daniel McVicer		29 Sulle Drive.	
Lee Anne Milica	Le Come Mells	28 Sunlite Drive	
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Susan M. Thompson	Sugar M. Thompson	167 Packett Drive	
Erin Munau	SEMURA	3ldo Turberry D1.	
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Action petitioned for:

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Action petitioned for:

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
John Phillips	Syrligo	1349 Steed St	304-470-9402
Nancy Green	n. Res	1308 Foal St	478 246 5445
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Ryan James	1800	460 Thumper Dr	717-389-5728
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Action petitioned for:

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
Kim Strange	X 82	27 Brice Drive	
Kathyn Espinola	· W	49 Brice Drive	
Jerry Chavals		35 Holmes Drive	
Vanessa Watters	Tille	17 Snowlberry St.	
Damon Juspel		206 Braddock St	
Austin Richardson	attin	45 Bumlea Rd.	
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Scott McMona	I cest (d)	95BUlls 4115	
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Dais n. Starks	Dovis N. Starks	318 Bullskin St.	

Action petitioned for:

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
Kim Wilson	Carperly/curlsi	Kearney Mile, W 84 - Wood Sury Drie	304-582-5344
MARK WILSON	Just Jan	1. 1.0	" " "
Michael Bralinbery	Allen Braken	Ranson WV 25438	304-596-3636
Chris Sawarz	Chres Schueins	1251 marest	304-270-8298
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Margaret E. Barnes	Margarle Barnes	580 Thumper Dr 25438	703-919-0093
Megan Echols	1 - 1 0 1	18613 Thumper Dr.	304-365-0530
STEPHEN C. DOLL	14 (11)	432 Thumpet DRI	304-692-4848
Christian Wolfe	Ista Wall	67 Cecily way	516-270-5561
Jossica Simplins	10/6/	104 Decleration Or	786 536-7263
Jim Potrado	Gath Alig	VOU 1 DZEBARATION DI	301-621-0303
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Action petitioned for:

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone Number
Nicholas Regan	Sick Ray a	-185 Buttlefield Dr	
William William boy	1	79CHAOWICK	
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Julie Vizcarla	Jas M.	1346 N. Fairfax Blvd).
John For	JOHN FORD	1215 STEED ST	
projet ventura	Alul	1220 Steed St.	
Cory Cuthbertson	Cong Cullibotine	1238 Steel St. 7	
Dennifer Backus	Danish Backon	1234 Steed St.	
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Action petitioned for:

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STEVE MONA	7 /1)	ers 363 LOOKSUI V	MTCT 6034389269

August 22, 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WV

Members of the Board of Zoning Appeals:

I am a Jefferson County resident in favor of solar projects like the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar Project. In addition to being an important source of renewable energy that helps to mitigate the effects of climate change and supplement fossil fuel energy sources, solar projects offer a major opportunity for our county's farmers.

Owning and operating farmland is becoming increasingly expensive. Many farmers face financial insecurity and immense debt due to circumstances out of their control, like weather, crop prices, and rising operational costs.

Utilizing solar as a tool to preserve agricultural land while still allowing farmers to earn an income off the production from those parcels is an incredible dual-use model. Contrary to popular belief, the farmland beneath the panels is enhanced over the two- to three-decade life of the project -- not destroyed. There is no loss of agricultural land. In fact, this also protects the land from being sold and turned into permanent residential or commercial developments.

Farming families must be allowed to diversify their income and stabilize their financial situations by participating in opportunities like solar projects. In Jefferson County, we used to pride ourselves on valuing farmers as the backbone of this community. How can we turn our backs on them now?

Sincerely,

The GOVLD

Town, WV

August 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, West Virginia

To the Board of Zoning Appeals:

I write to you today as a Jefferson County resident in favor of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. Most importantly, I am in favor of protecting our county's landowners' rights. Although many in Jefferson County have opinions on what should be done with the area's farmlands, there are only a select few who are burdened with owning and maintaining these lands. Solar projects like this one can be a vital resource for farms, providing both financial stability and land preservation.

A farmer's income comes to him at the mercy of fluctuating crop prices, unpredictable weather, and ever rising operational costs. Running a farm is an extraordinarily expensive endeavor. By leasing part of their land for solar energy, landowners can guarantee a reliable source of income, helping to stabilize their income and offset these economic pressures for 20-30 years. This model is bound to help many farmers not have to sell off any of their acreage and keep farmland both in production and in the family.

The landowners are not even the only ones who benefit. The greater County community benefits through the creation of a new revenue stream without the extra burden on public utilities, services, and roadways. Families with children should be especially pleased that the school district benefits from this project.

In Jefferson County, we claim to value and protect our farmers. Now, we must support them by allowing for the opportunity to use their land to provide a reliable review stream, enable land preservation, and offer financial incentives for the whole community. I urge you to approve this project.

Sincerely,

491 LORD FRIKERS

August 22, 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WV

Dear Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am a Jefferson County resident writing to express my strong support for the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar project. This project represents an important step towards a more sustainable and renewable energy future, and I believe that it will bring numerous benefits to our community.

The development of large-scale solar projects is a critical component of our efforts to combat climate change and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. By generating clean, renewable energy, the Franklintown project will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work to improve the overall health of our environment and public.

Additionally, the development of this project will bring significant economic benefits to our community. It will create new construction and maintenance jobs, support the ability of our county's farmers to sustain their farmland, and increase the county's property tax revenue significantly without bringing in new residents, all of which will help to strengthen our local economy.

I encourage you to approve this project and support our community's efforts to build a more sustainable and prosperous future.

Sincerely.

Caralu Wells
Caralu Wells
Fairfax
467-Lord-Pairstreet
Charles town, WV 25414

August 22, 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WV

I am a Jefferson County resident writing to express my support for the approval of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. I back this project because I believe in the rights of our County's landowners. Our county's landowners must have the freedom to use their land in the way that best serves their needs and those of their families. Although some have said they do not want to see panels on farmland at all, many farmers view solar installations as a means to preserve their land for future use, while earning income that is essential to the operation and maintenance of their farm. The landowners themselves are the experts on their farmlands and how best to maintain them. We need to trust our farming community to make well-informed decisions about their property that will benefit the entire community.

In fact, unlike residential housing, which seems to be the fastest-growing type of development in the County, solar farms have incredibly little impact on the community's public services and utilities, while offering increased tax revenue. Families with children should welcome this development, as it would result in a new stream of tax income for the school district. Solar panels are also quiet, non-disruptive neighbors. After construction, there is no noise or disruption to the area.

In speaking with other community members, it is clear that there is immense support for solar in Jefferson County. I urge you to do right by the landowners and community and approve this project.

Best regards,

Norma Dimos 196 Courier Dr. Charles Town, WV

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WY

To the Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am a Jefferson County resident in favor of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. This project is not only a chance to solidify our county's landowner's rights, but to protect our farmland and environment.

It is impossible to deny that the world is facing the effects of climate change. It is imperative that our state and county begin to turn to clean, renewable forms of energy to mitigate the damage done by traditional power sources like coal. Solar energy production makes an enormous difference in reducing the carbon footprint, preserving natural resources, and improving air and water quality by decreasing the amount of toxins released from other power sources. Utility-scale solar is essential to finally breaking free from our reliance on fossil fuels.

No one can argue that it is imperative to protect and preserve our county's farmland. No one knows that better than the farmers themselves, and that is why they are turning to solar. Solar projects allow the farmer to passively earn income while their farmland sits in preservation for around thirty years. It is a huge misconception that solar installations are harmful to the farmland underneath them. There is no loss of topsoil, meaning there is no loss of agricultural land. In fact, the natural biodiversity of the soil is enhanced after sitting untouched for three decades. Afterward, when the panels are removed, and the site is restored to its original condition, the land can go right back into agricultural production.

We must protect both the rights of Jefferson County farming families and the environment. Approve the Franklintown Farm Solar Project!

Best regards,

Charles Town, WV 25414

Support for the Flowing Springs Solar Facility

My name is Richard Zigler. I live on Roper North Fork Road. I support any and all commercial solar facilities for this county. Yes, the first one built is still ugly, because they bought their land and have no one to be accountable to for aesthetics or preservation of soil. The ones that are planned now are to be leasing the land, and will be a continual influx of money to the county through both property taxes and the lease money will, for the most part, remain local. Again, millions of dollars' worth of virtually "free" money will be invested in the county.

Currently, the county is in the process of building two new schools. We, as taxpayers, are trying to find out just how expensive they are. On average, in West Virginia, schools cost around \$44 Million to build and equip. Then, if the median salary is \$55,000 per teacher salary, annually, 30 years, the expected life of a Solar facility, comes to \$1,650,000. I do not know how many new teachers will be required to educate the influx of students soon to be upon us because of the extreme rate of residential growth we currently have.

Then there are the Add-Ons. There is a need for a large public pool. I read where other entities will pick up the major portion of the costs, but that the county would still need to come up with \$15 Million to bring this to fruition. But, as we all know, no project ever seems to come in under budget. The people that attended the Townhall meeting in Shepherdstown made it abundantly clear that they will be demanding new, and larger, parks. Maintenance of ball fields and mowing of large acreage is expensive.

This year we experienced severe drought. Water supplies, regionally, were considered dire. Especially in the heavier populated areas. With no guarantees as to future weather patterns, and thus

the renewing of our aquifers, residential housing needs to be slowed. But that doesn't look likely for the near future, until after all the "farmland", that everybody wants to save from solar facilities, is under roof or asphalt.

Solar facilities can answer many of these issues. They retard residential growth, and all the expenses that go with it. They maintain open space for the recharging of our water supplies. They provide millions of dollars' worth of unencumbered tax revenue for the county. Also, since you have to put a value on expenditures you don't have to fulfill, like expensive new schools and supporting infrastructure, Solar facilities are even more of a boon to the county. Corny as it sounds, having Solar facilities, in reality, would be like being paid Millions of dollars to save money, protect natural resources, and slow the exponential residential housing issue we now have.

But these entities should be given a tax break to make them more feasible to become reality. Yes, the PILOT for Wild Hill was unfairly denied, but if the county wants money, the county needs to concede tax relief, because they do not put students in schools, or require emergency services, or require water or sewer infrastructure. They save the county money in this respect. They just sit there and generate money.

The county cannot afford to be blinded by the "Tyranny of the Minority". If asked if taxpayers want more levies to pay for more schools, or free tax dollars for the county, that they don't have to pay, I do believe that they would prefer the latter.

So, I strongly suggest that the Flowing Springs project, as well as the others proposed for the county, be courted to build here, instead of being denied.

August 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WV

To the Board of Zoning Appeals:

I am writing to emphasize how solar projects can significantly benefit farming families by providing them with a stable and supplementary income. Many farmland owners face financial uncertainty due to fluctuating crop prices, unpredictable weather patterns, and rising operational costs. By leasing a portion of their land for solar energy installations, farmers can generate a consistent revenue stream that helps to offset these economic pressures. This additional income can be crucial for covering essential expenses, investing in farm improvements, and maintaining their agricultural operations.

Moreover, integrating solar projects into farming operations can offer financial stability beyond mere lease payments. For instance, solar installations often come with tax incentives and rebates that can further alleviate financial burdens. Additionally, some farmers choose to invest in their own solar systems, leading to reduced energy bills and long-term savings. This combination of direct financial support and reduced operational costs makes solar energy a valuable tool for helping farming families manage their financial challenges and sustain their livelihoods.

Thank you for considering how solar projects can support and enhance the economic well-being of Jefferson County landowners. I believe this approach represents a meaningful opportunity for economic resilience and sustainability.

Sincerely,

John Christensen EPCLC, President 512 Stoney Lick Rd. Martinsburg, WV 25403 August 22, 2024

Board of Zoning Appeals Jefferson County 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, WV

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am writing to highlight the innovative potential of utilizing agricultural land for dual purposes, specifically combining farmlands with solar energy production. By integrating solar panels into agricultural settings, we can harness the benefits of renewable energy while protecting productive farmland. Over the life of a solar project, the farmland below is enhanced, not destroyed. This approach not only maximizes land use efficiency but also provides shade and reduces soil evaporation, which can enhance crop yields and improve water retention. This also protects the land from permanent developments, like residential housing or ware housing, for at least 30 years. The land can go right back into agricultural production after the solar project is decommissioned.

This dual-use strategy allows farmers to diversify their income streams and stabilize their financial situation, especially during periods of fluctuating crop prices or adverse weather conditions. Solar installations on agricultural land create an additional revenue stream through leasing agreements or energy production, which can be particularly valuable for sustaining farm operations and supporting rural economies like ours. Farmers face incredible financial burdens to maintain their land and operation. By embracing this technology, we can support the agricultural sector and ensure that our land remains productive and economically viable.

Thank you for considering the benefits of this integrated approach to land use. I believe it represents a forward-thinking solution that aligns with both our environmental goals and agricultural interests in Jefferson County.

Sincerely,

549 LORD FAIRFAX ST CHARLES TOWN, W

August 22, 2024

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals 200 East Washington Street Charles Town, West Virginia

Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals:

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the proposed Franklintown Solar project. It is no secret that carbon dioxide emissions are a major contributor to climate change, and I believe that this solar project can play a crucial role in mitigating these emissions.

Solar panels generate electricity without producing any carbon dioxide or other harmful emission, unlike traditional fossil fuel-based power sources. By harnessing the power of the sun, this solar project can help to reduce our reliance on these dirty energy sources and help to transition our county towards a more sustainable, clean energy future.

I believe this project will benefit our environment and provide economic benefits to our community. I urge you to approve the Franklintown Farm Solar project. Let us take this important step towards a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Natto S. Will.

156 New Castle Dr

Charles Town, WV 25414

Aug. 19,2024

RE: Letter of Support for Solar

Dear BZA Board Members:

As a resident of Jefferson County, I am writing to express my support for the Franklintown Solar Project. Having thoroughly examined arguments from both sides, it is evident that the advantages of this initiative far surpass any potential drawbacks.

First, I am grateful that there aren't more homes being built. I understand that homes will be there forever. Solar will only be there for 25 or so years.

Second, the project will inject millions of dollars into the local economy. Moreover, the project respects private property rights, as landowners have willingly signed contracts with ENEL.

Third, I have heard since the 1970's that we need to reduce our reliance on foreign energy sources and fossil fuels. This project plays a part in that.

Thank you,

Rosalind Chapman

156 New Castle Drive Charles Town, WV 25414 August 20, 2024

RE: Letter of Support

Dear BZA Board Members,

As someone who has grown up in Jefferson County and now raises a family in Jefferson County, I have reviewed multiple arguments regarding the Franklintown Solar Project and would like to express my support. This project promotes a greener, cleaner, more cost-efficient future and I urge you to approve this Solar Project to bring these benefits to Jefferson County.

