

Note:
This summary was last updated on
October 19, 2020
For current information, follow this link:
[PSC Docket Case #9652](#)

Fairview Farm Solar
2000 Calvary Road,
Bel Air, MD 21015
(Harford County)
[PSC Case Number 9652](#)
PPRP Manager: Ginny Rogers

Note:
This summary is based on information
provided in the CPCN Application dated
September 02, 2020 which is subject to
change and has not yet been fully
reviewed by PPRP

CPCN Timeline

CPCN Application filed on 2 September 2020
1st Public Hearing: 15 December 2020, Time and Location TBD
Applicant's Direct Testimony Due: 8 January 2021
Intervenors' Direct Testimony Due: 8 April 2021
2nd Public Hearing: 20 April 2021, Time and Location TBD
PSC Evidentiary Hearing: 29 April 2021

Project Location:

The Project will occupy approximately 140 acres of a 255-acre parcel. The property address is 2000 Calvary Road, Bel Air (Figure 1). [Google Map Link](#)

Project Overview:

PTR HoldCo, LLC has filed for a CPCN to construct a 30 MW solar array.

Project components include:

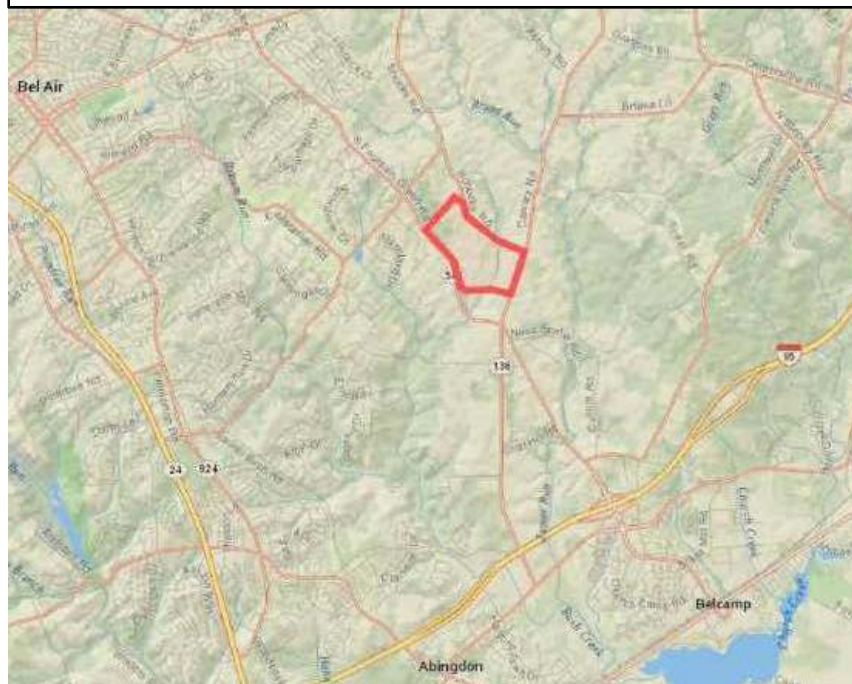
- Approximately 102,000 photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a single-axis tracking racking system (maximum height of 12 feet and spacing of 15 feet are anticipated);
- 13 inverter pads;
- Interconnection via direct line taps on 33 kV circuits along Calvary Road;
- Aggregate roads for access; and
- A minimum 7-foot high fence.

Figure 2: Aerial View



Source: Fairview Solar Project CPCN Application. (Not to scale)

Figure 1: Project Location



Source: Fairview Farm Solar Project CPCN Application

Site Description

The 255-acre Project site includes agricultural fields, a residential farm complex (including an occupied residence, an unoccupied residence, barn, silo, milking parlor, and various other outbuildings), as well as unfarmed wetland areas. The various buildings of the residential farm complex are accessed by a gravel drive that includes one corrugated metal pipe crossing of an unnamed tributary to Bynum Run. The site is surrounded primarily by farmland and forests. A series of unscreened residences lies to the north along Schucks Road.

The Project site is zoned Agricultural (AG), where "public utility facilities" are a principal permitted use. The majority of the Project site is considered prime farmland.

Impact Assessment Highlights

Biological

- The Project is not located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.
- An unnamed tributary to Bynum Run bisects the Project Site. An existing crossing on one of the existing driveways provides access from one side of the site to the other; both sides of the Project also have independent access from public roadways.
- Wetland areas are also present at the Project site.
- The Application states that if electrical connection equipment must cross the stream or wetland, overhead or underground horizontally directionally drilled connections will be used to avoid impact.
- The Applicant is proposing to maintain 100-foot wetland buffers and 150-foot stream buffers.
- The Project is located within the Bynum Run watershed, which drains to the Bush River. The site is within a Tier II catchment; however, the unnamed tributary on the property is not a Tier II stream segment.
- There are no known rare, threatened or endangered species or forest interior dwelling species habitat at the Project site.
- The Applicant is proposing to include pollinator habitat as part of the Project.

Economic and Fiscal

- The Project is expected to create temporary design, construction, and maintenance jobs.
- The Project represents a capital investment of approximately \$55-\$60 million.
- The Application states that project construction is expected to last approximately 6 months and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Land Use

- Surrounding land uses are agricultural, forest, and residential.

Transportation

- Construction traffic will include deliveries of materials and heavy equipment via tractor-trailer, as well as daily traffic consisting of cars, trucks, and other personal vehicles.
- Project entrances will include entrances along Calvary Road and Schucks Road.
- During operation, traffic will be limited to quarterly to yearly maintenance and inspection crews.

Visual Impacts

- The Project will be secured with a 7-foot high chain link fence.
- The proposed array layout will maintain a 50-foot Type E buffer yard surrounding the Project fence, except where there is a minimum 50-feet of natural forest cover under a conservation easement.
- The Applicant's glare analysis indicates that the Project will not create glare on nearby properties or public roads.
- The Project is located approximately 5 miles from the Harford County Airport and 7 miles from the Fallston Airport. The Applicant has provided glare study results to the Maryland Aviation Administration.

Cultural & Aesthetic

- There are no Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties or National Register of Historic Places listings for the Site.
- The Applicant has contacted the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), which has requested additional information to determine the Project's impact on historic properties. MHT has determined that no archaeological investigations are required.

Public Service Impacts

- Water and sewer utilities will not be used for the Project.