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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 2.142 MW Pleasant Valley solar project in Carroll County. The virtual hearing will take place on **Monday, March 24, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** before Public Utility Law Judge Kristin Case Lawrence. The first hearing in this case was held February 24, 2025.

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 the project, intended as part of Maryland's community solar program, on approximately 12 acres of a 33-acre site between Pleasant Valley Road and Magers Drive near Westminster.

The hearing will include a presentation by Elk Development and recommendations 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.

Those who would like to speak at the hearing must sign up (by Friday, March 21, 2025) through the Calendly app on the Commission's website:

www.psc.state.md.us:

- Under 'Featured Topics' on the right side of the webpage, click on 'Public Comment Hearing Sign Up';
- Click on 'Case 9746', and the hearing date and time (March 24 at 6:30 pm);
- Click 'Next', enter name and email
- Click 'Schedule Event'

Once the sign up process is complete, registrants will receive a Zoom link.

In addition to the hearing, written comments can be sent (**through March 28, 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. [9746](#).

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.