Thank you,

Emilia Chapman

111 Circle St.

Ranson, WV 25438

August 19,2024

RE: Letter of Support for Solar

Dear BZA Board Members:

I am writing to you in support of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. Projects such as this promote clean, renewable energy, create hundreds of good paying construction jobs, and provide substantial additional revenue for the local community. I urge you to approve the Franklintown Solar Project to bring these benefits to Jefferson County.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Chapman

Dear Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals,

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar Project in our community. As we strive to create a more sustainable and resilient future, this project represents a crucial step toward achieving our environmental goals and advancing our commitment to renewable energy.

The benefits of solar energy are numerous. It offers a clean, renewable source of power that will reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and help mitigate climate change. Furthermore, investing in solar technology will generate local jobs and stimulate our economy, providing a much-needed boost to our community.

In addition to environmental and economic advantages, the solar project will enhance energy security and stability. By diversifying our energy sources and tapping into the abundant power of the sun, we can reduce the vulnerability of our energy grid and ensure a more reliable supply of electricity.

I urge you to consider these compelling reasons and support the approval of this important project. Embracing solar energy is not only a wise investment for our community but also a meaningful step toward a sustainable future for generations to come.

Best,

SQ Down St Charletown W To the Jefferson County Zoning Board of Appeals:

I write to you as a resident of Jefferson County who is in support of bringing clean energy developments like the Franklintown Farm Solar Project to our county. As the world faces the challenges of climate change, it is essential that we take action to reduce our carbon footprint and transition to sustainable energy sources.

Clean energy development can bring numerous benefits to our community, including job creation, economic growth, and a healthier environment. Approving the investment in renewable energy sources like utility scale solar is essential to moving to reduce our dependence on traditional energy sources and help to mitigate climate change's very real effects.

I urge you to prioritize the development of clean energy projects in our county, and support the approval of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project. Together, our county can build a more sustainable future for our community and generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

118 Burnica Rd. Charles Town, WV 25414 Dear Jefferson County BZA.

I am reaching out to advocate for the approval of solar farms in Jefferson County. Respecting landowners' rights to use their property as they see fit includes allowing them to pursue solar energy projects. These projects offer a lucrative use of land and contribute significantly to the county's green energy goals.

In addition, the employment benefits associated with solar farms cannot be overlooked. From engineering to installation, these projects create numerous job opportunities within our community. By supporting solar energy, we support both our local economy and our commitment to environmental stewardship.

185 Bathofield D. Nich Fye

Dear Jefferson County BZA.

I am writing to support the development of solar farms in our county. Landowners should have the autonomy to choose how they use their property, and solar farms provide a sustainable and financially beneficial option. Allowing these projects respects landowners' rights while offering a new source of revenue.

Solar farms also contribute to significant environmental benefits. They reduce reliance on fossil fuels and help lower carbon emissions, which is crucial for combating climate change. Supporting these projects aligns with our community's values and goals for a healthier planet.

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To the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals:

I am a Jefferson County resident writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Franklintown Solar Project. This initiative is not only an important step towards embracing renewable energy but also aligns with the principles of landowner's rights and provides crucial support to farming families. By allowing landowners to lease their property for solar installations, we empower them to generate additional income, which is especially valuable in times when farming income can be uncertain. This flexibility can help stabilize their financial situation and offer much-needed relief in an industry that often faces economic challenges.

Moreover, the integration of solar projects on agricultural lands can be a win-win solution. It allows landowners to utilize their property in a way that complements their traditional farming activities, rather than competing with them. This dual-use approach can support sustainable farming practices while also contributing to our renewable energy goals. Supporting this project will demonstrate our commitment to respecting landowner autonomy and addressing the economic hardships faced by farming families, making it a progressive and compassionate choice for our community.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue. I strongly advocate for the approval of the solar project and the benefits it will bring to both landowners and our broader commitment to sustainability.

Sincerely

sepavis St. Charbitan we Dear Jefferson County BZA,

I am writing to endorse the development of solar farms in Jefferson County. Landowners have the right to leverage their property in ways that best suit their needs and values. Solar farms represent a forward-thinking use of land that can enhance property values while contributing positively to the community's economic health.

From an employment perspective, solar projects create a range of job opportunities, including those in construction, maintenance, and technical support. This boost to local employment, combined with the positive environmental impact of reducing our carbon footprint, makes supporting solar farms a strategic choice for the county's future

Dear Jefferson County BZA,

I am writing in favor of supporting solar farm projects in Jefferson County. Landowners should be empowered to use their property in ways that align with their economic and environmental values. Solar farms provide an excellent opportunity for landowners to benefit financially white contributing to the county's renewable energy goals.

The installation of solar farms also promotes local job creation. These projects generate positions not only during construction but also in long-term maintenance and operation. Supporting solar energy is a proactive way to enhance our local economy while making a positive impact on the environment.

CHARLES TON LOU 25414

Dear Jefferson County BZA,

I am writing to voice my enthusiastic support for solar farms in Jefferson County. Allowing landowners to utilize their property for solar energy projects is an empowering choice that aligns with their rights to manage and benefit from their own land. This flexibility ensures that landowners can generate income while supporting a sustainable energy future.

Moreover, solar farms bring significant environmental benefits, reducing our county's reliance on fossil fuels and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. By supporting solar energy, we are not only respecting landowners' rights but also taking a meaningful step towards preserving our natural environment for future generations.

nfacella 327 Prospect Hill Blud Charles Town, WV 25/114 Dear Jefferson County BZA.

I am writing to express my strong support for the development of solar farms in our county. As a landowner, I deeply value the autonomy and rights associated with property ownership, including the ability to make decisions that benefit both my land and community. Solar farms offer a sustainable and economically beneficial use of land, providing a new revenue stream while maintaining the land's integrity.

Additionally, the expansion of solar energy projects brings substantial employment benefits to our area. These projects create a variety of jobs, from construction and maintenance to administration and operations. Supporting solar farms not only aligns with our county's commanment to sustainability but also fosters local economic growth and job creation, making it a win-win for all residents.

Bob Stenkus 332 Bull skin st

Chiefes Town, WV, 25714

Franklintown Farm

Solar Project

Jefferson County, West Virginia August 22, 2024

Presented to:

The Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals

Applicant:

Franklintown Farm, LLC



INTRODUCTION

Project Name: Franklintown Farm Solar Project

Proposed Land Use: Solar Farm (connected to electrical utility grid)

• **Project Area:** 501.31 acres of routinely-disturbed farmland on 4 parcels

• Solar Production: 80 MW

• Battery Storage: 20 MW (BESS = Battery Energy Storage System)

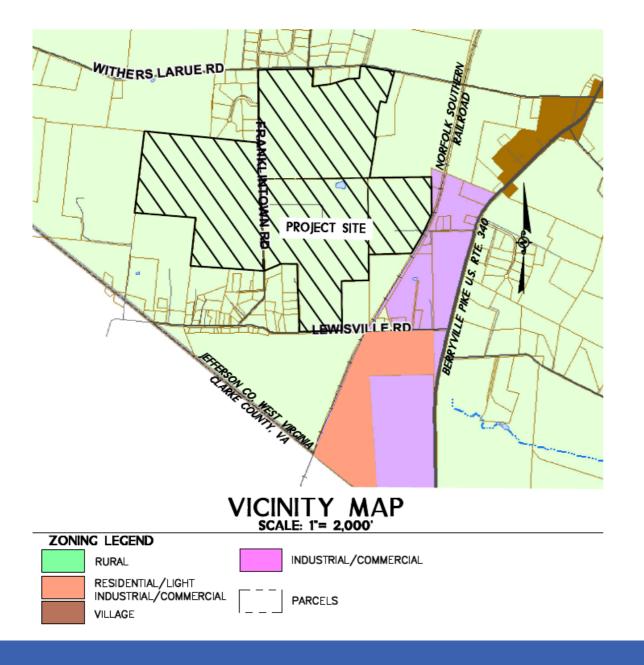
• **Grid Interconnection:** Connects to existing 138 kV transmission line that intersects

the site along the southern side (Lewisville Road)

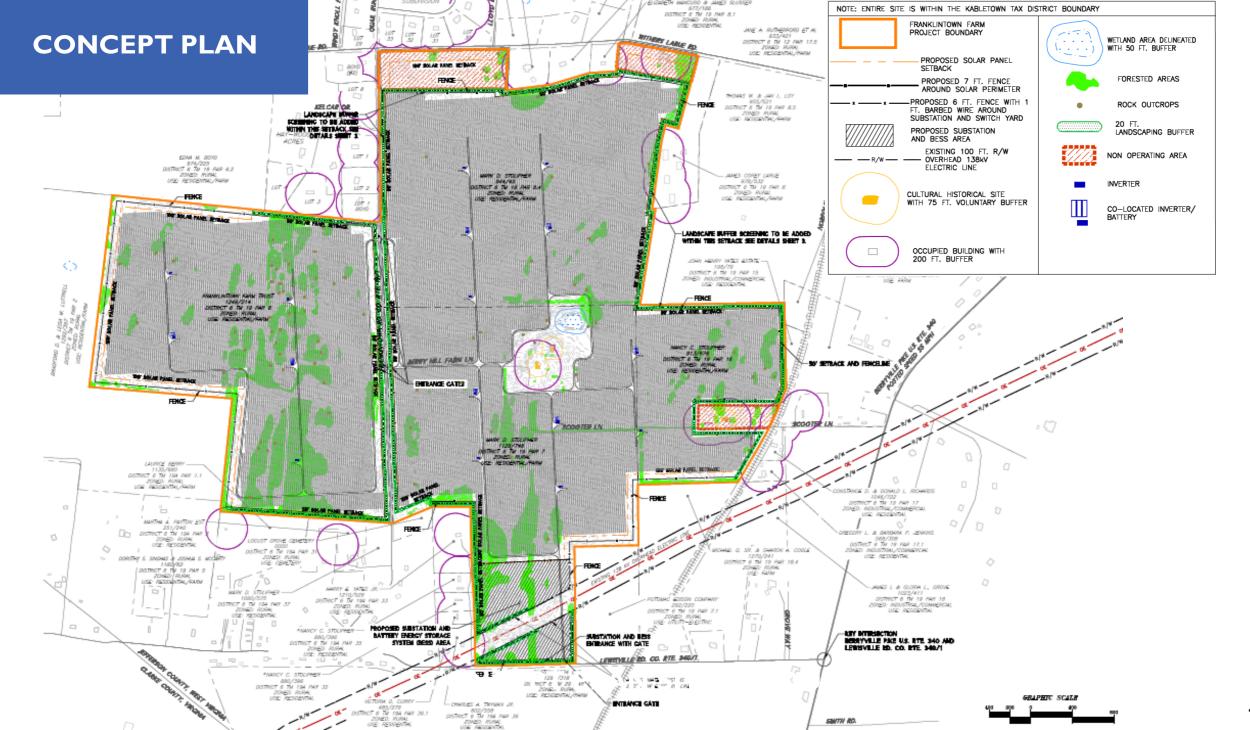
Construction to begin in 2026 and to last approximately 12 months

Anticipated 30-year project life

Includes a by-right electrical substation



- Project is bound by Withers Larue Road to the North, Lewisville Road to the South, and the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks to the East.
- Franklintown Road bisects the project north-tosouth.
- All four (4) project parcels are in the Rural Zoning District.
- The eastern end of the project abuts an Industrial/Commercial Zoning District.
- The southeastern corner of the project abuts a Residential/Light Industrial/Commercial Zoning District.



SETBACKS & BUFFERS

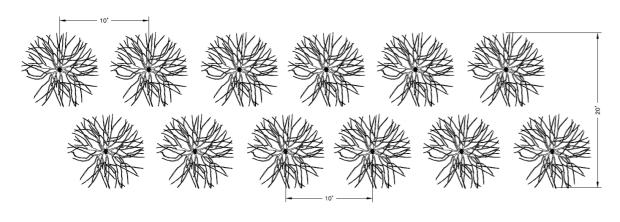
- In locations where the project abuts residential parcels or a roadway, a 50 ft setback to the fence shall be applied from the property boundary or edge of road right-of-way. In these locations, a 20' wide vegetative buffer will be planted within the setback area.
- In locations where the project abuts a parcel primarily in agricultural use, a 100 ft setback to the fence shall be applied with no vegetative buffer.
- A 100 ft setback will be applied adjacent to the Locust Grove Cemetery and will include a 20' wide vegetative buffer within the setback area. Ground penetrating radar (GPR) will be performed around the historical cemetery prior to construction.
- Solar Panels that are located within 200 feet of any residence, Category 1 Historic Resource, Institution for Human Care, Church, or similar use or structure as determined by the Zoning Administrator, shall provide a 20' wide vegetative buffer along common property lines within the setback area.



VEGETATIVE BUFFER



- Two rows of evergreen trees, staggered. Trees will be planted at a minimum of 6 feet high and will be 10 feet on center.
- Species have been selected to optimize survival, and to provide visual interest.
- Evergreens will be properly maintained and watered until established.
- Dead or dying trees will be promptly replaced by the solar farm owner.



