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Second Public Comment Hearing January 23 on 5.0 MW Solar Plant Proposed for Worcester County

For Immediate Release: January 9, 2025

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(BALTIMORE, MD) – Local residents and other interested members of the public are again invited to comment on a proposal by Pocomoke City Community Energy Initiative, LLC to construct a 5.0 MW solar generating facility in Worcester County. The hearing will take place on **Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Pocomoke City Community Center, 1410 Market Street in Pocomoke City. Public Utility Law Judge Jennifer J. Grace will preside. The first public comment hearing in this case was held on October 2, 2024.

In May 2024, Pocomoke City Community Energy Initiative applied to the Maryland Public Service Commission for what is known as a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), which grants an applicant the authority to construct an energy generating station or high-voltage transmission line in Maryland. According to the application, the solar facility, intended as part of Maryland's community solar program, would be built on approximately 36 acres of a 121.5-acre parcel at 610 Ocean Highway in the Pocomoke City area.

The hearing will include a presentation by the developer, brief statements from the Power Plant Research Program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Office of People's Counsel, and the Commission's Technical Staff on their roles in the proceeding and their recommendations regarding the project, followed by an opportunity for members of the public to comment on the proposed project.

In addition to the hearing, written comments can be sent (**by January 27, 2025**) electronically through the Commission's online portal at <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/>, or by mail. Comments sent by mail should be addressed to: Jamie Bergin, Chief Clerk, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 (only one copy is required). So that they are noted in the proper case file, all comments should reference Case No. [9740](#).

In addition to the online docket, the application is available for public review at the Worcester County Department of Development Review and Permitting, 1 West Market Street in Snow Hill.

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About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities and suppliers, telephone companies (land lines), private water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire, taxicab companies in some jurisdictions and bay pilot rates. The Commission implements the energy policy of the State and also regulates the siting of energy generating facilities and high-voltage transmission lines.

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