MEMORANDUM

DATE:

February 27, 2018

TO:

Zoning Review Office

FROM:

Office of Administrative Hearings

RE:

Case No. 2018-0124-SPHX - Appeal Period Expired

The appeal period for the above-referenced case expired on February 26, 2018. There being no appeal filed, the subject file is ready for return to the Zoning Review Office and is placed in the 'pick up box.'

c: Case File

Office of Administrative Hearings

IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING *
AND SPECIAL EXCEPTION

(10021 Old Court Road)

2nd Election District

4th Council District

Margaret E. Neubauer, et al

Legal Owners

Solar Smart, LLC

Lessee

BEFORE THE

OFFICE OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 2018-0124-SPHX

Petitioners

* * * * * * *

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for consideration of Petitions for Special Hearing and Special Exception filed on behalf of Margaret E. Neubauer, et al, legal owners and Solar Smart, LLC, lessee ("Petitioners"). The Special Hearing was filed pursuant to \$500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R") to approve an amendment to Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1, to allow the development of a Solar Facility. A Petition for Special Exception was filed to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned RC 2.

Nicholas Linehan, Donald Zimmerman, Elizabeth Neubauer, Jane Culver and Ann Albrecht attended the public hearing in support of the requests. Timothy Kotroco, Esq. represented the Petitioners. Four citizens attended the hearing to obtain additional information regarding the requests. The Petition was advertised as required by the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. Substantive Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received from the Bureau of Development Plans Review (DPR), Department of Planning (DOP), State Highway Administration (SHA) and the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS).

The subject property (known as Lot 1) is approximately 62.386 acres in size and is zoned RC 2. Petitioners propose to construct a solar facility on approximately plenares in the subject ORDER RECEIVED.

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property, as delineated on the site plan admitted as Exhibit 1. A solar facility is permitted by special exception in the RC 2 zone.

SPECIAL EXCEPTION

Under Maryland law, a special exception use enjoys a presumption that it is in the interest of the general welfare, and therefore, valid. Schultz v. Pritts, 291 Md. 1 (1981). The Schultz standard was revisited in Attar v. DMS Tollgate, LLC, 451 Md. 272, (2017), where the court of appeals discussed the nature of the evidentiary presumption in special exception cases. The court again emphasized a special exception is properly denied only when there are facts and circumstances showing that the adverse impacts of the use at the particular location in question would be above and beyond those inherently associated with the special exception use.

Mr. Linehan, a landscape architect accepted as an expert, testified Petitioners satisfied the requirements of B.C.Z.R. §502.1 governing special exceptions. He indicated the Lessee would install approximately 6,000 solar panels on two separate "pods" at the site, which would generate approximately 1.98 MW of electricity. He described the site plan in detail and discussed the landscaping proposed for the project, which would for the most part screen the solar facility from adjacent homes and motorists on Old Court Road, which is a scenic route. In light of this testimony, and in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, the petition for special exception will be granted.

Concerning the ZAC comment submitted by DPR, the undersigned respectfully disagrees that "solar panels are considered a utility." Indeed, in a 2016 zoning case (No. 2016-0335-SPHX) the undersigned made just such a determination, which was ultimately reversed by the circuit court. Bill 37-17 was enacted at least in part in response to this precedent. The landscaping requirements

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for a solar facility are not specified in the Landscape Manual, which is understandable given the legislation permitting the use was enacted less than a year ago.

In fact, Bill 37-17 itself specifies that a "landscaping buffer shall be provided around the perimeter" of a solar facility that is visible from a dwelling or public street. Petitioners are aware of this requirement and the schematic landscape plan submitted at the hearing (Pet. Ex. No. 2) shows plantings in those areas. There was a reference in the DOP ZAC comment to "interior contour screening" at the site. Mr. Zimmerman, an engineer employed by the Lessee, indicated that vegetation and shrubs cannot be planted among the solar panel arrays, since it would require frequent maintenance and could also interfere with or shade the solar panels. This would be antithetical to the goal of such a facility, and Petitioners shall not be required to provide landscaping inside the chain link fencing which will enclose the solar panels.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this <u>26th</u> day of January 2018, by this Administrative Law Judge, that the Petition for Special Hearing to approve an amendment to Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1, to allow the development of a Solar Facility thereon, be and is hereby GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Special Exception to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned RC 2 be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

- 1. Petitioners may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this Order. However, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until 30 days from the date hereof, during which time an appeal can be filed by any party. If for whatever reason this Order is reversed, Petitioners would be required to return the subject property to its original condition.
- 2. For so long as the solar facility is operational and/or solar panels remain on the subject property no dwelling(s) or improvements of any kind other than those shown on the site plantage ENTHE FORTHUNG

Date 125/18

By Alp

permitted on Lot 1 of Minor Subdivision Plan No. 06059M.

- 3. Petitioners must comply with the ZAC comment submitted by DEPS, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.
- 4. Prior to issuance of permits Petitioners must submit for approval by Baltimore County a landscape plan for the site providing for a buffer around the perimeter of any portion of the solar facility that is visible from a dwelling or public street.
- 5. The chain link fence proposed for the site shall have black vinyl coating on all portions which are visible from a dwelling or public roadway.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

JEB/sln

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

Date 176/18

4

PEIIION FOR ZONING HEARING(S) To be filed with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

To the Office of Administrative Law of Baltimore County for the property located

at:_Address10021 Old Court Rd_,Baltir	more 21244 which is presently zoned
Deed Reference# 34199/00409	10 Digit Tax Acct #2500011036
Property Owner(s) Printed Names(s) Margaret Elizabeth I	Neubauer Ann T. Albrecht, Jane Ellen Culver
ELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING X AT THE APPROPRIATE	SELECTION AND PRINT OR TYPE THE PETITION REQUEST)
	n Baltimore County and which is described in the description ade a part hereof, hereby petition for:
X a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoni	ing Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether
or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve	
X a Special Exception under the Zoning Regulations	s of Baltimore County to use the herein described property for
a openial exception and of the Zorning Regulations	of Baltimore obtains to use the herein described property for
a Variance from Section(s)	
the zoning regulations of Baltimore County, to the zo	oning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons:
	indicate below "TO BE PRESENTED AT HEARING". If
ou need additional space, you may add an attachment	
perty is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulat	
r we, agree to pay expenses of above petition(s), advertising, posting, eld restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for	etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations
	der the penalties of perjury, that I / We are the legal owner(s) of the property
ch is the subject of this / these Petition(s).	
ntract Purchaser/Lessee:	Legal Owners (Petitioners):
	Margaret E Neubauer / Ann T. Albrecht / Jane E. Culver
plar Smart LLC PETER RUNDLE	Name #1 – Type or Print Name #2 – Type or Print Name #3
ne Type or Print	Manuette W. house a la Cons
recu fre 4	Signature #1 Signature #2
nature	Signature #1 Signature #2
05 Central Ave., Ste 6, #255, Summerville, SC ing Address City State	
	Signature # 3
	m 3814 Spring Meadow Drive, Ellicott City, MD Mailing Address City State
	21042 , 410-461-2711 Janeculver 400
orney for Petitioner:	Zip Code Telephone # Email Address
mothy Kodrow	Representative to be contacted:
ne- Type of Print	
uter Cotroco	Richard Matz PE
nature '	Name Type or Print
o' washington Aue Ste 502 Jourson 21204	frily 1 100
ing Address City State	Signature 2835 Smith Ave. Suite G Baltimore MD
1	2835 Smith Ave., Suite G Baltimore MD
Code Telephone # Email Address	Mailing Address City State
	21209 , 410-653-3838 dmatz@cmrengineers.co
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2018-0124-5PHX 11011	7 112110 At
ASE NUMBER Filing Date / / / /	Do Not Schedule Dates: / () Reviewer
	REV. 10/4/11
	By

ATTACHMENT TO SPECIAL EXCEPTION PETITION AND SPECIAL HEARING RELIEF

10021 Old Court Road, Baltimore County

The Petitioner, requests the following zoning relief:

SPECIAL EXCEPTION RELIEF, pursuant to section 4E-102.A of the BCZR to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned R.C.2;

AND For such other and further relief as the nature of this cause may require.

The Petitioner, requests a **SPECIAL HEARING** under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve an amendment to the Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1 to allow the development of a Solar Facility Pursuant to section 4E-102.A of the BCZR.

2018-0124-SPHX

Civil Engineers . Surveyors . Planners



ZONING DESCRIPTION

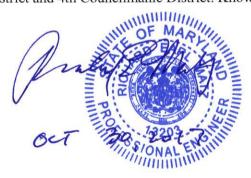
10021 Old Court Road Baltimore County, MD

BEGINNING at a point on the south side of Old Court Road which is 50' wide at a distance of 1,600' west of the centerline of the intersection of Old Court Road and Dogwood Road which is 60' wide, the following courses and distances:

- 1. South 04 degrees 36 minutes 02 seconds East, 955.66 feet, more or less
- 2. South 60 degrees 07 minutes 01 seconds West, 1,047.49 feet
- 3. North 76 degrees 28 minutes 57 Seconds West, 669.09 feet
- 4. North 44 degrees 57 minutes 47 seconds West, 381.99 feet.
- 5. North 76 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West, 550.00 feet
- 6. North 23 degrees 49 minutes 03 seconds East. 724.51 feet
- 7. North 02 degrees 25 minutes 57 seconds West, 526.76 feet
- 8. South 62 degrees 40 minutes 54 seconds East, 24.83 feet
- 9. South 79 degrees 06 minutes 55 seconds East. 55.95 feet
- 10. South 67 degrees 02 minutes 02 seconds East, 297.16 feet
- 11. Thence by a curve to the left with a radius of 1,270.42 feet, and an arc length of 387.38 feet, more or less
- 12. South 84 degrees 30 minutes 23 seconds East. 510.06 feet
- 13. South 86 degrees 28 minutes 43 seconds East, 201.98 feet
- 14. Thence by a curve to the left with a radius of 1,170.58 feet, and an arc length of 281.37 feet
- 15. North 79 degrees 46minutes 57 seconds East, 172.19 feet, to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING: 2,717,534 square feet (62.386 acres), more or less. and being designated as Lot 1 on the approved plan.

Located in the 2nd Election District and 4th Councilmanic District. Known as 10021 Old Court Road.



Professional Certification

I hereby certify that these documents were prepared or approved by me, and that I am a duly licensed professional engineer under the laws of the State of Maryland.

