



## TAB 6 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

*KRS 278.706(2)(f) A complete report of the applicant's public involvement program activities undertaken prior to the filing of the application, including:*

- 1. The scheduling and conducting of a public meeting in the county or counties in which the proposed facility will be constructed at least ninety (90) days prior to the filing of an application, for the purpose of informing the public of the project being considered and receiving comment on it;*
- 2. Evidence that notice of the time, subject, and location of the meeting was published in the newspaper of general circulation in the county, and that individual notice was mailed to all owners of property adjoining the proposed project at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting; and*
- 3. Any use of media coverage, direct mailing, fliers, newsletters, additional public meetings, establishment of a community advisory group, and any other efforts to obtain local involvement in the siting process.*

The Applicant's public involvement efforts began in late 2023 and have included one in-person public information meeting, individual meetings with local landowners, meetings with local officials, and the creation of an official Project website.

The official Project website was established in January 2024 and includes a general summary of the Facility, a preliminary map of the Facility Area, information on the date and location of the public information meeting, and a contact form to facilitate communication with a Project representative. The official Project website is: [www.pikecountysolarproject.com](http://www.pikecountysolarproject.com)

The Applicant has held meetings with local officials to establish an open line of communication regarding the Project. Project representatives have had regular correspondence with the secretary to the Judge/Executive via email, and held a meeting on February 22, 2024, at which a presentation of Project details and timeline was presented to Jeanne Robinson, Executive Secretary for Judge/Executive Ray Jones II, and William Spears, Deputy County Judge/Executive of Pike County.

The initial public information meeting was held on January 10, 2024, at John's Creek Elementary School. Project representatives were available to answer questions at the meeting, which was attended by local landowners and Pike County Judge/Executive Ray Jones

II. Timely notice was sent December 21, 2023, a letter was sent to the landowner whose land is leased for the Facility Area and all landowners whose property is within a quarter mile of the Facility Area. A sample of this letter, along with a list of all names and addresses to which it was sent, is included in this Tab as Attachment B.

Additionally, a public notice was published in the Appalachian News-Express on January 5, 2024. The Appalachian News-Express is a newspaper of general circulation in Pike County. The affidavit from the Appalachian News-Express as proof of the publication is also included in Attachment B. The Applicant has received and promptly responded to three phone call inquiries and one additional email inquiry regarding the Project.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment C: January 2024 Public Information Meeting Materials (14 pages)
- Attachment D: Website Screenshots (11 pages)



**PIKE COUNTY  
SOLAR PROJECT**
**NAME**
**EMAIL/PHONE NUMBER**

NAME	EMAIL/PHONE NUMBER
Geraldine Muncy	gf muncy @ yahoo . Com
Joseph Stewart	Stewart_joe00 @ Gmail . Com
Chuck Canada	ChuckCanada65 @ Gmail . Com
Drema Paige	1-734-699-3078
JUDITH PFEIFFER	JLPERG @ GMAIL . COM
Jerry Huffman	1-625-8727
JEFF L Huffman	606 637-2274
Richard Trivette	606 262 8799 #TrivetteRichard @ Gmail . Com
Gordon Trivette	(606) 263-6200
Janet Reed	brushy66 @ gmail . com
Ernie Gibson	ernie.gibson @ yahoo . com
Teresa Trivett	teresaitrivette gmail . com
LINDA RATCLIFF	LHRATCLIFF @ GMAIL . COM
Roger L. Justice	RABBITJ @ MIKROTEC . COM
Phillip + Betty Murphy	murphybuilders47 @ outlook . com
Barbara Hale	631-3364
Sheryl Reed Raley	205-4698 Loe Raley scalfcontracting13 @ gmail . com

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email/Phone #</u>
Carlotta Stalker	(502) 655-2297 Carlotta Stalker@gmail.com
John George Blackburn	JOHN G BLACKBURN54@GMAIL.COM (606) 794-3235 (ALL LOWER CASE)
Terry Young	(606) 899-8040
William Dillon	424 Stanley Fr Varney KY 41571 (777) 4845800
CHARLES E. <del>DAV</del> ROBINETTE	606-625-5679

