A Continued Special Meeting of the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors was held Monday, August 26, 2024, in the public meeting room of the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building, located at 111 Polk Street, Montross, Virginia. Those members present were Darryl E. Fisher, W. W. Hynson, Jeffrey McCormack, Matthew Ingram, and Timothy J. Trivett. Also present were Richard Stuart, County Attorney, Donna Cogswell, Interim County Administrator, and Karen Foxwell, Finance Director.

1. RECONVENE (2:00 p.m.)

   The Chairman reconvened the Special Meeting at 2:00 p.m. and stated that since this meeting was continued, the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance are still covered from the last meeting.

2. CLOSED SESSION: 2.2-3711.A1: Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment regarding the next County Administrator.

   The Chairman asked for a Motion to go into Closed Session. Upon Motion by McCormack and second by Mr. Hynson, carried unanimously, the Board went into Closed Session. The Chairman noted that it was assumed and understood that the Interim County Administrator will be in Closed Session with the Board and the Board agreed.

RECORDING WAS STOPPED, AND THE MEETING MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Fisher asked for a Motion to return to Regular Session from Closed Session. Upon Motion by Mr. Hynson, second Mr. Ingram. With no further discussion and carried unanimously, the Board is now in Regular Session.

Chairman Fisher then asked for a Certification Motion stating that nothing other than what was listed on the call under Sec 2.2-3711(A)(1) was discussed during the Closed Session, and no action was taken. Upon Motion by Mr. McCormack, second Mr. Ingram and carried unanimously, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Trivett, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman votes "aye". The Certification Motion is approved.

3. JOINT MEETING WITH PLANNING COMMISSION (4:30 p.m.)

Members present of the Board of Supervisors were Chairman Fisher, Timothy Trivett, Mathew Ingram, Jeffrey McCormack, and Woody Hynson. Members present for the Planning Commission were Elwood Carey, John Felt, Lewis Thompson, and James L. Coates.

The Chairman asked the Planning Commission if they needed to come into session before the presentation.

The Planning Commission stated that they had adjourned and could reopen this joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors.

Chairman Fisher asked the County Attorney if the Planning Commission had to reopen the meeting in the form of a Motion.

Mr. Stuart stated that since they are not taking action in this meeting a Motion isn't necessary.

a. Presentation by Chloe Hodges with Energy Right.

Chloe Hodges, Skylar Zunk, and Dylan Taylor presented the PowerPoint below on Solar Farms.

ENERGY RIGHT PRESENTATION ON THE NEXT PAGE

August 26th, 2024

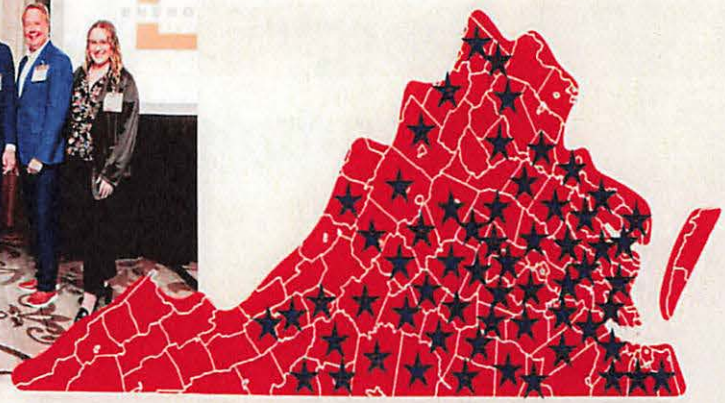
ENERGY RIGHT

Energy Right Solar Recommendations

Westmoreland County Presentation

Blake Cox, COO
Chloe Hodges, Deputy Director of External Affairs
Dylan Taylor, Community Engagement Rep.

ENERGY RIGHT



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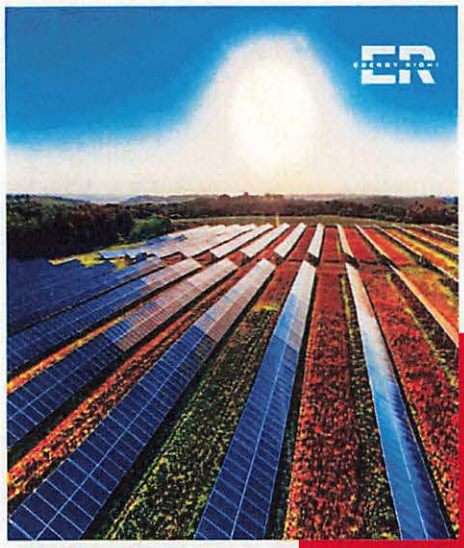


01

Why Solar?

Cost Savings, Energy Independence, Economic Development, Property Rights

Why Solar, Why Now?