License No. 13203 Expiration Date: 11/02/2018

2018-0124-5PHX

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

ATTENTION: KRISTEN LEWIS

DATE: 1/2/2018

Case Number: 2018-0124-SPHX

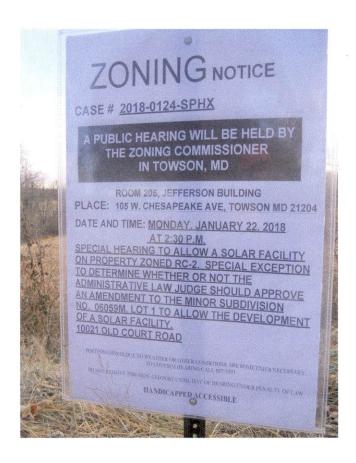
Petitioner / Developer: TIMOTHY KOTROCO, ESQ. ~ PETER RUNDLE~

NEUBAUER, ALBRECHT, CULVER ~ RICHARD MATZ

Date of Hearing: JANUARY 22, 2018

This is to certify under the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were posted conspicuously on the property located at: 10021 OLD COURT ROAD

The sign(s) were posted on: JANUARY 1, 2018



(Signature of Sign Poster)

Linda O'Keefe

(Printed Name of Sign Poster)

523 Penny Lane

(Street Address of Sign Poster)

Hunt Valley, Maryland 21030

(City, State, Zip of Sign Poster)

410 - 666 - 5366

(Telephone Number of Sign Poster)



KEVIN KAMENETZ County Executive

ARNOLD JABLON
Deputy Administrative Officer
Director, Department of Permits,
Approvals & Inspections

December 20, 2017

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 2018-0124-SPHX

10021 Old Court Road

S/s Old Court Road, 1600 ft. W/of centerline of Dogwood Road

2nd Election District – 4th Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Margaret Neubauer, Ann Albrecht, Jane Culver

Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Solar Smart, LLC

Special Hearing to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned RC-2. Special Exception to determine whether or not the Administrative Law Judge should approve an amendment to the Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1 to allow the development of a Solar Facility.

Hearing: Monday, January 22, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 205, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Arnold Jablon
Director

AJ:kl

C: Timothy Kotroco, 305 Washington Avenue, Ste. 502, Towson 21204
Peter Rundle, 1605 Central Avenue, Ste. 6, #233, Summerville SC 29483
Albrecht, Culver, Neubauer, 3814 Spring Meadow Drive, Ellicott City 21042
Richard Matz, 2835 Smith Avenue, Ste. G, Baltimore 21209

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY THUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018.

- (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE AT 410-887-3868.
- (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

Tuesday, January 2, 2018 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Don Zimmerman
Alder Energy Systems, LLC
495 Jessen Lane
Charleston, SC 29492

843-353-0066

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 2018-0124-SPHX

10021 Old Court Road

S/s Old Court Road, 1600 ft. W/of centerline of Dogwood Road

2nd Election District – 4th Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Margaret Neubauer, Ann Albrecht, Jane Culver

Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Solar Smart, LLC

Special Hearing to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned RC-2. Special Exception to determine whether or not the Administrative Law Judge should approve an amendment to the Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1 to allow the development of a Solar Facility.

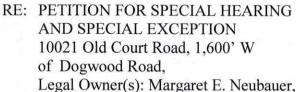
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Arnold Jablon

Director of Permits, Approvals and Inspections for Baltimore County

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE AT 410-887-3868.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.



Legal Owner(s): Margaret E. Neubau Ann T. Albrecht & Jane Culver

Contract Purchaser(s): Solar Smart, LLC

By Peter Rundle

Petitioner(s)

- BEFORE THE OFFICE
- * OF ADMINSTRATIVE
- * HEARINGS FOR
- * BALTIMORE COUNTY
- * 2018-124-SPHX

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Pursuant to Baltimore County Charter § 524.1, please enter the appearance of People's Counsel for Baltimore County as an interested party in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and the passage of any preliminary or final Order. All parties should copy People's Counsel on all correspondence sent and all documentation filed in the case.

RECEIVED

NOV 07 2017

Peter Max Zummerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Combo S Dombo

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel Jefferson Building, Room 204 105 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 7th day of November, 2017, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Richard Matz, 2835 Smith Avenue, Suite G, Baltimore, Maryland 21209 and Timothy Kotroco, Esquire, 305 Washington Avenue, Suite 502, Towson, Maryland 21204, Attorney for Petitioner(s).

Peter Max Zimmerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel for Baltimore County

DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the legal owner/petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the legal owner/petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

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KEVIN KAMENETZ County Executive ARNOLD JABLON
Deputy Administrative Officer
Director, Department of Permits,
Approvals & Inspections

January 18, 2018

Margaret E Neubauer Ann T Albrecht Jane E Culver 3814 Spring Meadow Drive Ellicott City, MD 21042

RE: Case Number: 2018-0124 SPHX, Address: 10021 Old Court Road

To Whom It May Concern:

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits, Approvals, and Inspection (PAI) on November 1, 2017. This letter is not an approval, but only a **NOTIFICATION**.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR: jaw

Enclosures

c: People's Counsel
Solar Smart LLC, Peter Rundle, 1605 Central Avenue, Suite 6, #255, Summerville SC 29483
Timothy M Kotroco, Esquire, 305 Washington Avenue, Suite 502, Towson MD 21204
Richard Matz, PE, 2835 Smith Avenue, Suite G, Baltimore MD 21209



ADMINISTRATION



Larry Hogan Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor Pete K. Rahn Secretary Gregory Slater

Administrator

November 7, 2017

Ms. Kristen Lewis Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 109 Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the site plan to accompany the petition for special exception, special hearing, for the proposed solar facilities located on the south side of Old Court Road (MD 125) in Baltimore County. The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) has reviewed the submittal listed below and is pleased to respond.

10021 Old Court Road
Site Plan Review for Special Exception, Special Hearing
Case No. 2018-0124-SPHX
MD 125 (south side) east of Granite Road
Baltimore County

The proposed entrances to these solar facilities from MD 125 will be subject to the terms of an entrance permit that may be obtained by contacting Mr. Aamir Khurram, MDOT SHA Resident Maintenance Engineer – Owings Mills Shop at 410-363-1315. A copy of the plan will be forwarded to his office.

If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Richard Zeller at 410-229-2332 or toll free (in Maryland only), 1-866-998-0367 (x2332) or by email at (rzeller@sha.state.md.us).

Sincerely,

Wendy Wolcott, P.L.A.

Metropolitan District Engineer

Maryland Department of Transportation

State Highway Administration

District 4 - Baltimore and Harford Counties

cc: Colbert Matz Rosenfelt, Inc. / 2835 Smith Avenue, Suite G, Baltimore, MD 21209 Solar Smart, LLC / 8761 Dorchester Road, Suite 205, North Charleston, SC 29420

Alder Energy Systems, LLC / 495 Jensen Lane, Charleston, SC 29492

Mr. Aamir Khurram, MDOT SHA Resident Maintenance Engineer - Owings Mills Shop





Larry Hogan Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor Pete K. Rahn Secretary

Gregory Slater

Administrator

Date: 11/6/17

Ms. Kristen Lewis Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 109 Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Ms. Lewis:

We have reviewed the site plan to accompany petition for variance on the subject of the Case number referenced below, which was received on Moles Consistent with current State Highway Administration guidelines is required. As a condition of approval for ', Case

Number 2018-01245PAK.

Special Exception Special Hearing

Mary evet E. Neubauer, Ann T. Albricht.

June E. Culner

10021012 Court Road. MS 125

The applicant must contact the State Highway Administration to obtain an entrance permit. Should you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact Richard Zeller at 410-229-2332 or 1-866-998-0367 (in Maryland only) extension 2332, or by email at (rzeller@sha.state.md.us).

Sincerely,

Wendy Wolcott, P.L.A.

Metropolitan District Engineer

Maryland Department of Transportation

State Highway Administration

District 4 - Baltimore and Harford Counties

WW/RAZ

cc: Mr. Michael Pasquariello, Utility Engineer, SHA

DATE: 12/1/2017

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

RECEIVED

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:

Arnold Jablon

Deputy Administrative Officer and

Director of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM:

Andrea Van Arsdale

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 18-124

INFORMATION:

Property Address:

10021 Old Court Road

Petitioner:

Margaret Elizabeth Neubauer, Ann T. Albrecht, Jane Ellen Culver

Zoning:

RC 2

Requested Action:

Special Hearing, Special Exception

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for special hearing to determine whether or not the Administrative Law Judge should approve an amendment to the minor subdivision (PAI) No. 06059 M, Lot 2. The Department also reviewed the petition for special exception to use the property for a solar facility.

A site visit was conducted on November 13, 2017. The property was the subject of Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) Issue # 4-025 in which the property retained its R.C. 2 zoning classification. This property is located within the Patapsco/Granite Area Community Plan.

The Department does not oppose granting the petitioned zoning relief conditioned upon the following.

Old Court Road is a Baltimore County Scenic Route. When developing on a scenic route, the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies (CMDP) development guidelines instructs one to "maintain a buffer between the road and the new development" (CMDP pg. 180).

- The proposal shall minimize grading, tree and vegetation removal along Old Court Road.
- The Department supports the Baltimore County Landscape Architect in planting requirements deemed necessary to include interior contour screening and other planting schemes that will mitigate the visual impact of the special exception proposal upon the scenic route.

Additional conditions are as follows:

- Pursuant to BCZR §502.1.A, petitioners shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Administrative Law Judge that the facility will not be detrimental to the adjacent residential properties as a result of glare emanating from the facility.
- Petitioners shall note on the plan that the proposed solar facility will be subject to BCZR §4E-107.
- Petitioners shall certify by note on the plan that the proposed solar facility will not exceed the
 maximum permitted number of facilities allowed in its respective councilmanic district. If
 approved, Petitioners shall submit to this Department at the time of building permit application

Date: 12/1/2017
 Subject: ZAC # 18-124

Page 2

the final fixed location and area of the facility by coordinate data so that an inventory may be kept.

- Lighting shall be limited to what is required for security purposes only and will be sited in such a way as to have minimal spillage onto neighboring properties.
- Signage shall be limited to that which is necessary for safety and security purposes.
- No deliveries or outdoor maintenance which may generate excessive noise may occur on-site between the hours of 6 P.M. through 6 A.M.
- Indicate on the plan the means and location by which the solar facility connects to the power grid and whether grading or clearing will be involved.

Be advised that the site is within an Agricultural Priority Preservation Area as designated in the Baltimore County Master Plan 2020 (MP2020). Said plan warns that "incremental development continues to threaten the protection of resources and the viability of the agricultural industry." (MP2020 pg.92). The Department recommends that the future viability of commercial agricultural in Baltimore County be weighed when considering this special exception proposal within the context of 502.1.G.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Keeve Brine at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by

Lloyd T. Moxley

Deputy Director:

Jeff Mayhew

AVA/KS/LTM/ka

c: Keeve Brine
James Hermann, R.L.A., Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections
Richard E. Matz, PE
Timothy Kotroco
Office of the Administrative Hearings
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



NOV 08 2017

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS



TO:

Hon. Lawrence M. Stahl; Managing Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM:

Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE:

November 8, 2017

SUBJECT:

DEPS Comment for Zoning Item

Address

2018-0124-SPHX

10021 Old Court Road

(Neubauer, Albrecht, Culver

Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of November 13, 2017.