LANTING DESCRIPTION:

TWO ROWS OF EVERGREENS, 10' ON CENTER, PLANTED AT MINIMUM 6' HIGH

PROPOSED LANDSCAPE
BUFFER LAYOUT

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height at Planting	Growth Rate (in/ year)	Estimated Height and Spread at Maturity	Spacing	Root
EVERGREEN TREES						
llex opaca	American Holly	6'	12-24	30' x 20'	10' O.C.	B&B
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar	6'	12-18	50' x 25'	10' O.C.	B&B
Ilex opaca 'Dan Fenton'	Dan Fenton American Holly	6'	12-24	40' x 25'	10' O.C.	B&B
Cryptomeria japonica 'Sekkan Sugi'	Japanese Cedar	6'	12-14	30' x 25'	10' O.C.	B&B
Thuja x 'Green Giant'	Green Giant Arborvitae	6'	36-60	50' x 20'	10' O.C.	B&B

EVERGREEN BUFFER PLANT SCHEDULE



VISUAL SIMULATIONS





VIEWPOINT 1

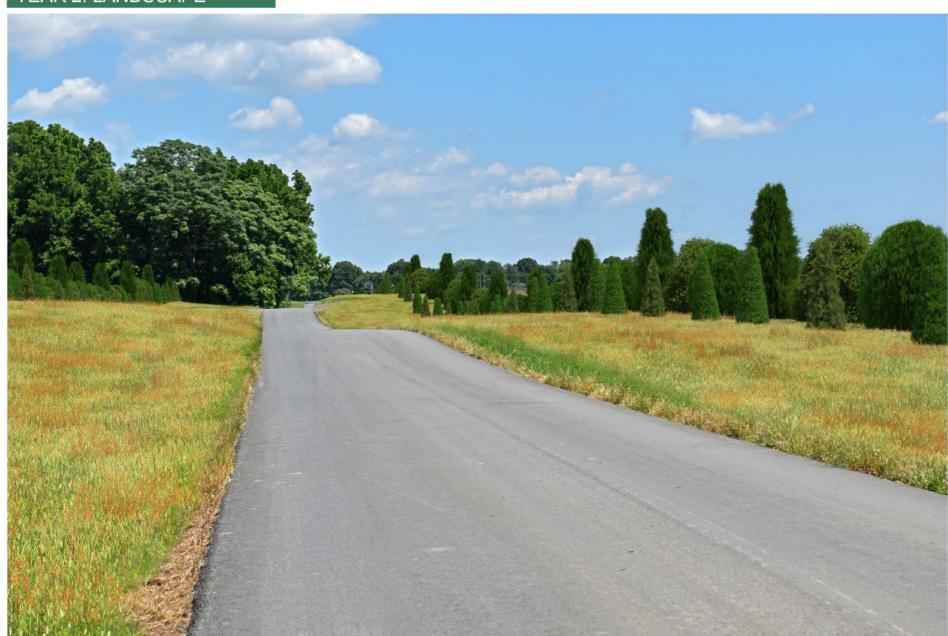
FRANKLINTOWN RD looking north





YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 1

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking north



YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 1

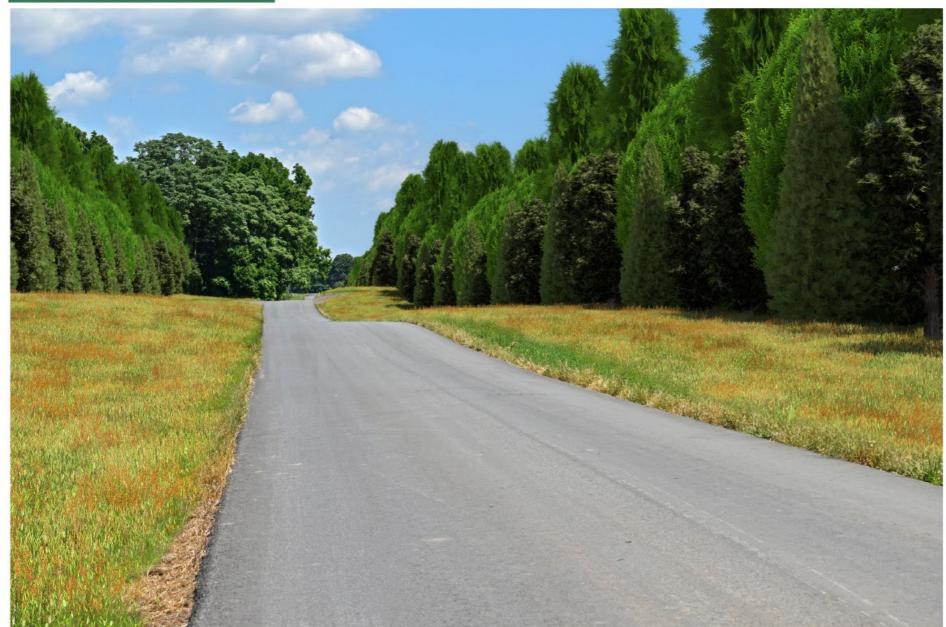
FRANKLINTOWN RD looking north

KEYMAP



YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 1

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking north



YEAR 0: LANDSCAPE





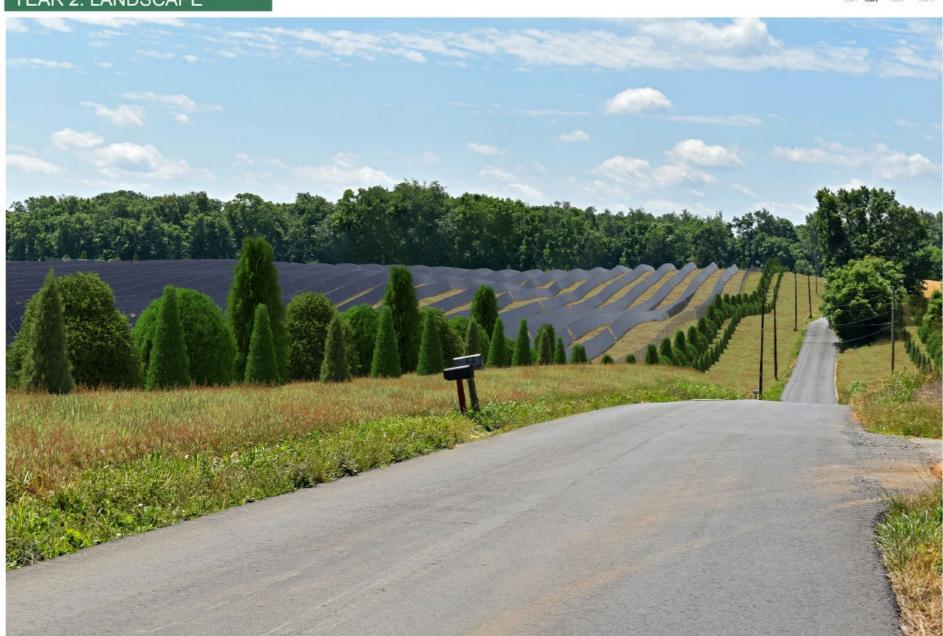
VIEWPOINT 2

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking south



YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 2

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking south



YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 2

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking south



YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





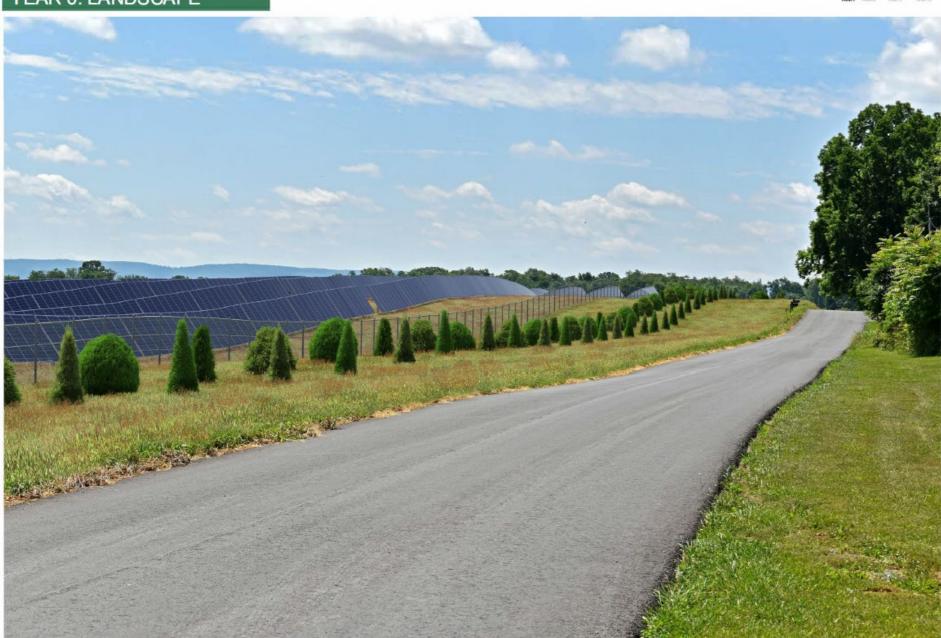
VIEWPOINT 2

FRANKLINTOWN RD looking south



YEAR 0: LANDSCAPE





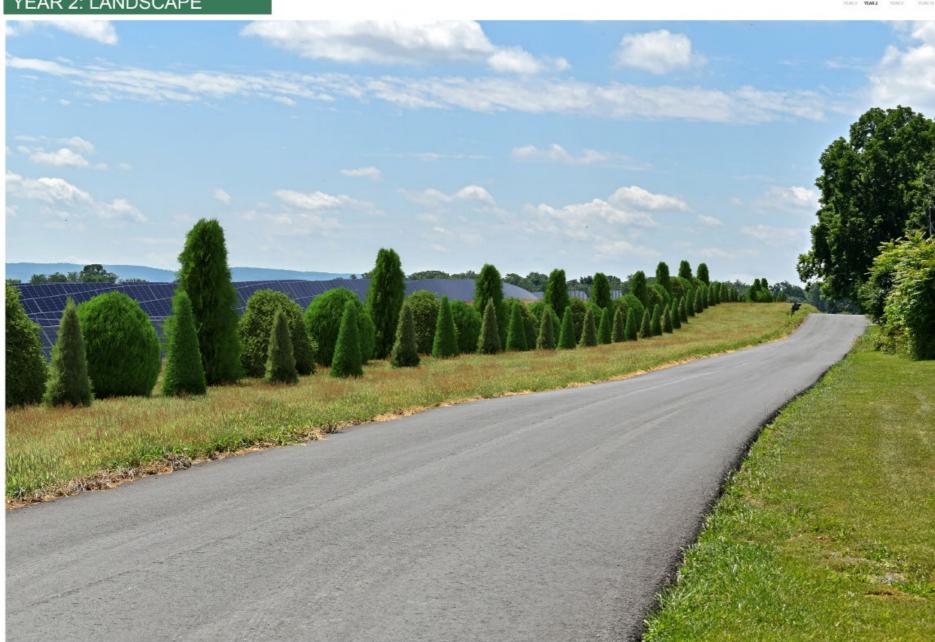
VIEWPOINT 3

FRANKLINTOWN ROAD



YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





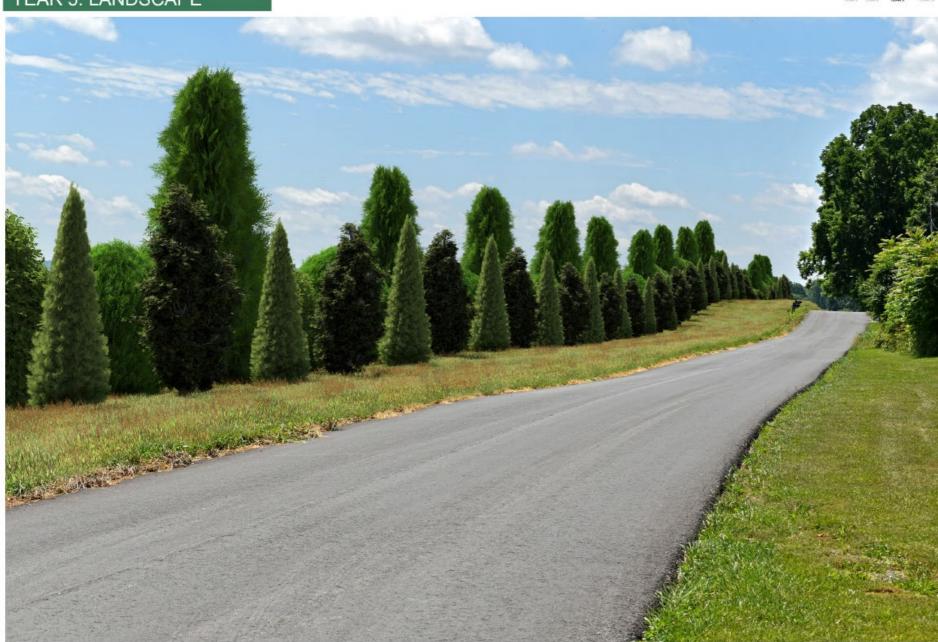
VIEWPOINT 3

FRANKLINTOWN ROAD



YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE





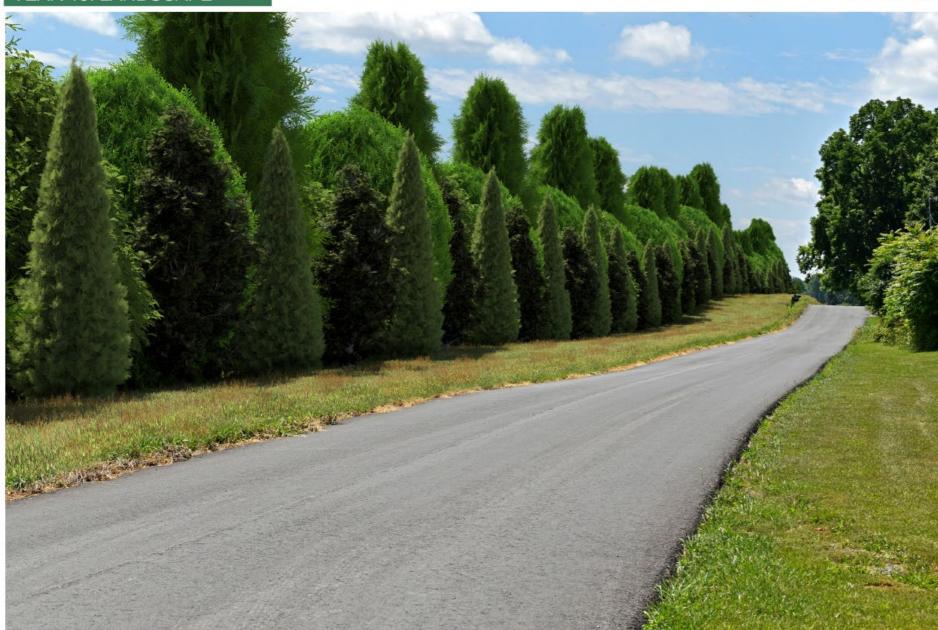
VIEWPOINT 3

FRANKLINTOWN ROAD



YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 3

FRANKLINTOWN ROAD



YEAR 0: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 4

WITHERS LARUE RD

KEYMAP



YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 4

WITHERS LARUE RD



YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE



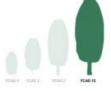


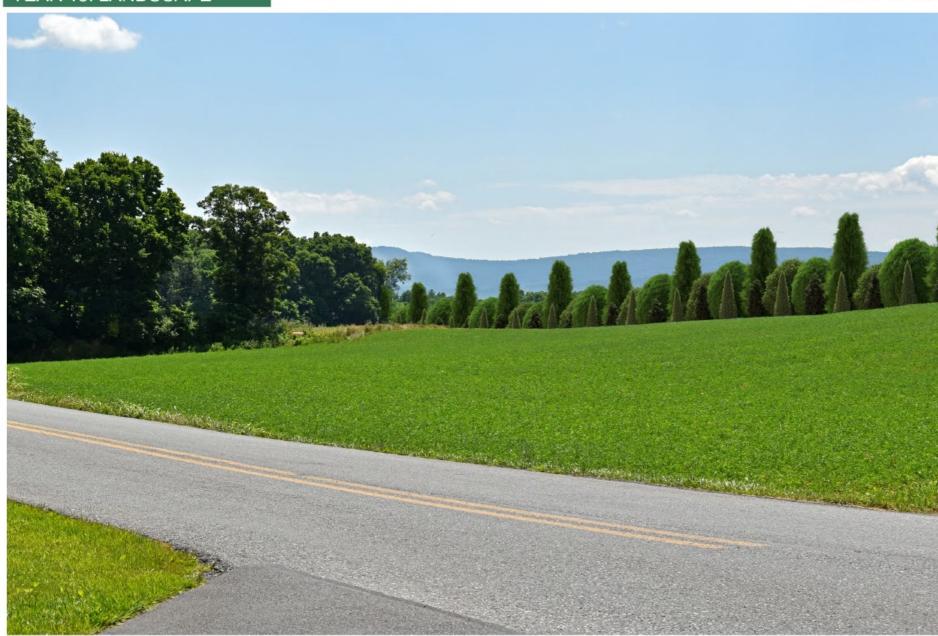
VIEWPOINT 4

WITHERS LARUE RD



YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 4

WITHERS LARUE RD



••••

SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 0: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 5

