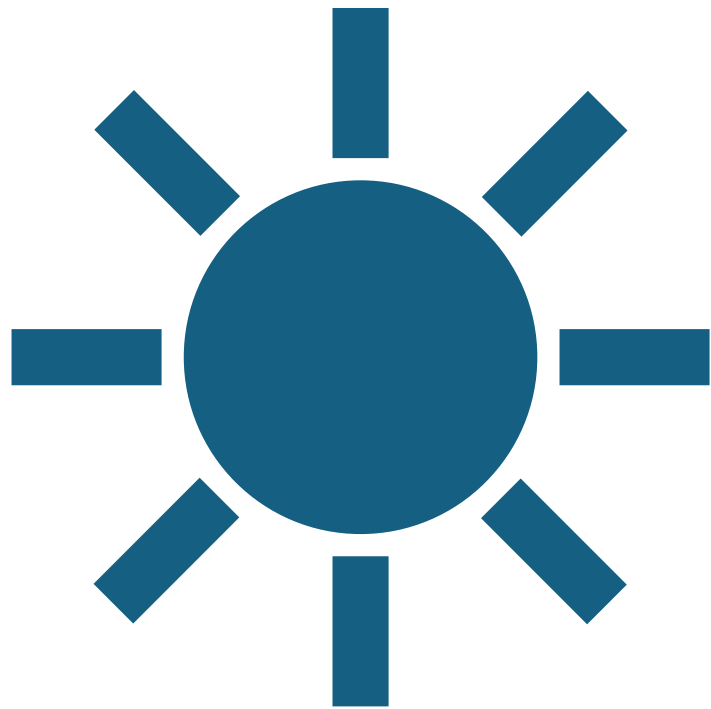


Dual – Use Agrivoltaics Pilot Program Update

Pinelands Commission
CMP Policy & Implementation Committee Meeting
June 27, 2025

Dual-Use Agrivoltaics Pilot Program

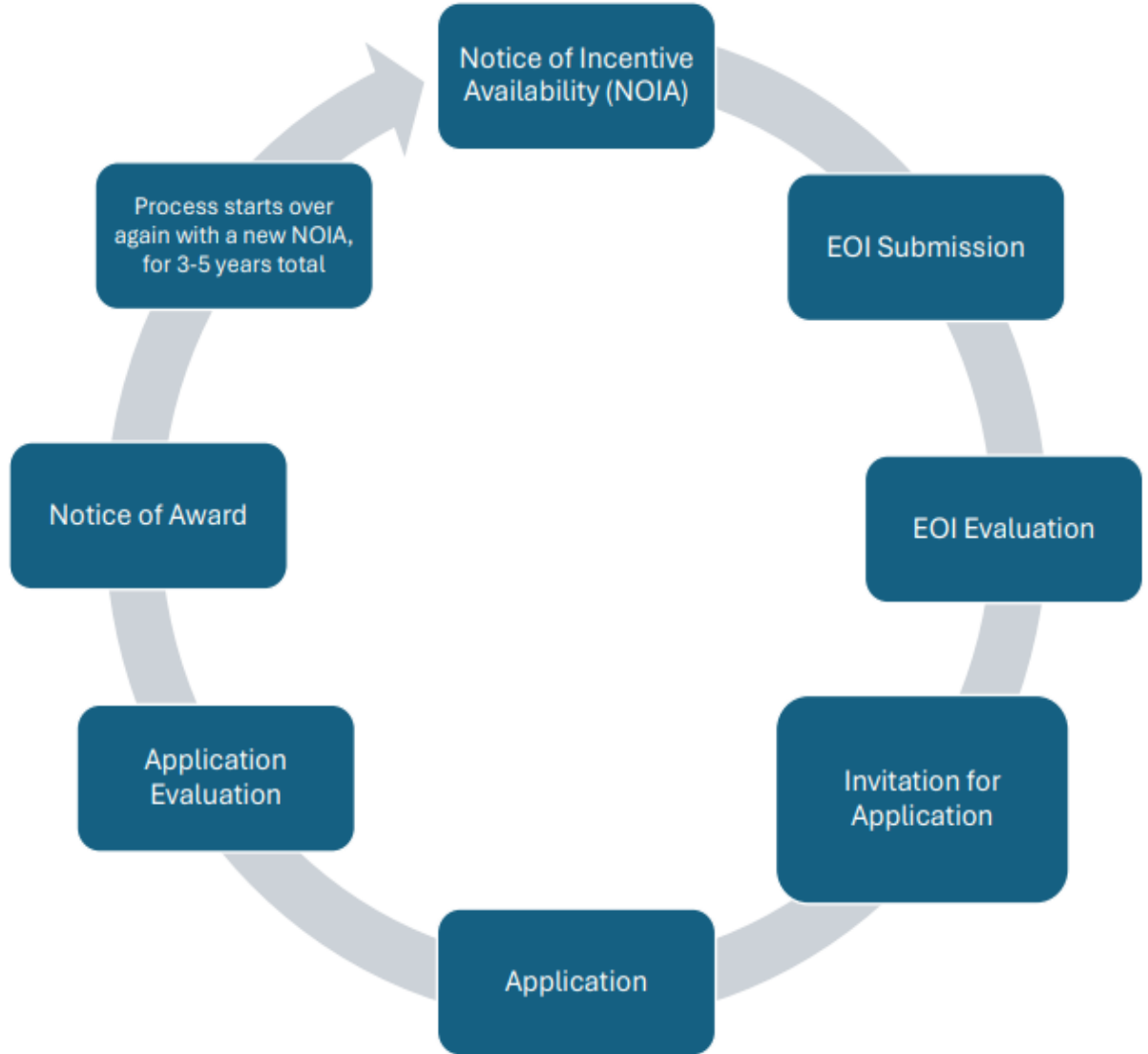
- Dual-Use Solar Energy Act of 2021
 - Directed BPU to adopt rules establishing a dual-use solar pilot program
 - 3 year – 200 MW, can be extended for 2 additional years
 - Lands Used for Solar Project (i.e. lands below and adjacent to solar array) must be maintained in agricultural/horticultural use
 - Goal – Obtain results from pilot projects developed on unpreserved farms that support productive agricultural or horticultural use.




BPU Implementation

- BPU approved rule proposal and launched the program by Order dated October 23, 2024.
 - Published December 2, 2024
 - Comment Period Closed January 31, 2025
- Notice of Incentive Availability
 - Opened January 6, 2025
 - Closed February 15, 2025

BPU's Application Process





Program Year 1
Solicitation Round 1
Application Period 1

- Annual Capacity 50 MW
 - Min. Project Size – 500KW
 - Max. Project Size – 10MW
- Incentives
 - ADI – up to 5 MW
 - CSI – greater than 5 MW but within 10 MW