Kathy Trivette

Betty Trivette Williams

Mike Trivette

Brenda Baker

DREMA G PAIGE

MUSTANG70PC@AOL.COM

• Brenda Bevins

bbevins26@gmail.com

Billy A Gamp

(606) 205-2487

# HOW SOLAR ENERGY WORKS

Photovoltaic panels convert sunlight into electricity



The inverter converts DC electricity to AC electricity



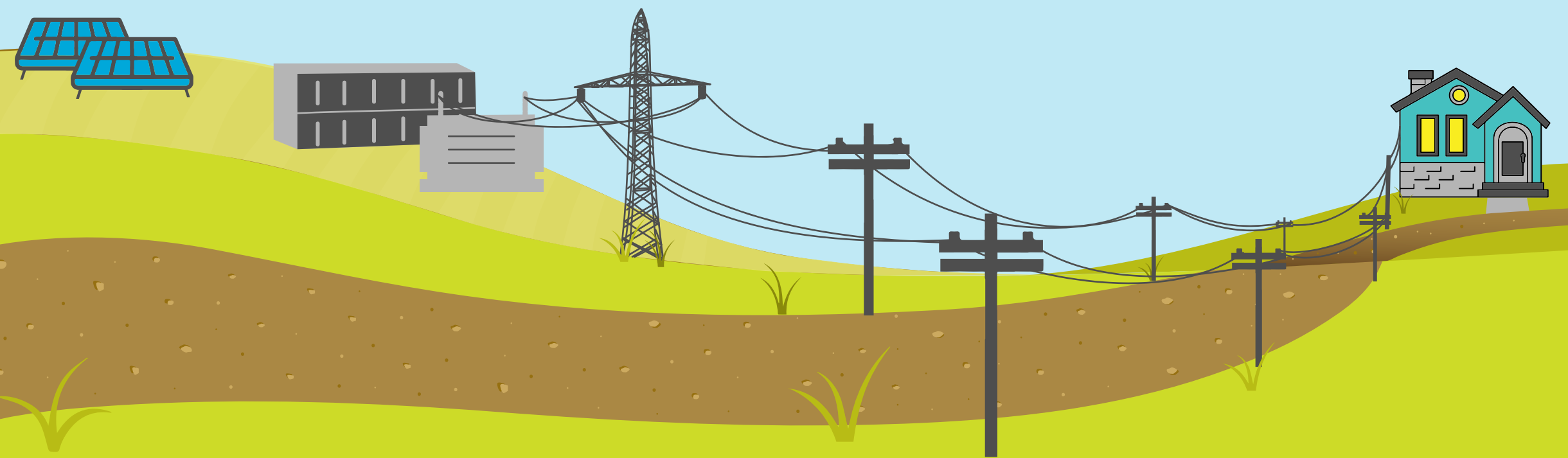
Substation steps up the voltage to the utility transmission voltage



Electricity is transmitted on the electrical grid



The grid provides clean energy to our homes and businesses



## MARKET DRIVERS

### Fossil Fuels

Price uncertainty, retirement of coal facilities, cleaner emission standards, carbon tax

### Declining Solar Costs

Due to manufacturing efficiencies, increases in solar panel efficiencies, more experienced workforce

### Demand from Utility

Large commitment from utilities for solar energy

### Consumer Demand

Local economic development, price certainty (15 years), lower emissions, clean energy, innovative technologies, renewable



**SAVION**  
A RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPANY

Savion, a Shell Group portfolio company, is one of the largest, most technologically advanced utility-scale solar and energy storage project development companies in the United States.

With a growing portfolio of more than 41.5 GW, Savion's diverse team provides comprehensive services at each phase of renewable energy project development, from conception through construction. As part of this full-service model, Savion manages all aspects of development for customers, partners, and project host communities.

Savion is committed to helping decarbonize the energy grid by replacing electric power generation with renewable sources and delivering cost-competitive electricity to the marketplace. For further information, visit [www.savionenergy.com](http://www.savionenergy.com).



Founded in 2019, the Savion team is comprised of utility-scale solar and energy storage development experts.