Grounding the conversation

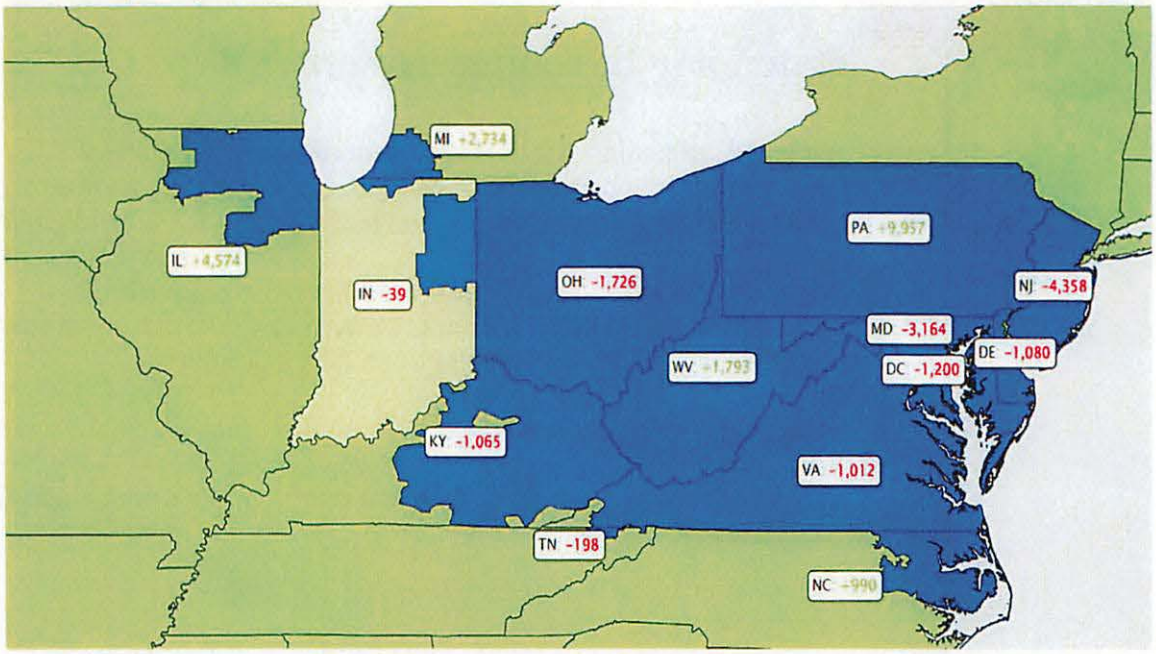
Why are we seeing these developments proposed now?
Due to advancements in technology, solar cost competitiveness and increasing energy needs, the timing is ripe for solar development.

Why here? Where do solar projects need to be located?
Solar projects need to be proximite to existing transmission infrastructure and nearby consumers of energy.

How much solar is needed?
It depends.
Virginia needs to produce more energy to be energy independent from neighbor states.

State Net Import/Export Map (Hourly)

As of 8.22.2024 11:00 am EPT



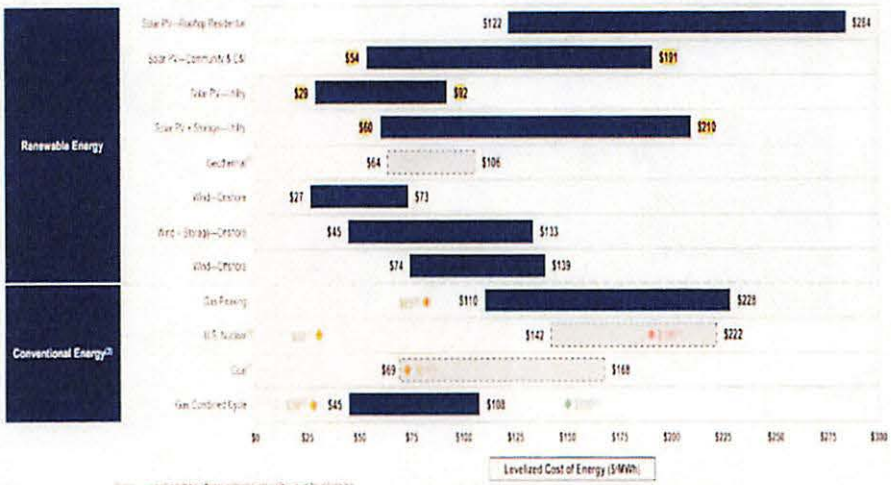
02

The Economics of Solar

Unsubsidized Cost Analysis

Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Version 17.0

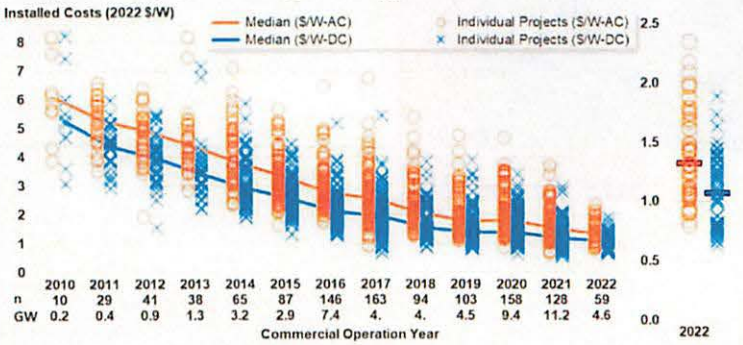
Selected renewable energy generation technologies remain cost-competitive with conventional generation technologies under certain circumstances



LAZARD

Median installed costs of PV have fallen by 78% (or 10% annually) since 2010, to $1.32/W_{AC}$ ($1.07/W_{DC}$) in 2022

Sample: 1,126 projects totaling 54.2 GW_{AC}



Note on solar costs and inflation: We adjust costs to account for general inflation using BEA's implicit price deflators. As a result, costs for past years are 7% higher when expressed in $2022 compared to last year's report. Conversely, decreasing solar costs in real terms indicate that solar projects find at least some savings relative to the wider economy, even if prices may rise in nominal terms. Compared to the previous year, $/$W_{AC}$ costs fell both in real (-13%) and nominal (-8%) terms in 2022 in our sample. $/$W_{DC}$ costs decreased by 8% in real and 6% in nominal terms.

Despite inflationary pressures, utility-scale solar costs continued to decrease from $1.5/$W_{AC}$ in 2021 to $1.3/$W_{AC}$ in 2022.

The lowest 20th percentile of project costs fell in real terms from $1.2/$W_{AC}$ ($0.9/$W_{DC}$) in 2021 to $1.1/$W_{AC}$ ($0.8/$W_{DC}$) in 2022.

The lowest-cost projects among the 59 data points in 2022 are now around $0.9/$W_{AC}$.

Historical sample is robust (covering 97% of installed capacity through 2021). 2022 data covers 40% of new projects or 44% of new capacity.

This sample is backward-looking and does not reflect the costs of projects built in 2023/2024.

