



Northumberland County, Virginia

Office of Building & Zoning

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 11, 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia as amended that the Northumberland County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **May 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Northumberland County Courts Building at 220 Judicial Place in Heathsville, adjacent to the Sheriff's Office, in order to consider:

1. An amendment to the Northumberland County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 148 Article I, Section 148-3; Definitions, to:
 - a. Define **Solar Energy Facility, Small System** as "A private solar energy conversion system, whose primary purpose is to produce power for residential applications, consisting of photovoltaic panels, support structures, and associated control, conversion, and transmission hardware which has the rated capacity to produce not more than 25 kilowatts (kW) of electrical power and which has a total site area of 1,500 square feet or less."
 - b. Define **Solar Energy Facility, Medium Scale** as: "A private solar energy conversion system, whose primary purpose is to produce power for commercial and industrial applications, consisting of photovoltaic panels, support structures, and associated control, conversion, and transmission hardware which has the rated capacity to produce more than 25 kilowatts (kW) of electrical power and which has a total site area of five (5) acres or less. This definition does not pertain to small agricultural generators as defined by section 56-594.2 of Virginia State Code."
 - c. Define **Solar Energy Facility, Utility Scale** as: "An energy conversion system, whose primary purpose is to produce power for consumption by a utility provider, consisting of photovoltaic panels, support structures, and associated control, conversion, and transmission hardware which has a total site area of more than five (5) acres. This definition does not pertain to small agricultural generators as defined by section 56-594.2 of Virginia State Code."
2. Add an article to the Northumberland County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 148, **Solar Energy Facility Regulations** that details the requirements for application submittal and the approval process for Small, Medium and Utility Scale Solar Energy Facilities.
3. An amendment to the Northumberland County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 148 Article I, Section 148-5; Usages, to:
 - a. Allow "Solar Energy Facility, Small System" as a By-Right Use in all Zoning Districts.
 - b. Allow "Solar Energy Facility, Medium Scale and Solar Energy Facility, Utility Scale" as a Conditional Use in all Zoning Districts.

Proposed amendments can be viewed in the Office of Building and Zoning or on the County's webpage (www.co.northumberland.va.us). All written comments should be received by the Office of Building and Zoning prior to the Commission meeting. For further information concerning this request, contact Stuart McKenzie in the Office of Building & Zoning at the Courthouse in Heathsville, VA (580-7921 or email smckenzie@co.northumberland.va.us). If you are physically disabled, hearing or visually impaired and need assistance with this hearing, please call Bill Knight at (804) 580-8910 (Voice) or Via the Virginia Relay or TDD for assistance.

Northumberland County Planning Commission, By: Stuart McKenzie, County Planner