

# SENATE BILL 983

C5, M5  
SB 1025/24 – EEE

5lr0809  
CF HB 827

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By: **Senator Brooks**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar Energy – Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and**  
3 **Necessity, Ground–Mounted Solar, and Small Solar Siting Workgroup**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a distributed generation certificate of public convenience  
5 and necessity to authorize the construction and operation of a certain distributed  
6 solar energy generating system; requiring the Power Plant Research Program, by a  
7 certain date, to develop and submit to the Public Service Commission proposed siting  
8 and design requirements and licensing conditions; prohibiting a person from  
9 beginning construction of a distributed solar energy generating system unless a  
10 distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity or certificate of  
11 public convenience and necessity is first obtained from the Commission; prohibiting  
12 a county from enacting zoning laws or adopting regulations restricting or prohibiting  
13 the construction or operation of certain ground–mounted solar systems and facilities;  
14 establishing a Small Solar Siting Workgroup to review, determine, and make  
15 recommendations regarding certain best practices and statewide model policies for  
16 certain solar energy generating systems; and generally relating to solar energy.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article – Natural Resources  
19 Section 3–306(a)(1)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
23 Article – Public Utilities  
24 Section 7–207(b)(1)(i) and (ii) and 7–207.1(c)(1)  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

27 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
28 Article – Public Utilities

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 7–207(h)  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

4 BY adding to  
5 Article – Public Utilities  
6 Section 7–207.4  
7 Annotated Code of Maryland  
8 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

9 Preamble

10 WHEREAS, The State has set aggressive minimum renewable energy requirements,  
11 recognizing that a shift toward sustainable energy sources is crucial for the health of our  
12 planet and the well–being of future generations; and

13 WHEREAS, The State has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 60%  
14 from 2006 levels, reflecting a proactive stance in the global effort to combat climate change;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Distributed solar energy generation is an essential component of  
17 meeting these aggressive policies, offering both economic opportunities and environmental  
18 benefits; and

19 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that an efficient permitting process for  
20 distributed solar energy generating stations with consistency across jurisdictions is  
21 necessary to meet the State’s renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction  
22 commitments and can be structured to preserve farmland and forests; now, therefore,

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Natural Resources**

26 3–306.

27 (a) (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article or the Public  
28 Utilities Article, on application to the Public Service Commission for a certificate of public  
29 convenience and necessity associated with power plant construction **IN ACCORDANCE**  
30 **WITH § 7–207 OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ARTICLE**, the Commission shall notify  
31 immediately the Department [of Natural Resources] and the Department of the  
32 Environment of the application.

33 **Article – Public Utilities**

34 7–207.

1 (b) (1) (i) [Unless] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF**  
2 **THIS PARAGRAPH, UNLESS** a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the  
3 construction is first obtained from the Commission, a person may not begin construction in  
4 the State of:

5 1. a generating station; or

6 2. a qualified generator lead line.

7 (ii) [If a person obtains Commission approval for construction under  
8 § 7–207.1 of this subtitle, the Commission shall exempt a person from the requirement to  
9 obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity under this section.] **A PERSON IS**  
10 **NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND**  
11 **NECESSITY UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE PERSON OBTAINS:**

12 1. **COMMISSION APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION UNDER**  
13 **§ 7–207.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR**

14 2. **A DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CERTIFICATE OF**  
15 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY UNDER § 7–207.4 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

16 (h) (1) A county or municipal corporation has the authority to approve or deny  
17 any local permit required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued  
18 under this section.

19 (2) A county or municipal corporation shall approve or deny any local  
20 permits required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this  
21 section:

22 (i) within a reasonable time; and

23 (ii) to the extent local laws are not preempted by State law, in  
24 accordance with local laws.

25 (3) A county or municipal corporation may not condition the approval of a  
26 local permit required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under  
27 this section on receipt of any of the following approvals for any aspect of a generating  
28 station, an overhead transmission line, or a qualified lead line proposed to be constructed  
29 under the certificate:

30 (i) a conditional use approval;

31 (ii) a special exception approval; or

32 (iii) a floating zone approval.

1 7-207.1.

2 (c) (1) The Commission shall require a person that is exempted from the  
3 requirement to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity **UNDER §**  
4 **7-207(B)(1)(II)1 OF THIS SUBTITLE** to obtain approval from the Commission under this  
5 section before the person may construct a generating station described in subsection (b) of  
6 this section.

