

Note:  
This summary was last updated on  
**February 12, 2020**  
For current information, follow this link:  
[PSC Case #9408](#)

**Perennial Solar**  
**Near 16939 Fairview Road**  
**Hagerstown, MD 21740**  
**(Washington County)**  
**PSC Case Number 9408**  
**PPRP Manager: Shawn Seaman**

Note:  
This summary is based on  
information provided in the CPCN  
Application dated **December 1, 2015**  
and supplemental information dated  
**October 16, 2019 and November**  
**26, 2019**, which is subject to change  
and has not yet been fully reviewed  
by PPRP

**CPCN Timeline**

**CPCN Application filed on December 1, 2015**  
**Applicant's Direct Testimony Filed: January 26, 2016**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing: March 26, 2020 (time and location TBD)**  
**PPRP's Direct Testimony Due: May 14, 2020**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing: July 14, 2020 (time, and location TBD)**  
**PSC's Evidentiary Hearing: July 23, 2020, 10:00 am**

**Project Location:**

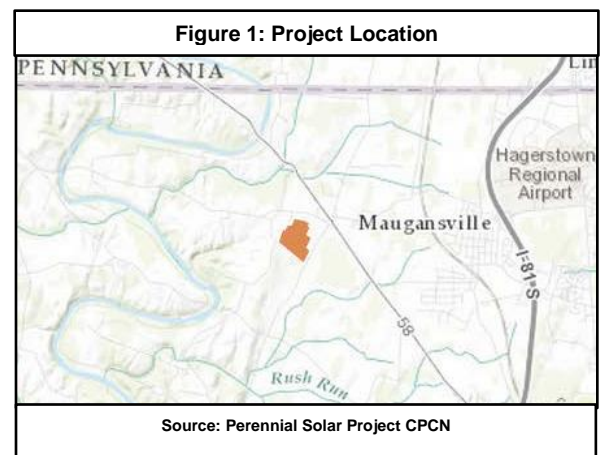
The Project will occupy approximately 70 acres spanning two parcels that total approximately 86-acres, located at near 16939 Fairview Road in Hagerstown (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#)

**Project Overview:**

Perennial Solar, LLC has filed for a [CPCN](#) to construct an 8 MW AC solar array in Washington County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 28,000-30,000 photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a fixed-tilt racking system with approximately 8' of spacing and a height of approximately 6';
- Interconnection equipment; and
- 8 inverter pads.



**Figure 2: Aerial Photograph of Project Site**



Source: Perennial Solar Project CPCN Application.

**Site Description**

The Project will occupy two land parcels: a 67.55-acre parcel containing an occupied residence 500 feet from the Project boundary and an 18.41-acre parcel of undeveloped agricultural land. The entire Project outline is shown in Figure 2. The Applicant has entered into separate long-term leases with each property owner to construct and operate the Project. Both properties are zoned Agricultural (Rural) District and 32% of the Project area is classified as Prime Farmland.

The Project will connect to the local grid through a direct line tap on the 34.5 kV Halfway-Milnor circuit located on Greencastle Pike, east of the Project site. Surrounding land uses include a mixture of agricultural, residential, industrial, and commercial uses.

## Impact Assessment Highlights

### *Biological*

- The Application states that the Project area does not include forests, but does include individual trees. The Applicant indicated that two of these trees would be removed as part of the Project construction. The Applicant has stated that it intends to work with Washington County to comply with the requirements for the county's Forest Conservation Ordinance (FCO).
- The Applicant has stated that there are no records of rare, threatened or endangered species at the Project site.
- The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have conducted site visits and determined that the Project area contains jurisdictional waters of the State in the form of isolated palustrine emergent wetlands and an isolated watercourse. The Applicant is proposing to avoid these areas and incorporate a 25-foot setback from these areas into the project site plan.
- A drainage swale in the southern portion of the Project area was identified as a sensitive area.

### *Economic and Fiscal*

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will create 30-50 temporary labor and electrician jobs during the construction period and support up to two full time positions for ongoing operations and maintenance.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project represents a capital investment of \$11 million to \$14 million.

### *Transportation*

- During construction, equipment will be delivered by tractor-trailer. Excavation and other heavy equipment that may be used may include front loaders, dump trucks, concrete trucks, excavators, trenching equipment, backhoes, post installation equipment, and other similar vehicles and equipment. Daily construction traffic will include pickup trucks and other personnel vehicles.
- After construction, traffic will mostly be limited to maintenance crews for seasonal mowing and vegetation purposes. Quarterly to yearly maintenance on the solar array and periodic site visits for operations issues may also occur.
- The closest airport to the project is the Hagerstown Regional Airport, about 2.5 miles away. The Applicant has indicated that an updated glare analysis will be provided in the first quarter of 2020.

### *Visual Impacts*

- The Applicant has indicated that a 25-foot landscape buffer will surround the Project.
- The Project itself will have limited lighting requirements. Each inverter/transformer area may have an overhead down shielded light fixture.

### *Cultural & Aesthetic*

- There are no properties on the National Register of Historic Places, but several properties on the Maryland inventory of Historic Properties are located within 1 mile from the Project. The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) has concluded that the Project will not adversely impact historical properties.
- The archeological potential of the Project area is low due to past agricultural activity.
- The Project is not within any Maryland Certified Heritage Area and no Maryland Scenic Byways bypass the Project.
- Several bike routes use the same roads that will be used by construction traffic.