- X The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item:
 - X Development of the property must comply with the Regulations for the Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains (Sections 33-3-101 through 33-3-120 of the Baltimore County Code).
 - X Development of this property must comply with the Forest Conservation Regulations (Sections 33-6-101 through 33-6-122 of the Baltimore County Code).

Additional Comments:

1. Construction and operation of this solar facility must comply with Article 4E, Sections 104, 106, and 107 of County Code, in that all onsite streams, wetlands, associated buffers, and forest shall be adequately protected. To that end, the proposed limit of disturbance for the solar facility shall not encroach into any existing Forest Buffer Easement and Forest Conservation Easement. Moreover, the Declaration of Protective Covenants for the existing Forest Buffer Easement must be recorded in Land Records prior to permit issuance. The protective covenants for the Forest Conservation Easement were recorded on 2/15/08.

Reviewer: Glenn Shaffer, Environmental Impact Review

2. In order to meet State – mandated stormwater management requirements and minimize water quality impacts, the project must be designed and constructed in accordance with the attached Maryland Department of the Environment solar panel installation guidance document as part of the permit approval process.

Reviewer: Stephen Ford, Development Coordination

MDE

Maryland Department of the Environment

Stormwater Design Guidance - Solar Panel Installations

Revisions to Maryland's stormwater management regulations in 2010 require that environmental site design (ESD) be used to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) to mimic natural hydrology, reduce runoff to reflect forested wooded conditions, and minimize the impact of land development on water resources. This applies to any residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional development where more than 5,000 square feet of land area is disturbed. Consequently, stormwater management must be addressed even when permeable features like solar panel installations exceed 5,000 square feet of land disturbance.

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When non-rooftop disconnection is used to treat runoff, the following factors should be considered:

- The vegetated area receiving runoff must be equal to or greater in length than the disconnected surface (e.g., width of the row of solar panels)
- Runoff must sheet flow onto and across vegetated areas to maintain the disconnection
- Disconnections should be located on gradual slopes (≤ 5%) to maintain sheetflow. Level spreaders, terraces, or berms may be used to maintain sheetflow conditions if the average slope is steeper than 5%. However, installations on slopes greater than 10% will require an engineered plan that ensures adequate treatment and the safe and non-erosive conveyance of runoff to the property line or downstream stormwater management practice.
- Disconnecting impervious surfaces works best in undisturbed soils. To minimize disturbance and compaction, construction vehicles and equipment should avoid areas used for disconnection during installation of the solar panels.
- Groundcover vegetation must be maintained in good condition in those areas receiving
 disconnected runoff. Typically this maintenance is no different than other lawn or landscaped
 areas. However, areas receiving runoff should be protected (e.g., planting shrubs or trees along
 the perimeter) from future compaction.

Depending on the layout and number of panels installed, the disconnection of non-rooftop runoff technique may address some or all of the stormwater management requirements for an individual project. Where the imperviousness is high or there is other infrastructure (e.g., access roads, transformers), additional runoff may need to be treated. In these situations, other ESD techniques or micro-scale practices may be needed to provide stormwater management for these features.

Example 1 – Using Non-Rooftop Disconnection Where the Average Slope ≤ 5%

Several rows of solar panels will be installed in an existing meadow. The soils within the meadow are hydrologic soil group (HSG) B and the average slope does not exceed 5%. Each row of panels is 10 feet wide and the distance between rows is 20 feet. The rows of solar panels will be installed according to Figure 1 below. In this scenario, the disconnection length is the same as the distance between rows (20 feet) and is greater than the width of each row (10 feet). Therefore, each row of panels is adequately disconnected and the runoff from 1.0 inch of rainfall is treated.

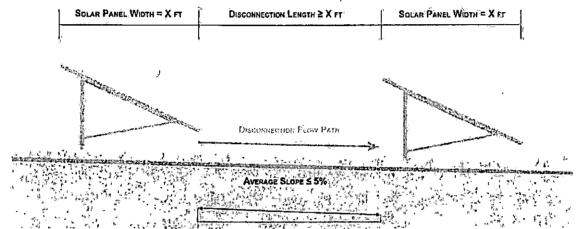


Figure 1. Typical Installation - Slope ≤ 5%

Example 2 – Using Non-Rooftop Disconnection Where the Average Slope ≥ 5% but ≤ 10%

Several rows of solar panels will be installed in an existing meadow. The soils within the meadow are hydrologic soil group (HSG) B and the average slope is greater than 5% but less than 10%. Each row of panels is 10 feet wide and the distance between rows is 20 feet. The rows of solar panels will be installed as shown in Figure 2 below. The disconnection length is the same as the distance between rows (20 feet) and is greater than the width of each row (10 feet). However, in this example, a level spreader (typically 1 to 2-foot wide and 1 foot deep) has been located at the drip edge of each row of panels to dissipate energy and maintain sheetflow.

Discussion

To meet State and local stormwater management requirements, ESD must be used to the MEP to reduce runoff to reflect forested conditions. While all reasonable options for implementing ESD must be investigated, minimally, the runoff from 1 inch of rainfall must be treated. In each of the examples above, there may be additional opportunities to implement ESD techniques or practices and reduce runoff that should be explored. However, simply disconnecting the runoff from the solar panel arrays captures and treats the runoff from 1.0 inch of rainfall. Where imperviousness is low and soil conditions less optimal (e.g., HSG C or D), this may be sufficient to completely address stormwater management requirements. In more dense applications or in sandy soils, additional stormwater management may be required.

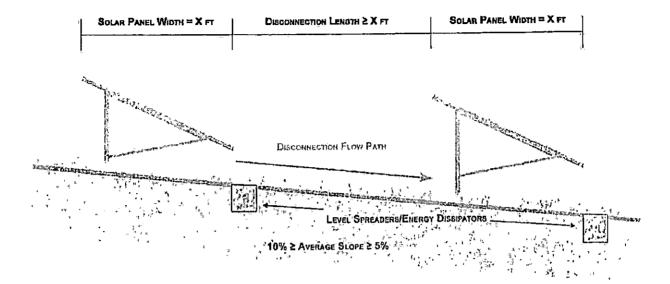


Figure 2, Typical Installation - Slope ≥ 5% but ≤ 10%

Conclusion

The primary purpose of Maryland's stormwater management program is to mimic natural hydrologic runoff characteristics and minimize the impact of land development on water resources. Any land development project that exceeds 5,000 square feet of disturbance, including solar panel projects, must address stormwater management. However, for solar panels, stormwater management may be provided in a cost-effective manner by disconnecting each row of panels and directing runoff over the vegetated areas between the individual rows.

Resources

½ 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, Volumes I and II, MDE, October 2000
(http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/StormwaterManagementProgram/MarylandStormwaterDesignManual/Pages/Programs/WaterPrograms/SedimentandStormwater/stormwater_design/index.aspx)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



RECEIVED

NOV 08 2017

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

TO:

Hon. Lawrence M. Stahl; Managing Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM:

Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE:

November 8, 2017

SUBJECT:

DEPS Comment for Zoning Item

Address

2018-0124-SPHX

10021 Old Court Road

(Neubauer, Albrecht, Culver

ODDED DECENT

Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of November 13, 2017.

<u>X</u>	The Department of Environmental	Protection an	nd Sustainability	offers the
	following comments on the above-	referenced zo	oning item:	

- X Development of the property must comply with the Regulations for the Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains (Sections 33-3-101 through 33-3-120 of the Baltimore County Code).
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Additional Comments:

1. Construction and operation of this solar facility must comply with Article 4E, Sections 104, 106, and 107 of County Code, in that all onsite streams, wetlands, associated buffers, and forest shall be adequately protected. To that end, the proposed limit of disturbance for the solar facility shall not encroach into any existing Forest Buffer Easement and Forest Conservation Easement. Moreover, the Declaration of Protective Covenants for the existing Forest Buffer Easement must be recorded in Land Records prior to permit issuance. The protective covenants for the Forest Conservation Easement were recorded on 2/15/08.

Reviewer:	Glenn Shaffer, Environmental Impact Review	
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Reviewer: Stephen Ford, Development Coordination

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

MDE

Maryland Department of the Environment

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ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

Date 1/270/18

By Alph

Page 1

Example 1 - Using Non-Rooftop Disconnection Where the Average Slope ≤ 5%

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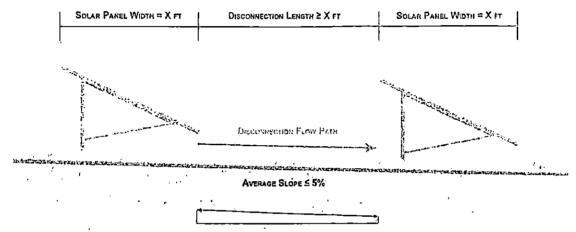


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Discussion

To meet State and local stormwater management requirements, ESD must be used to the MEP to reduce runoff to reflect forested conditions. While all reasonable options for implementing ESD must be investigated, minimally, the runoff from 1 inch of rainfall must be treated. In each of the examples above, there may be additional opportunities to implement ESD techniques or practices and reduce runoff that should be explored. However, simply disconnecting the runoff from the solar panel arrays captures and treats the runoff from 1.0 inch of rainfall. Where imperviousness is low and soil conditions less optimal (e.g., HSG C or D), this may be sufficient to completely address stormwater management requirements. In more dense applications or in sandy soils, additional stormwater management may be required.

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

Page 2

Date 1/26/18

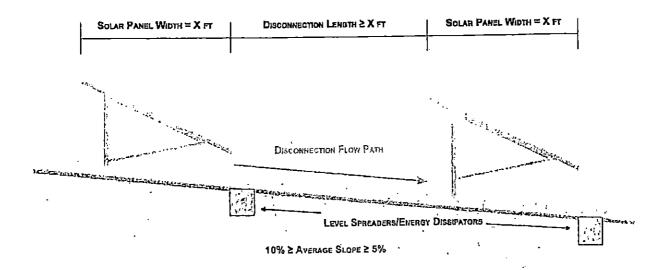


Figure 2. Typical Installation - Slope ≥ 5% but ≤ 10%

Conclusion

The primary purpose of Maryland's stormwater management program is to mimic natural hydrologic runoff characteristics and minimize the impact of land development on water resources. Any land development project that exceeds 5,000 square feet of disturbance, including solar panel projects, must address stormwater management. However, for solar panels, stormwater management may be provided in a cost-effective manner by disconnecting each row of panels and directing runoff over the vegetated areas between the individual rows.