03

Local Taxation of Solar Projects

Siting Agreement Language:

Siting agreements may include conditions to:

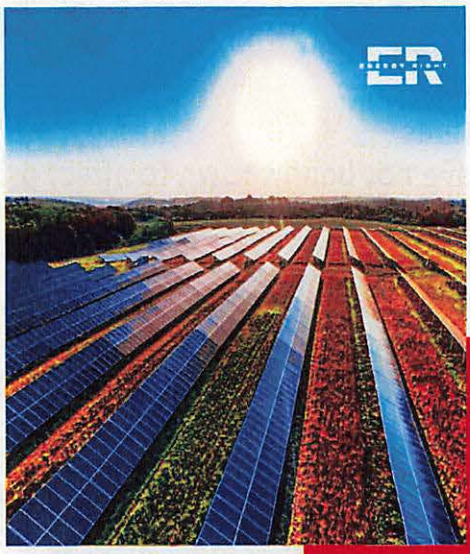
- Mitigate impacts of project
- Financial capital for localities to put towards:
  - Capital improvement plan
  - Current fiscal budget
  - Fiscal fund balance policy of the host locality
  - Assistance in broadband deployment within the locality
  - Lower taxes

Can also be accomplished via voluntary payments

Tax Revenue Breakdown

Revenue share totals per year by sample project size

Project size	2024-26	2026-30	2031-35	2036-40	2041—
1MW	$1,400.00	$1,540.00	$1,694.00	$1,863.40	$2,049.74
5MW	$7,000.00	$7,700.00	$8,470.00	$9,317.00	$10,248.70
10MW	$14,000.00	$15,400.00	$16,940.00	$18,634.00	$20,497.40
50MW	$70,000.00	$77,000.00	$84,700.00	$93,170.00	$10,2487.00
100MW	$140,000.00	$154,000.00	$169,400.00	$186,340.00	$204,974.00



04

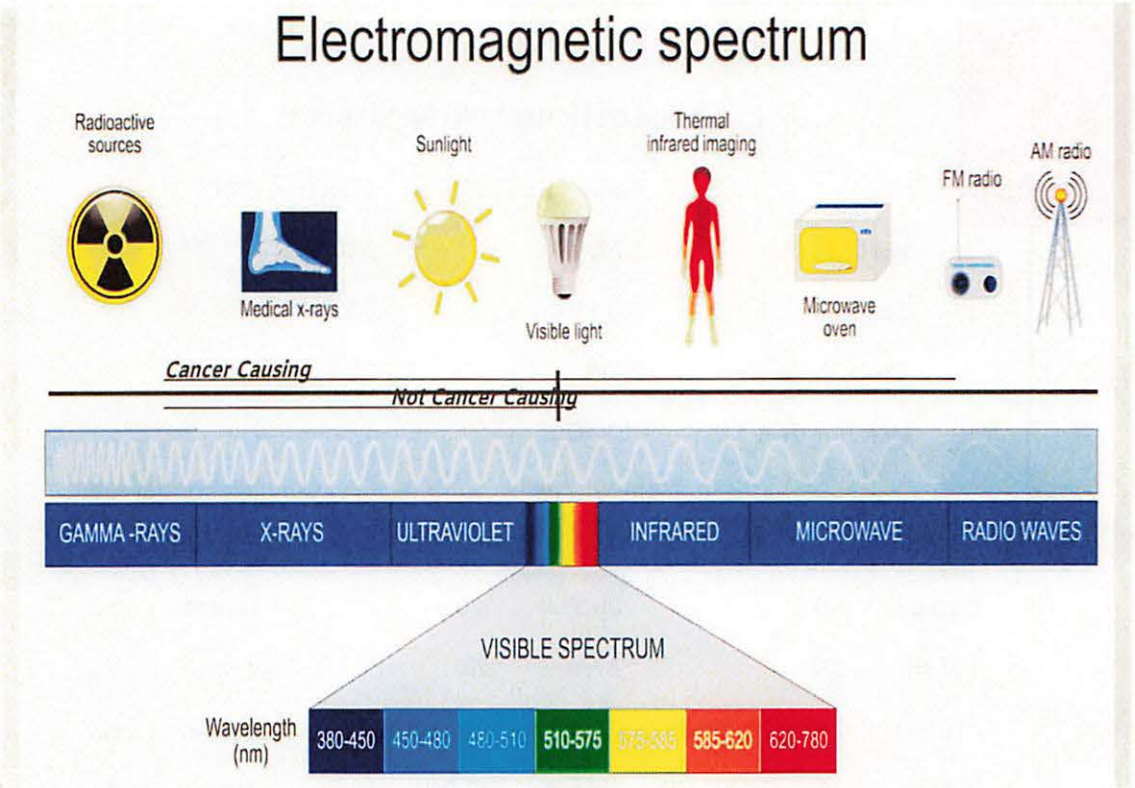
Solar Energy Misconceptions

Common Solar Myths

No impact on property values
Well screened projects have not been shown to affect property values.

Solar is safe
Solar projects pose no known health risks. Panels are sealed in tempered glass, ensuring safety. Panels do not leak or leach materials, even during severe weather (Virginia Tech study).

Solar does not create heat islands
No, studies have not shown any significant increase in temperatures over or around a solar facility.


Electromagnetic spectrum
Radioactive sources
Medical x-rays
Sunlight
Visible light
Thermal infrared imaging
Microwave oven
FM radio
AM radio
Cancer Causing
Not Cancer Causing
GAMMA -RAYS
X-RAYS
ULTRAVIOLET
INFRARED
MICROWAVE
RADIO WAVES
VISIBLE SPECTRUM
Wavelength (nm)
380-450
450-480
480-510
510-575
575-585
585-620
620-780

Radiation of Household Appliances

	6 inches away (mG)	2 feet away (mG)
Hair Dryer	1-700	0.1-10
Can Opener	500-1,500	3-30
Electric Range	20-200	0.2-9
Microwave Oven	100-300	1-30

