



## VIRGINIA SOLAR LAND USE NEWS OF NOTE

### SOLAR ORDINANCE

#### Charles City

On April 23, the Board of Supervisors denied a request from New Leaf Energy to add “Small Solar Energy Facility” to the Zoning Ordinance as a special use. The proposed amendment would have allowed solar facilities of 5 MW or less.

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### SOLAR

#### Cumberland County

On March 12, the Board of Supervisors approved a SUP for Hecate Energy’s 150 MW Cumberland Solar Facility. The project is expected to bring \$200 million in investment to the county.

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### SOLAR

#### Greensville County

On May 6, the Board of Supervisors will consider applications for two new solar projects. First, a public hearing is scheduled on the SUP for Dominion’s County Line Solar project (86 MW). The Planning Commission recommended denial of the project at its April 9 meeting.

Second, Strata Clean Energy is requesting the Board to consider an appeal of the Planning Commission’s negative 2232 finding. The Commission had voted 4-4 on finding the project is in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan at its April 9 meeting. The Board may overrule the Commissions finding with a majority vote.

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### SOLAR

#### Isle of Wight County

A new Planning Commission public hearing on the Moonlight Solar project is set for May 28<sup>th</sup>. The project is a 44 MW project developed by Palladium Energy. The Commission had unanimously voted in November to deny the project, but the Board of Supervisors sent the project back to the Planning Commission in March after Palladium proposed changes aimed at mitigating the county’s concerns.

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### SOLAR

#### Louisa County

On April 11, the Planning Commission voted 6-1 to recommend denial of a CUP for Green Boot Solar, a 5 MW, 60-acre project developed by BW Solar. A key issue was concerns about runoff into Lake Anna.

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On May 9, the Planning Commission will consider lowering the county-wide acreage cap on utility-scale solar from 3% to 2%. The county is currently has nearly 2% of county land approved for solar projects, so adoption of this change will essentially close the county to new solar development.

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### SOLAR Surry County

In March, the Planning Commission took its first look at the 240-MW Sycamore Cross solar project, which spans the Isle of Wight-Surry county line. The Surry portion of the project is approximately 125 acres and will produce 19 MW of capacity. Staff is still reviewing the application, but it is expected to reach the Planning Commission in the next month or two.

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### SOLAR Sussex County

On March 25, the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission held a joint public hearing on Blackwater Solar, a 600 MW project developed by Clenera. The meeting drew a crowd over 100 citizens, both supporting and opposed, and lasted nearly three hours. At its April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Planning Commission voted 6-1 recommending denial. The Board of Supervisors will hold another public hearing on May 13<sup>th</sup> and will make a final determination at its May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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### Other News

Check out our blog about some renewable energy successes in the Virginia General Assembly.

#### Recent Legislative Action Seeks To Boost Renewable Energy Market In Virginia

JARED BURDEN | MAY 3, 2024



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Have a tip to share? Contact us.



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