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(http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/StormwaterManagementProgram/MarylandStormwaterDesignManual/Pages/Programs/WaterPrograms/SedimentandStormwater/stormwater_design/index.aspx)

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

Page 3

Date | 26/18

Ву_

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

DATE: November 17, 2017

Department of Permits, Approvals

And Inspections

FROM:

Vishnu Desai, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For November 13, 2017 Item No. 2018-0124-SPHX

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have no comments.

If Special Exception is granted a landscape plan is required per the requirements of the Landscape Manual, Bill No. 37-17 and the CMDP. Specific landscape comments:

- 1. Old Court Road is a Baltimore County Scenic Route,
- 2. Perimeter landscape buffers are required,
- 3. Must minimize tree and vegetation removal,
- 4. Solar panels are considered a utility and should be designed and located to harmonize with the surroundings and to create the least visual impact. (See Comment # 8, 9, 10 & 11 below).
- 5. Additional landscape buffers (including contour strip buffers) may be required to address existing topography changes, Scenic Views, Scenic Routes, etc. depending on a number of items including the subject properties topography,
- 6. More comments may be rendered during review of the landscape plan,
- 7. Proposed perimeter fence shall be black vinyl-coated chain-link fence.
- 8. Proposed landscape buffer on north side along Old Court Road needs to be extended eastward approximately 250 feet to assure screening of the solar array field from Old Court Road views. Perimeter landscape buffers required along Old Court Road may need to be set back from the existing overhead power lines to allow the diversity of screen plant materials to mature and not be effected by standard vegetation maintenance typically associated with existing overhead power line.
- 9. Both proposed 16 foot access roads needs to have a chicane or bends to assure screening of the solar array field from Old Court Road views.
- 10. Consideration should be given to relocate the proposed 16 foot entrance road into the solar array located along the northern property line to a location not directly across from and existing residence.

- 11. Proposed landscape buffer associated with the solar array along the eastern property line needs to be a consistent minimum width of 40 feet to allow for more room for screen planting and variation and diversity of the plant material species.
- 12. Additional landscape and screening may be needed to address adjacent properties views when it relates to the proposed solar facility.

VKD; efc cc: file

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Arnold Jablon

DATE: 12/1/2017

Deputy Administrative Officer and

Director of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM: Andrea Van Arsdale

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 18-124

INFORMATION:

Property Address: 10021 Old Court Road

Petitioner: Margaret Elizabeth Neubauer, Ann T. Albrecht, Jane Ellen Culver

Zoning: RC 2

Requested Action: Special Hearing, Special Exception

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for special hearing to determine whether or not the Administrative Law Judge should approve an amendment to the minor subdivision (PAI) No. 06059 M, Lot 2. The Department also reviewed the petition for special exception to use the property for a solar facility.

A site visit was conducted on November 13, 2017. The property was the subject of Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) Issue # 4-025 in which the property retained its R.C. 2 zoning classification. This property is located within the Patapsco/Granite Area Community Plan.

The Department does not oppose granting the petitioned zoning relief conditioned upon the following.

Old Court Road is a Baltimore County Scenic Route. When developing on a scenic route, the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies (CMDP) development guidelines instructs one to "maintain a buffer between the road and the new development" (CMDP pg. 180).

- The proposal shall minimize grading, tree and vegetation removal along Old Court Road.
- The Department supports the Baltimore County Landscape Architect in planting requirements deemed necessary to include interior contour screening and other planting schemes that will mitigate the visual impact of the special exception proposal upon the scenic route.

Additional conditions are as follows:

- Pursuant to BCZR §502.1.A, petitioners shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Administrative Law Judge that the facility will not be detrimental to the adjacent residential properties as a result of glare emanating from the facility.
- Petitioners shall note on the plan that the proposed solar facility will be subject to BCZR §4E-107.
- Petitioners shall certify by note on the plan that the proposed solar facility will not exceed the
 maximum permitted number of facilities allowed in its respective councilmanic district. If
 approved, Petitioners shall submit to this Department at the time of building permit application

Date: 12/1/2017 Subject: ZAC # 18-124

Page 2





the final fixed location and area of the facility by coordinate data so that an inventory may be kept.

- Lighting shall be limited to what is required for security purposes only and will be sited in such a way as to have minimal spillage onto neighboring properties.
- Signage shall be limited to that which is necessary for safety and security purposes.
- No deliveries or outdoor maintenance which may generate excessive noise may occur on-site between the hours of 6 P.M. through 6 A.M.
- Indicate on the plan the means and location by which the solar facility connects to the power grid and whether grading or clearing will be involved.

Be advised that the site is within an Agricultural Priority Preservation Area as designated in the Baltimore County Master Plan 2020 (MP2020). Said plan warns that "incremental development continues to threaten the protection of resources and the viability of the agricultural industry." (MP2020 pg.92). The Department recommends that the future viability of commercial agricultural in Baltimore County be weighed when considering this special exception proposal within the context of 502.1.G.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Keeve Brine at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by

oyd T. Moxley

Deputy Director:

eff Mayhew

AVA/KS/LTM/ka

c: Keeve Brine
James Hermann, R.L.A., Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections
Richard E. Matz, PE
Timothy Kotroco
Office of the Administrative Hearings
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



TO:

Hon. Lawrence M. Stahl; Managing Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM:

Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE:

November 8, 2017

SUBJECT:

DEPS Comment for Zoning Item

Address

2018-0124-SPHX

10021 Old Court Road

(Neubauer, Albrecht, Culver

Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of November 13, 2017.

X	The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability offers the
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Reviewer: Glenn Shaffer, Environmental Impact Review

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Reviewer: Stephen Ford, Development Coordination



501 N. Calvert St., P.O. Box 1377 Baltimore, Maryland 21278-0001 tel: 410/332-6000 800/829-8000

WE HEREBY CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement of Order No 5372059

Sold To:

Alder Energy Systems LLC - CU00633364 495 Jessen Ln Charleston, SC 29492-7906

Bill To:

Alder Energy Systems LLC - CU00633364 495 Jessen Ln Charleston, SC 29492-7906

Was published in "Jeffersonian", "Bi-Weekly", a newspaper printed and published in Baltimore County on the following dates:

Jan 02, 2018

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

Case: # 2018-0124-SPHX 10021 Old Court Road

S/s Old Court Road, 1600 ft. W/of centerline of Dogwood Rd

Rd
2nd Election District - 4th Councilmanic District
Legal Owner(s) Margaret Neubauer, Ann Albrecht, Jane
Culver
Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Solar Smart, LLC
Special Hearing to allow a Solar Facility on property zoned
RC-2. Special Exception to determine whether or not the
Administrative Law Judge should approve an amendment
to the Minor Subdivision No. 06059M, Lot 1 to allow the
development of a Solar Facility.
Hearing: Monday, January 22, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in Room
205, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue,
Towson 21204.

ARNOLD JABLON, DIRECTOR OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Administrative Hearings Office at (410) 887-3868.

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

JT 1/609 January 2

The Baltimore Sun Media Group

By S. Wilkinson

Legal Advertising

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CASE NAME

CASE NUMBER

DATE

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PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME Timothy M. Kotroco	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL
Nicholas M. Lineham.	305 Washington Avenue, Suite 502 2835 Smth Au. Baltine 495 Jessen In . Charleston Sa	Falture WD. 21244 Charleston SC 29492	Tkotroco@gmail.com nlinehano CMR dgine Odlar - energy . C

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CASE NAME	2018-124-X
CASE NUMBER	
DATE	

CITIZEN'S SIGN - IN SHEET

1-22-2018

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E - MAIL
STEPHENFERRANDZ É BARB Bindon	10245 Old Gover Rd	Granite, MD 21163	STEPHEN e MARYland Land or Barb e MARY tand Land
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Support/Oppose/

CHECKLIST

Comment Received	<u>Department</u>	Conditions/ Comments/ No Comment
11/17	DEVELOPMENT PLANS REVIEW (if not received, date e-mail sent)	trango
11/8/17	DEPS (if not received, date e-mail sent)	Comment
	FIRE DEPARTMENT	TO T COOKS
12/4/17	PLANNING (if not received, date e-mail sent)	_w/condition
11/7/17	STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION	Comment
	TRAFFIC ENGINEERING	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	
	ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS	
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Real Property Data Search

Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

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Exhibit Sheet

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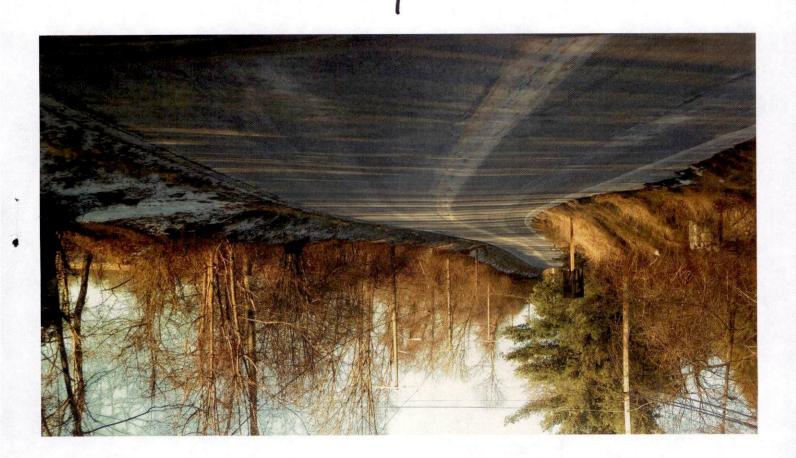
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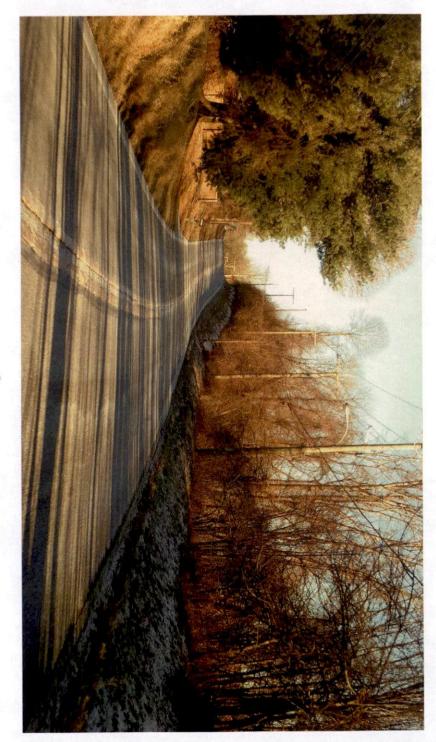
Petitioner/Developer

28710

Protestant

		•
No. 1	Site plan	
No. 2	Enlarged landscape plan	
No. 3	Site sections and details	
No. 4	"Overall Landscafe Plan"	
No. 5	1ST Amonded Minor Sub.	
	Plan No. 06059M	
No. 6	List of nearby owners.	
No. 7	"Bee Culture" article	
No. 8	My Neighborhood Map	
No. 9	Aerial photo w/ "pods" highlighted	
No. 10	Photos W/ Key Sheet	
No. 11	Solar array layout.	
No. 12		