Liberty Utilities

Inverter

Distance	mG
5'3 Feet	500
15'9 Feet	2.75
150 Feet	0.2

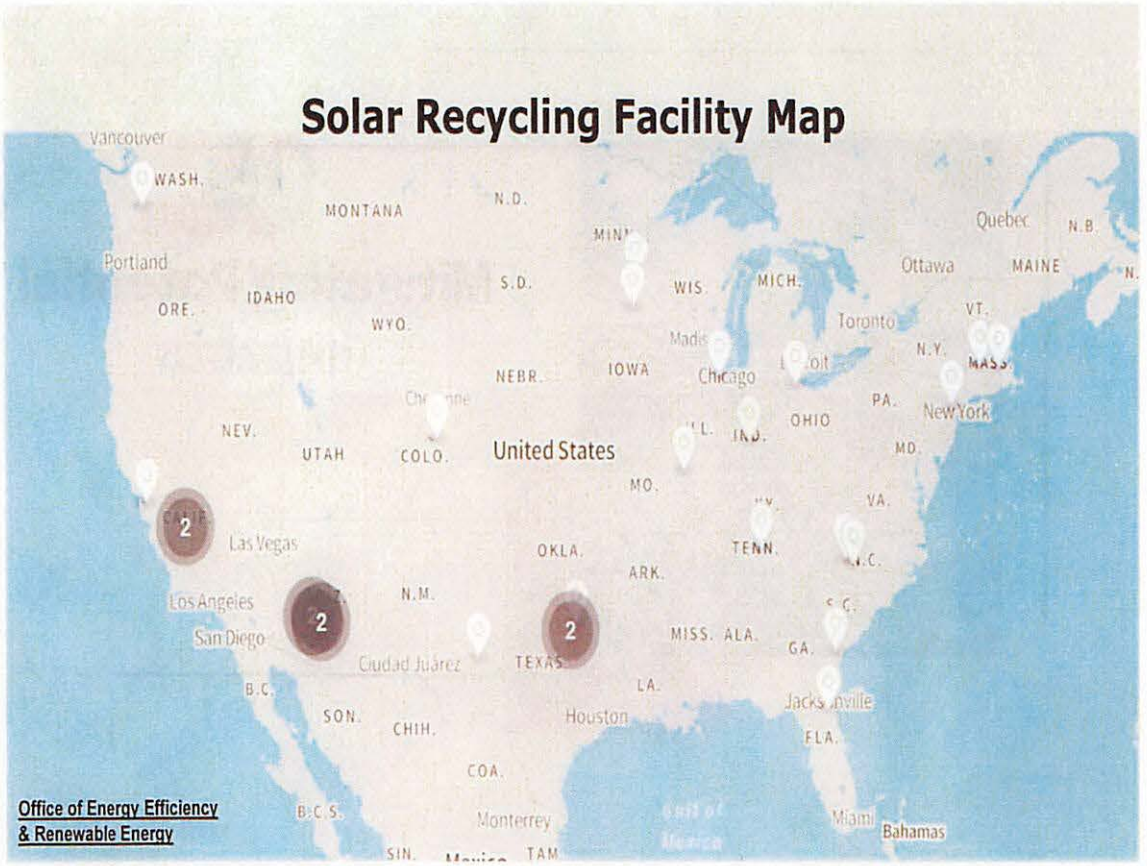
PV Panel

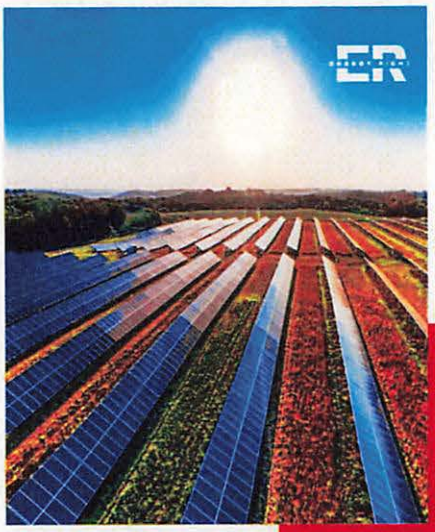
Distance	mG
4 Feet	200
12 Feet	0.8
150 Feet	<0.2

Array

Distance	mG
4 Feet	<0.2
12 Feet	<0.2
150 Feet	<0.2

Massachusetts Clean Energy Center


Solar Recycling Facility Map
Vancouver
WASH.
MONTANA
N.D.
Portland
ORE.
IDAHO
S.D.
WYO.
WIS.
MICH.
Ottawa
Quebec
N.B.
MAINE
VT.
N.Y.
Toronto
Chicago
NEBR.
IOWA
PA.
New York
OHIO
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
United States
MD.
MO.
VA.
Las Vegas
OKLA.
TENN.
ARK.
Los Angeles
N.M.
San Diego
Ciudad Juárez
TEXAS
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
B.C.
LA.
SON.
CHIH.
Houston
FLA.
COA.
B.C.S.
Monterrey
Miami
Bahamas
2
2
2
Office of Energy Efficiency
& Renewable Energy

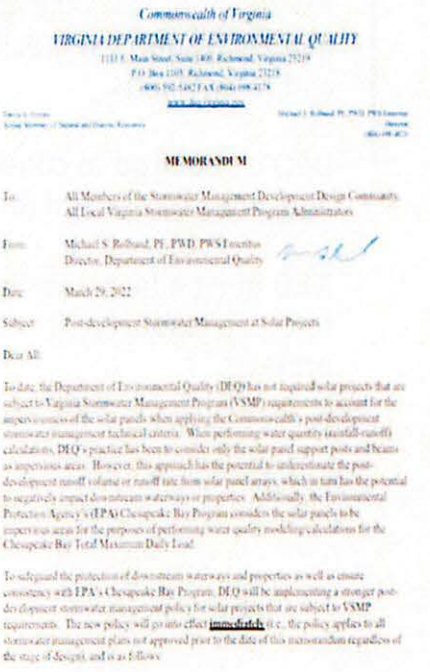


05 Mitigating Potential Impacts

DEQ Memo March 2022

Previous Policy:
DEQ did not require solar projects to treat solar panels as impervious surfaces for post-development stormwater management criteria and runoff calculations.