7 **7-207.4.**

8 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
9 **INDICATED.**

10 (2) **“DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC**  
11 **CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY” OR “DGCPCN” MEANS A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY**  
12 **THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION THAT AUTHORIZES THE CONSTRUCTION**  
13 **AND OPERATION OF A DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM.**

14 (3) **“DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM” MEANS A**  
15 **COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM, AS DEFINED IN § 7-306.2 OF**  
16 **THIS TITLE, THAT:**

17 (I) **WOULD BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC**  
18 **CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY UNDER § 7-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE IF THE SYSTEM**  
19 **DOES NOT OBTAIN A DGCPCN UNDER THIS SECTION;**

20 (II) **HAS A CAPACITY TO PRODUCE MORE THAN 2 MEGAWATTS**  
21 **BUT NOT MORE THAN 5 MEGAWATTS OF ALTERNATING CURRENT; AND**

22 (III) **IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.**

23 (4) **“FOREST” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-1601 OF THE**  
24 **NATURAL RESOURCES ARTICLE.**

25 (5) **“POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM” MEANS THE PROGRAM**  
26 **WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES UNDER TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 3**  
27 **OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES ARTICLE.**

28 (6) **“STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS” MEANS THE**  
29 **PREDETERMINED LICENSING CONDITIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER**  
30 **THIS SECTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A DISTRIBUTED SOLAR**  
31 **ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM THAT HAS BEEN ISSUED A DGCPCN UNDER THIS**  
32 **SECTION.**

1           **(7) “STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS” MEANS THE**  
2 **PREDETERMINED OBJECTIVE REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION**  
3 **UNDER THIS SECTION FOR THE SITING AND DESIGN OF A DISTRIBUTED SOLAR**  
4 **ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM THAT HAS BEEN ISSUED A DGPCPN UNDER THIS**  
5 **SECTION.**

6           **(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH**  
7 **PROGRAM, AFTER GIVING NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT,**  
8 **SHALL DEVELOP AND SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION PROPOSED STANDARD SITING**  
9 **AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSED STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS**  
10 **FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A DGPCPN.**

11           **(2) IN DEVELOPING THE PROPOSED STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN**  
12 **REQUIREMENTS AND THE PROPOSED STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS, THE**  
13 **POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM SHALL CONSIDER:**

14                   **(I) ACHIEVEMENT OF THE STATE’S CLIMATE AND RENEWABLE**  
15 **ENERGY COMMITMENTS;**

16                   **(II) REASONABLE SETBACKS AND LANDSCAPE SCREENING**  
17 **REQUIREMENTS;**

18                   **(III) ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION, INCLUDING**  
19 **PROHIBITIONS ON FOREST CLEARANCE EXCEPT WHERE NECESSARY TO:**

20                           **1. REDUCE SOLAR PANEL SHADING NEAR THE**  
21 **PERIMETER OF THE PROJECT SITE;**

22                           **2. FACILITATE INTERCONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE;**

23 **AND**

24                           **3. ENSURE ADEQUATE SITE ACCESS;**

25                   **(IV) STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, EROSION AND SEDIMENT**  
26 **CONTROL, AND SITE STABILIZATION, ACCOUNTING FOR:**

27                           **1. THE EFFECTS OF RUNOFF FROM SOLAR PANELS;**

28                           **2. THE IMPACTS OF SOLAR PANELS ON SOIL DENSITY**  
29 **AND COMPACTION; AND**

30                           **3. THE IMPACTS OF SOLAR PANELS ON GROUND COVER**  
31 **UNDER THE PANELS;**

1 (V) MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF A  
2 DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM ON HISTORIC SITES;

3 (VI) PUBLIC SAFETY;

4 (VII) INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES; AND

5 (VIII) LICENSING CONDITIONS PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE  
6 COMMISSION FOR SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS, INCLUDING  
7 REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO DECOMMISSIONING.

8 (c) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT  
9 REGULATIONS TO:

10 (i) IMPLEMENT STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN  
11 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS FOR A DGPCN;

12 (ii) SPECIFY THE FORM OF THE APPLICATION FOR A  
13 DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM TO RECEIVE A DGPCN AND  
14 ANY APPLICATION FEE; AND

15 (iii) SPECIFY THE COMMISSION'S PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING  
16 AN APPLICATION FOR A DGPCN.