SCOOTER LN looking south



• • • •

SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 5

SCOOTER LN looking south



• • • •

SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 5

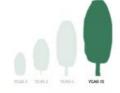
SCOOTER LN looking south



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SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 5

SCOOTER LN looking south



••••

SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 0: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 6

SCOOTER LN looking west

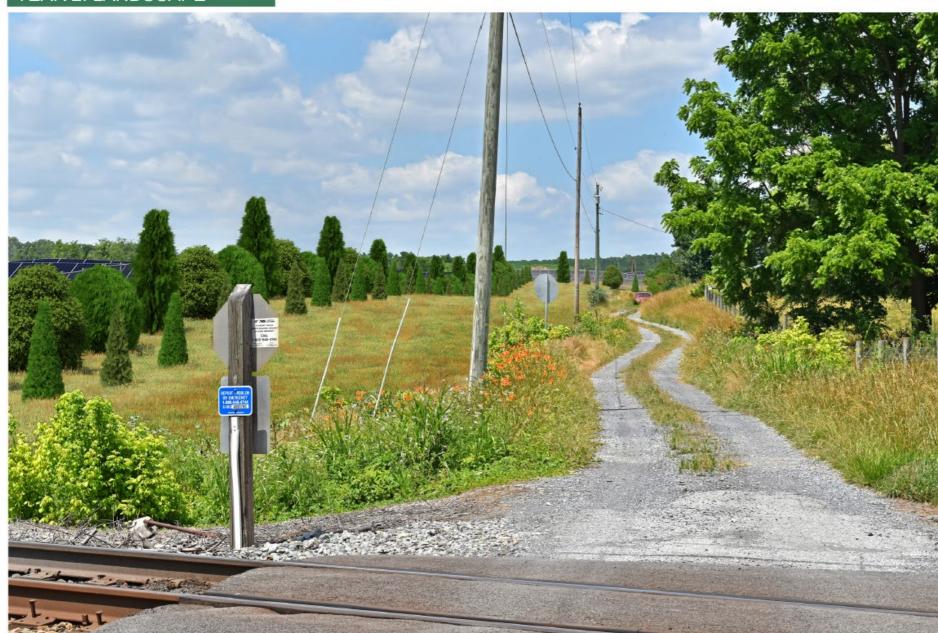


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SIMULATED CONDITION

YEAR 2: LANDSCAPE





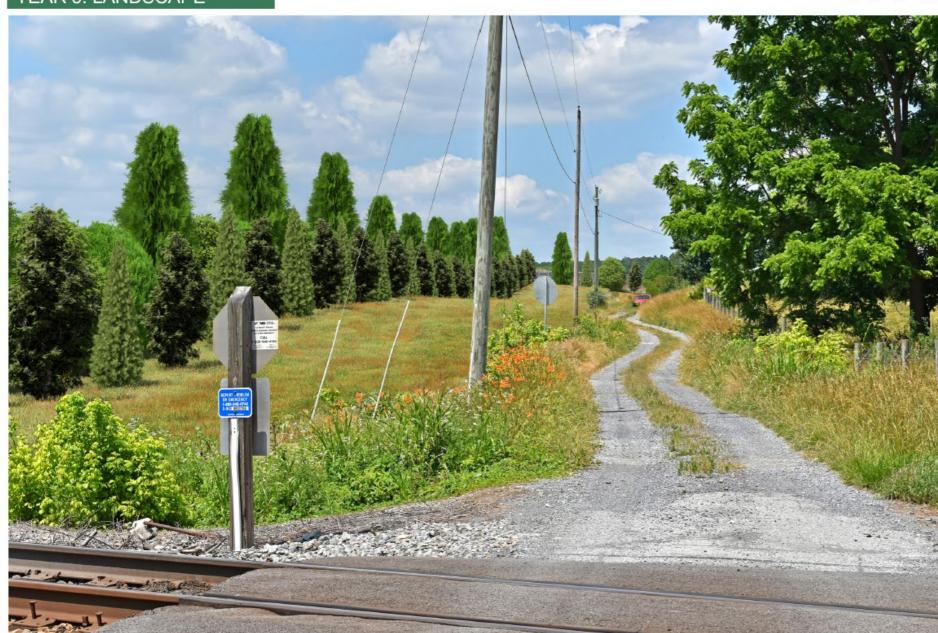
VIEWPOINT 6

SCOOTER LN looking west



YEAR 5: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 6

SCOOTER LN looking west



YEAR 15: LANDSCAPE





VIEWPOINT 6

SCOOTER LN looking west



GROUNDCOVER

- Site will be seeded with native and/or naturalized perennial vegetation to create a meadow condition.
- A Vegetation Management Plan has been established for the project to guide the activities of site preparation, installation, and overall management of the established vegetation on the site.
- The seed mix has been formulated with the goals of stabilizing soil, reducing chemical use, reducing runoff and enhancing wildlife habitat.
- Cultivating native vegetation at solar sites is a regenerative practice
 that stores nutrients in the landscape for long-term ecological and
 biodiversity value, even after decommissioning. It also establishes
 favorable conditions for stormwater protection and carbon
 sequestration.
- The site is not currently planned to utilize grazing as a method of maintenance.



TOPSOIL MANAGEMENT

- A main objective during civil design is to avoid regrading altogether. This is achieved by modifying the "reveal heights" of the steel support piles to stay within the racking system's design constraints.
- Regrading is only used when existing slopes are just too high for the racking system selected. If regrading is necessary in some locations, the topsoil will be segregated and stockpiled.
- The Soil Management Plan will include topsoil salvage and storage requirements, as well as guidelines for the contractors to follow related to topsoil handling and conservation.
- Topsoil will be redistributed throughout the site prior to groundcover seeding.





NOISE & GLARE

- Applicant recognizes that the project must be in conformance with all environmental standards as described in Article 8, Section 8.9 of the Jefferson County Zoning and Land Development Ordinance.
- An operational noise assessment concluded that Projectgenerated noise levels would be well below the County Zoning standard of 60 dBA during the daytime and 50 dBA during the nighttime.
- Photovoltaic panels are generally designed to absorb sunlight rather than reflect it.
- A third-party glare analysis was performed and concluded that there are no predicted unacceptable glare occurrences for nearby residences or roadways as a result of the single-axis tracking arrays.
- Panels will be installed at a 10 degree or greater angle while they are in their "stored" position, prior to the motors being hooked up to eliminate any potential glare occurrences.

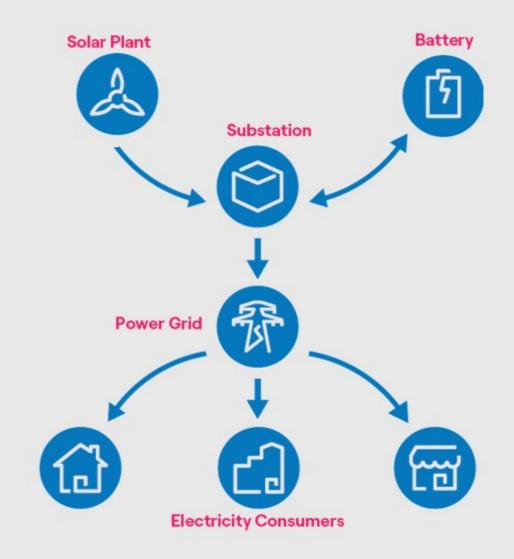


TRAFFIC

- The operation and maintenance of the solar facility will result in minimal vehicular traffic generation post-construction.
- Approximately 2-3 vehicles per day

BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are a technology that allows energy to be stored and dispatched on demand.
- Units consist of batteries housed in a container, connected to the power grid.
- Each battery container has its own HVAC and a power conversion system and are tested to meet the most stringent standards such as UL9540/UL9540A.
- The BESS will either be located adjacent to the substation (just north of Lewisville Road) or they will be dispersed throughout the site and co-located near some of the electrical inverters.





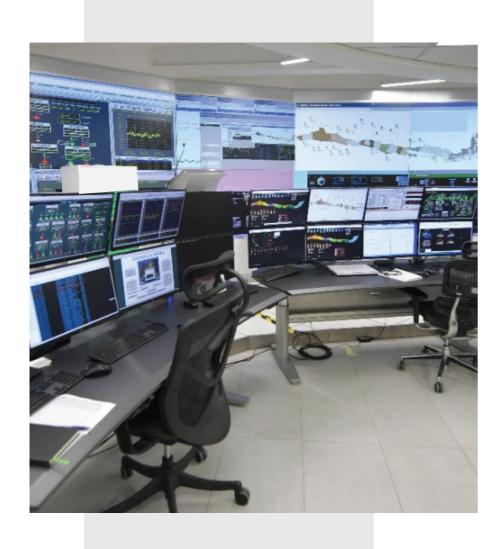
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- Stormwater Management for this Project will follow the amended Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance, Article I D.2.h for Solar Energy Facilities. A Stormwater Management report with documentation and drawings will be submitted to Jefferson County for review and approval.
- Additionally, the Applicant's Engineer has met with the County Engineer and agreed to incorporate some of the County's suggested enhancements to the existing SWM Ordinance based on the County's experience with the previous Solar Projects.
- The Project will also develop the required Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, and Groundwater Protection Plan and apply for the WVDEP National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for construction.
- Will follow the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) approved Erosion and Sediment Controls (E&S) Plans. Will limit grading to only areas necessary and will be seeded immediately.
- Native grasses and/or naturalized perennial vegetation will be planted to minimize erosion and to provide a natural filtration system for stormwater.
- Will develop permanent Stormwater Management structures as necessary to meet pre-development flows (County & State requirement).
- Will follow Best Management Practices and control stormwater runoff until vegetation is re-established, including routine inspections.

DECOMMISSIONING & SITE RESTORATION

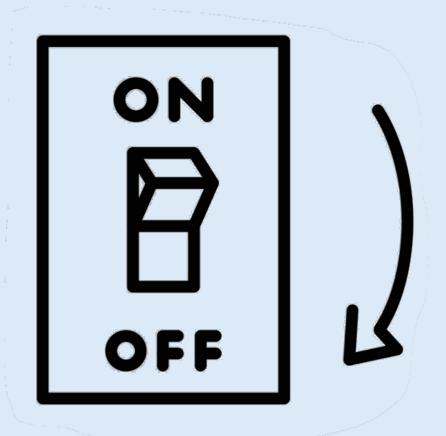
The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) has requirements for decommissioning solar facilities, including:

- **Decommissioning Plan:** The plan must include a commitment to remove all aboveground solar panels, wind turbines, and towers.
- Bonding: Owners can apply to the WVDEP for a reduction in the amount of the decommissioning bond every five years. The application must include written evidence of a reduction in the total disturbed acreage and a modification fee of \$50 per megawatt of nameplate generation capacity.
- Decommissioning Agreements: Agreements must address at a minimum the term and scope of the agreement.
- Submitting an intent to decommission to the permit authority 60 days before the end of commercial service.
- Removing structures and foundations to a depth of 3-feet below grade, roads, gravel areas, and cables to a depth of 2-feet below grade.
- Restoring the ground to a similar condition to before the solar project was built.



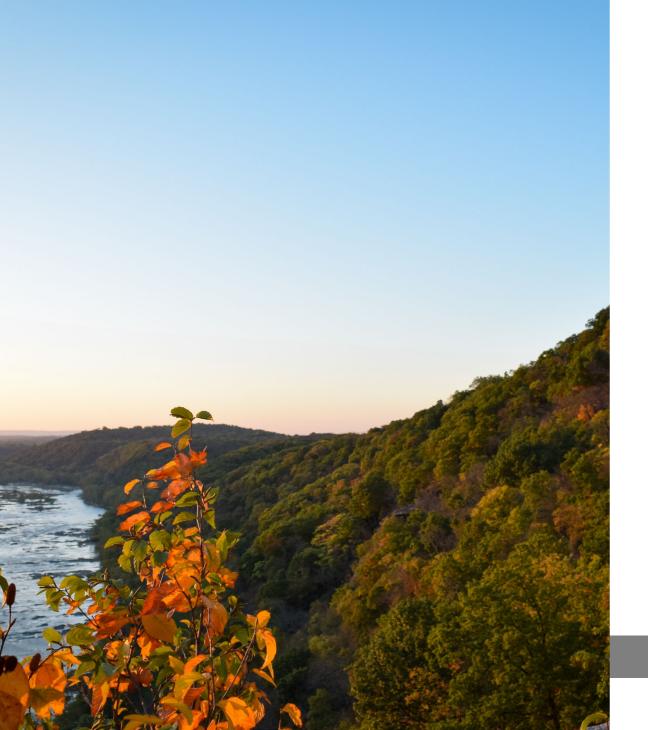
SITE ACCESS & SECURITY

- Fencing:
 - Solar Facility Perimeter: 7-foot-high chain link security fence will be installed around the facility.
 - Substation Area: 7-foot-high chain link security fence (including 1-foot of barbed wire) will be installed around the substation.
- Security gates will be located at each entrance.
- 24/7 remote monitoring at control center.
- Local operations team members.
- Knox boxes to allow for unimpeded access for first responders.



