Note:
This summary was last updated on September 25
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PSC Docket Case #9799

# TPE MD KE77 (Kennedyville) Solar Project 12721 Bloomfield Road, Kennedyville, Maryland 21645 (Kent County)

PSC Case #9799

Note:
This summary is based on information provided in the CPCN Application filed with the PSC on July 1, 2025, the updated ERD filed on August 6, 2025, and Applicant Responses to PPRP Data Request Number 1 which is subject to change and has not yet been fully reviewed by PPRP.

#### **CPCN Timeline**

CPCN Application filed on July 1, 2025 Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony: November 21, 2025 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing (Virtual): December 10, 2025, 6:00pm Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: April 9, 2026

2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing: Week of April 13, 2026 Settlement Status Update: May 15, 2026

PSC Evidentiary Hearing (if settlement is reached): June 2026

## **Project Location:**

The TPE MD KE77 (Kennedyville) 5.0 MW AC Solar Project (Project) will be located on a 304-acre parcel in Kennedyville, Maryland (Figure 1). Google Map Link. Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 52.9 acres.

## **Project Overview:**

TPE MD KE77 1, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 5.0 MW AC solar array in Kent County.

Project components include:

- 10,962 photovoltaic (PV) modules ground-mounted on a single-axis tracking racking system;
- Interconnection to the electric distribution grid via an existing pole-mounted distribution circuit along Lambs Meadow Road.
- 40 string inverters;
- One transformer; and
- Three equipment pads, which will support the transformer and inverters.

#### **Site Description**

The land on which the Project site is located consists of open agricultural fields, currently planted with soybeans and corn.

Agricultural buildings and a small, forested area are present on the Project property, but outside of the LOD. The entire Project LOD (52.9 acres) is considered prime farmland. The Project property also includes a stream and several wetland areas that are outside of the LOD and an agricultural ditch that will be crossed by the access road and electrical connections but otherwise avoided. The Project property is bordered by agricultural, residential, and wooded properties. The Project is located within the Agricultural Zoning District (AZD). Kent County permits community solar projects within the AZD by special exception with certain restrictions, including a size limitation of 5 acres.

The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all of its output to subscribers via the Delmarva Power and Light (DPL) electric distribution grid. The Applicant has submitted the interconnection application to DPL and the Project is within the technical review phase. The Applicant has received Subscriber Organization Number 18A2216230004116 and has received conditional interconnection approval from DPL.

## **Impact Assessment Highlights**

## Biological

 The Project property is located within two different watersheds, the Middle Chester River and Sassafras River watersheds. The property includes 1 intermittent stream outside the LOD with a 25-foot buffer surrounding the stream. The Project LOD is within the Middle Chester River watershed only.





- The Project property includes 5 nontidal wetlands outside the LOD. The Project design includes a 25-foot buffer around each wetland.
- The Project property contains 2 non-jurisdictional agricultural ditches, one of which will be crossed by the access road and underground electrical connections, but are otherwise outside of the LOD.
- The Project is located within the Morgan Creek UT 1 Tier II watershed, with assimilative capacity.
- The Project is not located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, or in the vicinity of a Maryland Wild and Scenic River.
- The northeast and southeastern portions of the Project property include two forest stands that are outside of the Project LOD.
- The Applicant consulted with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service
  (DNR-WHS) and found "no official records for State or Federal listed, candidate, proposed or rare plant or animal
  species within the Project area." The US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) review for Rare, Threatened, or
  Endangered (RTE) species at the Project site indicates that habitat for one mammal, one insect, and migratory
  birds species were noted as potentially present within the area of the Project.
- The Applicant does not intend to apply for the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Designation and does not propose the use of agrivoltaics.
- The ERD states that the Project will include 0.6 acres of impervious areas for access roads and equipment pads.

#### Noise Impacts

 The Applicant's ERD states that the closest residential dwelling is approximately 700 feet away from a proposed equipment pad.

#### Visual Impacts

- The Applicant proposes to enclose the Project with a 7-foot-tall agricultural fence.
- The Applicant is proposing a 35-foot-wide landscape buffer on all sides of the Project, except the southeast corner, where there is existing vegetation on the Project property.
- The Applicant utilized the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Notice Criteria Tool and the Maryland Aviation
  Administration (MAA) Project Locator to determine that the Project does not exceed notice criteria, it is not within
  an Airport Zoning District, and no further action is required.

#### 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 construction traffic will access the Project site by an entrance along Lambs Meadow Road.
- During construction, the Applicant anticipates that daily traffic to the site may include tractor trailers, miscellaneous construction equipment, and personnel vehicles. The Applicant further states that temporary traffic control measures will be implemented during construction to ensure flow of traffic along Lambs Meadow Road.
- The Applicant's ERD states that during operation the Project will be monitored remotely with only occasional site visits and will not impact traffic.

## Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will create approximately 36 design, management, and construction jobs during the construction period and approximately two operation and maintenance jobs post-construction.
- The Applicant estimates that the Project will generate approximately \$45,000 to \$50,000 in tax revenue during the first year of operation and approximately \$2.3 million over the life of the Project.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

• The Applicant indicates that the Project will displace approximately 6,373 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the Mid-Atlantic Region and 339 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in Maryland annually.