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Vicinity of Old Court Rd

Address of lot
10018 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163
9940 Old Court Rd, Granite, MD 21163-1118
9937 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163
10012 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163
10022 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163
10110 Old Court Rd, Granite, MD 21163-1116
9929 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163
2807 Lindin Way, Woodstock, MD 21163
2805 Lindin Way, Woodstock, MD 21163-1386
2801 Lindin Way, Woodstock, MD 21163-1386

Mailing address (if different)
3490 Ranch Cir, S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Map/Parcel	Lot Owner
86/0007	U Win Property Solutions LLC
86/0010	Kristin Vanhouten
,86/0016	John Falvella, Jr. & Maureen Fitzpatric
86/0188	George & Donna Sauter
86/0314	Scott & Rosemary Lishia
86/0331	Robin Huett
86/0344	Michael Lehmann
86/0446, Lot 4	Ainsley & Aprile Crawford
86/0446, Lot 5	Marcel & Maurette Clark
86/0446, Lot 16	Charlene Wilson
,1	

9303 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244-1015
9311 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244
9307 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244
9315 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244
9301 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244

Hi-G Contractors listed on property record as well Hi-G Contractors listed on property record as well Hi-G Contractors listed on property record as well

Vicinity of Dogwood

86/0055	Howard & Jacquelyn Comish
86/0055, Lot 1	Rachel Resch .
86/0055, Lot 2	Mitchell Anest
86/0078	William & Tongpun Hansen
86/0121	Otho & Dorothy Brown



Dear
Dana

You may be aware of the Maryland Community Solar Pilot Program, which launched earlier this year. Our company, Alder Energy Systems, is participating in the program to help offer less expensive, clean, renewable energy to Baltimore area residents and businesses. We have been approved by Baltimore Gas and Electric Company to bring this project online in 2018.

Our application is now under review by Baltimore County to develop the solar farms on the land at 10021 Old Court Road and 9203 Dogwood Road. We're contacting you to inform you of this project, and we're happy to meet with you in person or speak with you on the phone to answer any questions you have about the solar farm.

We will be following the guidelines set by the County to landscape the area and keep the land in a natural state, to best of our ability. In addition, we intend to plant a ground cover that will encourage bee pollination on the solar farm.

If you would like to speak with us to discuss the project or address questions, please call us at 843-388-5493.

Sincerely,

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Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping

(http://www.beeculture.com/)



(http://www.beeculture.com/catch-buzz/)

JULY 25, 2016

CAN SOLAR SITES HELP SAVE THE BEES?



http://www.beeculture.com/can-solar-sites-help-save-bees/

Page 1 of 5

By: Rob Davis

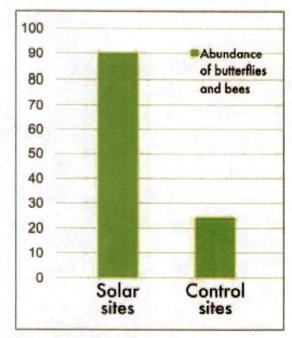
Rapid growth of ground-mounted solar presents opportunity to establish hundreds of millions of native plants.

cross Minnesota workers are preparing dozens of sites in order to seed more than 30 million native, pollinator-friendly plants. These low-growing and shade-tolerant flowers and prairie grasses will be established where you might least expect — under and around ground-mounted solar panels.

Nationwide prices are plummeting for rooftop and ground-mounted solar panels, and large sites are popping up wherever there is low-cost land and access to an electrical substation. And with 25-year land leases frequently paying \$700-\$1,500 per acre, farmers and other land owners are increasingly interested in having solar on a portion of their property.

Recipient of the MacArthur
Foundation's "Genius" award, Dr. Marla
Spivak of the University of Minnesota
Bee Lab, sees a promising opportunity.
"It would be great to have pollinator
habitat under and around solar panels
and arrays."

The timing couldn't be better for commercial bees and wild pollinators, which have suffered massive population losses in our lifetimes in part because of dwindling access to food and habitat. For wild insects and managed bees these sites will be multi-acre buffets of nutritious, native plant pollen and nectar.



(http://www.beeculture.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/2Solar.jpg)

Bar chart An 11-site observational study found that solar sites with pollinator habitat have a statistically Energy policies vary state by state, but between just a handful of states — Florida, Georgia, Minnesota, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, and Oregon — more than 30,000 acres of solar sites

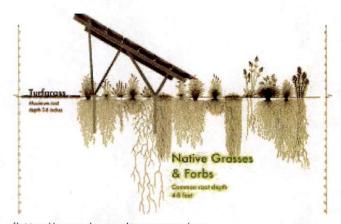
significant increase in abundance of bees and butterflies (The Effects of Solar Farms on Local Biodiversity, Montag et. al., 2016).

are being built this year, and more than 19,000 acres are in development to be built next year. All together, solar projects could provide a world of good for pollinators — and landscape business including Prairie Restorations, Ernst Conservation Seeds, Prairie Moon, and American Native Plants have noticed.

"Within every habitat in North America there is a large variety of pollinator friendly plant species that can be used under solar panels. The panels do create a challenge of some height limitations which will slightly restrict the overall diversity of the plantings, but we can still provide a wide range of forbs and grasses that will be a delight to the pollinators and songbirds native to that area," said Ron Bowen, founder and CEO of Prairie Restorations, Inc. "The seasonal spectrum that can be planted beneath a solar array, and the fact that once it's installed, herbicides and pesticides aren't typically used, makes acreage near solar fields excellent locations for raising healthy bee colonies."

More Solar, More Privately Financed Pollinator Habitat

Beekeeper Oliver Collins has first-hand experience with colony collapse. "I probably own 20 percent of all the hives in the area — and lost around 65 percent of them this past winter. There's a strong watermelon industry here, but between the mites and native plants getting mowed or sprayed, my bees can't keep up." A roughly 150-acre solar site that includes abundant foraging habitat for pollinators was recently proposed for a county in Eastern Maryland where Mr. Collins lives and keeps



(http://www.beeculture.com/wpcontent/uploads/2016/07/1Solar.jpg) Cross section of solar with native plants. Not to be mistaken with concentrated solar, which uses heat, photovoltaic (PV) solar

his bees. If approved by local and state authorities, the project will provide pollinator habitat equivalent to every household in

panels get only as hot as a car parked in the sun. Original illustration by Heidi Natura, adapted with permission.

a 5-county area having a 6'x12' pollinator garden. The solar project developer, OneEnergy Renewables, a socially conscious B-Corporation, is evaluating use of a pollinator-friendly seed mix for a number of its projects currently under development. "It's a great opportunity for the solar industry as a whole, and we're excited that our projects will provide so many benefits to the communities in which they're located," said Project Manager Gia Clark.

Agriculture, Community Taking Leading Roles

"Pollinators are an irreplaceable public resource. Insect pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, wasps, flies, and beetles, are critical for the pollination and production of crops and the health of native flora and landscapes," wrote Dave Fredrickson, commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, in an email announcing the State's pollinator summit this year.

In fact, one of the Midwest's largest solar projects is leading the way. The Aurora solar project, being built in Minnesota by Enel Green Power North America (EGP-NA), will provide pollinator habitat equivalent to more than 500,000 homes having 6'x12' pollinator gardens. EGP-NA worked hand in hand with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to create a robust solar site vegetation plan that creates a biodiverse habitat for pollinator species while preserving the soil for future farming, and channeling stormwater down into the aquifer.

Noting this collaborative process, during the 2016 legislative session, Minnesota's agricultural leaders worked closely with conservation, energy policy, and business leaders to establish the nation's first standard for pollinator-friendly solar sites. Authored by Representative Rod Hamilton (R–Mountain Lake) and Senator Dan Sparks (DFL–Austin), the bill establishes robust and flexible vegetation management requirements for any solar project that is promoted as providing benefits to pollinators, songbirds, or game birds. The bill received broad rural, suburban, and metro support, passing the Minnesota House by a vote of 126-0 and the Minnesota Senate by a vote of 62-2. Governor Dayton signed the bill in to law on May 31.

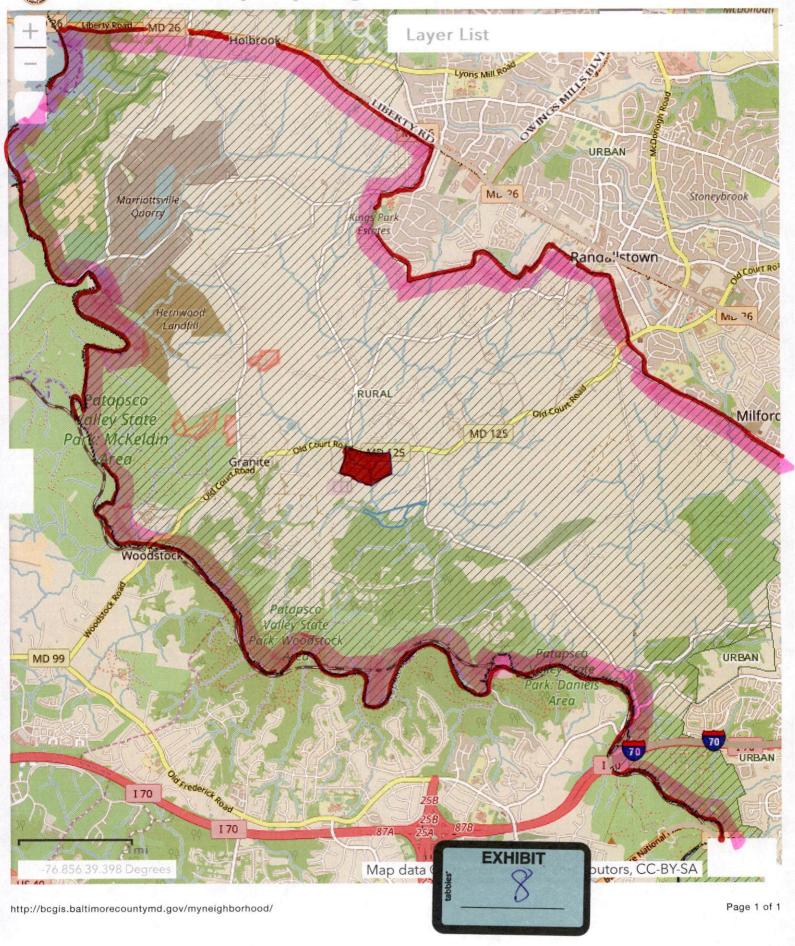
Construction of the Aurora project and many others are underway and it will take time for the native plants to get established and bloom. Over the next several years, just about every state will build several thousand acres of solar sites that—based on collaboration with each community—may meet or exceed this new "pollinator-friendly solar" standard.

