



VIRGINIA SOLAR LAND USE NEWS OF NOTE

SOLAR MORATORIUM Halifax County

On March 4, the Board of Supervisors voted 7-1 to put in place a moratorium on solar applications for the time being. The Board did not suggest an end date for the moratorium. The motion was made after citizen comments, during which the standing-room-only crowd expressed strong sentiments against more solar development in the county. The public outcry was led by members of the citizen group We the People of Virginia, Inc. The Board subsequently tabled consideration of a proposed amendment to the county's solar ordinance to require solar projects be at least 2,000 feet from any municipality.

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SOLAR ORDINANCE Amherst County

On March 19, the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on proposed amendments to the county's Solar Ordinance, which impose a 2-mile radius restriction between solar projects and a panel coverage limit of 50-acres per project.

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SOLAR ORDINANCE Pulaski County

On February 26, the Board of Supervisors adopted a new solar ordinance to guide solar development in the county. The final version of the ordinance can be found [here](#). The county is also working with Hecate Energy on a 300 MW solar facility.

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SOLAR New Kent County

On February 12, the Board of Supervisors denied a conditional use permit for New Leaf Energy's Polish Town Solar I project, a 2 MW community solar facility. The proposal was a scaled-down version of a 3 MW project that was denied by the Board in 2022. Despite receiving a favorable recommendation from the Planning Commission in December, the Board unanimously voted to deny the permit.

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SOLAR Prince Edward County

The Old Ridge Road solar project, developed by New Leaf Energy, is currently on hold. Originally planned to go before the Board of Supervisors in March, the company asked staff for more time to address citizen concerns raised at the Planning Commission meeting in December, when the Commission gave the project a negative recommendation. The earliest the application would go before the Board is April.

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Isle of Wight County

Sycamore Cross Solar, the largest proposed solar farm in Isle of Wight County, is planned to reach the Planning Commission this spring. The project is 240 MW located on the county's boundary with Southampton and Surry counties. The State Corporation Commission has approved a CPCN for the project and AES, the project developer, applied for a conditional use permit last April. The Planning Commission has not yet set a date for the public hearing on the application.

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Patrick County

On March 11, the Board of Supervisors approved the 12 MW Fairy Stone Solar project developed by Energix Renewables. After nearly 2 hours of discussion and comments from nearly two dozen citizens opposing the project, the Board voted 3-2 for approval. The project will deliver \$2.48 million in tax revenue and an upfront payment of \$198,000 to the county. This is the first solar project to be approved in Patrick County.

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Charlotte County

On March 13, the Board of Supervisors approved a conditional use permit and siting agreement for CPV County Line Solar (149.9 MW), developed by Competitive Power Ventures. The Board had held a public hearing on the project in February.

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Nelson County

On March 20, the Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the 2042 Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission held its public hearing on the [draft Plan](#) in January and recommended approval at their February 28 meeting. Final adoption of the Comprehensive Plan is not scheduled until at least the Board's April 9 meeting.

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