

Note:
This summary was last updated on
September 16, 2026
For current information, follow this
link:
[PSC Docket Case #9887](#)

Otterdale Mill Road Solar
2365 Otterdale Mill Road
Taneytown, MD 21787 (Carroll County)
[PSC Case #9887](#)

Note:
This summary is based on
information provided in the CPCN
Application filed with PSC on **July**
1, 2026, and supplemental
information filed with the PSC on
July 30, 2026, August 6, 2026,
and August 11, 2026, which are
subject to change and have not
yet been fully reviewed by PPRP.

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on July 1, 2026
Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: January 6, 2027
Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: August 19, 2027
Public Comment Hearing: week of August 23, 2027
Settlement Status Update: September 23, 2027
PSC Evidentiary Hearing (contested): October 5, 2027

Project Location:

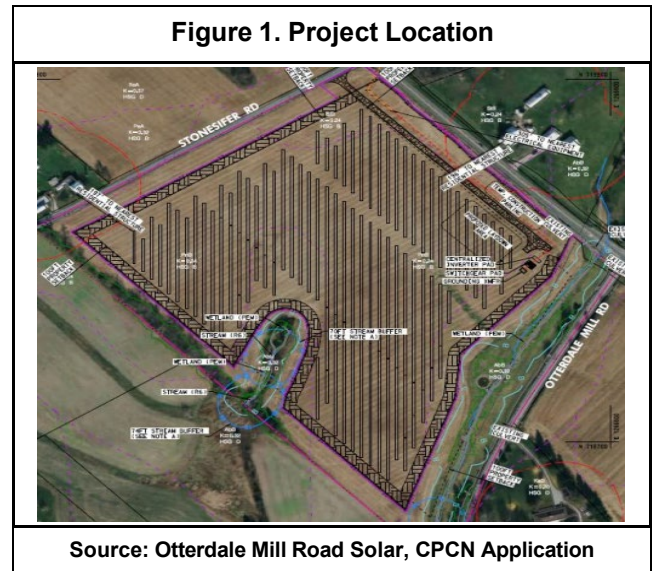
The Otterdale Mill Road Solar Project (Project) will be located on a portion of an approximately 30.64-acre parcel in Taneytown, Maryland (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#). Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 20.85 acres.

Project Overview:

Otterdale Mill Road MD PV, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 3.0 MW AC solar array in Carroll County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 5,720 photovoltaic (PV) solar modules ground-mounted on a tracking system;
- Interconnection to the existing Potomac Edison's Carroll – Taneytown 34.5 kV line;
- 12 string inverters;
- 1 wet-type transformer;
- 1 equipment pad; and
- 5 new utility poles.



Site Description

The parcel that comprises the Project site consists of agricultural fields and wooded areas that have primarily been used for agricultural purposes. The LOD contains approximately 15.74 acres of prime farmland. Since this Project will utilize agrivoltaics, no prime farmland will be taken out of production. Surrounding land uses include agricultural land and a residential development to the north and northeast. The Project parcel is located within both the Agricultural and R-10,000 zoning districts of Carroll County. Per Carroll County's current zoning ordinance, a Community Solar Energy Generating System is permitted in these zones.

The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System (CSEGS) and will deliver all its output to Maryland residents through the Potomac Edison Company 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 22A2421130005564. The Project received Conditional Approval for its interconnection from the Potomac Edison Company in November 2025.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- The Project is agrivoltaics and crop production following construction will include barley, wheat, radishes, soybean, sorghum, and rye.
- The Project is not located within a Tier II watershed.

- The Project's runoff drains through the Double Pipe Creek Watershed, which is designated as Use Class IV-P for Recreational Trout Waters and Public Water Supply by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The Applicant states that the Project will not impact water quality in the receiving waters because it will use appropriate stormwater management, sediment and erosion, and Farm Plan implementation.
- The Project's runoff drains through the Upper Monocacy River, which is designated as a State Scenic River. The Applicant is corresponding with Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to ensure the Project complies with the Wild and Scenic River Act.
- The Applicant's Wetland Report indicates that there are approximately 0.92 acres of potentially jurisdictional wetlands and approximately 238 linear feet of potentially jurisdictional streams on the site. However, MDE confirmed that the Project does not impact any wetland features, and therefore no authorization is required from the Nontidal Wetland or Waterway Construction Divisions.
- The Applicant states that they will not obtain the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Facility Designation for this Project. However, the Applicant proposes establishment of a year-round vegetative cover under the solar panels with native plants and grasses to support the flora and fauna of natural pollinators.
- The DNR Wildlife Heritage Service (WHS) identified no known Rare, Threatened, or Endangered (RTE) species within the Project's LOD. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) IPaC system identified one candidate RTE species in the area, but there is no critical habitat for it on the Project site.
- The Project is not located in a Critical Area.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project will add approximately 0.40 acres of impervious area.
- The Applicant states that no tree clearing is proposed for the Project.

Noise Impacts

- The Applicant states that the closest residential dwelling is approximately 371' away from the Project's electrical equipment and 196' away from the nearest solar panel. The Applicant concludes that the Project's operational noise at these distances will be well below the COMAR residential limits (65 dBA).

Visual Impacts

- The Project will be enclosed with a 7-foot-tall agricultural fence.
- The Project is implementing agrivoltaics, so no landscape buffer is currently proposed. However, the Applicant states that the areas outside the LOD will provide seasonal screening via crop production.
- The Applicant's glare analysis predicts no glare on any of the airport approach paths, helipads, public and private roadways, or structures that are in close proximity to the Project.

Cultural Resource Impacts

- The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) determined that the Project will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant proposes a new entrance with an access gate along Stonesifer Road to access the site.
- The Applicant anticipates that most daily traffic during construction may include tractor-trailers, miscellaneous construction equipment, and personnel vehicles. During operation, traffic will mostly be limited to farming/agricultural activities (planting, harvesting, etc.) and maintenance crews as needed for operational issues that may arise during normal operation.
- The Applicant identified 1 airport and 1 helipad within a 3-mile radius of the Project site. An additional 9 airports and 2 helipads were identified within a 10-mile radius of the Project site.
- The Applicant consulted the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) for their review of potential impacts associated with the Project. Both the FAA and MAA determined that the Project is not an obstruction or hazard to air navigation.
- The Applicant plans to consult the State Fire Marshal and coordinate with local emergency responders to ensure that the Project's fire protection plan meets all health and safety requirements.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will employ approximately 50-80 jobs during construction, 4 jobs during the first 5 years following construction, and 1 job annually over 20 years.
- Since the Project is agrivoltaics and will retain agricultural use assessment, the Applicant states that the Project is expected to contribute the same tax revenue to the County over the life of the Project as it would have if the property remained solely in agricultural use.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

- The Applicant indicates that the Project would reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by approximately 250 tons per year (tpy) in Maryland and 4,720 tpy in the Mid-Atlantic region.