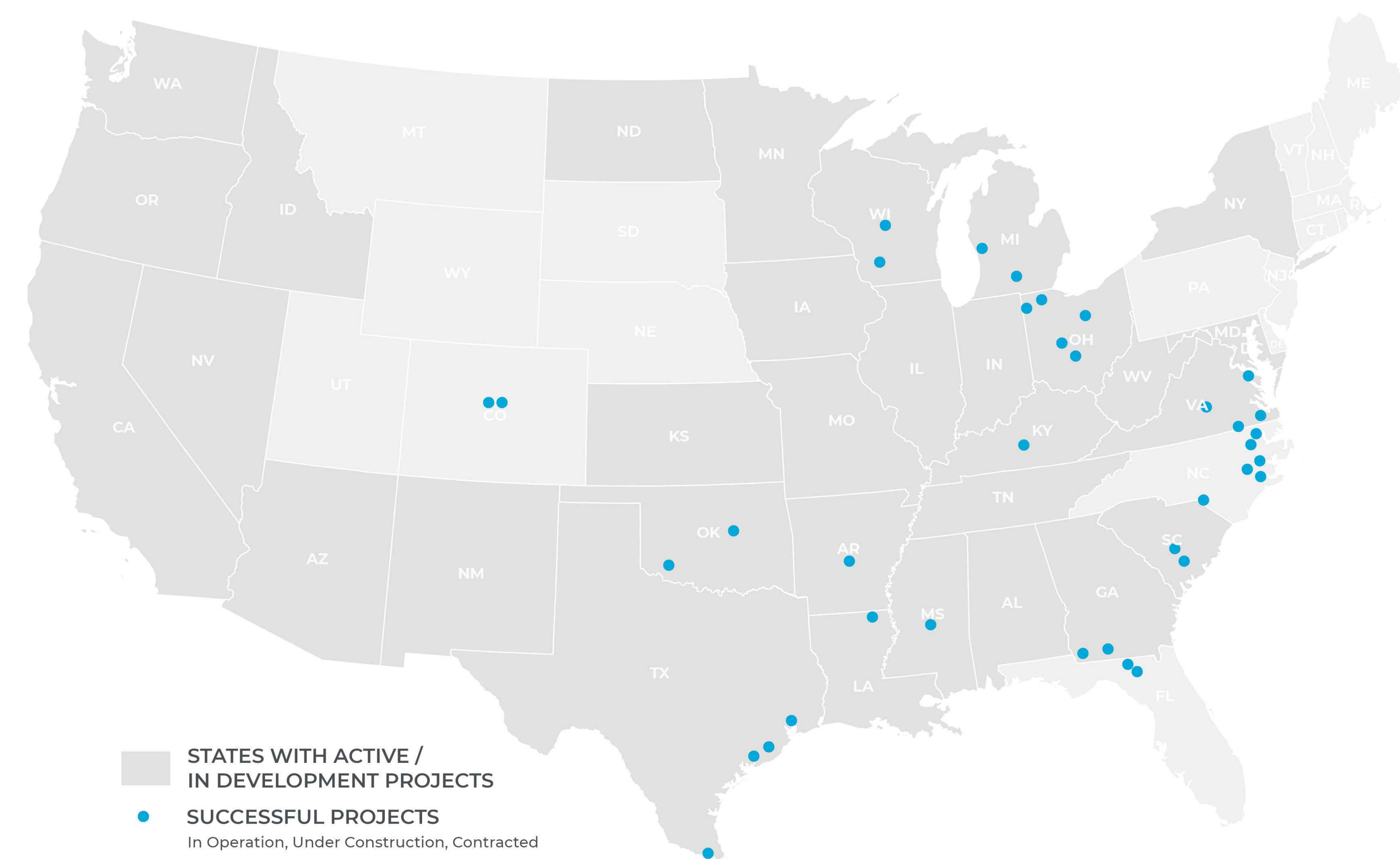


A U.S.-based company headquartered in Kansas City, MO, Savion has projects in various phases across 33 states.



Savion has more than 215 employees providing comprehensive services at each phase of renewable energy project development.

**Savion U.S. Presence**  
In Operation, Under Construction, Contracted, and In Development



**WHO WE ARE**

We are actively advancing U.S. utility-scale photovoltaic (PV) and energy storage projects that help decarbonize the nation's electricity grid and deploy modern power to diverse markets at lower cost to customers. With a genuine care for the communities with which we are privileged to partner, Savion delivers utility-scale solar and energy storage project development throughout the U.S.



# BENEFITS OF GOING SOLAR

## Solar power facilities provide positive impacts to the local economy



- Increased tax revenues to local governments
- New job creation
- Landowner royalties



- Do not take away from local municipal resources used to support public infrastructure (schools or emergency services)
- A true silent revenue generator that benefits the entire community over several decades



- Lease agreements create steady, reliable income
- A means for diversifying landowners' cash flow
- Long-term certainty of payments for host landowners

# SOLAR PROJECT CONSTRUCTION



Photo credit: Savion. Brazoria West Solar Project. Brazoria County, TX. Owned and operated by Shikun & Binui USA.