New Policy:
Solar panels will now be considered unconnected impervious areas for post-development water quantity and quality calculations



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1111 E. Main Street, Suite 1400, Richmond, Virginia 23219
P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218
(804) 698-4020 FAX (804) 698-4178
www.deq.virginia.gov

David K. Paylor
Acting Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Michael S. Rolband, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director
(804) 698-4020

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members of the Stormwater Management Development Design Community
All Local Virginia Stormwater Management Program Administrators

From: Michael S. Rolband, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director, Department of Environmental Quality

Date: March 29, 2022

Subject: Post-development Stormwater Management at Solar Projects

Dear All:

To date, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has not required solar projects that are subject to Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) requirements to account for the impervious nature of the solar panels when applying the Commonwealth's post-development stormwater management technical criteria. When performing water quantity (rainfall-runoff) calculations, DEQ's practice has been to consider only the solar panel support posts and beams as impervious areas. However, this approach has the potential to underestimate the post-development runoff volume or runoff rate from solar panel arrays, which in turn has the potential to negatively impact downstream waterways or properties. Additionally, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Chesapeake Bay Program considers the solar panels to be impervious areas for the purposes of performing water quality modeling calculations for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load.

To safeguard the protection of downstream waterways and properties as well as ensure consistency with EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program, DEQ will be implementing a stronger post-development stormwater management policy for solar projects that are subject to VSMP requirements. The new policy will go into effect immediately, i.e., the policy applies to all stormwater management plans not approved prior to the date of this memorandum regardless of the stage of design, and is as follows:

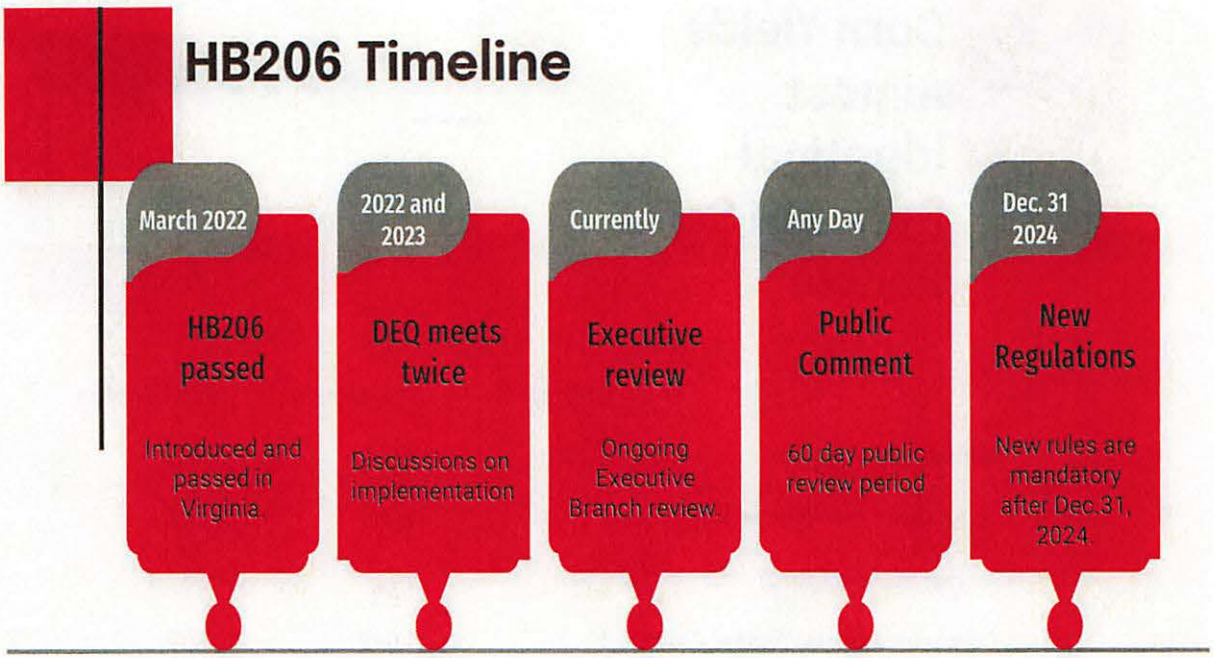
HB 206: Impact on Natural Resources

Overview:

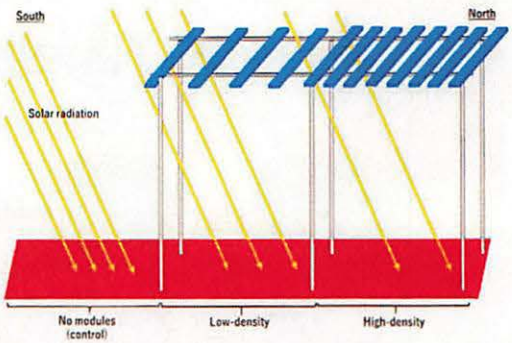
HB 206 addresses the impact of renewable energy projects on natural resources, specifically focusing on prime agricultural soils and forest lands.

DEQ is required to consider significant adverse impacts on prime agricultural soils and forest lands caused by solar energy projects.

DEQ must address ways to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate damage to these resources from the construction and operation of solar projects.


HB206 Timeline
March 2022
HB206 passed
Introduced and passed in Virginia.
2022 and 2023
DEQ meets twice
Discussions on implementation
Currently
Executive review
Ongoing Executive Branch review.
Any Day
Public Comment
60 day public review period
Dec. 31 2024
New Regulations
New rules are mandatory after Dec.31, 2024.