17 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER THE PROPOSED STANDARD  
18 SITING AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS AND THE PROPOSED STANDARD LICENSING  
19 CONDITIONS DEVELOPED BY THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM IN  
20 ADOPTING THE REGULATIONS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

21 (3) (i) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE POWER  
22 PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM, MAY PERIODICALLY SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENTS  
23 REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN  
24 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS FOR A DGPCN.

25 (ii) THE PROCESS FOR SOLICITING PUBLIC COMMENTS UNDER  
26 SUBPARAGRAPH (i) OF THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE THE SAME AS THE PROCESS FOR  
27 SOLICITING PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF A REGULATION.

28 (4) (i) THE COMMISSION MAY SET AN APPLICATION FEE FOR A  
29 DGPCN APPLICATION AT AN AMOUNT THAT THE COMMISSION DETERMINES MAY  
30 OFFSET THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE DGPCN APPROVAL PROCESS.

1                   **(II) THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF**  
2 **THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE BASED ON AN ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF DGPCN**  
3 **APPLICATIONS THAT WILL BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION EACH YEAR.**

4           **(D) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF A DISTRIBUTED**  
5 **SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM UNLESS:**

6                   **(I) A DGPCN IS FIRST OBTAINED FROM THE COMMISSION IN**  
7 **ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION; OR**

8                   **(II) A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**  
9 **IS FIRST OBTAINED FROM THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-207 OF THIS**  
10 **SUBTITLE.**

11           **(2) WHEN A PERSON SUBMITS AN APPLICATION FOR A DGPCN TO**  
12 **THE COMMISSION, THE PERSON SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE APPLICATION TO:**

13                   **(I) THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM; AND**

14                   **(II) THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE**  
15 **DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM IS PROPOSED TO BE LOCATED.**

16           **(E) (1) AFTER RECEIVING AN APPLICATION FOR A DGPCN BUT**  
17 **BEFORE A DETERMINATION IS MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE**  
18 **COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND HOLD**  
19 **A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A DGPCN IN EACH COUNTY IN**  
20 **WHICH ANY PORTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY**  
21 **GENERATING SYSTEM IS PROPOSED TO BE LOCATED.**

22           **(2) THE COMMISSION MAY HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING VIRTUALLY**  
23 **RATHER THAN IN PERSON IF THE COMMISSION PROVIDES A COMPARABLE**  
24 **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE HEARING.**

25           **(F) (1) WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE DATE AN APPLICATION FOR A**  
26 **DGPCN IS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION, THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH**  
27 **PROGRAM SHALL:**

28                   **(I) DETERMINE WHETHER THE DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY**  
29 **GENERATING SYSTEM SATISFIES THE STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN**  
30 **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DGPCN; AND**

31                   **(II) NOTIFY THE COMMISSION IN WRITING AS TO THE**  
32 **DETERMINATION MADE UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, INCLUDING HOW AN**

1 APPLICATION THAT IS DETERMINED NOT TO SATISFY THE STANDARD SITING AND  
2 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS CAN CURE THE DEFICIENCY.

3 (2) IN MAKING A DETERMINATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
4 SUBSECTION, THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH PROGRAM SHALL CONSIDER PUBLIC  
5 COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION.

6 (G) (1) WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE POWER PLANT RESEARCH  
7 PROGRAM MAKES ITS DETERMINATION UNDER SUBSECTION (F)(1) OF THIS  
8 SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL SCHEDULE A HEARING TO CONSIDER THE  
9 APPLICATION FOR A DGCPCN.

10 (2) (I) AT THE HEARING UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
11 SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROPOSED  
12 DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM SATISFIES THE STANDARD  
13 SITING AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.

14 (II) THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE A DGCPCN TO AN  
15 APPLICANT TO CONSTRUCT A PROPOSED DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY  
16 GENERATING SYSTEM SUBJECT TO THE STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS IF THE  
17 COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY  
18 GENERATING SYSTEM SATISFIES THE STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN  
19 REQUIREMENTS.

20 (III) THE COMMISSION MAY NOT ISSUE A DGCPCN TO AN  
21 APPLICANT IF THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM  
22 DOES NOT SATISFY EACH OF THE STANDARD SITING AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.

