Note:
This summary was last updated on
July 17 <u>2025</u>
For current information, follow this
link: PSC Docket Case #9777

Amish Road Solar 4624 Amish Rd. Grantsville, MD 21536 (Garrett County)

PSC Case #9777

PPRP Case Manager: Chris Aadland

Note:
This summary is based on information provided in the CPCN. Application filed the CPCN with the PSC on <u>January 29</u>, 2025, which is subject to change and have not yet been fully reviewed by PPRP.

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on January 29, 2025 Applicant's Filed Direct Testimony Due: June 11, 2025 1st Public Hearing: June 18, 2025

PPRP Will File Direct Testimony: September 19, 2025 2nd Public Hearing: October 29, 2025

PSC Evidentiary Hearing (if settlement is reached): November 13, 2025

Single Project Location:

The Amish Road Solar Project (Project) will be located on a portion of a 298.1-acre parcel southwest of Grantsville, Maryland (Figure 1) in Garrett County. Google Map Link. Per the Applicant, the approximate limit of disturbance (LOD) for the Project will be 43 acres.

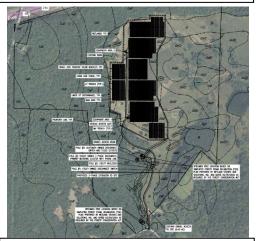
Project Overview:

Amish Road Solar 1, LLC (Applicant) has applied for a CPCN to construct a 5 MW AC single axis tracker solar array in Garrett County.

Project components include:

- Approximately 12,936 Trina TSM-585 solar modules on a piledriven single-axis tracking rack system.
- Interconnection will be to the Jennings Substation
- 462 strings of 28 modules
- 20 inverters and
- 2 equipment pads

Figure 1. Project Location



Source: Amish Road Solar 1, LLC Concept Plan

Site Description

The Project site consists of 298.1 acres of agricultural land and forests located on a former reclaimed coal mine site. The LOD is 43 acres. Approximately 29.43 acres are considered farmland of statewide importance. Surrounding land uses include forest, wetlands, and additional agricultural lands. The Project parcel is not zoned within the county.

The Project is a Community Solar Energy Generating System and will deliver all of its output to subscribers via the Potomac Edison 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 23A3058390006552 for 5.0 MW.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- The Applicant's December 18, 2023 letter from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) verifies that the Project
 "is not likely to adversely affect" the endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Habitat for the
 endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalist*), and the candidate monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) is within the
 project site.
- The Applicant's December 28, 2023, letter from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), determined that this Project site falls within the headwaters of the Casselman River, which is known to support populations of the state-listed endangered Stonecat (*Noturus flavius*) and Striped Shiner (*Luxilus chrysocephalus*). The applicant intends to follow MDDNR recommendations and comply with MDE and Garrett County stormwater management regulations. Therefor no adverse impacts are anticipated to these species.
- The Applicant states that the Project will not obtain the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Facility Designation but will incorporate pollinator-friendly seed mixes.



- The applicant states that no tree clearing is proposed for the project.
- The Applicant's ERD states the Project is located within a Tier II watershed (Casselman River).
- The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Watershed Restoration and Planning Program in a
 December 30, 2024 email determined that the Casselman River has assimilative capacity remaining and
 due to the Project's LOD being under 100 acres no further review is required at this time.
- The Applicant further states that as no forest clearing is proposed, and storm water management will be in compliance with MDE and Garrett County stormwater management regulations. No adverse impacts are anticipated within the Tier II watershed for this Project.

Noise Impacts

• The Applicant's ERD states that the nearest residence is located 1,800 feet from the onsite electrical equipment

Visual Impacts

- The Project will be enclosed by an agricultural style security fence.
- The Applicant has stated that due to existing forest buffer surrounding the site, no additional buffer is needed to provide screening of the solar array.
- The Applicant received a letter from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) dated June 18, 2024, which
 confirmed that this project has No Hazard to Air Navigation.
- The Applicant after consulting with the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) received a letter dated October 1, 2024, from the MAA which confirmed that the Project is not an obstruction or hazard to air navigation.
- Of the 15 receptors analyzed in the applicant's Glare Analysis, no red, green or yellow glare was observed.

Cultural Resource Impacts

The Applicant received a letter from the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) dated January 6, 2025, which
determined that the Project would have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Public Safety and Transportation

- The Applicant states that the entrance to the Project site will be located along Fire Clay Road.
- During construction, large materials and equipment will be transported to staging areas on tractor-trailers and
 offloaded by construction 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 State Fire Marshal to ensure that health and safety requirements are met.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Applicant estimates that the Project will create 101 jobs with 33 being direct jobs, 40 being indirect jobs and 28 will be induced jobs. The jobs will mainly be in design, management, and construction. Following construction, the Project will generate 1 permanent job.
- The Applicant indicates that the Project represents a capital investment of approximately \$12 million.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided

• The Applicant indicates that the Project will displace 6,370 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions annually in the Mid-Atlantic region.