Corn Yields Almost Identical Beneath Solar Panels



	Control	Low-Density	High-Density
Average Fresh Weight(g)	372.2	393.0	358.8
Comparison Fresh Weight w/ Control	1	1.056	0.964
Average biomass (kg/m^2)	1.63	1.71	1.58
Comparison Biomass Weight w/ Control	1	1.049	0.969

Solar Sharing for Both Food and Clean Energy Production: Performance of Agrivoltaic Systems for Corn, A Typical Shade-Intolerant Crop - Sekiyama, T.; Nagashima, A

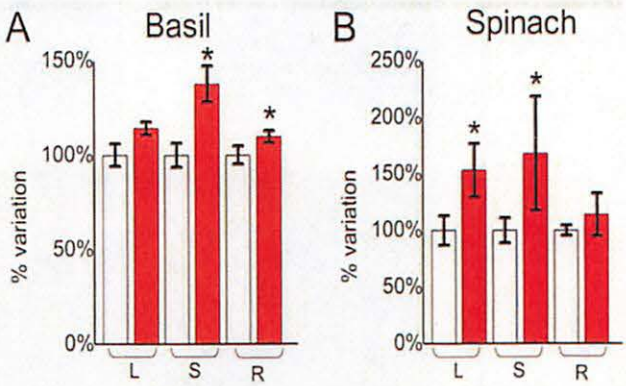
Increased Yield for Shade Tolerant Crops

This is Includes…

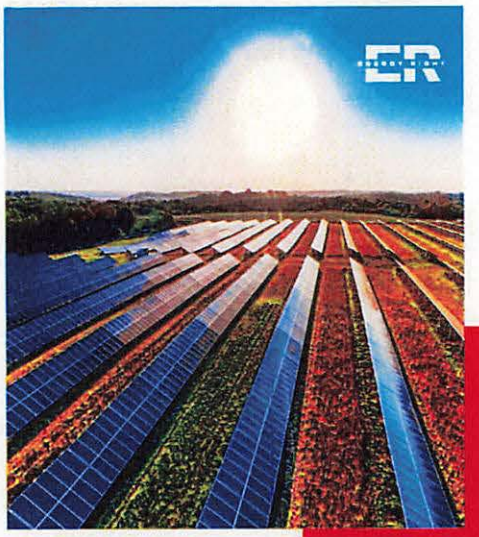
Greens such as basil, broccoli and spinach

And…

Vegetables such as tomatoes and potatoes



Tinted Semi-Transparent Solar Panels Allow Concurrent Production of Crops and Electricity on the Same Cropland - Elinor P. Thompson, Emilio L. Bombelli, *et all*



06

Energy Right Solar Ordinance Recommendations

Ordinance Recommendations and Important Considerations

Setbacks and Buffers

Property Lines:
50-100ft
Homes:
100-250ft
Vegetative Buffer (existing or planted):
25-50ft

Land Use Best Practices

Regenerative Ground Cover:
Native Grasses/pollinator species. Should be vetted by grazers if possible.

Topsoil Retention
When possible, topsoil should remain undisturbed on site to support the growth of ground cover.

Erosion Control
Erosion control plans should be required, submitted, and adhered to in order to prevent erosion.

Ordinance Recommendations and Important Considerations (cont.)

Decommissioning

Solar permits generally last between 30 - 40 years.

- The tech is still usable for non-industrial purposes, or can be recycled.

Decommissioning Plans should state that the utilized land **is returned to its original state or better** after the end of the project's life.

Some form of payment, whether **financial surety bond or dedicated fund**, should be required of the owner/developer to cover the decommissioning of the project.

- Decommissioning plans are typically evaluated every 5 years to determine the accurate market cost of the decommissioning.

****UVA's Weldon Cooper Center Analysis****

Community Engagement

- Community members should be well informed about project proposals, plans
- Community meetings should be held and advertised to provide a forum for questions
- Important to continually engage neighbors, community groups, and local leadership during the permitting process.

THANK YOU!

Blake@energyrightva.com
Dylan@energyrightva.com
Chloe@energyrightva.com
804-223-0125
energyrightva.com

After the presentation, Skylar Zunk asked if the Board had any questions for them.

Chairman Fisher asked the Board and the Planning Commission if they had any questions.

The Planning Commission thanked Energy Right for their presentation, which was very informative, and asked if they could send them a copy of the PowerPoint.

Mr. McCormack thanked them for their presentation and asked if there was a way to gauge how much solar energy is being produced by Westmoreland and how much is being used in the County versus what is being sold outside of the County.

Mr. Zunk stated that it is easier to gauge how much solar energy is used on larger projects because they are connected to the PJM grid. With the smaller projects that are connected

to the CO-OP or Dominion Interconnection System, it is a bit harder to gauge the energy, but when asked, they are helpful in giving the needed data.

Mr. Ingram asked if it was a requirement for DEQ and the state of Virginia to leave the topsoil in place when putting up solar farms.

Mr. Zunk stated that it isn't a requirement, but most counties make it a permanent condition on a given project to keep grading to an absolute minimum or not at all, which is seen in hillier areas of the Commonwealth, where you would have to cut and fill in different areas. Years back, he knew of some projects that removed topsoil from the site, but this wasn't good because it was hard for native grasses to take root.

The Chairman thanked Energy Right for their presentation, the Planning Commission for taking the time to listen to the presentation, and Mr. Hynson for pushing for the presentation.

Mr. Felt stated that the Planning Commission will adjourn and appreciate the Board for letting them participate in the meeting. Mr. Felt asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Upon Motion by Elwood Carey and second by Lewis Thompson to Adjourn from the Joint Meeting with the Board, carried unanimously by the Planning Commission, The Planning Commission adjourned the Joint Meeting with the Board.

The Board took a brief recess and came back to session to Consent the Agenda at 5:30 p.m., all Board members were present.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:
   a. Approval of/Amendment to Board Agenda:
      The Chairman asked the Board if any amendments needed to be made to the agenda; if not, the Board would proceed as outlined. There was no further discussion, and the Board approved the agenda as outlined.
   b. Congressman Wittman – Comments
      Congressman Wittman greeted the Board, thanked them for all that they do, and spoke about a couple of different topics below.

