

Note:
This summary was last
updated on **June 1, 2026**
For current information,
follow this link: [PSC Docket](#)
[Case #9862](#)

Brethren Church Road Solar
589 Brethren Church Road, Accident
Maryland 21520 (Garrett County)
[PSC Case #9862](#)

Note:
This summary is based on
information provided in
the CPCN Application
filed with the PSC on
March 2, 2026, and
Supplemental Filing on
April 13, 2026, which is
subject to change and has
not yet been fully
reviewed by PPRP.

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on March 2, 2026
Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: December 8, 2026
Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: August 5, 2027
Public Comment Hearing: Week of August 9, 2027
Settlement Status Update: September 7, 2027
PSC Evidentiary Hearing (if settlement is reached): September 21, 2027

Project Location:

Brethren Church Road Solar 5.0 MW AC Solar Project (Project) will be located on a portion of a 97.4-acre parcel in Accident, Maryland (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#). Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 21.8 acres.

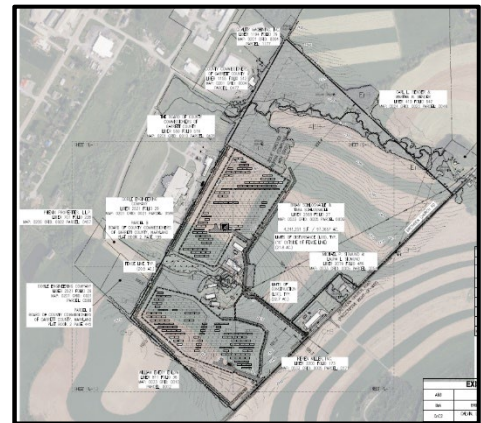
Project Overview:

Brethren Church Road Solar 2, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 5.0 MW AC solar facility in Garrett County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 11,718 photovoltaic (PV) solar modules ground-mounted on a fixed-tilt system;
- Interconnection to the electric distribution grid via an existing Potomac Edison (PE)'s 34.5 kV feeder line, which runs along Brethren Church Road;
- 20 string inverters; and
- 2 equipment pads.

Figure 1. Project Location



**Source: Brethren Church Road Solar 2, LLC
CPCN Application**

Site Description

The parcel that comprises the Project site primarily consists of agricultural fields, planted with hay, alfalfa, oat, and corn. Surrounding land uses include woodlands, farmlands, and residential structures to the north; commercial and residential structures, Brethren Church Road, farmlands, and woodlands to the east; farmlands and Brethren Church Road to the south; and woodlands, farmlands, and residential and industrial structures to the west. There is no prime farmland within the LOD. The Project parcel is not located within a zoned district of Garrett County. The Applicant states that a Special Exception is not required because the Project is permitted by right.

The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all of its output to Maryland residents via the PE 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 25A3156710008027 for 5.0 MW. The Applicant received the Feasibility Study Results for interconnection from PE on September 19, 2025.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- Non-rooftop disconnection credits will primarily be used to satisfy MDE stormwater management requirements.
- The Applicant's Aquatic Resource Investigation Report indicates that there are two palustrine wetlands and one intermittent stream located in the area of interest included in the survey. The Applicant indicates that the Project is designed to be outside of the 50-foot stream and 25-foot wetland buffers. MDE's December 17, 2025, letter

confirmed that the Project will result in no impact to nontidal wetlands, 25-foot nontidal wetland buffers, streams, or 100-year nontidal floodplains.

- The Applicant consulted with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service (DNR-WHS), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for records of Rare, Threatened, or Endangered (RTE) Species. The agencies determined that the Project would have no effect on the RTE species.
- The Applicant states that the Project, as currently designed, does not propose the removal of woodlands or trees.
- The Applicant's ERD states that the Project will add approximately 1.15 acres of impervious area associated with access roads and equipment pads.
- The Project is located in a Tier II Catchment Area of South Branch Bear Creek. MDE reviewed the project and determined on November 5, 2025, that no additional Tier II antidegradation review was necessary.
- The Project is not located in a critical area or in the vicinity of the Maryland Wild and Scenic River.
- The Applicant does not intend to apply for the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Designation and does not propose the use of agrivoltaics.

Noise Impacts

- The Applicant's ERD states the closest participating and non-participating residential reception areas to the equipment pad, which contains the inverters, are approximately 486 feet and 825 feet away, respectively. The Applicant concludes that the noise impacts from the normal solar facility operations are considered negligible.

Visual Impacts

- The Project will be enclosed by a 7-foot-tall security fence.
- The Applicant proposes to include a 20-foot landscaping buffer along the eastern, western, and southern sides of the site and utilize the existing wooded area along the northern side to screen the project from view.
- The Applicant's glare study predicts less than an hour of annual yellow glare on Brethren Church Road. The study also predicts approximately 11 hours of annual green glare on Brethren Church Road and three residential receptors that are included in the analysis.

Cultural Resource Impacts

- The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the Project.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant's ERD indicates that the Project is located within a 3-mile radius of Garrett County Airport. The Applicant consulted the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which confirmed that this project would not be a hazard to air navigation and does not exceed obstruction standards. The Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) indicates in its November 20, 2025 letter that the Project is not an obstruction or hazard to air navigation.
- The Applicant proposes two service entrances accessible from Brethren Church Road to reach the northern and southern panel array areas.
- The Applicant's ERD indicates that during construction of the Project, daily traffic to the site may include tractor-trailers, miscellaneous construction equipment, and personnel vehicles. A staging area will be utilized for unloading equipment and materials. During operation, traffic will mostly be limited to maintenance crews for seasonal mowing and maintenance for any operational issues.
- The Applicant states that it will take photographs of the affected roads prior to the start of construction and will make necessary repairs if there is any damage.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant's ERD states that the Project will employ approximately 33 direct and 14 indirect jobs during construction. Following construction, the Project will generate approximately one long-term maintenance job.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project includes a capital cost of up to \$12.1 million and will contribute approximately \$2.7 million in tax revenue to the County and \$0.14 million in state taxes over their operational term.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

- The Applicant indicates that the Project would reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in Maryland and in the Mid-Atlantic region by approximately 490 tons per year (tpy) and 9,230 tpy, respectively.