**PIKE COUNTY**  
**SOLAR PROJECT**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON GROUND-MOUNTED

**SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS**



## Ambient Temperature

### **Does the presence of ground-mounted solar arrays cause higher ambient temperatures in the surrounding neighborhood (i.e., the “heat island” effect)?**

All available evidence indicates that there is no solar “heat island” effect caused by the functioning of solar arrays. PV panels are elevated off the ground and surrounded by air, so the heat is dissipated rapidly. It does not build up and become stored as it does with rooftops or pavement.

## Cleaning Protocol

### **If it snows, does the snow need to be actively removed from the panels?**

Snow can serve as a natural cleaning agent that wipes away any dirt as it melts and slides away. In most cases, snow removal is unnecessary, but operations and maintenance personnel will monitor the solar array and may remove snow if necessary.

### **What is the best way to clean solar panel arrays?**

Panels are typically only cleaned a few times a year based on soiling levels, though areas that receive regular rainfall can significantly reduce the need for deliberate cleaning of the panel. Should a lack of rain or extreme dust conditions warrant cleaning, a water truck is typically used to wash dirt and natural buildup from the panels. However, in the right situation, an arrangement with a participating landowner may be made to use their water supply.

## Cost of Power

### **Will a solar project in my community lower my utility bills?**

A benefit of solar power is that it provides a long-term hedge against increasing prices. Solar power does not consume any fuel and allows utilities to purchase energy at stable long-term rates, which may help reduce future electricity price increases. Customers will save money in the long term, and once built, this solar project will be an important contributor to the county’s tax base. This will provide more money for schools and essential government services.

## End-of-Life Decommissioning

### **How are solar panels managed after they are no longer in use? Can they be recycled, and do hazardous waste disposal requirements apply?**

The average life of solar PV panels can be 20-30 years or longer after initial installation. At the time of decommissioning, panels may be reused, recycled, or disposed of. There are a few different types of solar panels used in ground-mounted PV systems. Solar module manufacturers typically provide a list of materials used in their product, which may be used to determine the proper disposal requirements at the time of decommissioning.<sup>1</sup>

## Efficiency

### Where does the power go?

Think of solar energy just like the other crops that are currently harvested in your community, perhaps corn, wheat, or dairy. While some of those resources stay local, many are shipped outside your community, but provide valuable income and jobs locally. Solar energy is no different. While it is impossible to know where exactly the electrons flow once they enter the electrical grid, the benefits of producing that energy, such as tax revenues, stay local.

### Do solar panels still work on a cloudy day?

Before constructing any solar project, we evaluate historical meteorological data to determine the facility's expected output. Photovoltaic panels can use direct or indirect sunlight to generate power, though they are most effective in direct sunlight.

Solar panels will still work even when the light is reflected or partially blocked by clouds.<sup>2</sup>

### How will the project produce energy throughout the winter or on cloudy days?

The project will be able to produce energy throughout the entire year, even in the winter or on cloudy days. While the output will be maximized on clear days, solar radiation will still hit the solar panels as sunshine beams through the clouds.

Modern panels also feature technology that uses bifacial modules on the front and rear sides of the panels so they can absorb radiation to generate electricity. The modules' rear side absorbs sunshine radiation reflected from the ground. When there is snow on the ground, the additional sunshine reflecting off the snow amplifies the sunshine radiation absorbed from the ground.

### Will my neighbors and I be eligible for service from this solar project?

The electricity generated by a utility-scale solar project will be injected into the high-voltage electric grid and wholesale electric market at the local substation. From there, it will follow the grid to areas of demand. It will not be available for direct purchase by retail electricity customers.

### How do solar panels perform in extremely high heat?

Solar panels are designed to perform in extreme heat or cold. There are many reputable solar panel manufacturers, but all produce panels with similar operational requirements. For bifacial solar panels, -40 degrees to 185 degrees Fahrenheit module temperature is acceptable.