He stated that when Congress doesn't adopt a budget on time it affects the Local Governments who are relying on money that flows through the Federal Government such as Rural Development, School Systems etc. Congress is required to adopt a budget by April 15 of each fiscal year and they haven't for this year. He stated that if Congress can't get their work done, they shouldn't get a paycheck; he has a Bill out called No Budget, No Pay. Congressman Wittman stated that if you are in Congress for the right reasons, then you should put your paycheck on the line. He stated that Congress should get all 12 appropriations done after a budget is done before the federal fiscal year ends in September of each year, but they are on August Recess, which has outlived its usefulness. Congress goes on August Recess for all of August and one week in September, and when they return, they will only have three legislative weeks left in the fiscal year to do the remaining 7 Appropriation Bills. When they aren't finished, they will have to make a Continuing Resolution, and it will continue through into November or December; under the rules of Congress, if the Continuing Resolution goes into 2025, the slate is wiped clean, and the previous Congress cannot bind the hands of the next Congress. Congressman Wittman has another Bill called the Stay on Schedule Act, which states that Congressmen can go home if all 12 Appropriations are done; if not, they stay in Washington until they are done. He stated that if there was a shutdown, the essential workers would go to work, and the nonessential workers would go back to work. Once reopened, everyone would get paid, which would cause issues between those workers. Members of Congress get paid throughout the shutdown. Congressman Wittman has a bill that states that if there is a shutdown they will continue to pay the federal workforce, make sure they will continue to go to work and do their jobs and members of Congress do not get a paycheck, if members if Congress are the cause of the shutdown they need to be held responsible. He stated that during the 3 shutdowns he has been through, he has always donated his pay to a food bank, Semper Fi Foundation etc. Congressman Wittman's next topic was to enhance connectivity across the Northern Neck and the State of Virginia; there have been a

lot of good programs, such as the Reconnect USA Program, with federal dollars flowing through the state. He stated that they are working to ensure residents and students can access the internet at home. There is a piece of legislation that will enhance the Reconnect USA, and Congressman Wittman is one of the Co-Chairs of the Rural Broadband Caucus, which focuses on rural areas across the USA. There is still much need in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula, and we must ensure the needs are met. He stated that there is controversy in Washington on the minimum for the use of the Federal dollars, and there is a need to ensure that the elements and technology are properly represented and upgradeable. There is a supplement out there that helps families in need to help pay their monthly broadband bills. Their primary focus is ensuring the resources are properly deployed to underserved and rural areas. Congressman Wittman stated that what is happening with the United States Postal Service in the Richmond Distribution Center is unacceptable and is rated the third worst postal center in the United States, which services Westmoreland County. There has been much blame on all parties, but the Richmond Distribution Center needs to do better; they have a meeting with Postmaster Lejoy every six months and make sure to hold him accountable; he stated that the Postmaster stated that it is getting better there but not by much. Congressman Wittman stated there is a way to get it to where it needs to be, but they are working on it to get it done quickly. The Richmond Distribution Center has had much turnover in employees and management, and they received new technology that did much sorting by machines and made it ten times worse, causing checks to be lost in the mail and people who rely on medication to be delivered through the mail, caused them not to receive it. There were delays in lab results for veterans who were at the Richmond VA to get healthcare, and the results were lost, causing the veterans to start the process all over again; it is affecting people's lives in many ways. Congressman Wittman asked the Board if they had any questions.
Mr. McCormack asked why there hasn't been a break in gas prices since the US is now the top oil producer in the world.

Congressman Wittman stated that there are many contributing factors, such as the fact that the US can produce more by not only extracting the crude materials but also refining them; right now, the refining capacity is at an all-time low, and the refining materials are being imported into the USA. No new permits have been issued to take natural gas out of the ground. They are working on a nuclear reactor for civilians that will be first pout at military bases as a complementary source of power, which will be the same as the nuclear reactors that the United States Navy ha and is safe. It is called Project Paylay and is underway in Virginia; BWXT in Lynchburg, Virginia, builds every nuclear reactor for the submarines and aircraft carriers of the US Navy. The Governor is a big proponent in the small modular reactors and Dominion Power has small module reactors in their future energy plan.
Mr. Hynson stated that Europe is moving to nuclear power and the US should be too.
Congressman Wittman stated that they are working hard with other countries that have done a really good job and in some of the areas where they have had issues it is because there was a flaw in the design of the reactor or human error and the small module reactors are scalable.
Mr. Trivett stated that Congressman Wittman has preached about the No Budget, No Pay Bill since he has been in Congress, and asked what the chance was for the Bill ever being passed.
Congressman Wittman stated that he doesn't see why any Congressman wouldn't sign on the Bill, but he only got three dozen members that sign on to the bill and stated that the other Congressman stated that they shouldn't be responsible for the other members pay being at stake but Congressman Wittman noted that their main job as Congressman it to do the financial business of the Nation and need to be held accountable to get the job done. It has been nineteen years since they have gone through Regular Order and adopted appropriations bills before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Ingram asked Congressman Wittman's thoughts on the Perkins Funding, which is a vital resource for funding technical school programs.

Congressman Wittman stated that the Perkins dollars are very important in making sure that the secondary schools have what they need to offer students a career in technical education, as there is a gap in that industry across the US. We need to make sure that when the students get out of school, they have the certifications and credentials to begin in the workplace. He stated that there is a Bill out there that allows five 29 savings accounts that can be used on any post education, that the parents set aside to help pay for degrees that are longer than 2-4 years and there is another Bill called the Propel Act that allows Pell Grants to be used for CTE careers.

The Chairman thanked Congressman Wittman for coming and for his work as a representative on the federal level in rural areas. He asked him always to stay connected to the Northern Neck and remain accessible.

Congressman Wittman stated that staying connected means a lot, and he doesn't think he could have that connection if he hadn't lived locally. He stated that if the Board needs anything for him that he will be glad to help in any way possible.

c. Appropriations Increase/Decrease

i. Carryovers

Karen Foxwell was present to explain the Carryovers for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024. She stated that this is done every year, where the leftover funds needed for carryover projects are put into a reserve account and will be appropriated through the month of August. Each fund is separated with a total starting from Fund 100 to Fund 525. The General Fund will be in the amount of $4,135,124.90 to move forward. She has not had to touch any Reserve Accounts or Contingencies.