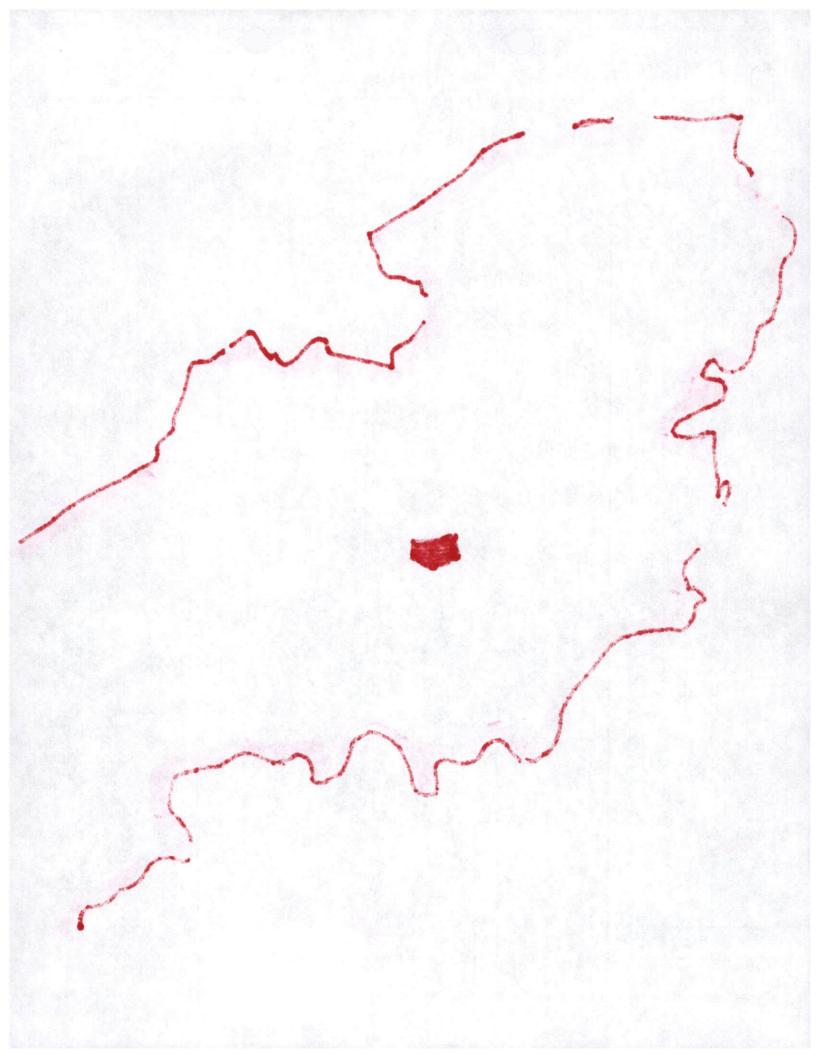
As you drive by these sites, don't just see them for the clean, fuel-free electricity they generate every day, but also notice the benefits provided by the vegetation under and around the panels. The United States has more than 280 million acres of rowcrops and just a tiny fraction will be used for solar sites, but these sites can provide a badly needed, and long-lasting, service in providing healthy food to the hardworking commercial and native bees that pollinate our crops.

Rob Davis is a director at Fresh Energy, an independent 501(c)3 energy nonprofit in St. Paul, Minnesota. Follow him @robfargo(https://twitter.com/robfargo) and www.Fresh-Energy.org/author/rob.(http://www.Fresh-Energy.org/author/rob)

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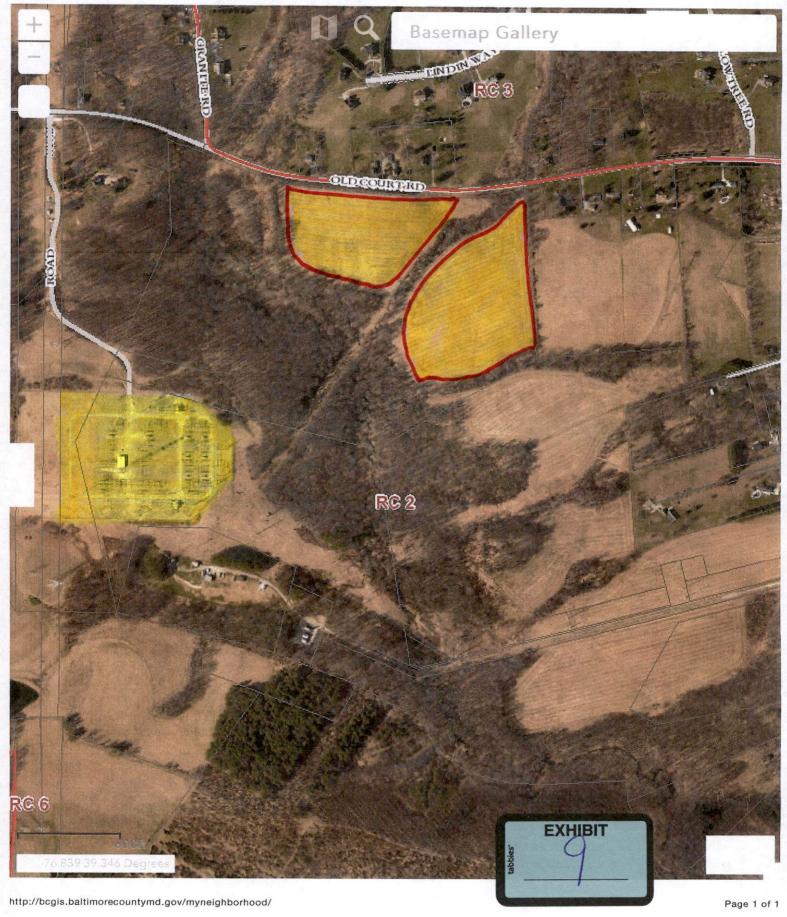
Baltimore County - My Neighborhood