## Public Safety

### Can electrical and other solar-related equipment cause fires?

Only a small portion of the materials in the panels are flammable, and those components cannot self-support a significant fire. The flammable components of PV panels include the thin layers of polymer encapsulates surrounding the PV cells, polymer back sheets (framed solar panels), plastic junction boxes, and insulation on wiring. The rest of the panel is composed of non-flammable components, including layers of protective glass that make up three-quarters of the panel's weight.<sup>3</sup>

### **Can chemicals that might be contained in solar PV threaten public drinking water systems and/or wetland resources?**

All solar panels are contained in a solid matrix, are insoluble, and are enclosed. Therefore, releases are not a concern. Rules are in place to ensure that ground-mounted solar arrays are installed in a way that protects public water supplies, wetlands, and other water resource areas.<sup>1</sup>

### **Are there health risks from the electric and magnetic fields (EMF) from solar panels?**

Solar energy produces no emissions, waste, odor or byproducts. Silicon solar cells were produced commercially in the 1950s and the first solar power plant was built over 35 years ago in southern California. PV arrays generate EMF in the same extremely low frequency (ELF) range as electrical appliances and wiring found in most homes and buildings.

The extremely low frequency EMF from PV arrays is the same as the EMF people are exposed to from household electrical appliances, wiring in buildings, and power transmission lines (all at the power frequency of 60 hertz). In comparison, EMF produced by cell phones, radios, and microwaves is at much higher frequencies (30,000 hertz and above). Clean Energy Results Questions & Answers Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems, prepared by Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (June 2015, page 10). A person outside of the fenced perimeter of a solar facility is not exposed to significant EMF from the solar facility. In 2005, a task group of scientific experts convened by the World Health Organization (WHO) concluded that there were no substantive health issues related to electric fields at levels generally encountered by members of the public.<sup>3</sup>

### **Can solar panels be damaged by hail and strong winds?**

Solar panels are designed to withstand extreme weather, including hail and thunderstorms. However, just like your car windshield can get damaged, the same can happen to solar panels (though it is rare). If a solar panel were to become damaged from severe weather or any other reason, it would likely be the glass that has become damaged, and there would be no risk of exposure to the contents. The Savion team has plenty of experience developing solar projects in high-wind zones. Our projects have shown to be virtually undamaged by direct hits from CAT 3 storms in the past. But, even if something were to hit the area and damage the solar panels, the solar project will be well insured with plans to make repairs.

### **Will a solar farm create stormwater runoff and water drainage issues?**

In many situations, during the development phase of a solar project, drainage studies and calculations may be conducted by third-party experts. It is typical to find that a solar project area's post-construction condition will create less stormwater runoff than the current pre-construction condition of cultivated land. Ecological benefits are expected to accrue over time from the temporary but long-term conversion of agricultural land to native plant communities. Native plant species tend to have deeper and more complex root systems, which allow for improved water absorption and retention than in soil on agricultural land. As a result, erosion and stormwater runoff will be reduced.

## Solar Panel Design / Visual Impacts

### Why was this area selected for a solar project?

The project area is suitable for utility-scale solar facility development due to its proximity to available transmission capacity and significant energy demand within the electrical grid. The project also provides significant local economic benefits and is a form of development that will maintain the rural character of the area.

## Hunting

### How will solar arrays impact deer or other hunting?

There is a possibility there will be a temporary impact on uses to areas adjacent to the property during construction. Once operational, there is very little activity at a solar project, and deer and other wildlife quickly return. It's not a matter of deer staying away -- it's a matter of keeping them out of the solar facility area where they graze on the grasses. Hunting outside the project area is not affected, and the presence of the solar project does not impact the hunting rights of non-participating landowners.

## Sound

### Is there sound associated with the solar project?

Solar projects have little to no sound audible outside of the fence line of the project. Inverters and transformers make a humming sound during the day when the facility is generating electricity. Any sound will be inaudible at the fence line. Sound impacts can be mitigated through the use of proper siting procedures. Transportation and maintenance equipment, like cars, trucks, lawnmowers, and string trimmers, are common sources of sound on solar projects that most people are accustomed to hearing elsewhere. Construction of a solar project is typically between 10-12 months.