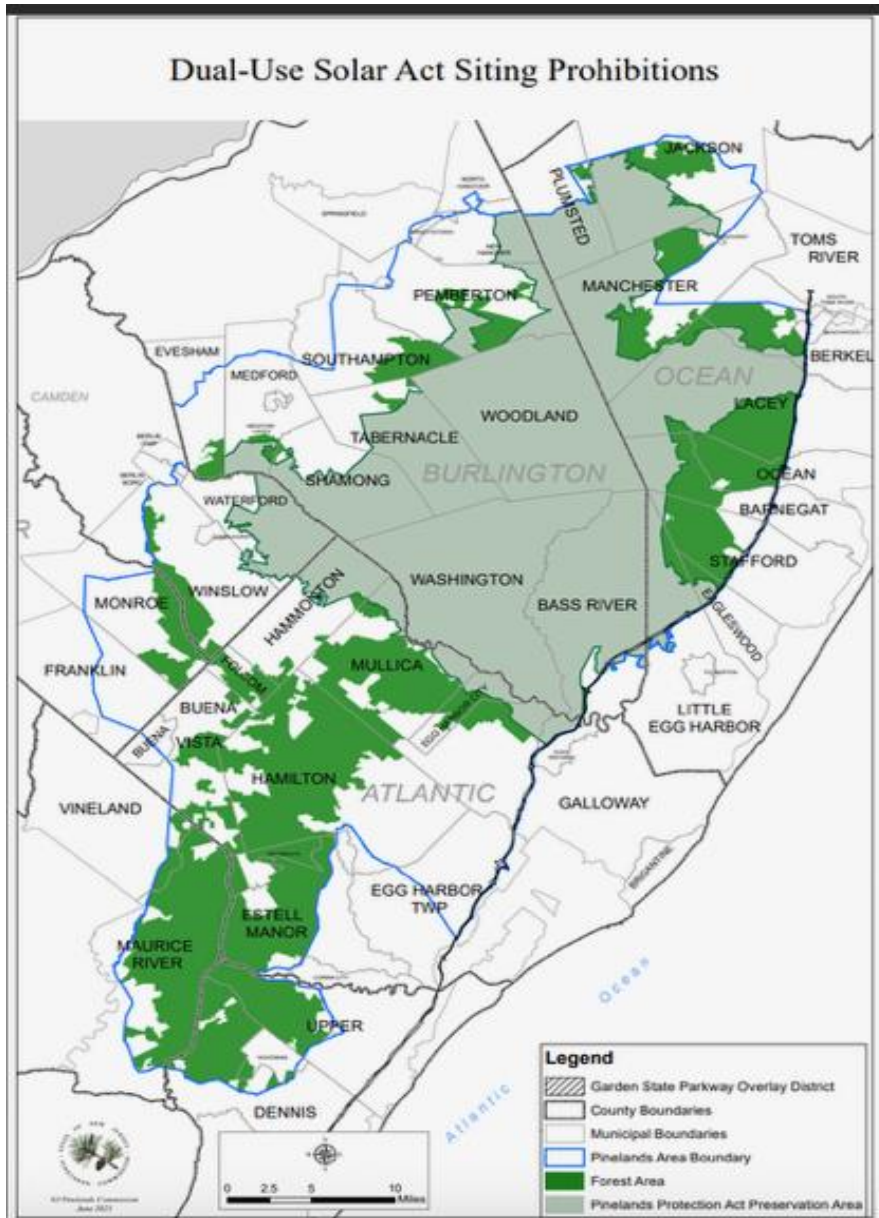
Pinelands Issues

Dual-Use Solar Act Siting Prohibitions

- Preservation Area (Not PAD)
- Forest Areas
- Wetlands
 - Freshwater Wetlands
 - Coastal Wetlands
- Lands Preserved through Green Acres Program
- Forested Lands and Transition Areas

Waiver Process

- Petition to BPU
- Decided in consultation with DEP/Agriculture
- CMP Requirements can not be waived.



