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Second Public Hearing Set for Solar Facility Proposed for Carroll County

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(BALTIMORE, MD) – Local residents and other interested members of the public are again invited to comment on a proposal by Elk Development, LLC to construct the 2.125 MW Cape Horn solar project in Carroll County. The virtual hearing will take place on **Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Manchester Volunteer Fire Company Meeting Hall, 3297 York Street* in Manchester, before Public Utility Law Judge Jennifer J. Grace. (*Please note that the judge's earlier notice contained an incorrect address for the Volunteer Fire Company). The first hearing in this case was held November 12, 2024.

In July 2024, Elk Development 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 developer proposes to build two separate arrays on just under 12 acres of a 35-acre site at the intersection of Cape Horn Road and Hampstead Mexico Road in Hampstead. The project is intended as part of Maryland's community solar program.

The hearing will include a presentation by Elk Development and 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, 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 March 7, 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. So that they are noted in the proper case file, all comments should reference Case No. [9747](#).

In addition to the online docket, the application is available for review at the Carroll County Department of Land and Resource Management, 225 North Center Street in Westminster.

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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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