SITE LIGHTING

- Light fixtures are located only at the Substation and BESS Yard.
- Full cutoff light fixtures are turned on/off via a light switch by operators.
- The lights will normally be OFF unless activated by operations personnel.
- Lighting shall be shielded and directed down to prevent glare and to minimize light trespass.
- Lighting will follow the "Five Lighting Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting" as defined by DarkSky International.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

GOALS

- The site is compatible with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and will ensure the preservation and enhancement of the agricultural economy, rural land use, rural neighborhoods, and rural character of Jefferson County.
- Development of facility will follow compliance with both the Zoning and Concept Plan Standards.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS

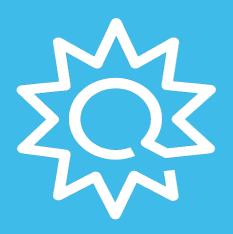
The Comprehensive Plan recommends the following:

- Encourage public entities to utilize alternative and renewable energy sources, specifically solar
- 2. Enable the construction of renewable energy generation facilities
- Consider implementation of alternative energy systems
- 4. Encourage the creation of and use of a variety of energy sources (including renewable energy)



PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

- Our first priority is ensuring the safety of our workers, contractors, first responders, operators and the surrounding communities at each of our projects. We will develop a site-specific Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to outline response procedures to protect people, property, and the environment during an emergency or disaster situation.
- The ERP is developed in coordination with Health and Safety professionals, facility operators, equipment manufacturers, and local first responders. We will work closely with local first responders throughout development, construction, and operations of the Project.
- The Project Team has had preliminary discussions with the Citizens Fire Company and the Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency, and will continue discussions and coordination throughout development, construction and operations.
- Additional training and resources will be provided to local first responders to ensure they can execute necessary
 elements related to the plan and protocols. Mock emergency drills are often held during construction and
 operations, in coordination with first responders, to ensure readiness and validate that the ERP is effective.
- Fires at solar farms are exceptionally rare and facilities are monitored remotely 24/7.



SCALE AND INTENSITY

- The scale and intensity of the Project will remain compatible with the surrounding land uses in terms of sound, traffic, dust, and other things typically involved in farming of the surrounding areas. Upon completion, there will be very little traffic generated by the Project.
- There are no paved areas in and around the solar panel arrays.
 Furthermore, the Project will not require new sewer service, new water service, nor new public roads and it will not add any burden to the school system.
- Suitable buffers to neighboring properties will be installed and maintained as required by the Jefferson County Ordinances.
- Solar will be less intrusive than a permitted residential development in the rural district which could develop one house lot for every 5 acres.

LOW-IMPACT DEVELOPMENT

- Land use for solar will be no more intensive than the existing farm use.
- Low-growing vegetation is utilized to minimize mowing needs.
- Reduces herbicide use by providing spot-treatments of invasive/weedy species on a limited, as-needed basis.
- Decreases fertilizer and pesticide use from previous land uses.
- Allows land to remain fallow, accumulating organic materials and improving soil and water quality.
- Solar farm has easy access to the electrical utility grid and there are no new transmission lines required for the project.
- No need for public services like water or sewer.





NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

- County setback and screening requirements will be met or exceeded.
- Panels are mostly hidden behind vegetative screening resulting in minimal visual impacts.
- No impact on public services (no new public roads, no sewer, no water, no added strain on public school system).
- No increased traffic post-construction.
- No additional noise generated which maintains the quiet feel of the surrounding agricultural community.
- Low-intensity development consists of gravel access roads and naturalized perennial vegetation to create a meadow condition.

PROPERTY VALUES

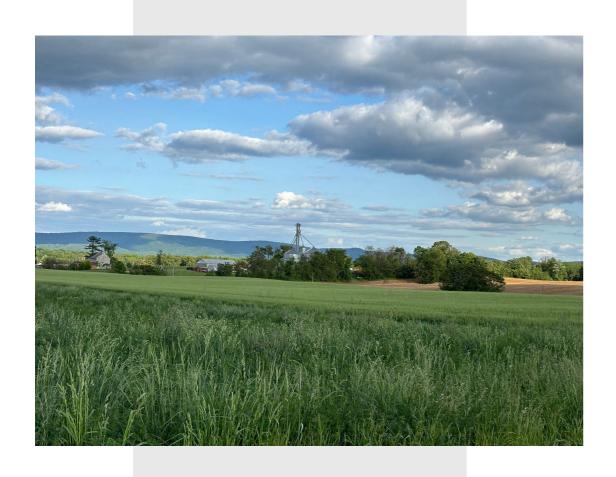
- A third-party Property Impact Analysis was performed by Richard Kirkland, MAI. Richard has been researching solar project impacts related to property values since 2008, including over 1,000 solar projects in over 25 states.
- The analysis shows no impact on home values due to abutting or adjoining a solar farm as well as no impact to abutting or adjacent vacant residential or agricultural land where the solar farm is properly screened and buffered.
- The criteria that typically correlates with downward adjustments on property values such as noise, odor, and traffic all indicate that a solar farm is a compatible use for rural/residential transition areas and that it would function in a harmonious manner with this area.
- The report noted that some of the positive implications of a solar farm that have been expressed by people living next to solar farms include protection from future residential developments or other more intrusive uses, reduced dust, odor and chemicals from former farming operations, protection from light pollution at night, it is quiet, and there is minimal traffic.



HISTORICAL COMPLIANCE

- Applicant has performed a Cultural Desktop Study.
- According to the JC Historical Landmarks Commission (JCHLC) online maps and database, there are no Category I sites on, or adjacent to, the project. There is one Category II site within project boundaries. No solar panels nor land disturbance is proposed within this site's buffer.
- A 200' buffer has been added around all recognized JCHLC historic sites within the project boundaries.
- JCHLC will have 14 days to review and comment on project during Concept Plan Process.





FUTURE LAND USE

- Solar farm groundcover consists of natural vegetation like deep-rooted fescue grass that improves the organic content and richness of the soil as the land lies uncultivated.
- Solar farm infrastructure can be removed once the solar farm reaches the end of its useful life.
- The land can be restored back to its original state through the site restoration and decommissioning process.



CONTACT INFORMATION

- Ms. Ashley Smith
 - Director of Development
 - ashley.smith3@enel.com
- Mr. Paul Raco
 - Planner Emeritus
 - pjraco.consulting@gmail.com
- Mr. Joe Knechtel
 - Professional Engineer, Potesta & Associates, Inc.
 - KJKnechtel@potesta.com

24-2-SP Franklintown Farm Solar Project Public Comment - Index

- 1. Submitted 2024-05-20 by Tom and Jan Loy
- 2. Submitted 2024-08-28 by Jeffrey Albert
- 3. Submitted 2024-08-28 by Barbara Milleson
- 4. Submitted 2024-09-03 by Rebecca Thompson

Date: 04-15-24

RECEIVED

To: Jefferson County Panning Commission and Jefferson County Commission

MAY 2 0 2024

From: Thomas and Jan Loy, Rippon, WV

Re: Franklintown Industrial-scale Solar Project

JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING ZONING & ENGINEERING

Commissioners,

Our family, our community and in fact all of Jefferson County will most certainly be adversely affected by the Franklintown Commercial/Industrial Solar Complex! We oppose this and all other industrial-scale solar projects in this county and we do not want them in our community!

We do, however, recognize that these farms are owned by someone else, they are private farms and there is very little we can do to block the construction of this or any other industrial-scale solar project in this county. The Jefferson County Commission is the only group with the power and responsibility to help direct thoughtful growth and development for all Jefferson County citizens.

With the above in the record, and before this project is approved, we ask that the Jefferson County Planning Commission and the Jefferson County Commission impose on the developers the additional requirements regarding landscape buffering and lighting stated below.

Because the Franklintown Commercial/Industrial Solar Complex (this is <u>NOT</u> a "farm"!) is proposed to operate for 30+ years, the current and future impact on the residents must be considered for that entire period and beyond for all possible scenarios.

In the future, it is possible that all properties surrounding the Franklintown Commercial/Industrial Solar Complex will contain one or more homes for every five acres. Because of this eventuality, the owners/developers and the planning commission should prepare for this from the beginning.

Claiming that this project is somehow "compatible" with agriculture is laughable. These false claims must be acknowledged by requiring proper and complete landscape barriers/screens along <u>every boundary</u> of the complex. The planning and design of these "barriers" should include a requirement that the affected neighboring landowners have significant input and approval rights. And the construction of these "barriers" should be fully completed before any other sitework begins.

Additionally, the developers should be required to adhere to the "Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting" as defined by DarkSky International found at the below link.

https://darksky.org/resources/guides-and-how-tos/lighting-principles/

These requests are not burdensome and granting them would perhaps help to soothe the sting everyone feels with this unwelcome addition to the Rippon Community.

MOVING FORWARD:

Jefferson County is at a very significant and precarious crossroad in our history. Do we want to allow industrial-scale solar to be what defines our county, or do we want to take steps right now to consider the "Franklintown Farm Solar Project" to be the last industrial-scale solar project allowed here?

Perhaps the best plan for Jefferson County is to protect our diverse population, our very rich history and our awesome scenic vistas rather than "carpeting" open farmland with thousands of acres of solar panels?

It is utterly ludicrous to assert that any of these projects are "compatible with the goals of the comprehensive plan to ensure the preservation and enhancement of the agricultural economy, rural land use, rural neighborhoods, and rural character of Jefferson County".

Why is our county government working to destroy the rural character of Jefferson County so that nobody will want to visit or live here? Shouldn't our commissioners work to preserve and enhance the qualities that make this county a desirable place to live and work?

INDUSTRIAL SCALE SOLAR COMPLEXES ARE WRONG FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY:

Despite claims of thoughtful decommissioning sometime in the future, if allowed to proceed unchecked, we should expect this rich "rural farmland" to be lost forever to Industrial-scale solar.

The landowners seem to favor selling their land to the industrial solar developers so that any "local" control will be lost when "the deal is done". I find it interesting that these land sales only take place after all of the "local hurdles" are cleared.

Why is that?

In the final accounting, after all of the current players are long gone from Jefferson County, the taxpayers will be left with the problems and excessive costs associated with "decommissioning" industrial solar regardless of what "they" say today.

Industrial solar creates a wasteland that is only good for the developer. Current and future homes are lost, people will move, history is erased, and jobs are lost rather than created.

Industrial-scale solar projects require the complete removal of all trees and brush (including root balls and topsoil) before construction can begin and one look at the corner of Kabletown Road and old Rt.9 is all the evidence needed to show what really happens to this once "rural" farmland.

How can the County guarantee that the developer be held to account if they overuse herbicides or pesticides? How will the Planning Commission protect the karst topography indicative of Jefferson County? How will we all be assured that the "owner" be responsible for the upkeep of the landscape barrier screen 10/20 years from now? Who will that "owner" be in twenty years? How will they be held responsible/accountable? What recourse will neighbors have that will not involve expensive and time-consuming lawsuits?

Perhaps the County Commission could require that the company be incorporated in the state of West Virginia! If this is impossible, the county should require that all future legal action be governed by and adjudicated in the state of West Virginia instead of Delaware or Massachusetts...or Italy or Spain or other country(s) from which any new owner hails.

We are dealing with companies that have no connection to our community (or the United States for that matter), that operate on impossibly thin margins, rely on "unreliable" economic factors such as government monetary "gifts" and ever decreasing tax incentives. The current state of solar technology is constantly changing, is wildly volatile, is a very inefficient "use of land to create power" and perhaps most importantly, it only works half of the time when operating at 100% capacity!

At some point in the near future, on-demand electricity generation will win this battle because it is the only version that really makes sense. Like electrical vehicles (EVs), wind and solar rely on a false market created by politicians to benefit a few very large investors.

Is it possible that in 10 years, solar will simply not be viable and all of these companies will abandon these sites?

Is it possible that technology will be developed that makes industrial solar too expensive to deploy and maintain?

Is it possible that the proliferation of massive, industrial datacenters in the DC metro region will be replaced by better, smaller, faster....and less energy-hungry technology?

One need only to look at how Personal Computer technology has been revolutionized and how home and automobile lighting has changed over the past 10 or so years.

One thing seems clear; our Planning Commission and County Commission are not equipped to see the future and as far as I can tell, have been blindly marching down the solar path and all else be damned.

Maybe it is time to "pump the brakes on solar", hire a credible and unbiased consultant to figure out if we should simply allow this to happen in a haphazard, uncontrolled fashion or perhaps more thoughtfully and deliberately...if at all.

If Jefferson County is going to allow this or any other industrial scale solar installations to go forward, you must pause, take a long breath and consider when the county will have "enough" solar or when it has too much.

If "industrial solar" really makes sense for Jefferson County and not just a few large landowners and some large, foreign companies, maybe it is an important enough question to be answered by all Jefferson County citizens on a future ballot.

I do believe that the local landowners are entitled to sell or develop their farmland, but not without some well-considered guidelines. Afterall, there is much more at stake for the future of Jefferson County than just the "viewshed."

Jefferson County is a beautiful and desirable place to live because of the open farmland. If you want to see the future of "solar Jefferson County", simply look at an arial view (Google it!) of the "Fawn Lake Solar Complex" outside of Fredericksburg, Virginia to see just how truly offensive this will be for anyone left living in this county.

Something significant is happening in Jefferson County that I don't completely understand. What was once a county that was concerned about unfettered growth seems to be heading in the opposite direction and I am not sure it will continue to offer a high quality of life. For our part, we would like to

stay and continue to a part of this community but only if the County Commission and Planning Commission can demonstrate some minimal restraint.

Jan L. La

Most respectfully.

Tom and Jan Loy

Franklintown Farm Solar Project Concept Plan File: 24-2-SP

Jeffrey Albert, I live at 126 Pheasant Hill Road Summit Point, WV in the Quail run subdivision. Attended the public hearing on July 22nd concerning the Franklintown Solar Farm project. My property borders Withers Larue and Lloyd roads. This solar farm project directly affects my life a great deal. Lived in Jefferson County for 30 years. The meeting on July 22, the Solar Farm members had unlimited speech time, but the residents limited to 3 minutes. Not fair I could not read my entire 2page speech, unable to convey to the board members my thoughts during the meeting. I fully understand if farmers have a difficult time, but research needs to show they need assistance and not just taking short cuts in a quick cash flow that affect the residents surrounding these two farms. I enjoy sitting out back and enjoying the mountain scenery, this will be lost after construction begins. No one would welcome this type of construction behind their backyard. The 100-foot setback is not a realistic boundary. I brought this up during the July meeting. Planted trees and an installed fence need to be high enough to hide the solar farm. The biggest fault was not enough property owners showed to voice their opposition, so the Zoning Board voted to uphold the solar farm application. I was planning to retire and move in late 2026 but not sure now if my home can be marketable. I hope the solar farm members will work with me to find a solution that works best for both of us. Please submit this letter for the September 10th meeting I will attend.