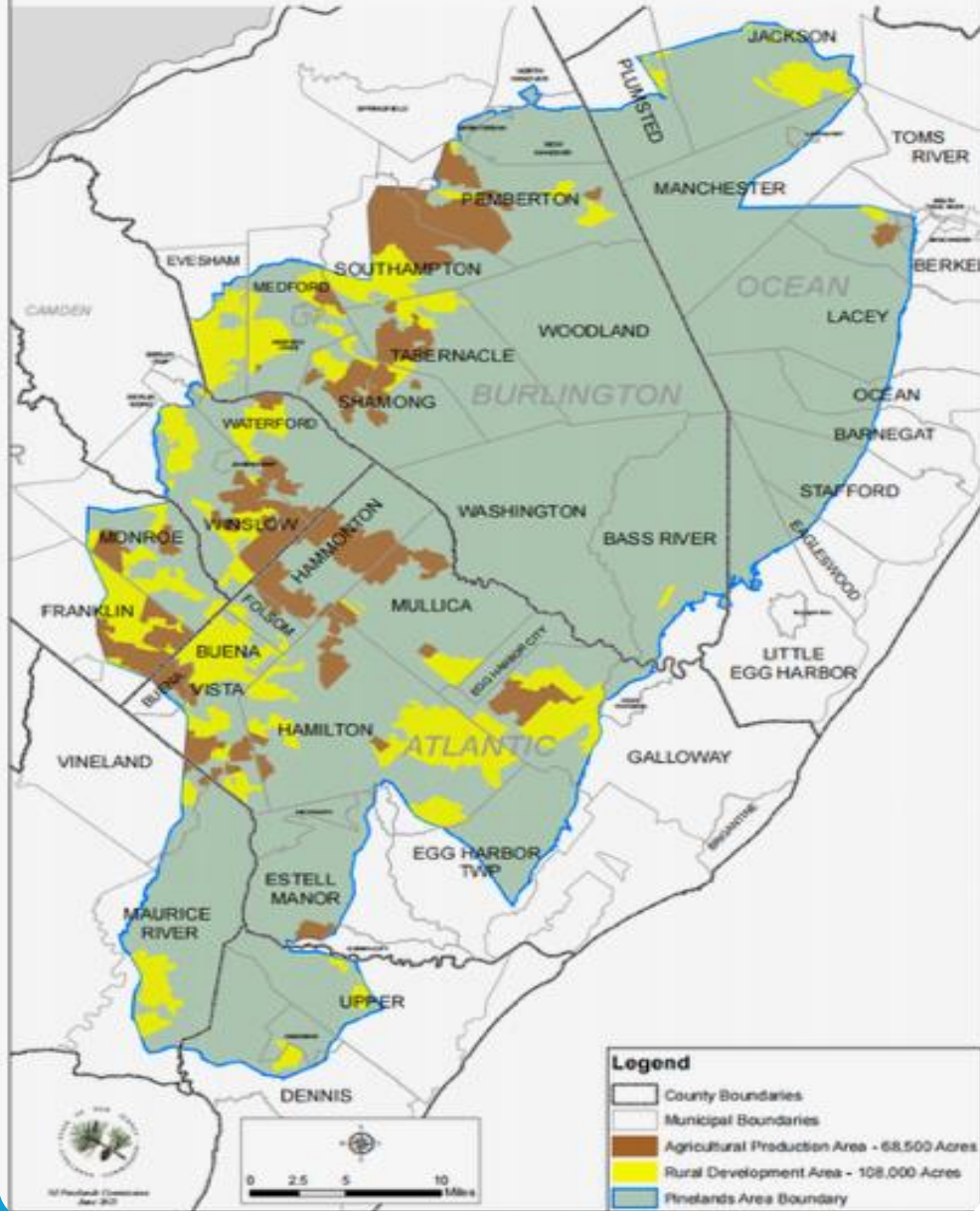
CMP Requirements

PAD, SAPA & Forest Area

Solar facilities, as a principal use, are limited to:

- Closed Landfills
- Hazardous Waste Sites
- Resource Extraction Site

Pinelands Siting Opportunities



CMP Requirements

APA

- Solar facilities, as a principal use, are limited to 20% of parcel (10 acre maximum)
- Facilities must be sited to avoid prime farmland and lands with high ecological value
- As of 6/30/2024, 26,000 acres in the APA are protected through the PDC and Farmland Preservation Programs

RDA

- Solar facilities, as a principal use, may be developed on any previously disturbed portions of a property
- Additional clearing is permitted, not to exceed 30% of parcel
- Facilities must be cited to avoid lands with high ecological value
- Less than 10% of the RDA is in active agriculture

Options/Issues

- Rule Making
 - Lengthy Process
 - Unclear if process would be completed in time to permit farmer participation in BPU pilot
 - Trying to develop rules without benefit of pilot program results
- Pilot Program
 - Requires Rule Making
 - Commission would need to develop requirements and evaluation criteria
 - Evaluation Report with Recommendation
 - Additional Rulemaking to make permanent
- Wait 1 Year
 - BPU may not have data
 - Delays certain Farmers from pursuing agrivoltaics



Options/ Issues

- Memorandum of Agreement
 - With Whom?
 - What would it permit?
 - Lengthy Process
 - Offset
- State Agency Plan
 - Intended for existing and planned land use, resource management and development activities
 - Deviation from CMP Permitted?
 - Authorize a private entities development?
 - Offset?

Questions/Discussion