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Virtual Public Hearing Set for Solar Facility Proposed for Harford County

For Immediate Release: February 6, 2026

(BALTIMORE, MD) – Local residents and other interested members of the public are invited to comment on a proposal by Hopewell Ranch Solar 1, LLC to construct a 2.5 MW solar generating facility in Harford County. The virtual hearing will take place on **Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** before Public Utility Law Judge Jennifer J. Grace.

In September 2025, the developer 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 in Maryland. According to the application, the developer proposes to build the project, intended as part of Maryland’s community solar program, on approximately 11.5 acres of a nearly 35-acre property located at 127 Hopewell Road in Churchville.

In addition to taking comments from the public, the hearing will include a presentation by the applicant, brief statements by the parties, including the Power Plant Research Program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the Commission’s Technical Staff, as to their respective roles in the case.

Those who would like to speak at the hearing must sign up (by February 18, 2026) through the Calendly app on the Commission’s website, www.psc.state.md.us:

- From the home page, scroll down to ‘Comment on a Case’ on the left;
- Click the link for ‘Learn More’;
- Scroll down to the Calendly app and click on ‘9811-Hopewell Ranch Solar 1 LLC’;
- Click on the hearing date (February 19);
- Click on the time (6:30 p.m.);
- Click ‘Next’, enter name and email;
- Click ‘Schedule Event’

Once the sign up process is complete, registrants will receive a Zoom link. Barring any technical difficulties, the hearing can also be watched on the PULJ Division’s (MD PSC PULJs) YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/@mdpscpuljs327>

In addition to the hearing, written comments can be sent electronically through the Commission's online portal at: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/online-services/file-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. [9811](#) and can be sent in through July 20, 2026.

In addition to the online docket, the application is available for review at the Harford County Planning and Zoning Office, 220 S. Main Street in Bel Air.

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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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