Jeffrey Albert

RECEIVED

126 Pheasant Hill Road

AUG 2 8 2024

Summit Point, WV 25446

JEFFERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING, PLANNING & ZONING

(H) 571-210-8186, (C) 240-291-7799, email: bubbaalbert3@gmail.com

Planning Department

From: Planning Department

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 9:15 AM

To: 'Barbara Milleson'

Subject: RE: Franklintown Solar Farm letter for public workshop

Good morning,

Please note that our office is in receipt of your email and your comments will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the upcoming September 10, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. This packet will be made available on the County's webpage by close of business on Friday, September 6, 2024.

Thank you,

Jennilee Hartman, Zoning Clerk Office of Planning, & Zoning 304-728-3228

From: Barbara Milleson <barblmilleson@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 5:05 PM

To: Planning Department < Planning Department@jeffersoncountywv.org>

Subject: Franklintown Solar Farm letter for public workshop

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Please see my attached comments for the 9/10/24 workshop concerning the Franklintown Solar Farm Project.

Dear Jefferson County Office of Planning and Zoning,

I am writing this letter to express my strong **opposition** to the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar Project. In addition to a conflict of interest issue, I have many concerns about this project and the negative impacts it will have on our community and environment.

Impact on Conserving Farm Land and Property Values: Our county is known for its natural beauty, open spaces and sprawling farm land. The installation of a large solar farm would significantly alter the visual landscape, detracting from the rural charm that many residents move to this area in search of. We moved to Jefferson County almost 30 years ago because we wanted a rural country life. Putting a solar farm on 500 acres ruins the beauty and appeal of this wonderful area. This change will negatively impact property values, as the solar panels and associated infrastructure will be perceived as undesirable by potential buyers.

Environmental Concerns: The installation and maintenance of a solar farm can have many adverse environmental effects. These include potential disruption to local wildlife habitats and alterations in land use that affect the area's extensive ecosystem. We have eagles along with a variety of wildlife that call this area home. Chemicals used to clean solar panels can seep into our groundwater and contaminate our wells and be a health hazard to residents and wildlife.

There will be a battery storage facility on the solar farm that will include large amounts of lithium ion batteries. Lithium ion batteries are a serious fire hazard. If they catch on fire, as lithium ion batteries tend to do from time to time, like cell phones, e-bikes, etc., there is no way of putting the fire out, the fire department can do nothing. A solar farm battery facility caught fire last year in New York and it burned for three days straight due to the fact that there was no way to put that kind of fire out. The entire time it was burning, it released hazardous fumes into the air, which got into the land as well as the groundwater.

Solar panels become less and less effective each year, losing approximately 10-15% of their productivity per year. The panels only last for about 10-15 years at most and then they must be properly disposed of. If not, the old panels will leak hazardous chemicals into the air, land and groundwater. In addition, if at any time, a panel is damaged in any way, it must be removed and properly disposed of quickly. Earlier this year, a hail storm destroyed all the solar panels on a solar farm in Texas. This led to a massive amount of hazardous material being released into the air, soil, and water. I do not think these environmental impacts have been thoroughly evaluated for this project.

Local Infrastructure Strain: The project could strain local infrastructure, including roads, drainage systems, and utilities. These potential impacts have not been adequately addressed, raising concerns about possible disruptions and the need for costly infrastructure improvements.

Traffic and Safety Issues: The construction phase is expected to increase traffic on local roads, posing safety risks for residents, especially children and pedestrians. The ongoing presence of maintenance vehicles could also contribute to traffic congestion and wear on our roadways.

Noise and Light Pollution: The construction and operation of a solar farm will likely introduce noise pollution from machinery and equipment, which could disrupt the peaceful nature of our county. Additionally, once installed, the reflective properties of solar panels may cause light pollution, glare and excessive heat, negatively impacting the environment.

Conflict of Interest: The landowner of the proposed solar farm is a relative of a member of the county commission who is expected to vote on the approval of this project. This connection raises serious concerns about a conflict of interest and ethical implications regarding the decision-making process. Such a conflict must be illegal and unethical. One family member should not be permitted to vote or advocate for a project that would increase the wealth of another family member, at the community's cost.

Given these concerns, I respectfully urge the Planning and Zoning Department to reject the proposal for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project for the preservation of our community's character and well-being.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Barbara Milleson Jefferson County resident since 1996

Planning Department

From: Planning Department

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:06 AM

To: 'Rebecca Thompson'

Subject: RE: Public comment for Public Workshop: Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the

Franklintown Farm Solar Project (File #24- 2-SP)

Good morning,

Please note that our office is in receipt of your email and your comments will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the upcoming September 10, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. This packet will be made available on the County's <u>webpage</u> by close of business on Friday, September 6, 2024.

Thank you,

Jennilee Hartman, Zoning Clerk Office of Planning, & Zoning 304-728-3228

From: Rebecca Thompson <beccatmail@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 4:56 PM

To: Planning Department < Planning Department@jeffersoncountywv.org>

Subject: Public comment for Public Workshop: Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project (File

#24- 2-SP)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

Please find attached a public comment for the Public Workshop: Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project (File #24-2-SP).

The letter is from adjoining property owners and property owners and residents within one mile.

Thank you, Rebecca Thompson Jefferson County Planning Commission 116 E Washington St. Charles Town, WV 25414 By Email

Regarding: Public Workshop: Solar Energy Facility Concept Plan for the Franklintown Farm Solar Project (File #24- 2-SP).

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We are adjoining and nearby property owners and residents who will be highly affected by the proposed Franklintown Farm Solar Project. After reviewing the concept plan, we are concerned that the Franklintown Farm Solar Project threatens the health, safety, welfare, and quality of life of our community. The concept plan does not provide adequate buffering, should require installation of the tree buffer prior to any other construction on the site starts, and must provide more transparency and protections regarding environmental and safety impacts prior to construction and during operation.

Quality of Life in the Community and Property Values

Many of us chose to remain or locate here because of the mountain views and rural nature of the community. These views and the visual tranquility are also a major selling point for residences and properties in this area. However, the scale of this development and the nature of the installation itself will transform the viewshed completely. Once the trees grow large enough to hinder the view of the panels, they will also do the same for the view of the mountains. These issues will negatively impact both our quality of life and our property values.

A <u>solar panel setback of 300 feet</u> (from the development property line not some other point such as the adjacent residence) where the development properties adjoin residential properties (either directly or across roadways) would make the solar panels further from adjoining properties and less impactful in the viewshed. Further, if the <u>fence were built as close as practicable to the solar panels with the 20-foot vegetative buffer being placed directly outside and up against the fence, this would place the trees at least 200 feet back from the property line of the development increasing the screen effect and increasing the likelihood that more of the viewshed (mountain views for example) will be preserved.</u>

We request the developers of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project to proffer during the public workshop that it will do these things, and we urge you to request that the company do so.

Groundwater Quality

We obtain the water our families, animals, and businesses rely on from groundwater wells, and we would like to keep it this way. It is therefore critical that the groundwater stay safe and potable to drink without the need for expensive pretreatments. We are concerned that poor stormwater

management during both the construction and operational phases and chemical use will have negative impacts on groundwater quality. This includes indirect infiltration of sediment laden water through sinkholes and indirect infiltration of chemicals (for example solar panel cleaning chemicals) used on the project site with stormwater into groundwater.

Sediment and sinkhole development are two major risks to groundwater quality. Reducing the amount of grading decreases the risks of sediment leaving the site and sinkhole development. We understand that some grading is necessary to build internal roads and stormwater handling structures. However, the company representative testified under oath at the Board of Zoning Appeals conditional use permit hearing that only 4% of the land would need to be graded and that no topsoil would be removed from the project site properties. The developers of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project should proffer during the public workshop that they will only grade 4% or less of the properties (≤ 20.24 acres total) and that no topsoil will be removed from the properties.

We understand that due to the karst nature of the geology in this area it is not sufficient to use test wells to identify groundwater contamination. Therefore, we request that the company <u>regularly (at least every 6 months)</u> test the well water of all interested residents within one mile of the property for all chemicals regularly used (at least yearly) on the property that could potentially become <u>entrained in the stormwater</u>. We request the developers of the Franklintown Farm Solar Project to proffer to this effect at the public workshop.

The company could <u>set up a text (SMS)/email alert system</u> to which local residents and interested parties could sign up. Information regarding impacts to groundwater (and other safety issues) could be timely disseminated by this system. This would serve to increase transparency and allow concerned residents to seek additional information as desired. The information disseminated on this system must include but not be limited to notice within 24 hours any time the company notifies WV Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) (for example of a sinkhole, bypass, unpermitted discharge, etc.) and notice at least 6 months in advance of and information regarding (including material safety data sheets) any new chemicals (i.e. the chemicals used to clean the solar panels) used on the property that have the potential to become entrained in stormwater or fall to the ground in either a liquid form or a form that may dissolve in or be entrained in water.

We request the developers of Franklintown Farm Solar Project to proffer during the public hearing that it will do the above indicated things, and we urge you to request that the company do so.

Other Safety Hazards

We are concerned that, beyond the potential for groundwater contamination, this development poses additional threats to the community's safety. One example is the fire hazard posed by the batteries. We are concerned that the local all-volunteer fire companies who are already stretched thin may not have the resources to address all plausible fire hazards at this facility, and this will pose a risk to the safety of our community.

We are unsure how this could be remedied before the proposed operation of the facility. However, the company could hold <u>open public forums</u> with at least 30-days notice, at least 6 months prior to operation of the plan and every year thereafter to inform the public about the threats that exist, how they are being mitigated or will be addressed if needed, and answer questions from the public. We

request the company to proffer that it commits to doing so during the public workshop, and we urge you to request that the company do so.

Return to Use as Farm Land

We sincerely hope that this land will be returned to productive farm land following its use for this utility scale solar facility. It is therefore imperative that the land itself not be degraded. In addition to the above request to not grade more than 4% of the land and not remove any of the top soil from the property, the company could commit to not disturbing any of the topsoil outside of that 4% of the land that is graded except as is necessary to actually place the posts in the ground, and that all materials placed in the ground (foundations and pilons) are removed at the time of decommissioning (not just the superficial most 3 feet as is described in the concept plan).

We request that the company proffer that it commits to only disturbing the top soil within the 4% of the property that requires grading except what is required for placing the equipment, and to removing all material placed in the ground at decommissioning and we urge you to also request this.

We are very concerned about the effect this development will have on our health, safety, welfare and quality of life. We believe that while the measures we have requested of the company above will not solve the problem, they will help to at least moderate the effects this development will have on our lives and wellbeing. Please consider supporting these requests of the company and thank you for considering our comments.

Best regards,

Gene Schneider

Adjoining Property Owner

Tarnmy Sokel

Adjoining Property Owner

Brian Sokell
Adjoining Property Owner

Adjoining Property Owner

Joseph Terango /s/

Joseph Terango

Adjoining Property Owner

Tracy Terango /s/

Tracy Terango

Adjoining Property Owner

Howard Youngblood

Adjoining Property Owner

Janet Youngblood

Adjoining Property Owner

and Barbara Milleson Adjoining Property Owners Farmer and landowner within 1 mile Jeffery Albert Rebecca Dorr Adjoining Property Owner Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Rebecca Thompson Jeremiah Dorr Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Barnes Clark Bob Thompson Bonnie Clark Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Steven Lloyd 7 Daniel Thompson Resident in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Leah Lloyd Benjamin Ashlock Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision matshlock Nathan Dekker Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Dele V. Cury

Dale V. Curry

Para Dekker

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

michel teller

Michael Dekker

Resident in Quail Run Subdivision

Lóri Dekker

Resident in Quail Run Subdivision

Rose Ann P. Glover

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Wayne E. Glover

Wayne 3

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Erik Snyder

Resident in Quail Run Subdivision

Ethan Snyder

Resident in Quail Run Subdivision

Susan Snyder

100001

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Gary Groves

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Siping yuan

Aiping Yuan

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

lits Wiles

Judith Wiles

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Steven Wiles

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

The Willer

Helen Athey

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Amber Woodruff-Fuller

Welen athey

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Matt Glover

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Mandy Glover

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Carey Hall

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Kevin Liber Mark Maloney Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Lisa Maloney Beth Liber Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Roud Mark Maloney, Jr. Sk Gloria Rouden Resident in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Camdyn Maloney Laurice Berry Resident in Quail Run Subdivision Adjoining Property Owner Shawn Payton Chaney Lennifer Myers Adjoining Property Owner Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Executor to the Estate of M. Payton and Clare / S/ Larry Myers David Clark Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Thomas Wielgosz Dana Clark Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Larry Shrout Edith Riker

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

R Chasan Richard Jenkins Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner within 500 feet R Chasan 1s/ Roger Chason Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner within 500 feet Martin Weller /s/ Jo Burdick Martin Weller Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Todd w Bale Gall. Monde Jerry Mersing Todd Baker Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Angela Baker John DeGennaro Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Jane Grove. Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

James L. and Gloria L. Groves Adjoining Property Owners

Jare Pardis

Jane Paradis

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Kevin Paradis

MARTIA Hyre

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Louise Jane Eskew
Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Rosetta Schneider

Adjoining Property Owner

Charles Lamp

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Came Jay /5/

Carrie Lamp

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Zachary Clark
Property Owner Within 1 mile

Cody Gustines

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Jennifer Gustines

Property Owner Within, 1 mile

Richard Lloyd

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Bradley Curry

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Kelly Pelkey-Fitzwater

Property Owner Within 1 mile

James R. Fitzwater Jr.

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Hunter Weaver

Property Owner Within 1 mile

Elenabel Friend

Elizabeth Friend

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

JoBeth Friend

Resident in Quail Run Subdivision

Carre Os Demaro

Jeanne DeGennaro

Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Kelly Rosa

Duane Rosa Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Timothy M. McKee Adjoining Property Owners Kelye H. McKee Adjoining Property Owners Munce Robert Demaine Property Owner Within 1 mile Alongo Demene 15/ Richalie Demaine Property Owner Within 1 mile Todd A. Lewis Property Owner Within 1 mile.

Graham Fuller Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Thomas Zajac Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Chris Godwin Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Erica Williams Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Haley Willingham Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Jessica and Joe Wall Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Med ann,

Rachelle Lewis Property Owner Within 1 mile

Vel Anne Schlachter Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision



Sharron A. Cogle Adjoining Property Owner



Michael Q. Cogle Sr. Adjoining Property Owner



Property Owner Within 100 feet



Property Owner Within 100 feet



Marie Chamblin Property Owner Within 400 feet

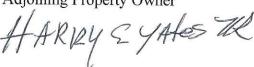
Gregory L. Jenkins Sr.
Adjoining Property Owner

Barbara Jenkers

Barbara P. Jenkins Adjoining Property Owner

Charles & Tuyman Is

Charles A. Twyman Jr. Adjoining Property Owner



Harry E. Yates Jr. Adjoining Property Owner

William D. Payton

Property Owner Within 300 feet

Eunice F. Payton

Property Owner Within 300 feet

Donald Richards

Donald L. Richards Adjoining Property Owner

Danielle LaRue

Farmer Within 500 feet

Jeremy R. LaRue

Farmer and Property Owner Within 500 feet

12/1M Sonya Silvis Doug Hoffman Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Resident of Quail Run Subdivision arthur Lee fr Arthur Lee Jr. Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Joe Philogene Erin Philogene Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Vim hols Kim Hofsiss John K. Jones Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Cynthia L. Jones Justin Taylor Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision Property Owner in Quail Run Subdivision

Tony A. Ceravalo

Staff Report Jefferson County Planning Commission Meeting September 10, 2024

Rocky Ridge, Phase 2 Extension Waiver Request (File: 24-25-PCW)

Item #4: Waiver from Section 24.118 of the Subdivision Regulations to extend the timeframe to bond and record the final plat for Phase 2 of the Rocky Ridge Subdivision to December 31, 2024.

