

**DEQ**  
**Renewable Energy**  
**Permit by Rule**  
**Solar PBR**

# Key Definitions

- Permit by Rule: means that a project or activity is deemed to have a permit if it meets the requirements
- Preconstruction: means any time prior to commencing land-clearing operations necessary for the project
- Small solar energy project: less than or equal to 100MW; single interconnection agreement.
- Disturbance zone: directly impacted by construction/operation and within 100 ft. of project boundary

# Applicability

- PBR Projects: Greater than 5 MW AND a disturbance zone greater than 10 acres
- Section 130 Projects: Equal to or less than 5MW OR less than or equal to 10 acres disturbance zone: only require notification to DEQ and certification of local government

# Solar PBR Components

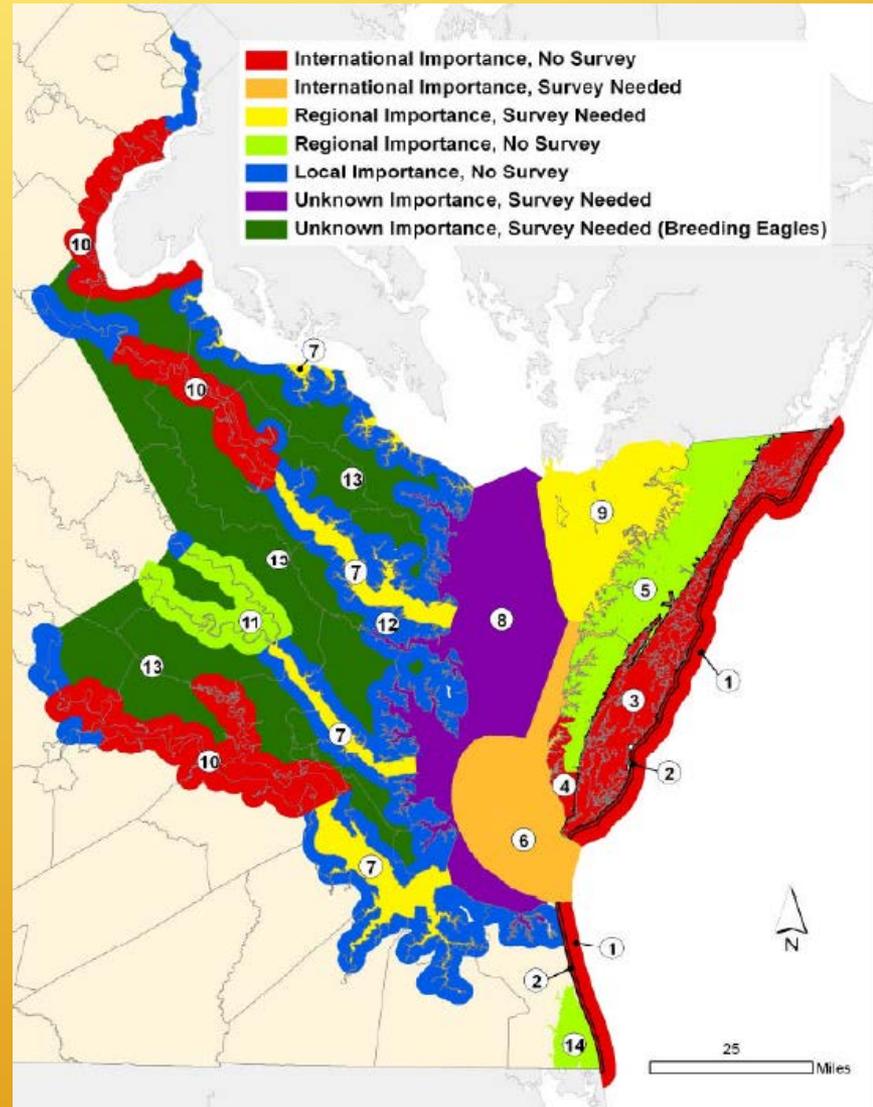
- Notice of Intent
- Local government Certification
- Interconnection Studies
- Interconnection Agreement
- Certification project doesn't exceed 100MW
- Analysis of NAAQS

# Solar PBR Components (Cont.)

- Analysis on impacts to natural resources
  - Wildlife; within 12 months (DGIF)
  - Historic; preconstruction analysis (DHR)
  - Other; within 12 months (DCR)
- Mitigation plan if required
- Coastal Aviation Protection Zone Review

# Coastal Aviation Protection Zone

PBR requires mitigation for projects located in CAPZ zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, or 14.



