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Second Public Hearing Oct. 19 for Costen Solar Project in Somerset County

For Immediate Release: October 6, 2021

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(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Maryland Public Service Commission will hold a second virtual public comment hearing on a proposed 10.625 MW solar generating facility in Somerset County. Community residents and other interested parties are welcome to take part in the hearing which is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 7 p.m.** Public Utility Law Judge Christine Burke will preside. The first public comment hearing in this case was held on June 29, 2021.

Costen Solar, Inc. has applied to the 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. Costen Solar's project is slated to be constructed on about 57 acres of property owned by Chesapeake Renewable Energy, LLC located at 33001 Costen Road in Pocomoke City. The project will include approximately 34,000 solar panels and an interconnection to Choptank Electric Cooperative's Edgewood substation.

Members of the public who wish to speak at the hearing can **sign up by sending an email to psc.pulj@gmail.com by 12 noon on October 18, 2021.** The hearing will be held on the Webex platform and participants will receive an email with the link to join in. The hearing will be simultaneously livestreamed on the Public Utility Law Judge's YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/2X6wLiP>

In addition to the hearings, written comments can be submitted electronically through the Commission's online public comments portal at <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/> Comments sent by mail should be addressed to: Andrew Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. All comments should be sent by October 22, 2021 and should reference Case No. [9662](#).

Costen Solar's application is available for public inspection at the Somerset County Department of Planning and Zoning, Somerset County Office Complex (Room 211), 11916 Somerset Avenue in Princess Anne.

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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), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Charles County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

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