

*Note:
This summary was last updated on
January 6, 2026
For current information, follow this link:
PSC Docket Case #9823*

**American Kestrel Solar Project
23548 Chestertown Road
Chestertown, MD 21620 (Kent County)**

*Note:
This summary is based on
information provided in the CPCN
Application and supplemental
information filed with the PSC on
October 21, 2025 which are
subject to change and have not
yet been fully reviewed by
PPRP.*

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on October 21, 2025

Public Informational Meeting: prior to March 5, 2026

Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: March 17, 2026

Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: August 27, 2026

Public Comment Hearing: week of September 7, 2026

Settlement Status Update: October 6, 2026

Evidentiary Hearing (if settlement is reached): October 20, 2026

Project Location:

The American Kestrel Solar Project (Project) will be located on a portion of a larger property totaling approximately 105 acres in Chestertown, Maryland (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#) Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 39.43 acres.

Project Overview:

American Kestrel Solar (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 5 MW AC solar array in Kent County.

Project components include:

- 12,264 Solar modules ground mounted on a fixed tilt tracking system;
- Interconnection equipment;
- 20 string inverters; and
- One medium-voltage transformer; and
- Five new utility poles

Site Description

The parcel that comprises the Project site has been used for agricultural purposes. Prime farmland encompasses the entirety of the LOD (39.43 acres). Surrounding land uses include residential structures, forest, and wetlands. The Project parcel is located within the Agricultural Zoning District (AZD). Kent County allows solar generating facilities in the Agricultural Zoning District, subject to a special exception.

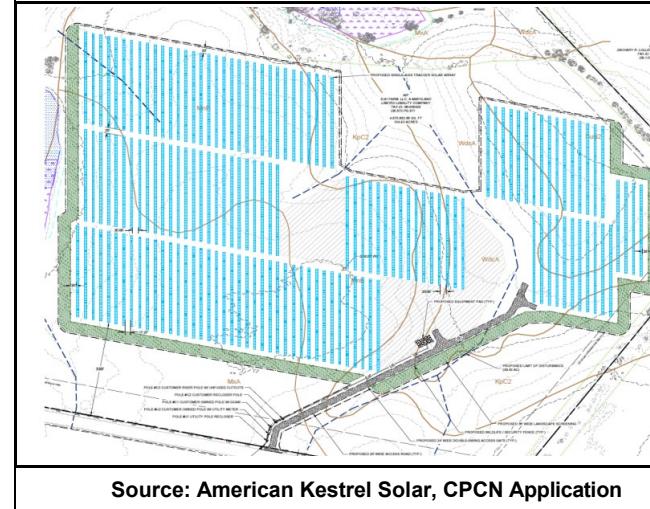
The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System (CSEGS) and will deliver all its output to Maryland residents via Delmarva Power (DPL) distribution grid. The Applicant applied to the PSC for authorization to participate in Maryland's Community Solar Program and was assigned Subscriber Organization Identification Number 24A3074970006865. The Project received Conditional Approval for its interconnection from DPL on June 7, 2024.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- The Applicant's Wetland Report indicates that there are no streams, waterbodies, wetlands, or buffers within the Project site.
- DNR WHS reported that there are no rare, threatened, or endangered species in the vicinity of the Project site.
- The Applicant states that the Project will apply for the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Facility Designation.
- The Applicant indicates that approximately 0.6 acres of impervious area will be added to the Project.
- The Applicant's ERD states the Project is not located in the Critical Area.
- The Applicant states that no forest clearing will occur.

Figure 1. Project Location



Noise Impacts

- The Applicant states that the closest residence is located approximately 1,700 linear feet from the nearest portion of the Project's LOD. The Applicant anticipates sound levels to be significantly lower than the regulated 65 dBA.

Visual Impacts

- The Applicant proposes to enclose the Project with a 7-foot security fence.
- The Applicant proposes a 35-foot-wide landscape buffer around the perimeter of the Project, except on the northern side, where there is forest cover greater than 50 feet.
- The Applicant consulted the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which confirmed that this project would not exceed notice criteria.
- The Applicant consulted the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) which determined that this project is not an obstruction or hazard to air navigation.
- The Project is not within 10 miles of an airport.

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.
- Chestertown Road is a Federal Scenic Byway, which will be appropriately screened from the project by the proposed landscape buffer.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant states that construction vehicles will access the Project from a new entrance on Chestertown Rd.
- The Applicant anticipates that most daily construction traffic may include tractor trailers, miscellaneous construction equipment, and personnel vehicles. 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 plans to coordinate with the County Fire Marshal to ensure that the Project is compliant with the County Fire Prevention Code.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will require approximately 25 jobs during construction. Following construction, the Project will generate 1-2 jobs.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project will provide approximately \$71,500 in projected tax revenue for each year of operation.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

- The Applicant indicates that the Project would reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in Maryland by approximately 6,370 tons per year.