



VIRGINIA SOLAR LAND USE NEWS OF NOTE
August 7, 2023

Ordinance | Amherst County

On July 20, the Planning Commission voted to amend the solar ordinance to include a new protocol for withdrawing applications. This change allows applicants to withdraw Special Exception Permits or rezoning proposal applications only after they have been advertised and all costs have been paid. Additionally, the change does not allow an applicant to request an application go back to the Planning Commission after it has been advertised to the Board of Supervisors. [Read more here.](#)

Ordinance | Clarke County

On July 18, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution directing the Planning Commission and planning department to prepare an amendment to the solar ordinance which would prohibit the development of new solar facilities in the county. The County Planning Director estimates that it will take several more meetings to put the ordinance amendment together. [Read more here.](#)

Policy | Hanover County

On August 10, the Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the draft solar policy, previously discussed in our [July 21 newsletter](#). They will be discussing comments on the solar policy submitted by the public. [Read more here.](#)

Ordinance | Henry County

On July 25, the Board of Supervisors approved the solar ordinance amendment discussed in our [July 14 Newsletter](#). This amendment limits large scale solar to 1% of the county, or 2,445 total acres. Currently, 10 projects have been approved in the county, that cover 1,807 acres. Of those projects, only 1 has been completed. [Read more here.](#)

Policy | Lunenburg County

On July 13, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution to stop accepting Conditional Use Permits, until the Planning Commission and Solar Committee conduct a study on the impact of solar facilities in the county. No timeline for the study was given. [Read more here.](#)

Ordinance | Northumberland County

On July 20, the Planning Commission unanimously voted to recommend a revision to the solar ordinance to the Board of Supervisors. The recommended change would prohibit solar facilities in residential general and residential waterfront zones, add a required environmental impact statement and surety bond, and reduce the time for updating the decommissioning plan from every 5 years to every 2 years. [Read more here.](#)

Any questions, or news for us to cover? Contact us. Jared Burden, jburden@greenehurlocker.com