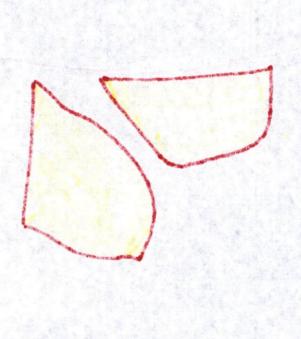






Baltimore County - My Neighborhood







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Sr. by Besigner

PROJECT NAME

COMMUNITY SOLAR

HYTOOGACLINGUM MOO

WINDSOR MILL

PROPERTY OWNER

NUDSCH WINDSCHOOL SOOP

RENA	DESCRIPTION	08/23/17
0	Preliminary array design	

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NTE LOCATION

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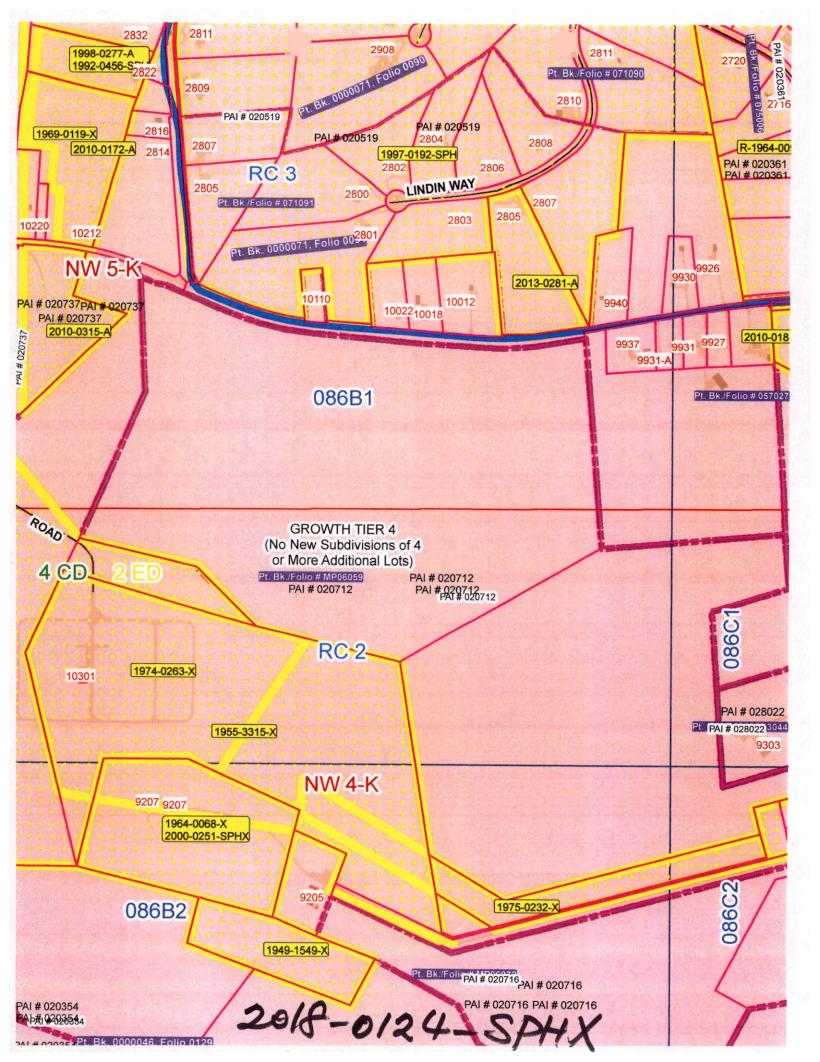
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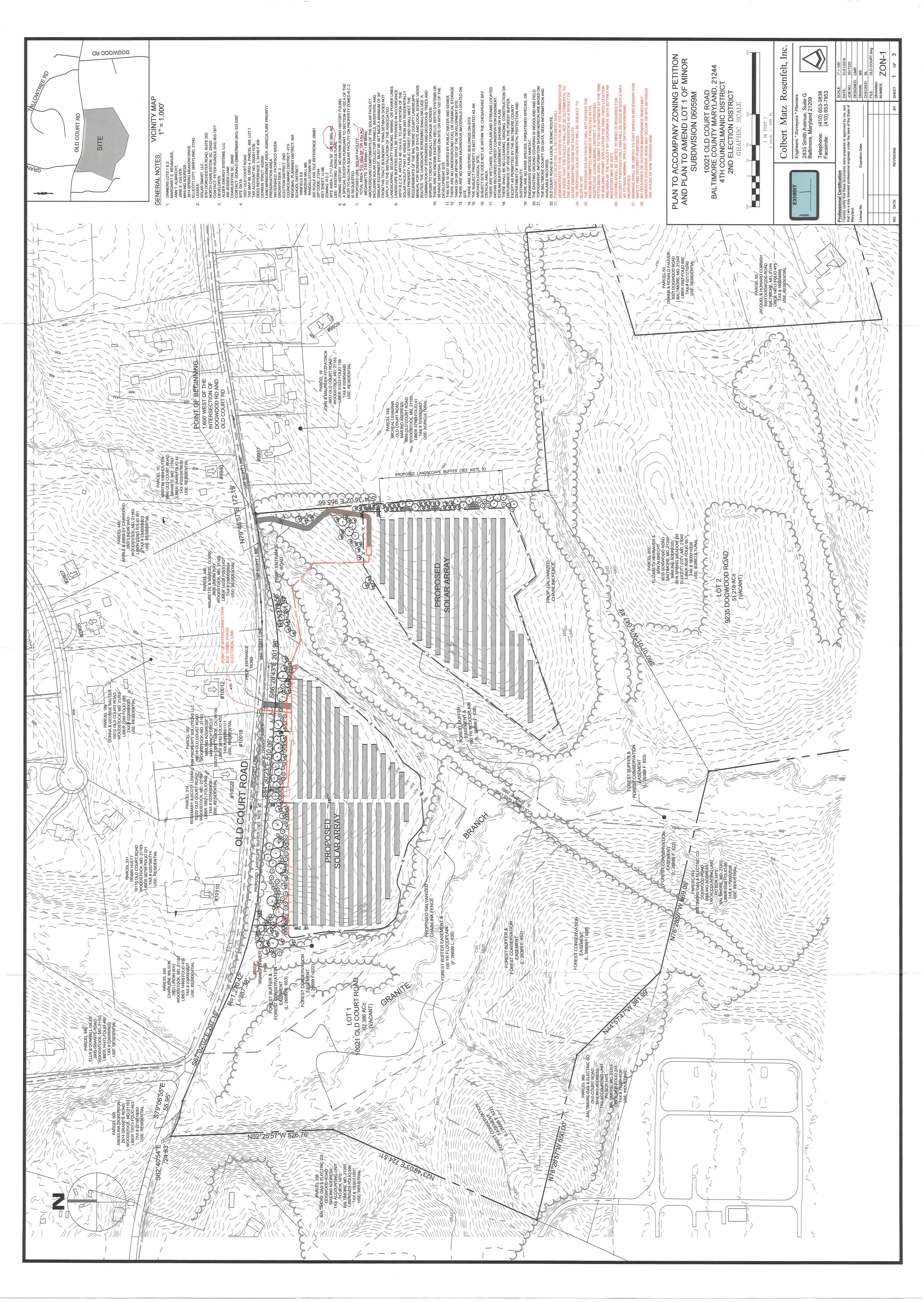
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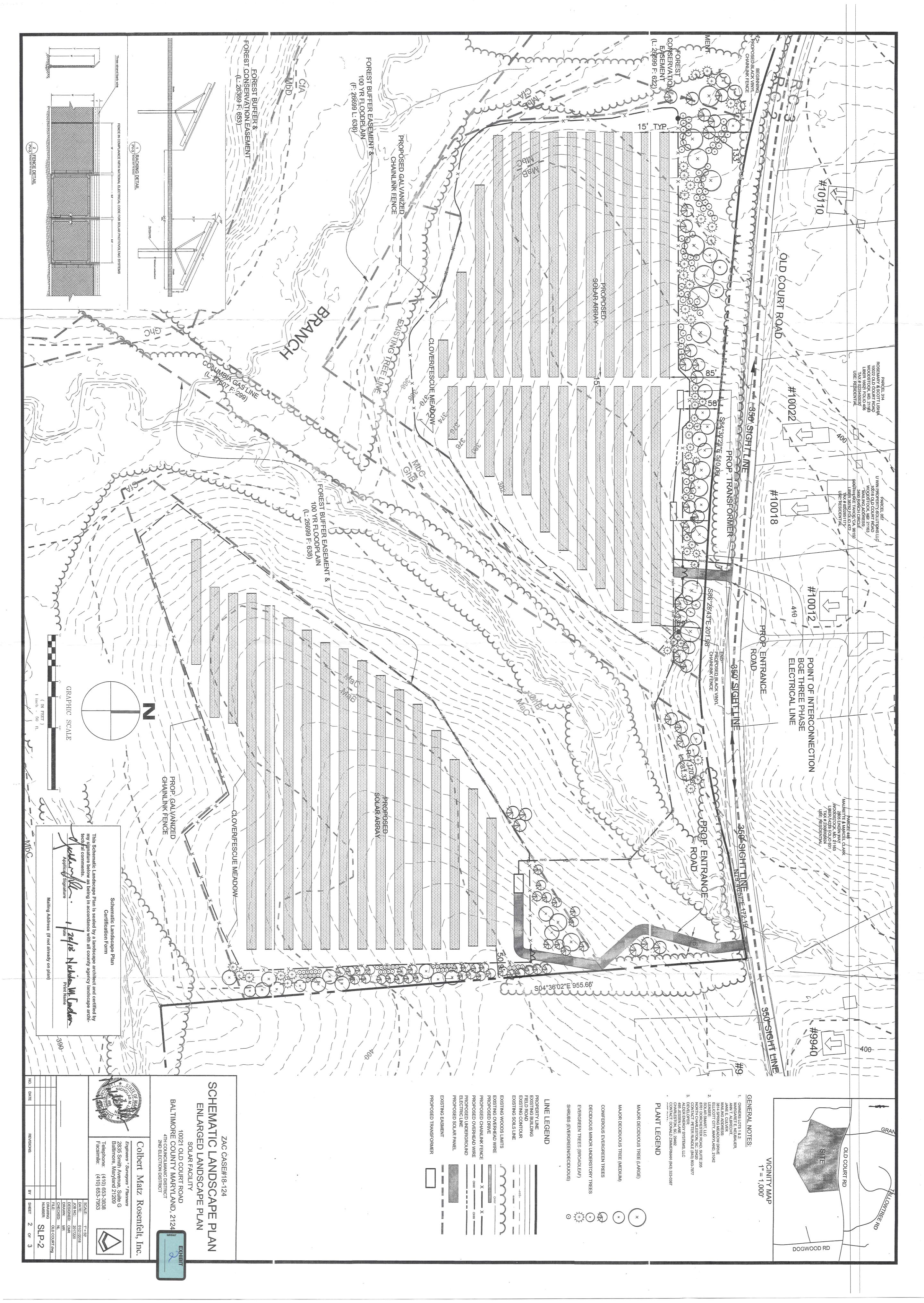
SOLAR ARRAY LAYOUT

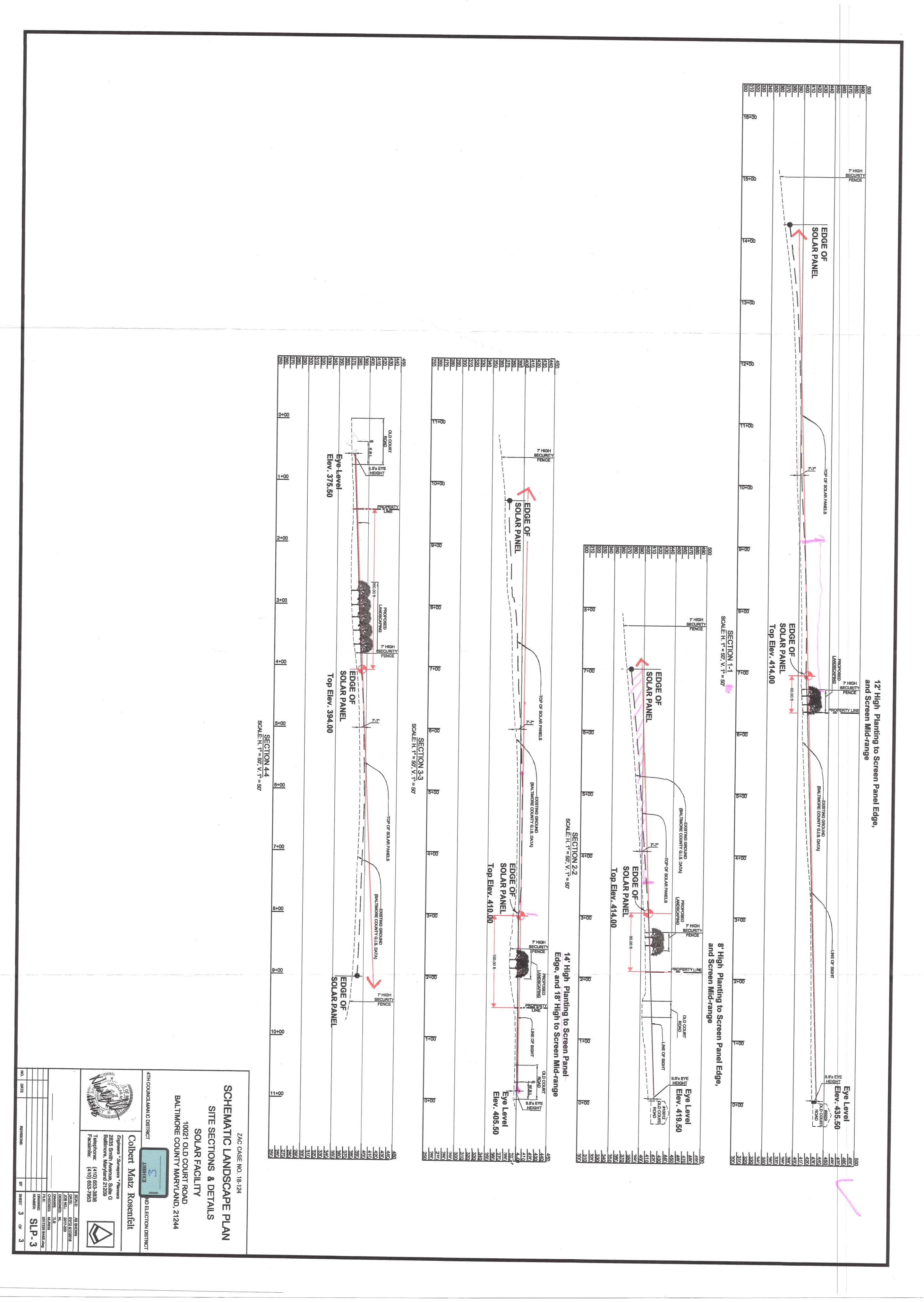
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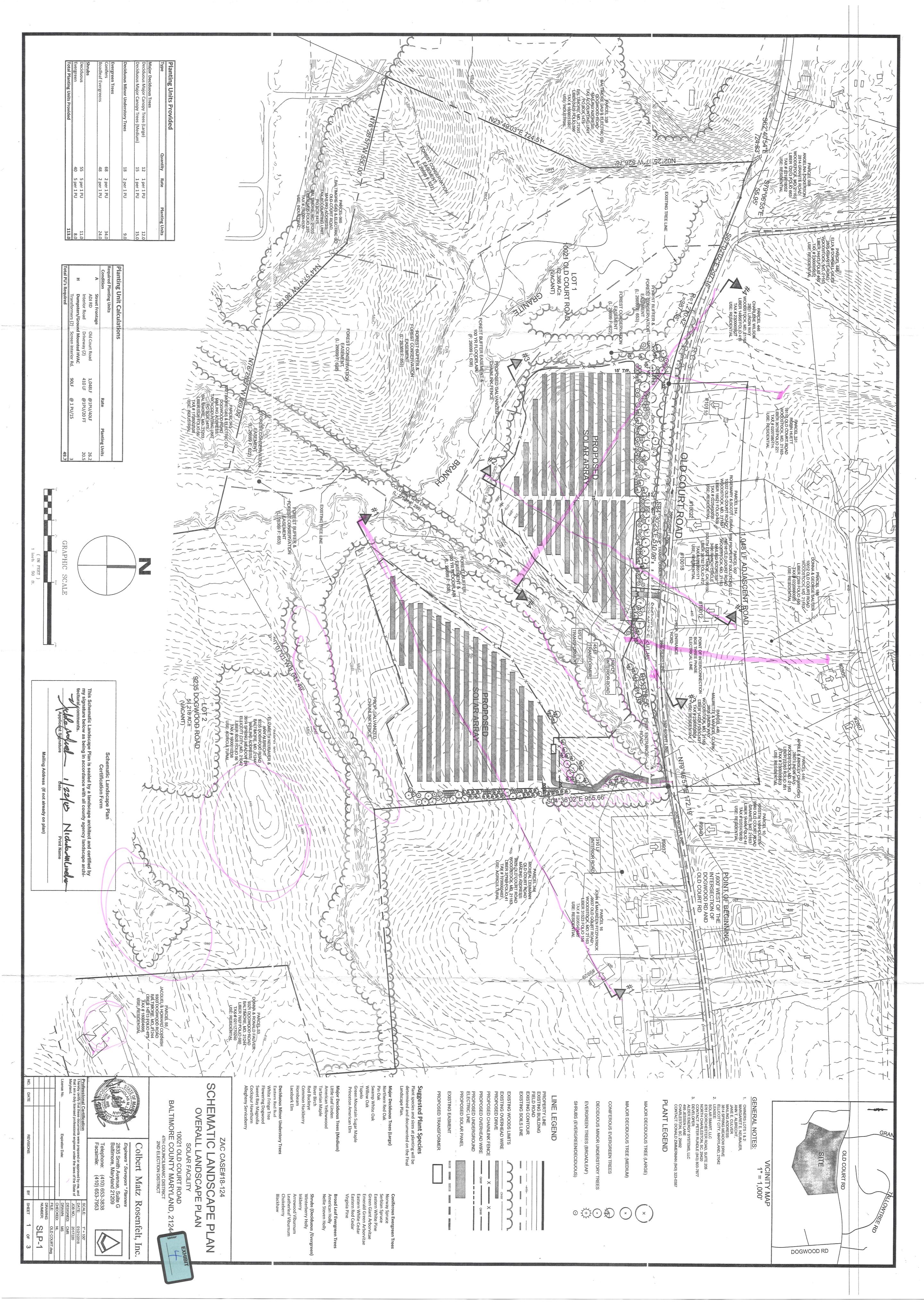
EXHIBIT



