

Note:
This summary was last
updated on
October 2, 2026

McMullen South West Highway Solar 1

16616 McMullen Highway SW, Cresaptown, Maryland (Allegany County)

[PSC Case #9889](#)

Note:
This summary is based on
information provided in the
CPCN Application filed with
the PSC on July 6, 2026,
and supplemental filings on
July 17, 2026, August 5,
2026, August 11, 2026, and
September 22, 2026, as well
as the Applicant's
**Response to PRRP Data
Request No. 1**, which is
subject to change and has
not yet been fully reviewed by
PPRP.

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on July 6, 2026

Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: January 20, 2027

Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: September 2, 2027

Public Comment Hearing: Between September 7 - 16, 2027 (Specific Date and Time TBD)

Applicant's Filed Status Update: October 5, 2027

PSC Initial Evidentiary Hearing : October 19, 2027

Project Location:

Project McMullen South West Highway Solar 1 (Project) will be located on a portion of a 224.2-acre parcel in Cresaptown, Maryland (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#). Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 38.5 acres.

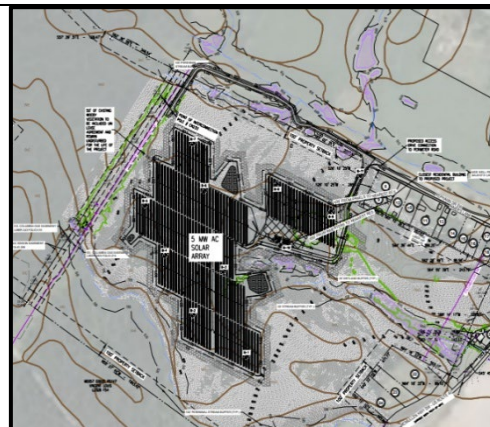
Project Overview:

McMullen South West Highway Solar 1, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 5.0 MW AC solar facility in Allegany County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 12,402 photovoltaic (PV) solar modules ground-mounted on a single-axis tracking system;
- Interconnection to the existing Potomac Edison Company (PE)'s 34.5 kV feeder line, which runs through the middle of the parcel;
- 20 string inverters; and
- 2 equipment pads.

Figure 1. Project Location



Source: McMullen South West Highway Solar 1, LLC, CPCN Application

Site Description

The parcel that comprises the Project site primarily consists of undeveloped wooded land that is used for private hunting purposes. There is no prime farmland within the LOD. Surrounding land uses include forests, residences, and agricultural land. The Project parcel is located within the Residential 1 (R-1) Zoning District of Allegany County. The Applicant consulted with the County and was informed that in order to ensure compliance, the Project must adhere to the Land Development Standards set forth by Allegany County. The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System (CSEGS) and will deliver all 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 23A3067790006746 for 5.0 MW. The Applicant received a Conceptual Approval for interconnection from PE in December 2025.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- Grass swales, infiltration basins, non-rooftop disconnection credits, land cover restoration with native meadow, and minimization of site grading will be used to satisfy MDE stormwater management requirements.
- The Applicant's ERD states that twenty-three wetlands and nine streams were identified near the vicinity of the Project area of investigation. The solar array design avoids these areas, and appropriate setbacks and buffers have been established. Based on MDE's Wetlands and Waterways Pre-Application Summary dated February 25,

2026, MDE recommended that “additional wetland and waterways delineation will be needed along the proposed access road. This will need to be confirmed by the department.”

- The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service (DNR-WHS) determined that the Project would have no effect on Rare, Threatened, or Endangered (RTE) species.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) resource list identifies two endangered species, the Northern Long-eared Bat and the Indiana Bat; one proposed endangered species, the Tricolored Bat; and one proposed federally threatened species, the Monarch Butterfly, may be impacted by the Project. However, the USFWS concluded that the Project will have no effect on the Indiana Bat and is not likely to adversely affect the Northern Long-eared Bat under the time-of-year restriction of tree clearing from April 1 to September 30. The applicant states it will adhere to the tree-clearing restriction.
- The Applicant's ERD states that the Project site is situated in the North Branch Potomac River Watershed, which is designated as Use Class I-P. The Project is designed to be set back fifty feet from intermittent streams and one hundred feet from perennial streams.
- The Applicant states that the Project will add approximately 2.97 acres of permanent impervious surface.
- The Applicant's ERD states that approximately 38.17 acres of trees are anticipated to be cleared as part of the Project development. The Applicant avoided forest clearing in sensitive areas such as wetlands, streams, and associated buffers.
- The Project is not located in a critical area or a Tier II catchment area. The Applicant's ERD states that the Project will not impact any conservation easements.

Noise Impacts

- The Applicant's ERD states that the closest non-participating residential reception area to the equipment pad, which contains the inverters, is approximately 770 feet away. The Applicant concludes that the noise impacts from the Project are considered negligible.

Visual Impacts

- The Project will be enclosed by a 7-foot-tall security fence.
- The Applicant proposes to use existing wood vegetation at a minimum width of 50 feet to screen the Project on all sides and to mitigate visual impact on on-site historic sites.
- The Applicant's glare study predicts no glare on any stationary receptors, private driveways, public roads, or airports included in the study.

Cultural Resource Impacts

- There are two Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties listings or National Register of Historic Places listings within the Project Site. MHT has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the Project.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant utilized the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Notice Criteria Tool to determine that the Project does not exceed notice criteria. The Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) indicates in its September 17, 2025 letter that the Project is not an obstruction or hazard to air navigation.
- The Site is accessible via Rephann Dr. SW off McMullen Hwy SW. The proposed access driveway starts at Rephann Dr. SW and runs northwest into the Site along the northern property border.
- During construction of the Project, major material and equipment will be delivered by tractor-trailers and offloaded by construction vehicles. Daily traffic will 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 mowing and vegetation maintenance, as well as quarterly to yearly maintenance, along with site visits for any operational issues that may arise.
- The Applicant states that it will take photographs of the affected roads prior to the start of construction. Any damage to local roadways will be monitored by the Applicant and restored in accordance with County requirements and standards.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant's ERD states that the Project will employ approximately 36 direct and 12 indirect jobs during construction. During operation, the Project will generate approximately one to two permanent maintenance jobs.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project includes a capital cost of approximately \$13 million.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

- The Applicant's ERD indicates that the Project would reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in Maryland and in the Mid-Atlantic region by approximately 340 tons per year (tpy) and 6,370 tpy, respectively.