Owner:	Townhomes Rental, LLC, LLC		
Consultant:	P.J. Raco Consulting LLC / Attn: Paul Raco		
Parcel Information & Zoning District:	Vacant Lot - Hospice Lane, Kearneysville, WV 25430 Parcel ID: 070001001A0RES; Size: ~7.6 acres Zoning District: Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial Berkeley County, WV		
Surrounding	West & North: Berkeley County, WV & Rural; East: Residential-Light		
Zoning:	Industrial-Commercial; South: Rural & General Commercial		
Proposed Activity	Full Project: Major Subdivision consisting of 132 townhouse units and a mini storage facility that includes boat and RV parking area/storage. Portion of this Project that is subject to this Request: Phase 2 (54 Townhome Lots)		
Approvals:	Zoning Map Amendment 08/28/14: County Commission approved a rezoning request from Rural to Residential-Light Industrial-Commercial (File Z14-01) Rocky Ridge Subdivision & Storage Facility (File 19-7-SD) 07/09/19: PC approved Concept Plan 09/08/20: PC approved Preliminary Plat & Commercial Site for full development. 02/01/22: Final Plat for Phase 1 recorded in PB 26, PG333 03/18/24: Staff approved Phase 2 Final Plat - parcel subject to this request		
Waivers/ Variances:	12/10/19: PC approved a waiver of the requirement for an Archaeological Study (File 19-18-PCW). 09/08/20: PC approved waiver to allow the grade to exceed 8% for the driveway to the mini storage units (File 20-5-PCW).		

Staff Report Jefferson County Planning Commission Meeting September 10, 2024

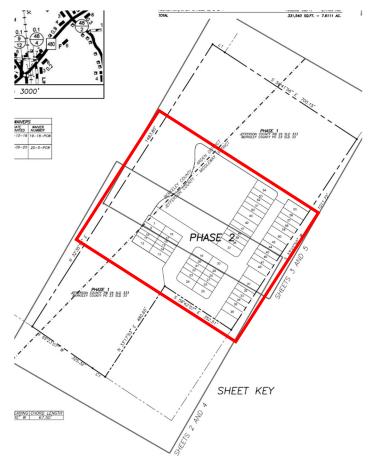
Rocky Ridge, Phase 2 Extension Waiver Request (File: 24-25-PCW)

Introduction and Summary of Request

The Final Plat for Phase 2 of the Rocky Ridge Subdivision was approved by Staff on March 18, 2023. Per Section 24.118 of the Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, the applicant is required to record the final plat, together with any deed restrictions as may be required, by 180 days after approval. The Subdivision Regulations also say that approval becomes void if is not recorded within the 180 day period.

As discussed in the application, since the time of staff approval, the applicant has been working on securing the bond which is required prior to recordation. The 180 days from approval falls on September 14, 2024. The applicant anticipates having the bond secured fairly soon, but in order to ensure that the approval doesn't expire, have requested an extension of time for bonding and recordation until December 31, 2024.

It should also be noted that Section 24.118 of the Subdivision Regulations specifically states that the Planning Commission may grant a waiver to the 180 day period provision pursuant to the waiver process.



Waiver Requirements

Division 24.300 of the Jefferson County Subdivision and Land Development Regulations states that waivers from the minimum standards in these Regulations, as well as process and procedural waivers, may be granted by the Planning Commission only when the Planning Commission finds that granting a waiver will be consistent with all of the following criteria:

- (1) That the design of the project will provide public benefit in the form of reduction in County maintenance costs, greater open space, parkland consistent with the County parks plan, or benefits of a similar nature;
- (2) That the waiver, if granted, will not adversely affect the public health, safety or welfare, or the rights of adjacent property owners or residents;
- (3) That the waiver, if granted, will be in keeping with the intent and purpose of these Regulations; and
- (4) That the waiver if granted will result in a project of better quality and/or character.

The applicant has addressed these criteria in their application and have noted that this waiver request to extend the bonding and recording of the Preliminary Plat until December 31, 2024 does not change any other standards or other requirements of approval for this project.

Staff Report Jefferson County Planning Commission Meeting September 10, 2024

Rocky Ridge, Phase 2 Extension Waiver Request (File: 24-25-PCW)

Staff Comments/Recommendation

Staff concurs that this waiver request will not impact the design of the project and is not a request to vary any standards or requirements found in the Subdivision Regulations.

The purpose of the Subdivision and Land Development Regulations is to "facilitate the County Government's review of proposals for development of land either by subdivision plat or site plan, to ensure that proposed subdivision plats or site plans meet the standards of the Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance and satisfy the legal requirements of the State and County for the subdivision and development of land, and to promote efficient and attractive development in a manner that reduces off-site impacts." This waiver request is not a request to vary any of the Regulations standards other than the length of time to bond and record the Phase 2 of the Final Plat.

The granting of this waiver will allow the Phase 2 Final Plat to remain valid while the applicant continues to secure the required bond before recordation can happen. Therefore, Staff recommends granting the requested waiver to extend the approval period for the Phase 2 Final Plat and require bonding and recordation by December 31, 2024.



Jefferson County, West Virginia Department of Engineering, Planning and Zoning

Office of Planning and Zoning

116 E. Washington Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 716 Charles Town, West Virginia 25414 File #: 24-25-PCW

Mtg Date: 09/10/24

Date Rec'd: 08/20/24

Fees Paid: .\$150

Staff Int: jth

List of Adjoiners: □

Phone: (304) 728-3228

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} Email: & & \underline{planningdepartment@jeffersoncountywv.org} \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

zoning@jeffersoncountywv.org

Fax: (304) 728-8126

	Planning Commission	Waiver Request
Waivers m	ust comply with Division 24.300 of the	2008 Subdivision Regulations, as amended.
Property Owner	nformation	
Owner Name:		
Business Name:		
Mailing Address:		
Phone Number:	Email:	
Applicant Contac	t Information	
Applicant Name: _		Same as owner: \square
Business Name:		
Mailing Address: _		
Phone Number:	Email:	-
Consultant Inform	nation	
Name:		
Business Name:		
Mailing Address: _		
Phone Number:	Email:	
Physical Property	Details	
Physical Address:		Vacant Lot: □
Tax District:	Map No:	Parcel No:
Parcel Size:	Deed Books	Page No:
Zoning District:		
construction or la		ion of the lot. Show the location of the intended size, and height. Identify existing easements, y. Sign and date the sketch.
	l Not applicable (inclu	de a vicinity map if a sketch is not applicable)
What Section of t	he Subdivision Regulations and year o	f the Regulations are you requesting to Waive?
Briefly Describe t	he Nature of Your Waiver Request:	
		_

Explain how the design of the projectosts, greater open space, parkland		e form of reduction in County maintenance Plan or benefits of a similar nature.	
Explain how the waiver, if grante rights of adjacent property owner		public health, safety, or welfare or the	
Explain how the waiver, if grante	ed, will be in keeping with the in	atent and purpose of this Ordinance.	
Explain how the waiver, if grante	ed, will result in a project of bet	ter quality and/or character.	
T		1	
		Staff to conduct a site visit for the purpose of given is correct to the best of my knowledge.	
Property Owner Signature	Date Prop	perty Owner Signature Date	
	Notification Requirements	S	
public hearing. The placard(s) will	be prepared by the Staff and post on shall be provided by the applic	placard at least 14 days prior to the ed by the applicant. Adjacent property ant so that notification letters can be	
Public Hearing Date	Date Placard Posted	Date Adjoiners Mailed	
Planning Commission Determination			
Approved \Box	Denied □	Date: / /	

Rocky Ridge Phase 2 Final Plat Waiver Request for Extension to Record Townhome Rentals LLC Sections: 24.118

Jefferson County Subdivision and Site Development Ordinance August 20, 2024

Brief Description:

This provision requires a Final Plat to be Bonded and Recorded within 180 days of its approval. The Final Plat was approved by Staff on March 18, 2023, and therefore 180 days from approval falls on September 14, 2024. The Applicant received their Bond Amount approved by the County on March 4, 2024. Since then, the Applicant has been working on securing the bond in excess of a million dollars.

During this time period, the Applicant was also in the process of getting a bond released for a nearby project that was going to be utilized for this project. That release process got a bit longer than anticipated but was released by the County in July. So, the paperwork is working its way through the bank to secure the new bond for Rocky Ridge Phase 2. While we thought it would be completed by September 14, the Staff asked us to consider filing for an extension in case it would not be completed.

There has been no changes in the Subdivision Ordinance or proposed for the Ordinance since the Final Plat was approved. Also, the Bond Figure approved uses the most current Unit Cost Form by the County Engineering Department. Therefore, there will be no harm by extending the date until the end of this year.

Note that this is one of the few sections of the Subdivision Ordinance that says specifically that the PC can grant a waiver to extend the period of time to record.

Accordingly, the Applicant is asking until December 31, 2024, to submit the security/surety for this bond in order to record the Plat.

Rocky Ridge Phase 2 Final Plat Waiver Request for Extension to Record Townhome Rentals LLC Sections: 24.118

Jefferson County Subdivision and Site Development Ordinance August 20, 2024

Four Criteria:

1. Explain how the design of the Project will provide public benefit in the form in the reduction of Public maintenance costs, greater open space, parkland consistent with the County Park Plans or benefits of a similar nature;

The project is in an area that is identified as the Route 9 Preferred Growth Area. This area was established in the Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan. The PGAs are for the development of high density residential, commercial, and office projects. This project was approved under the current subdivision ordinance and that ordinance has not been amended since that approval. This property is zoned for the approved uses and this project is one of more affordable housing in the form of Townhouses and ministorage units to provide storage for these houses, as well as the residents in the area.

The project meets the standards for open space and parkland. These areas will be privately maintained and will have no public maintenance cost. Much of the open space is in the areas around this second phase.

Granting the waiver will allow the project to move forward and will generate a great deal of taxes and impact fees for the County.

2. Explain how the waiver, if granted, will not adversely affect the public health, safety and welfare or the rights of adjacent property owners or residents;

The granting of the waiver will have no effect on the public health, safety or welfare of the neighbors or adjacent property owners. The waiver is to allow time to finish the bonding arrangements. This provision was established to prevent developers from getting projects approved and then not recording them, which created problems especially when ordinances were changed prior to being recorded. In this case, the ordinances and zoning are the same and the bonding amounts remain the same. If this waiver is not approved, the developer would have to resubmit the exact same Final Plat which would serve no purpose other than to take up Staff time.

3. Explain how the waiver, if granted, will be keeping with the intent and purpose of this ordinance;

As stated previously, the intent of this provision is so Final Plats do not surface years later because they were not recorded. That problem became more complicated when ordinance standards were changed over those years. In this case, the Zoning is still the same, the ordinances have not been amended, and even the Bonding Unit Costs have remained the same. So, as soon as the project is bonded, it will be recorded. The applicant is just asking for a three month extension to submit that bond. The necessary final copies of the final plat are already in the office.

The intent of the ordinance is met since the standards have not changed, but more particularly because if the waiver is not granted, then the applicant will have to resubmit the exact same plat for the staff to approve. This would be punitive since nothing would change on the approval or bond.

4. Explain how the waiver, if granted, will result in a project of better quality and/or character;

If granted, the project will be of the exact same character and quality as what is already approved. There will be no change. The project will continue with obtaining a bond and recording the plat for a townhouse project in a preferred growth area. This townhouse project serves an area of Jefferson and Berkeley Counties for people who may not be able to obtain and/or maintain a single family detached home.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully asks that the Planning Commission approve the waiver so that the process can continue the bonding process to record this final phase of Rocky Ridge. Thank you for your consideration.

Rocky Ridge Phase 2 Final Plat Waiver Request for Extension to Record Townhome Rentals LLC

Sections: 24.118

Jefferson County Subdivision and Site Development Ordinance August 20, 2024

Adjoining Properties:

Parcel ID: 07 1000200000000

Tax Year: 2025

Deeded Owner: ILA PROPERTIES INC

C/O:

Owner Address: 4115 CHARLES TOWN RD

City: KEARNEYSVILLE

State: WV Zip: 25430

Parcel ID: 07 1000100030000

Tax Year: 2025

Deeded Owner: HOSPICE OF THE PANHANDLE INC

C/O:

Owner Address: 330 HOSPICE LN

City: KEARNEYSVILLE

State: WV **Zip**: 25430

Parcel ID: 07 1000100010000

Tax Year: 2025

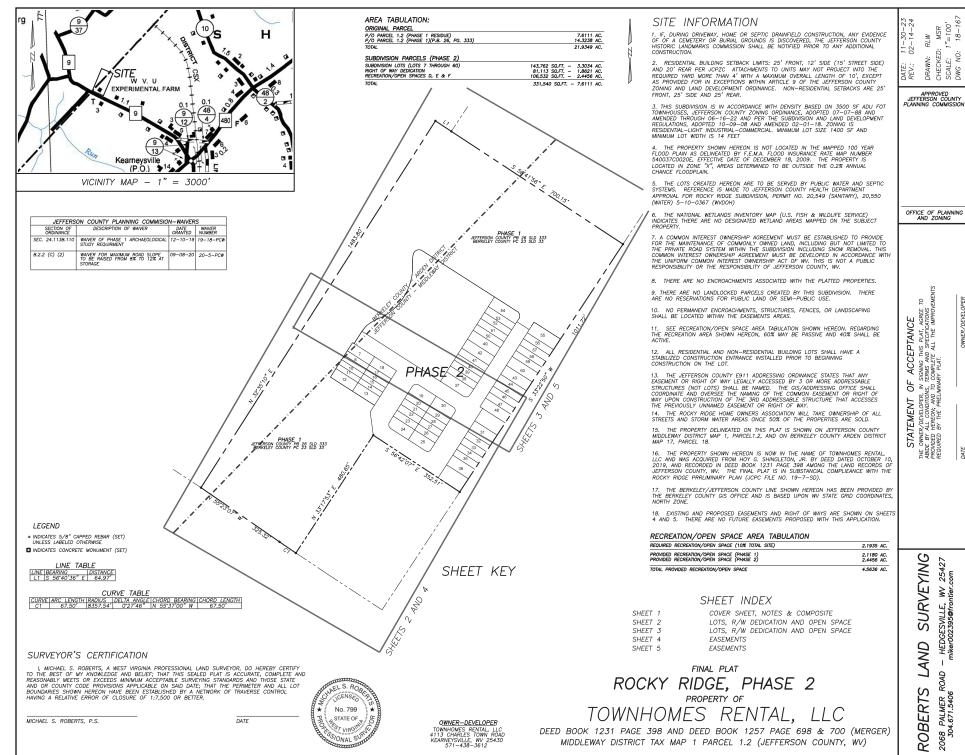
Deeded Owner: TOWNHOMES RENTAL LLC

C/O:

Owner Address: 4115 CHARLES TOWN RD

City: KEARNEYSVILLE

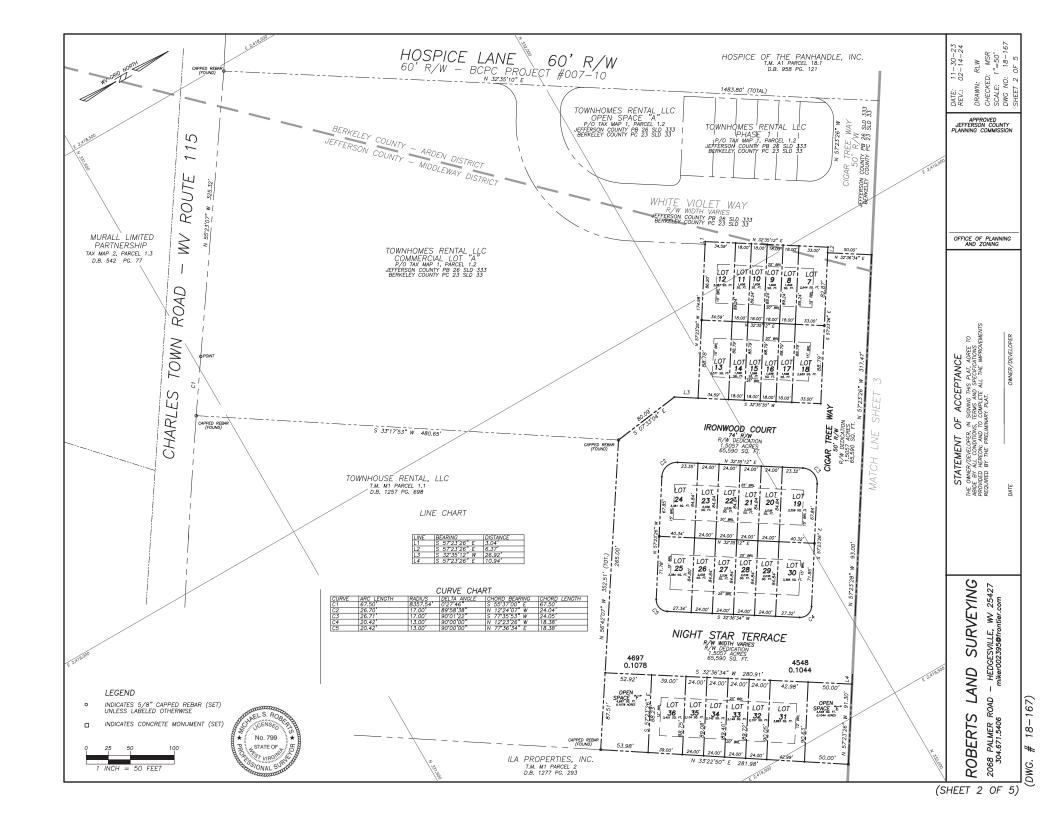
State: WV Zip: 25430

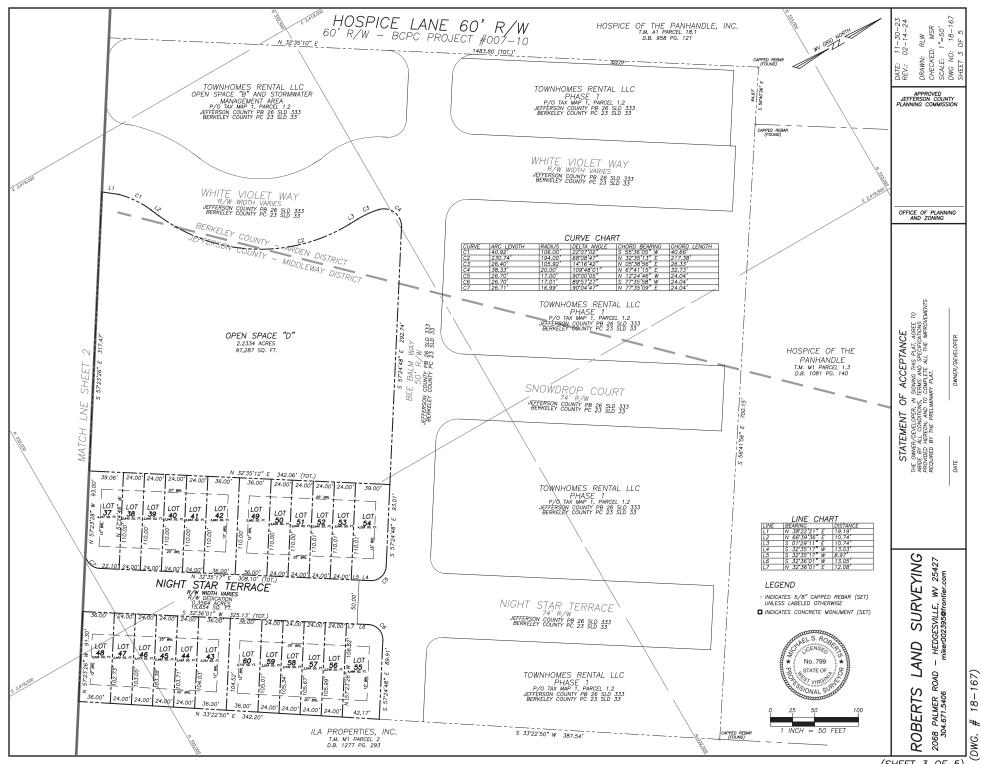


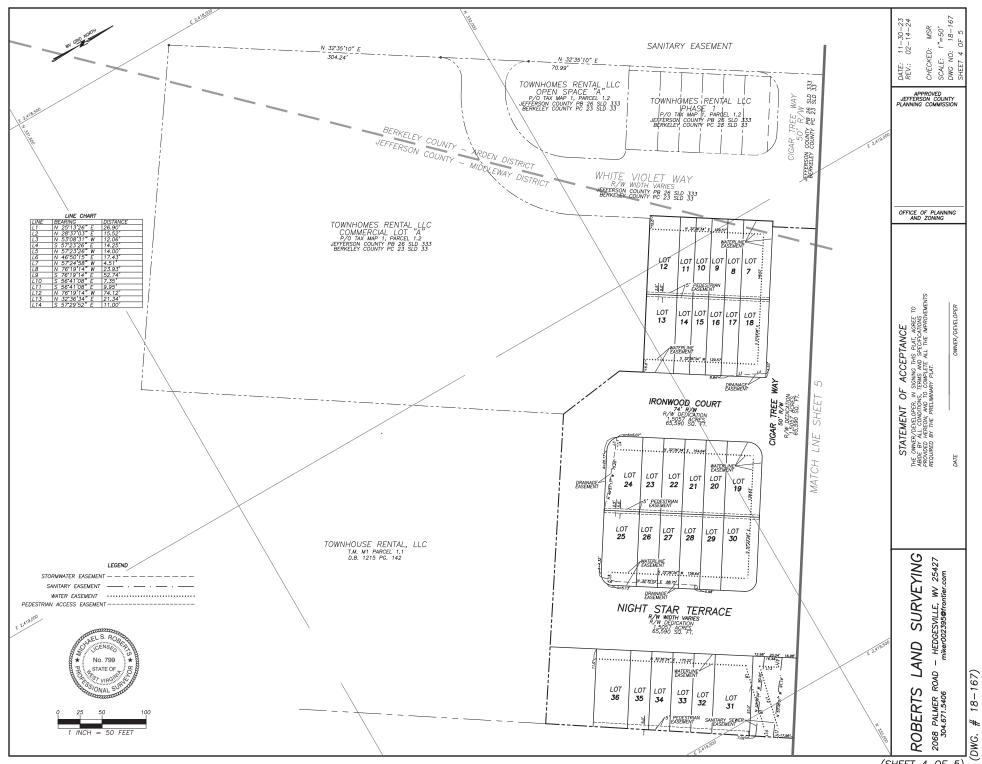
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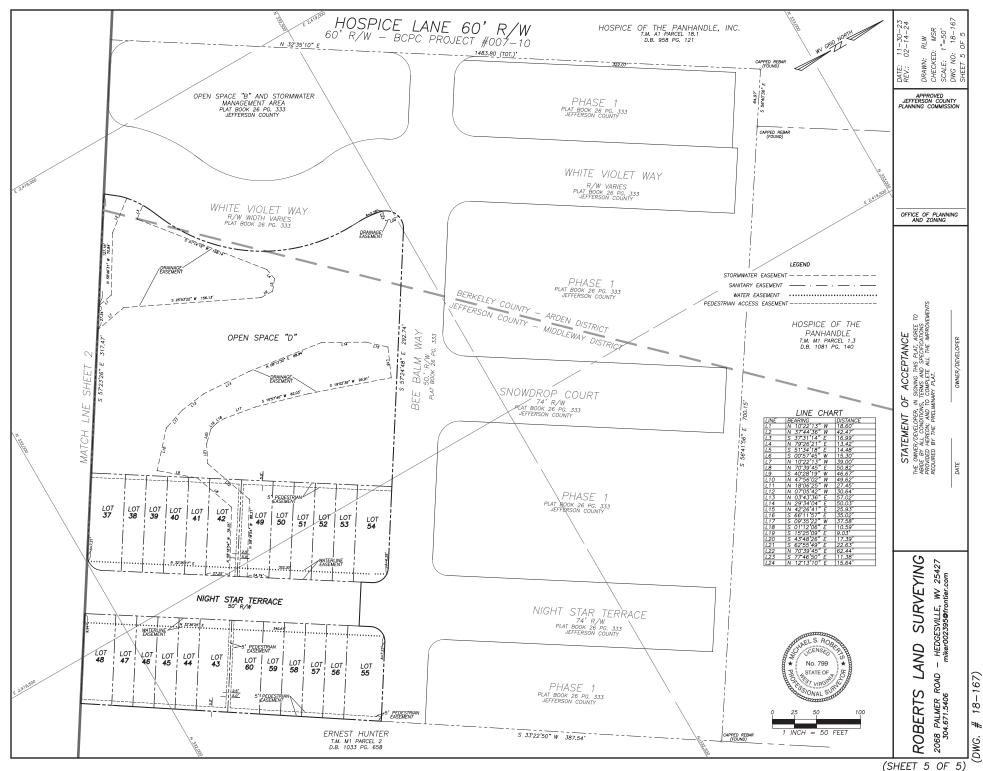
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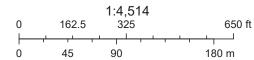




Viewer Map



August 16, 2024



WashCo MD, VITA, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, Intermap, NGA, USGS

JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION September 10, 2024

PLANNING COMMISSION SUBMISSION DEADLINE POLICY

In an effort to maintain the effective handling of applications processed through the Office of Planning and Zoning and follow the intent of the Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, the Jefferson County Planning Commission hereby sets the following requirements for applications submitted on a Friday.

- 1. The deadline to submit an application on a Friday in person or digitally is 4:00 pm.
- 2. If an application is submitted after 4:00 pm it will be considered submitted for processing on the following business day. Should an applicant give advance notice that they will be submitting an application on a Friday and the application is not received until after 4:00 pm, this policy will still apply and the application will be considered submitted for processing on the following business day.

This policy goes into effect 30 days following approval by the Planning Commission.

To promote public awareness, the Office of Planning and Zoning staff will include this Policy in My Government Online messaging to applicants, pre-proposal conference memos, and other correspondence with applicants as appropriate, informing them of the new policy. Staff will provide said notice for a period of 90-days following the approval of this policy.

Questions about the policy may be addressed to the Office of Planning and Zoning at (304) 728-3228 or in person at 116 East Washington Street, Charles Town, West Virginia 25414.

By Order of the Jefferson County Planning Commission Mike Shepp, President



Jefferson County, West Virginia

Department of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning

Office of Planning and Zoning

116 East Washington Street, 2nd Floor Charles Town, WV 25414

Email: planningdepartment@jeffersoncountywv.org

Phone: (304) 728-3228
Email: zoning@jeffersoncountywv.org

Fax: (304) 728-8126

Planner's Memorandum Planning Commission Meeting September 10, 2024

1) Department of Engineering, Planning and Zoning County Offices Contact Information

BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS 304-725-2998 permits@jeffersoncountywv.org

IMPACT FEES 304-728-3331 - mmason@jeffersoncountywv.org

ENGINEERING 304-728-3257 - engineering@jeffersoncountywv.org

PLANNING & ZONING 304-728-3228 - planningdepartment@jeffersoncountywv.org, zoning@jeffersoncountywv.org GIS & ADDRESSING 304-724-6759 - gis@jeffersoncountywv.org

2) Upcoming PC meetings

- ❖ Next Regular meeting date: October 8, 2024
 - o 7:00 pm Planning Commission Meeting

The following dates relate to the adoption of the 2045 Comprehensive Plan:

- ❖ The deadline for written comments regarding the draft Comprehensive Plan was September 6th, 2024. Staff will make all of the written public correspondence available online prior to the September 17th Review Session.
- ❖ 2045 Comprehensive Plan Planning Commission Review and Final Direction to staff: September 17, 2024 **set time**
- ❖ After the 2045 Comprehensive Plan is recommended to the County Commission for consideration and adoption, the Planning Commission is required to present the recommended Comprehensive Plan to the County Commission at the first meeting of the County Commission following the submission of the recommended comprehensive plan (per WV Code 8A-3-7b).
- ❖ After the presentation of the recommended 2045 Comprehensive Plan by the Planning Commission to the governing body and prior to adoption, the governing body shall hold a public hearing after giving notice (WV Code 8A-3-7c). Within the latter of ninety days or three scheduled meetings after the submission of the recommended comprehensive plan to the County Commission, the County Commission must act by either adopting, rejecting or amending the 2045 Comprehensive Plan (WV Code 8A-3-8).