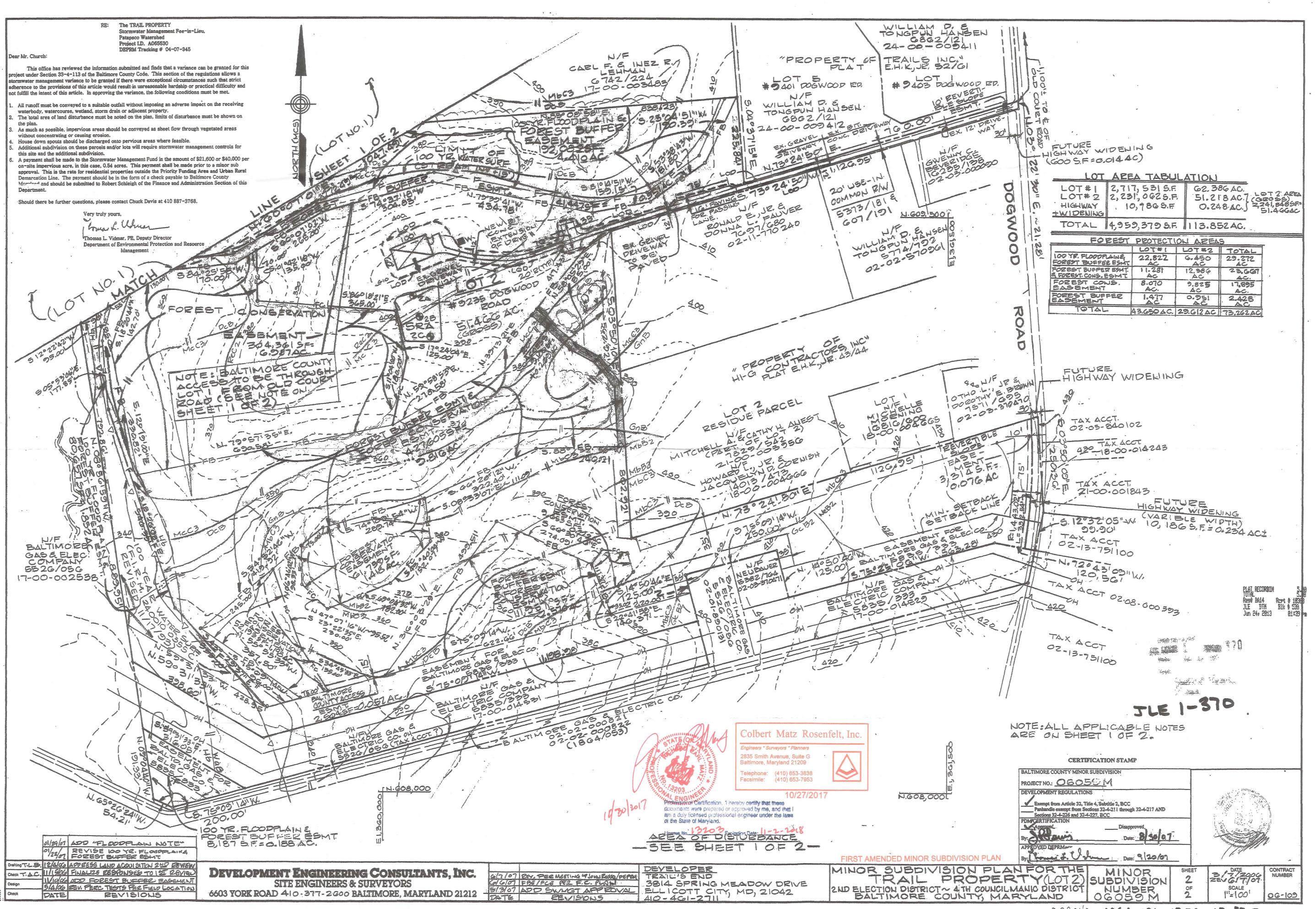




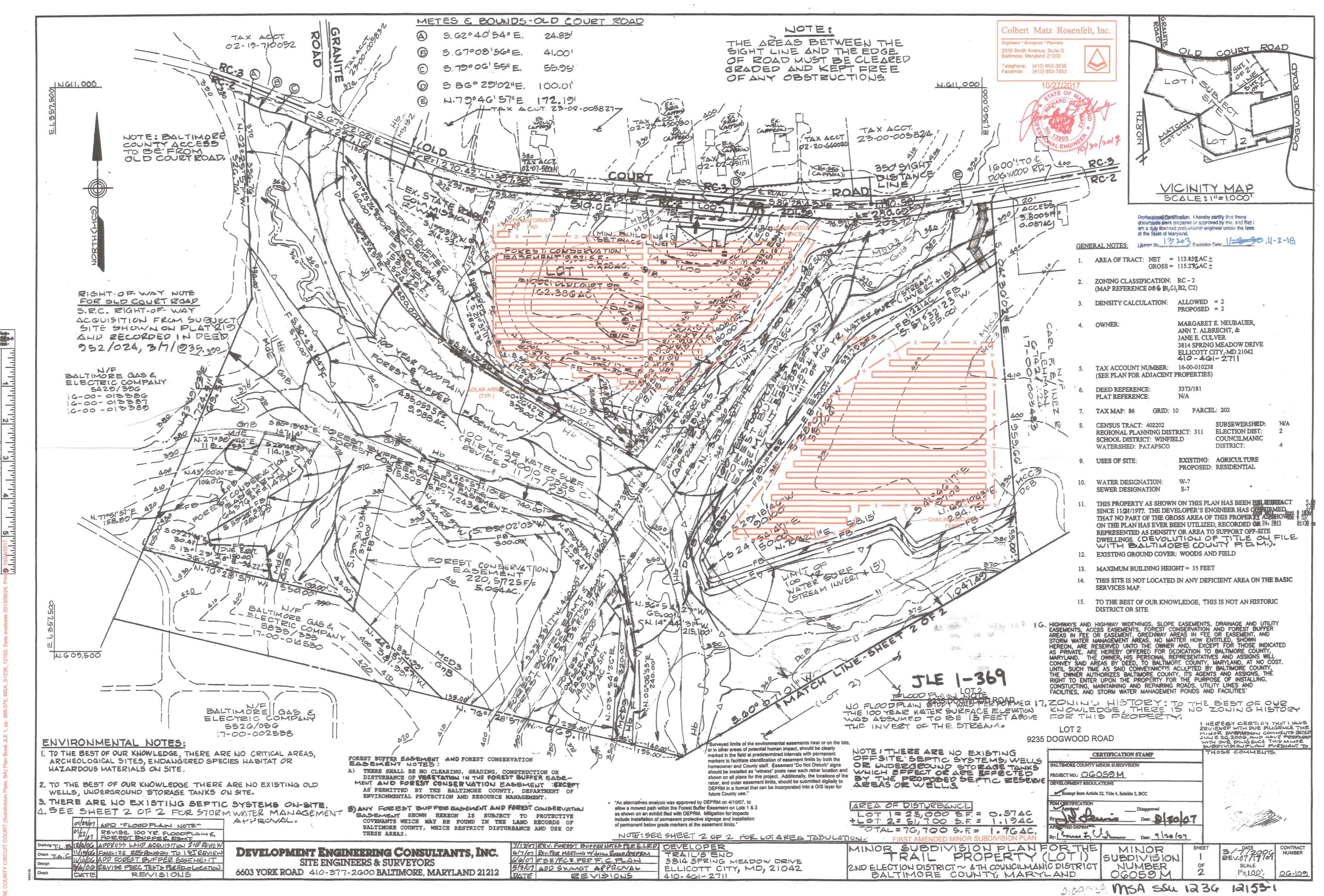




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