# Solar PBR Components (Cont.)

- Operating Plan
- Site Plan and Context Map
- Certification that project has applied for or received *all necessary environmental permits*
- Conducts a 30-day public review and comment including a public meeting
- Appropriate permit fee

# DEQ Permit Review

- Determination of whether application is complete
  - 90 days to make completeness determination
  - Consultation with sister agencies –DGIF, DHR, DCR
- If complete; send a letter authorizing construction and operation
- If incomplete, notify applicant of deficiencies



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Contacts

### Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 1105  
Richmond, VA 23218

#### Contact Us:

1-(804) 698-4000  
1-800-592-5482 (Toll Free in VA)

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## Solar Energy

DEQ developed the Solar Permit By Rule (PBR) Regulation and the Solar PBR Guidance. Information about the development of the regulations and guidance appears below.



### Solar PBR Regulation

The Solar PBR Regulation was published in the Virginia Register on June 18, 2012 and became effective on July 18, 2012.

### Solar PBR Guidance

DEQ has developed guidance for the benefit of Solar PBR applicants, members of the public, and agency staff. The Solar PBR Guidance addresses pre-construction natural resource analyses, mitigation plans, post-construction monitoring, and other PBR requirements and issues. Where appropriate, the Guidance discusses methods of performing the required regulatory tasks.

## Documents & Resources

- 2009 Statute
- Virginia Regulatory Town Hall Information



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## Renewable Energy Projects

The following is a list of notices of intent for proposed small renewable energy projects that have been submitted to the Department. Please note, the applicant is responsible for providing notice of the public meeting and comment period, holding the public meeting and receiving comments as part of the permit by rule application process under [9VAC15-40-30](#) or [9VAC15-60-30](#), as applicable.

Small renewable energy projects that have submitted a complete application and are covered by the permit-by-rule are listed on the [Permitting & Compliance](#) page and noted below with an asterisk and are shown in [green font](#).

