



**VIRGINIA SOLAR LAND USE NEWS OF NOTE**

**June 9, 2023**

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**Storage | City of Hampton**

On May 18, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approving a Special Use Permit for a 29 MW battery storage facility developed by Delorean Power. The company has already entered into a 15 year power purchase agreement with Dominion Energy for the energy stored in the facility's large lithium-ion battery cells. The project will now go before the Hampton City Council for approval. [Read more here.](#)

**Solar | Isle of Wight County**

While considering several proposed Special Use Permit solar facility applications eight months ago, the Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors create an advisory body to review the county's remaining capacity in emerging energy generation technologies. The Supervisors voted to create the Energy Task Force in February, and on June 5, the task force held its first meeting. The Energy Task Force has plans to meet monthly over the next year. [Read more here.](#)

**Ordinance | Mecklenburg County**

On May 25, the Planning Commission proposed to cap the total number of land available for solar development. Specifically, they voted 9-1 in favor of recommending an aggregate limit of 2,325 acres for all solar generation facilities in the county, which would apply to the fenced area of solar projects. The Board of Supervisors will make a final determination on this proposal at their meeting on June 12. [Read more here.](#)

**Solar | Stafford County**

On May 24, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approving a Special Use Permit for Kinglet Solar, a 5 MW, 183 acre project developed by Cypress Creek Renewables. This recommendation was conditioned on the installation of an 8 foot fence around the property that would deter trespassers, but allow small animals to pass. At the same meeting, the Planning Commission considered Enon Road Solar, a 3 MW, 36 acre facility developed by ESA. Though the Planning Commission voted to confirm that Enon Solar is in accord with the county's Comprehensive Plan, it chose to defer a vote on a recommendation for a Conditional Use Permit until June 14. [Read more here.](#)

**Solar | City of Staunton**

City Council has put on hold its consideration for the Special Use Permit for Staunton Solar, a 45.75 MW, 95 acre facility developed by first-time developer Oikos Solar. In April, the Planning Commission voted 4-1 to recommend approving an SUP for the project to City Council, however, since then, citizens have become concerned about possible impact of the facility on local ecology and sightlines. Furthermore, City Council canceled their planned tour of the 20 MW, 250 acre Whitehouse Solar Farm in Louisa scheduled for June 12. The tour was part of an effort to learn more about a solar facility's inner workings as City Council considers Staunton Solar. [Read more here.](#)

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