The Chairman asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. If not, he asked for a Motion to approve the request as presented. Upon Motion by Mr. McCormack and second by Mr. Trivett to approve the

Carryovers for the fiscal year 2023-2024, carried unanimously by the Board with Mr. Ingram, Mr. Trivett, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman voted "aye." The Board approved the Carryovers for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

a. Michael Moran (Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates)

i. Audit Report – FY23

Michael Moran, Director of Robinson, Farmer, and Cox Associates, was present and gave an overview of the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Report. Mr. Moran stated in the first Independent Auditors Report that they had an unmodified opinion, which is what you would want to see for an audit. In the second Independent Auditor's report, he noted that they identified some deficiencies in internal control that were material weaknesses for auditors adjustment proposed by the external auditor for the County. In the third Independent Auditors Report, they did not detect any material weaknesses or deficiencies for the single audit that was done.

After Mr. Moran presented the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2023, he asked the Board if they had any questions.

Mr. Trivett asked Mr. Moran if he could contact him when he had digested all of the information in the audit.

Mr. Moran stated that the Board can contact him anytime with any questions or concerns.

b. Rifle Language (Sergeant Tyler Bumgarner, DWER Conservation Police)

Sergeant Tyler Bumgarner was present to give some statistics and an overview of the rifle language to the Board about using rifles in different areas. Sergeant Bumgarner stated that the statics that was collected is from the last five years From the Hunting Incident Data. Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) investigates hunting incidents that involve damage to property,

personal injury, or death to determine if a violation of law has occurred or to obtain the necessary evidence or information to complete reports and evaluate educational value to determine to medicate instances in the future. If they see certain trends happening, they will change how they teach the Hunter Education Course, which is required to obtain a hunting license. Sergeant Bumgarner stated that a hunting incident includes but not be limited to personal injury, death, or property damage caused by the discharge of firearms or archery equipment while hunting. A hunting incident has to happen in the wildlife habitat or when they are actively hunting. There are three different types of hunting incidents, which are fatality, personal injury to where they have to go to the hospital, and damage to property such as real estate, vehicles, livestock, etc. Conservation police officers investigate all hunting incidents that occur in the Commonwealth; they receive training of forty hours of basic hunting incident training; when they arrive at a hunting incident, they check for injuries and maintain the incident scene due to them being potential crime scenes, preserve any evidence and locate any witnesses. They also have a Hunting Incident Investigation Team, which consists of Conservation police officers who receive advanced training in hunting incident training, and they train twice per year. Sergeant Bumgarner gave statistics for the last five years of hunting incidents and stated that how the data is collected has changed over the years and that it could be altered in what questions are asked.

* Statistics for the last five years of hunting incidents are on the next page*

	Fall 2019- Spring 2020
Amount of Incidents	20
Fatalities	1
Self-Inflicted	7
Weapons used	Rifle, Shotgun, Handgun, Muzzleloader
Species hunted	Deer, Turkey, Rabbit, Dove, Coyote, Other

	Fall 2020-Spring 2021
Amount of Incidents	14
Fatalities	0
Self-Inflicted	3
Weapons used	Shotgun, Handgun, Muzzleloader
Species hunted	Deer, Turkey, Rabbit, Waterfowl

	Fall 2021-Spring 2022
Amount of Incidents	19
Fatalities	1
Self-Inflicted	8
Weapons used	Rifle, Shotgun, Handgun, Muzzleloader
Species hunted	Deer, Turkey, Bear, Raccoon, Quail

	Fall 2022- Spring 2023
Amount of Incidents	14
Fatalities	0
Self-Inflicted	3
Weapons used	Bow, Crossbow, Handgun, Rifle, Shotgun
Species hunted	Deer, Turkey, Rabbit, Unknown

	Fall 2023- Spring 2024
Amount of Incidents	10
Fatalities	1
Self-Inflicted	2
Weapons used	Shotgun, Rifle, Muzzleloader, Unknown
Species hunted	Deer, Turkey, Unknown

After Sergeant Bumgarner had read the statistics, he stated that shotguns seem to be the top firearm used in hunting incidents. Virginia State Code 29.1-528 gives the authority of the Board to establish a County ordinance or repeal a current ordinance that they may have to allow the hunting with rifles or to control the use of hunting with rifles in Westmoreland County. Richard Stuart noted that the Board already has an ordinance in place that prohibits hunting with rifles and they would have to repeal the ordinance and it takes a public hearing.

Sergeant Bumgarner stated that several counties, such as King George, Essex, and Richmond, have recently allowed hunting with rifles in their county. He noted that if the Board were to decide to allow hunting with rifles in Westmoreland County, to ensure that Section C that was provided is in before May 1st to the director; if not, it will not be in the official digest book presented. He explained the differences and options the Board has between the different ordinances for each county, and the Board could use specific verbiage of ordinances from their counties into their ordinances if they wish to.

Mr. Stuart asked Sergeant Bumgarner if they have a mile ordinance because he was worried about the enforcement side and that the ordinances would have to be very specific and careful.

Sergeant Bumgarner stated that they have mile ordinances, and it will go into the digest book as long as they are in by May 1st.

Mr. Trivett asked Sergeant Bumgarner to explain the damage permits in more depth.

Sergeant Bumgarner stated that the Code of Virginia allows farmers who have commercial damage to their crops to obtain a kill permit issued by an officer with the Conservation Police. It is not defined as hunting; it is defined as damage activities where the farmers are protecting their crops. People are already shooting deer with rifles in Westmoreland County with no restrictions, and there have been no incidents that he is aware of with farmers having the kill permit.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Bumgarner for his presentation and statistics, and they will put all the information provided under consideration when they make a decision either way.

Mr. Stuart asked Sergeant Bumgarner if they would like him to work with their office if they decide to approve this to enforce the ordinances so that no one is breaking the law unlawfully.

Sergeant Bumgarner agreed and stated that they wanted to make everything clear for the non-hunters and hunters so there were no issues or misinformation.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman asked the Board if there was any other business to discuss, and he thanked the staff for their continued support and for everything they did prior to this meeting. With no further business, Chairman Fisher asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Upon Motion by Mr. Ingram and second by Mr. McCormack, carried unanimously by the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building.

Chairman, Darryl E. Fisher