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CONTACT: Tori Leonard
410-767-8054
443-829-9111 (c)
tori.leonard@maryland.gov



Second Public Hearing Oct. 18 for CPV Backbone Solar Project

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Media Contact: Tori Leonard | tori.leonard@maryland.gov | (410) 767-8054

(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Maryland Public Service Commission will hold a second virtual public comment hearing on a proposed 175 MW solar generating facility in Garrett County. Community residents and other interested parties are welcome to take part in the hearing which is scheduled for **Monday, October 18, 2021 at 7 p.m.** Public Utility Law Judge Jennifer Grace will preside. The first public comment hearing in this case was held on August 3, 2021.

CPV Backbone Solar, LLC 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. The project—which would include more than 406,000 solar panels—is slated to be constructed on about 1,170 acres of land previously used for coal mining. The project site is located at 5187 Kitzmiller Road in Kitzmiller.

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 Friday, October 15, 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 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 18, 2021** and should reference Case No. [9663](#).

In addition to the Commission's website, the application is available for public inspection at the Garrett County Department of Planning and Land Management, Permits & Inspection Division, Courthouse Administrative Building, 203 South Fourth Street (Room 208) in Oakland.

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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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WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER TOWER □ 6 ST. PAUL STREET □ BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-6806

410-767-8000 □ Toll Free: 1-800-492-0474 □ FAX: 410-333-6495

MDRS: 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice) □ Website: www.psc.state.md.us