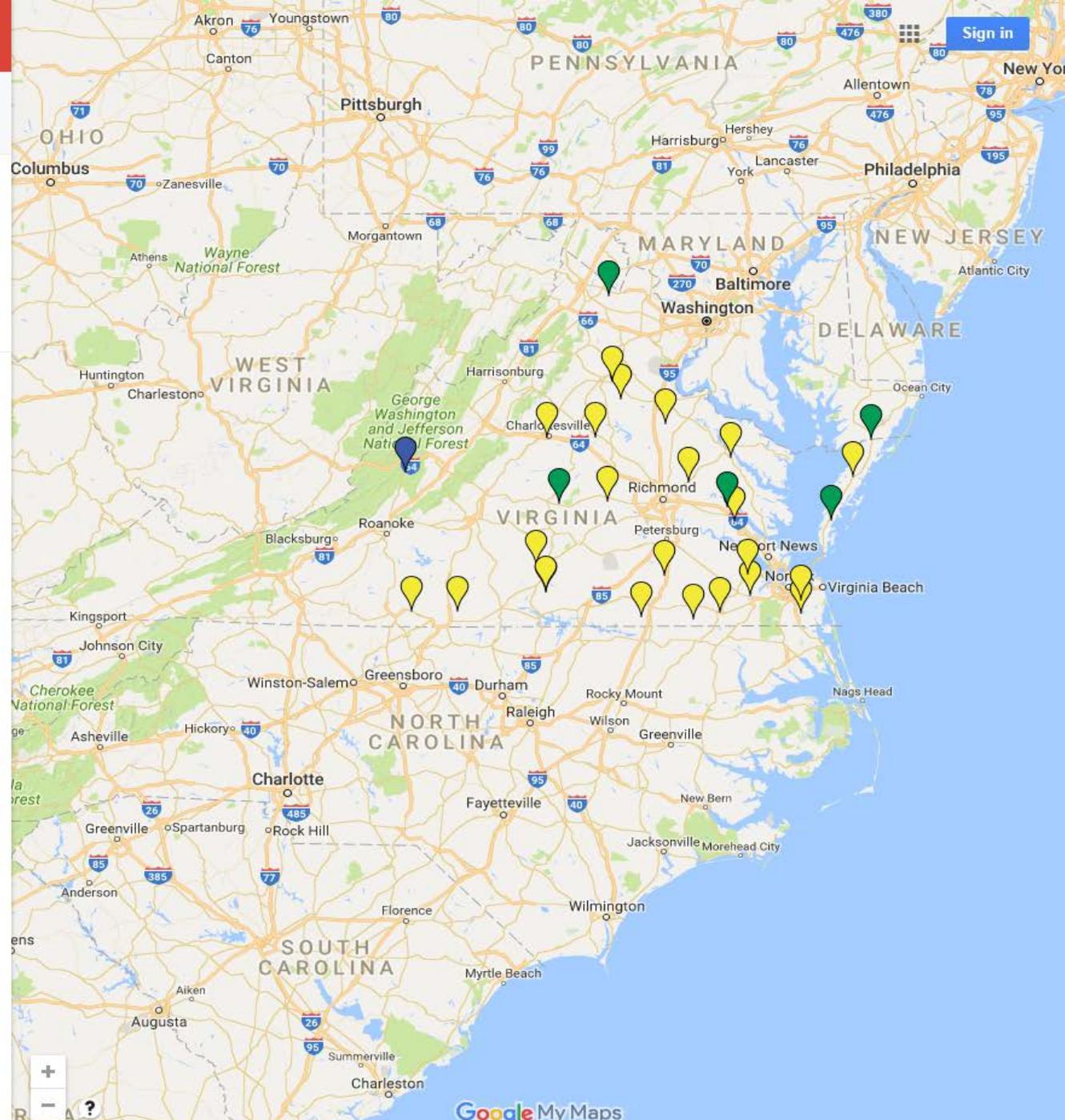
- [Virginia Solar/Belcher Solar LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit by Rule in Louisa County](#)
- [SunPower Corporation - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit by Rule in James City County](#)
- [SolUnesco LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit by Rule in Caroline County](#)
- [SolUnesco LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit By Rule in Orange County](#)
- [SolUnesco LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit By Rule in Charlottesville, Albemarle County](#)
- [SolUnesco LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project Permit By Rule in Henry County](#)
- [Sunpower Corporation - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Southampton County](#)
- [SunEnergy1 - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Mechanicsville, VA \(Hanover County\)](#)
- [Solar Access Development Group LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Culpeper County](#)
- [Scott-II Solar LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Powhatan County](#)
- [Twittys Creek Solar, LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Charlotte County](#)
- [Sappony Solar LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Sussex County](#)
- [\\* Correctional Solar LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in New Kent County](#)
- [Southampton Solar LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Southampton County](#)
- [Bluestone Farm Solar, LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Mecklenburg County](#)
- [SolUnesco LLC - Notice of Intent for Small Renewable Solar Energy Project in Mecklenburg County](#)

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☑ Map Key

- ⌵ 📍 Proposed Solar
- 📍 Permitted
- 📍 Proposed Wind



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# Projects in the Coastal Zone

- 12 PBR Projects submitted NOIs
- 3 PBR Permitted Projects located in CZ
  - Amazon Solar Farm U.S. East – 80 MW
  - Cherrydale -20 MW
  - Correctional solar – 20 MW
- Dominion also has a 19MW project in Isle of Wight under construction – Woodland Solar

# Dominion -Woodland Solar Isle of Wight



<https://www.dom.com/library/domcom/videos/isle-of-wight-solar.mp4?la=en>









# Contact Information

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