



AGENDA

Board of Supervisors Work Session

April 26, 2022

6:00 PM

Call to Order

- A. Presentation on Solar Utility in Virginia – Susan Seward
- B. Adjournment



Advantus
S T R A T E G I E S

Rural Solar Development Coalition

2022

Robert G. Crockett
Susan Seward

Clean Economy Act

- Virginia Clean Economy Act (2019) requires the state's utilities to procure 16k MW of solar and onshore wind.
- DOMINION = 10,000 MW/yr. for 10 yrs.
- = ~250+ square miles utility-scale solar

2021 General Assembly

- Objective: make rural counties whole for length of solar agreement (>35 years)
 - Index revenue share for solar
 - Index revenue share for energy/battery
 - Expand siting agreements to include energy/battery storage

House Bill 2269

- RSDC initiative
- Allows localities to increase revenue share assessment by 10% beginning July 1, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter.
- Applies to energy/battery storage
- § [58.1-2636](#). Revenue share for solar energy projects and energy storage systems.

HB2006/SB 1201

- Declares that energy/battery facilities are certified pollution control equipment – exempt from local and state taxation
- However, includes same language as HB2269 – allowing localities to increase revenue share by 10% beginning 7-1-2026, and every 5 years thereafter.

§ § [58.1-2600](#), [58.1-2628](#), [58.1-2636](#), and [58.1-3660](#), relating to tax exemptions for energy storage systems.

HB2201/SB1207

- Amends Host siting agreement (HB1675 (2020))
- Expands provisions for counties to execute siting agreements for solar AND Battery/energy storage projects
- *An Act to amend and reenact § § [15.2-2288.8](#) and [15.2-2316.6](#) through [15.2-2316.9](#) of the Code of Virginia, relating to solar projects and energy storage projects; siting agreements throughout the Commonwealth.*

SB1258 (E&S)

- Allows NON-MS4 communities ability to 'opt-out' of local review and administration of E&S:
 - review of a required E&S control plan
 - recommendation on the plan's compliance with the requirements of the E&S law for solar projects >5MW
 - Provides for certain action on the part of DEQ on behalf of localities in reviewing and making recommendations and decisions

[FYI: Legislation is contingent on funding in State Budget. Budget approved 2 FTEs in 2021.]

Siting Agreement

Creates opportunities for host locality to include specific terms and conditions:

- provides flexibility for counties to connect solar/storage with CIP
- Opportunity zone requirement eliminated
 - mitigate impacts of proposed solar/battery-energy facility
 - financial compensation to address needs of county
- annual indexing

Host Agreements (EX)

- Many executed across rural VA
- Value estimated >\$150 million for rural VA
- Counties in RSDC are mature re. siting agreements
- Most recent siting agreement in RSDC county obtained \$25K/MW – for Dominion self-developed project
- Uses include:
 - Broadband
 - Water (tanks and infrastructure)
 - Emergency Services in underserved areas
 - Tele-health and Tele-education
 - Communications (towers)
 - Enhanced recreation opportunities

RSDC

Rural Solar Development Coalition

- 2021 Off-Season
 - Negotiated with developers to remove <5MW exemption
 - Decommissioning and bonding and end-of-life study

2022 General Assembly

- HB774 and SB499 directs SCC to review the impact – both positive and negative – of the decommissioning of utility scale solar and energy storage development. Drafted by Robert and Joe Lerch (VACo).
- SB502 and HB1087 was an initiative of the RSDC (negotiated with CHESSA) removing the tax exemption for small solar projects ($\leq 5\text{MW}$). Bill would not apply to any projects $\leq 5\text{MW}$ approved prior to July 1, 2022.

About the RSDC

- Maintain record of siting agreements executed within RSDC counties
- Facilitate monthly virtual meetings for roundtable
- Feature guest speakers (Dominion - advance RFP calls); SCC solar leadership; (c) DEQ personnel (stormwater guidance and expectations); (d) DOE – Weldon Copper presented their summary findings in May to RSDC.

About the RSDC

- Encourage sharing of information; dialogue with developers
- Encourage and develop best practices (i.e. use of § 15.2-2288.8. Special exceptions for ≤ 5 MW projects - to obtain “substantial cash payments” for small solar energy projects
- Advance test solar initiatives (Beta test SolTax revenue model for Weldon Cooper).

About the RSDC

- Founded as a bundled resource to advocate for rural counties in General Assembly
 - Siting Agreement (Robert)
 - Revenue Share Index (Robert, Susan)
 - Removal of ≤ 5 MW exemption (Robert, Susan)
 - Life Cycle Study (Robert, Susan & Joe)
 - Expansion of Siting Agreement (Robert & Susan)
(negotiated, developed language with developers)

Thanks!
&
Questions



Advantus
STRATEGIES