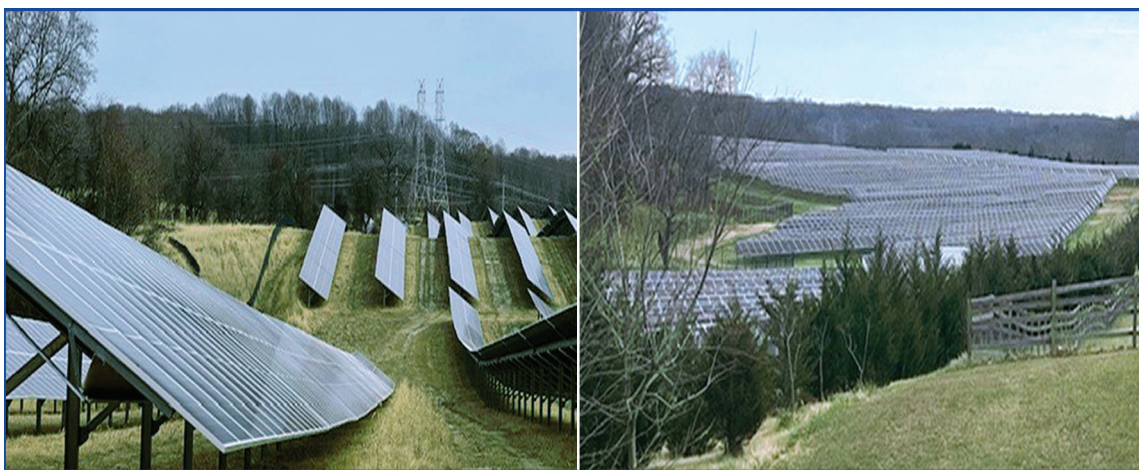




Prince George's County
The Department of Permitting,
Inspections and Enforcement



DPIE Issues Solar Permits to Increase Clean Power Options for County Residents, Businesses



As more Prince Georgians search for ways to power their homes and businesses with clean energy, DPIE permits for solar farms and rooftop solar panels have increased.

DPIE issued the first permits for solar farms, also called solar parks, in 2016. Since then, more than 65 such permits have been issued. Each farm has thousands of solar panels. A solar farm on Mill Branch Road in Bowie, for example, has more than 5,000 panels.

From July 2023 to December 2024, DPIE issued 4,578 permits for rooftop solar to be added to homes. Panels on homes typically range from two to 20. Solar panels have been proven to significantly reduce electricity consumption.

Solar farms are large power facilities erected to harness energy from sunlight through photovoltaic (PV) panels, transform it into electricity then feed it into the power grid. Solar farms are often placed on vacant agricultural lots and on lots not considered good for construction. The lots are leased to solar power companies for a limited time — often 15–25 years, then returned to the property owners.

“Solar energy has become an increasingly viable option for homeowners and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and lower energy costs,” according to the Maryland Department of the Environment website.

Benefits of solar energy:

1. Less expensive power source
 2. Reduces greenhouse gas emissions
 3. Provides a use for otherwise difficult-to-use land
 4. Enhances resale value of homes
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