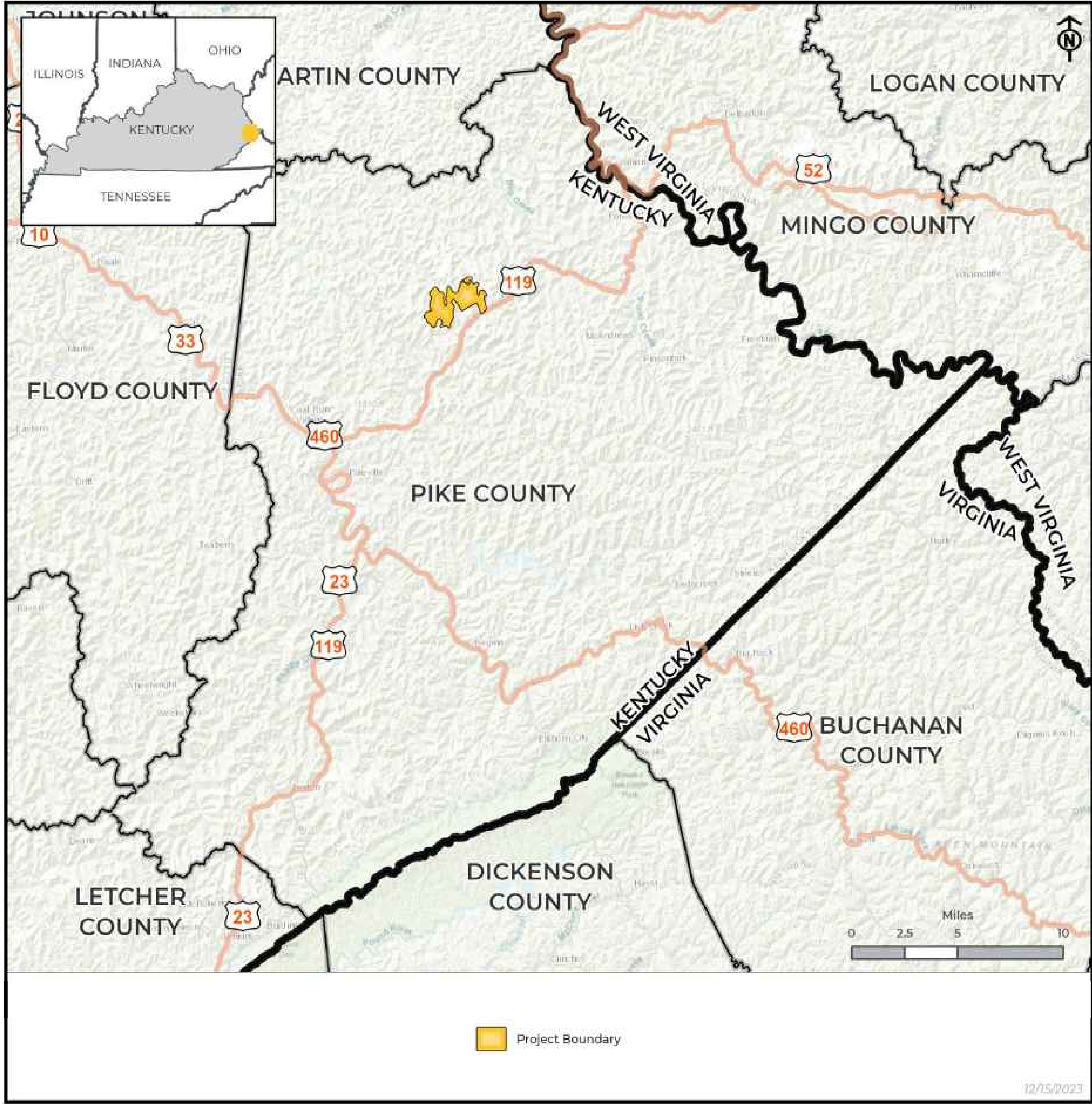
<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources; Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection; Massachusetts Clean Energy Center June 2015

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<sup>3</sup> NC State University. Health and Safety Impacts of Solar Photovoltaics. NC Clean Energy Technology Center, May 2017, page 12.

# PROJECT INFORMATION

PIKE COUNTY  
SOLAR PROJECT



## 100 MW Solar Project

The project is located in Pike County, Kentucky and will generate renewable electricity to the region over its expected 40 year operating life. The project will interconnect via the Excel to Johns Creek Transmission line part of the Kentucky Power/ AEP power grid.

### PROJECT STATISTICS

**2027**

Earliest commercial operation date

**\$100M+**

Estimated capital investment by developer

**~200**

Estimated new jobs during construction

**PIKE COUNTY**  
The following companies and organizations provided data that contributed to the production of this map - Coriologic, Inc., Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), OpenStreetMap contributors, ReGrid, Lowland Technologies, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), WhiteStar Corporation, Ventyx, Inc., An ABB Company, Imagery © 2023 Hexagon and data partners.





# PIKE COUNTY SOLAR PROJECT

## Embrace the Power of the Sun

Pike County Energy Center, LLC is proposing a 100 MW solar energy facility in Pike County, bringing many positive impacts to the local economy and community.

