



VIRGINIA SOLAR LAND USE NEWS OF NOTE

April 7, 2023

Albemarle County

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Woodbridge Solar, a 138 MW, 650 acre facility developed by Hexagon Energy, on April 5. The facility received “overwhelming support from the public.” The facility is projected to allow the County to meet over 20% of its 2050 net-zero electricity emissions reduction goals in the County’s [Climate Action Plan](#). [Read more here](#).

Town of Alberta

The Alberta Town Council approved a CUP for Alberta Solar, a 5 MW, 45 acre solar facility developed by Ameresco, Inc. on March 13. The application was found to be in accordance with Section 1905 of the Town’s Solar Facilities Ordinance. The facility will be located on a property zoned C-2 Commercial. [Read more here](#).

Charlotte County

On March 13, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to lift its moratorium on consideration of new solar facilities. Notably, the County is the location of the recently-approved Randolph Solar project (800 MW and over 21,000 acres of involved parcels). County Administrator Dan Witt said that the Supervisors lifted the moratorium based on legal advice that the County would not prevail if the moratorium was challenged in court. When imposed on August 8, 2022, the Board had stated that the moratorium would allow its consultant to recommend changes to the County’s comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, or both. [Read more here](#).

Isle of Wight County

The Planning Commission has postponed voting on the 20 MW, 432 acre Prairie Solar facility developed by Energix. This is the second month that the Planning Commission has postponed the vote. The Planning Commission has until June 8 to make a recommendation. If it does not vote by then, the application will progress automatically to the Board of Supervisors. [Read more here](#).

Lunenburg County

Palladium Energy’s application for Wheelhouse Solar, a 60 MW, 676 acre project was found to be substantially in accord at the Planning Commission’s VA Code Sec. 15.1-2232 hearing on April 6. [Read more about the project here](#).

Mecklenburg County

The Planning Commission voted to recommend a 2,300 acre cap on the area of land that can be under solar panels for all projects in the County. Individual projects are limited to 500 acres or fewer. If the County approves two projects currently under review, 2,223.53 acres will have been spoken for. The public hearing and vote on the recommended policy will take place on April 27. [Read more here](#).

South Boston

A public hearing was held on April 5, 2023, to consider the 5 MW, up to 50 acre South Boston I Solar Project developed by RWE Clean Energy (formerly ConEdison). The Planning Commission recommended approving the project with several conditions. The previous proposal for this facility was pulled by the developer in December to revise the plans after the Planning Commission voted against recommending an SUP. [Read more here](#).