23 (3) IN MAKING A DETERMINATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE  
24 COMMISSION MAY CONSIDER PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION  
25 UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (H) (1) A DGCPCN ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION  
27 SHALL REQUIRE THE PERSON CONSTRUCTING THE DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ENERGY  
28 GENERATING SYSTEM TO OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM  
29 THE COUNTY, MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, OR SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT IN  
30 WHICH THE SYSTEM IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED:

31 (I) SITE PLAN APPROVAL;

32 (II) STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL;

33 (III) EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN APPROVAL;



1 (IV) ALL APPLICABLE BUILDING AND ELECTRICAL PERMITS;  
2 AND

3 (V) ANY ADDITIONAL LOCAL PERMIT REQUIRED BY THE  
4 STANDARD LICENSING CONDITIONS.

5 (2) THE PROVISIONS OF § 7-207(H) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL APPLY  
6 TO ANY PERMITS AND APPROVALS REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
7 SUBSECTION.

8 (I) A DGPCPN ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION HAS  
9 THE SAME FORCE AND EFFECT AS A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND  
10 NECESSITY ISSUED UNDER § 7-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a county may not enact zoning  
12 laws or adopt regulations that restrict or prohibit the construction or operation of energy  
13 generating systems or facilities that are ground-mounted solar with a capacity to produce  
14 up to 2 megawatts of alternating current.

15 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

16 (a) There is a Small Solar Siting Workgroup.

17 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

18 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
19 the Senate;

20 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
21 House;

22 (3) one representative of the Maryland Energy Administration, designated  
23 by the Director of the Administration;

24 (4) one representative of the Department of Natural Resources, designated  
25 by the Secretary of Natural Resources;

26 (5) one representative of the Department of the Environment, designated  
27 by the Secretary of the Environment;

28 (6) one representative of the Department of Agriculture, designated by the  
29 Secretary of Agriculture;

30 (7) one representative of the Department of Planning, designated by the  
31 Secretary of Planning;

1 (8) one representative of the Chesapeake Solar and Storage Solar  
2 Association, designated by the President of the Association;

3 (9) one representative of the Solar Energy Industries Association,  
4 designated by the President of the Association;

5 (10) one representative of the Coalition for Community Solar Access,  
6 designated by the President of the Coalition;

7 (11) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties, designated  
8 by the President of the Association;

9 (12) one representative of the Maryland Farm Bureau, designated by the  
10 President of the Bureau;

11 (13) one representative of Forever Maryland, designated by the Executive  
12 Director of Forever Maryland;

13 (14) one representative of the League of Conservation Voters, designated by  
14 the Chair of the Board of Directors of the League;

15 (15) one representative of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network,  
16 designated by the Executive Director of the Network; and

17 (16) one representative of the Maryland Sierra Club, designated by the  
18 Director of the Club.

19 (c) The representative of the Maryland Energy Administration shall serve as  
20 chair of the Workgroup.

21 (d) The Maryland Energy Administration shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

22 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

23 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

24 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
25 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

26 (f) The Workgroup shall review, determine, and make recommendations  
27 regarding:

28 (1) best practices for solar energy generating systems with capacities of up  
29 to 2 megawatts of alternating current, including:

30 (i) the possibility of statewide setback and screening requirements;

1 (ii) whether there should be additional State or local incentives for  
2 the development of solar energy generating systems on brownfields, parking lots, and other  
3 non-agriculturally-zoned land;

4 (iii) whether there should be additional State or local incentives for  
5 agrivoltaics development; and

6 (iv) what other forms of standardization should apply to these solar  
7 energy generating systems; and

8 (2) the establishment of a statewide model policy for solar energy  
9 generating systems with capacities of up to 2 megawatts of alternating current.

10 (g) On or before December 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall submit an interim report  
11 of its initial findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §  
12 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

13 (h) On or before December 1, 2026, the Workgroup shall submit a final report of  
14 its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the  
15 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

16 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 1 and 2 of this Act  
17 may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to the construction  
18 or modification of any solar energy generating system for which a certificate of public  
19 convenience and necessity or other required approval was obtained before the effective date  
20 of the regulations adopted by the Public Service Commission under § 7-207.4(c) of the  
21 Public Utilities Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

22 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General  
23 Assembly that nothing in Section 2 or 3 of this Act be construed to abrogate, modify, or  
24 limit the holding of the Supreme Court of Maryland in Board of County Commissioners of  
25 Washington County, Maryland v. Perennial Solar, LLC, 464 Md. 610 (2019).

26 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
27 1, 2025. Sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the  
28 end of June 30, 2027, Sections 2 and 3 of this Act, with no further action required by the  
29 General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.