

Note:
This summary was last updated on
February 14, 2025
For current information, follow this link:
[PSC Docket Case #9759](#)

Chaberton Solar Pahar Intersection of Idlewild Road and Laurel Grove Road Federalsburg, MD 21632 (Caroline County) [PSC Case #9759](#)

Note:
This summary is based on
information provided in the CPCN
Application filed with the PSC on
**October 17, 2024, and
Supplemental Filing on November
26, 2024, which is subject to change
and has not yet been fully reviewed
by PRRP.**

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on October 17, 2024
Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: February 13, 2025
1st Public Hearing (Virtual): March 3, 2025
Intervenor's Direct Testimony Due: May 30, 2025
2nd Public Hearing: June 12, 2025
Settlement Status Update: June 17, 2025
PSC Evidentiary Hearing (if settlement is reached): June 24, 2025

Project Location:

Project Pahar (Project) will be located on a portion of a larger property totaling approximately 42 acres in Federalsburg, Maryland (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#). Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 19 acres.

Project Overview:

Chaberton Solar Pahar, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 3.0 MW AC solar array in Caroline County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 7,776 polycrystalline photovoltaic (PV) solar modules ground mounted on a fixed tilt system;
- Interconnection equipment: connection to an existing 24.9 kV feeder line which connects to Delmarva's existing Todd Substation;
- 27 string inverters; and
- Equipment pads.

Site Description

The parcel that comprises the Project site mainly consists of agricultural land. The majority of the LOD is considered prime farmland. Surrounding land uses include single family residential structures, forest, wetlands, and additional agricultural lands. Additionally, a local museum is located near the property. The Project parcel is located within the R1 Single-Family Residential Zone. Per the local zoning regulations, a commercial solar energy system is not a permitted use in an R1 zone. However, the site has historically, and is currently, being used for agricultural purposes.

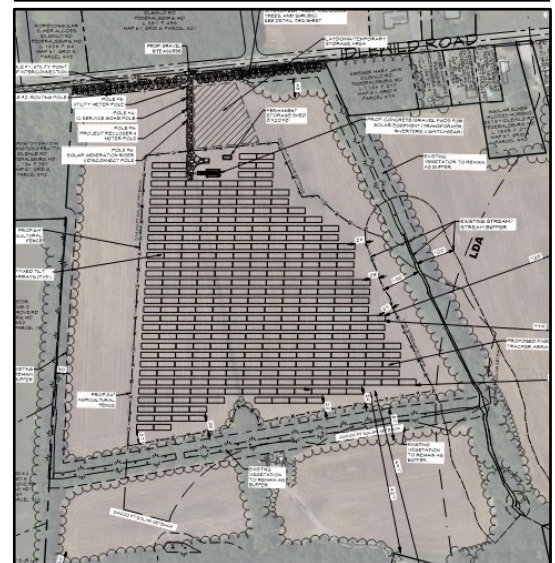
The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all its output to Maryland residents via the Delmarva Power (Delmarva) electric distribution grid. The Applicant applied to the PSC for authorization to participate in Maryland's Community Solar Program and was assigned Subscriber Organization Identification Number 23A3019020005989. The project has not received conditional interconnection approval from Delmarva but the applicant anticipates receiving approval in Q2 2025.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- The Applicant's ERD indicates that there are two potentially jurisdictional wetlands, three potentially jurisdictional ditches, and one potentially jurisdictional stream on the site.
- The Applicant has indicated that the project will be located 100-feet from all perennial streams, and 25-feet from intermittent streams and other wetlands.

Figure 1. Project Location



Source: Chaberton Solar Pahar, LLC CPCN Application

- The site has sensitive environmental areas classified as Critical Limited Development Area along its eastern border and the Project is designed to avoid this area.
- The Applicant consulted with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and DNR indicated in its May 24, 2023 letter that it has no official records for State or Federal listed, candidate, proposed, or rare plant or animal species within the project area.
- The Applicant's April 26, 2023, letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) states the Project area could include the candidate Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*).
- The Applicant states that the Project will apply for the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Facility Designation.
- The ERD states that 0.16 acres of the Project area will consist of impervious area.
- The Applicant's ERD states the Project site is adjacent to a Tier II watershed, but the Project is outside its boundaries.
- The Applicant states that they do not anticipate clearing any forested areas.

Noise Impacts

- The Applicant's ERD states that although the nearest residentially zoned parcel is 290 feet to the North of the Project, it does not presently have a residence. The nearest existing residence is 590 feet away from noise-making equipment. The Applicant does not anticipate any noise impacts to the neighbors.

Visual Impacts

- The Applicant proposes to use the existing 70-foot tree cover for the east, west, and south to mitigate visual impacts for the neighbors. The Applicant plans to install a 25-foot landscape buffer on the northern portion of the Project.
- The Applicant consulted the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which confirmed that the Project does not exceed notice criteria. The Applicant utilized the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) Project Locator to determine that the Project is not within an Airport Zoning District.
- The Applicant's glare study predicts no glare from the Project.

Cultural Resource Impacts

- The Applicant has corresponded with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), which has determined that the Project will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant states that the entrance to the Project site will be from Idlewild Road.
- The Applicant's ERD indicates that large materials and equipment will be transported by tractor-trailers and unloaded by construction vehicles during the construction phase. However, the Applicant anticipates that most daily construction traffic will consist of cars, pickup trucks, and other vehicles used by personnel. During operation, traffic will mostly be limited to maintenance crews for seasonal mowing and vegetation maintenance, as well as maintenance for any operational issues.
- The Applicant does not anticipate that the Project will require any overweight or oversize load permits.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will require approximately 53 direct and indirect jobs during construction. Following construction, the Project will generate less than one direct job and indirect job.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project will provide over \$6 million dollars in financial benefits over the course of its lifetime.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

- The Applicant indicates that the Project would reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by approximately 3,300 tons per year.