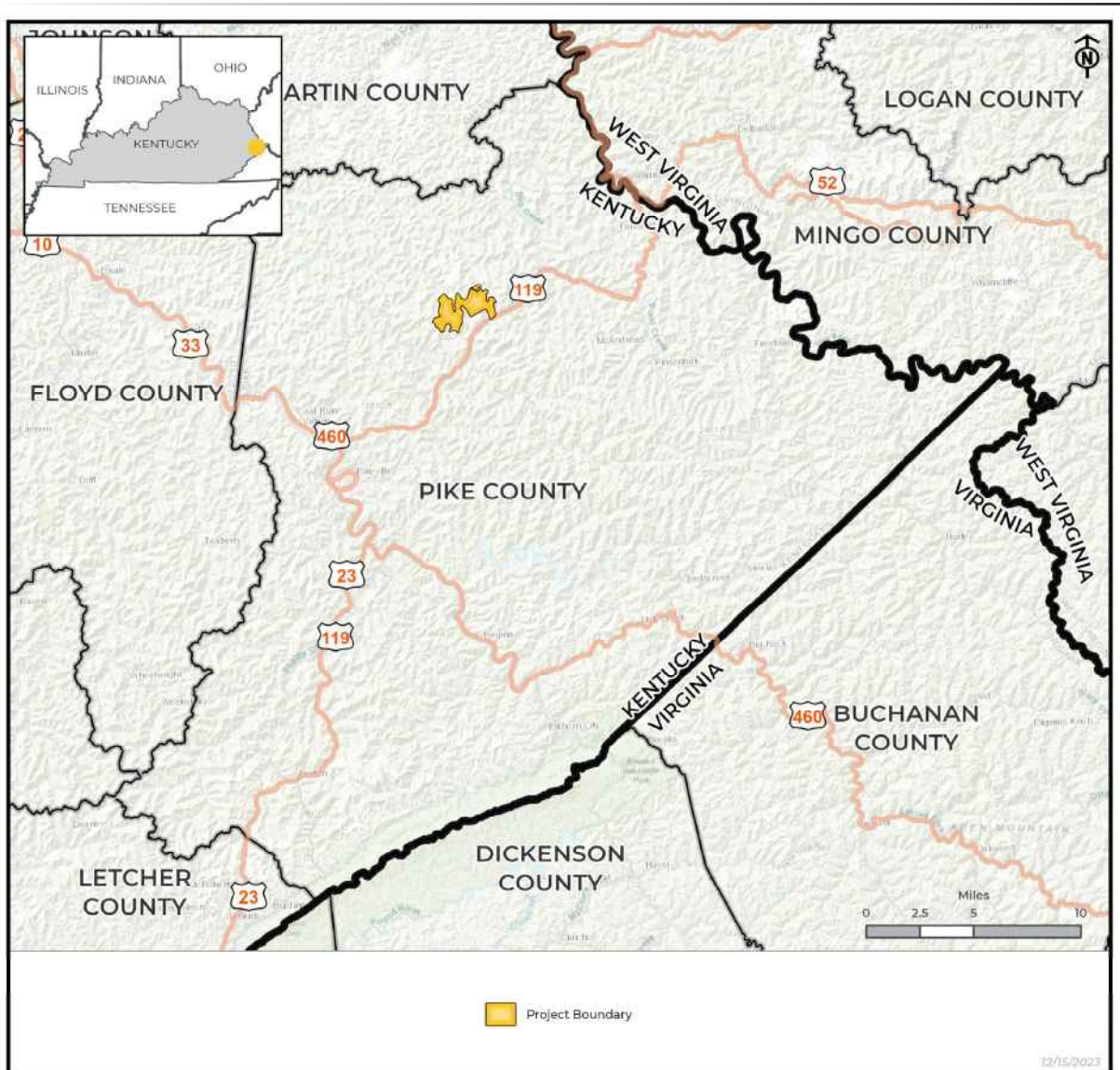
A solar project is an economic development opportunity for landowners and local tax jurisdictions to harvest new stable rent and property tax revenue from sunlight.

We are excited to be working in partnership with the Pike County communities on an opportunity to host a clean, environmentally compatible, renewable energy generation facility.

# PIKE COUNTY SOLAR PROJECT

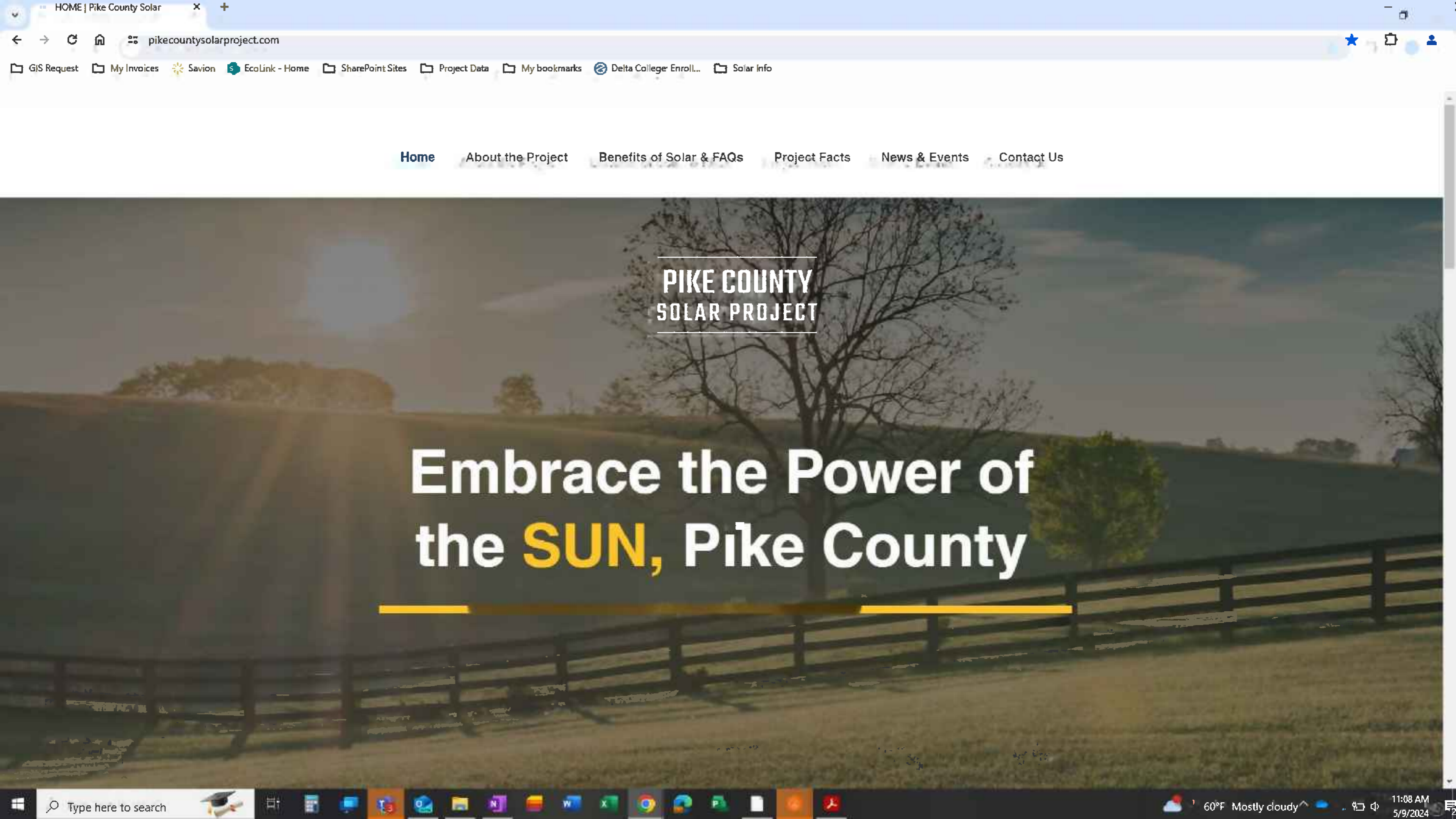
## The Benefits of Going Solar in Pike County:

- New revenue for Pike County
- Direct and indirect economic impacts from project spending on goods, services and wages, primarily during construction
- Will not increase local traffic during operations or create a burden on municipal and education services
- Energy generated here will be injected into the Kentucky Power grid and freely distributed to wherever power is needed.
- Sites previously used for coal mining will continue to generate electricity and power our economy into the future.
- The project's useful life is 40 years. Once done, the project will be decommissioned and the site will be restored to its pre-solar condition, allowing for some other, new development at that time.
- Requires minimal water consumption during construction and operations
- Once built, solar projects only need the sun to generate electricity and are not subject to fluctuating fuel prices and global trends, thus stabilizing the cost of electricity.



**PIKE COUNTY**  
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PIKE COUNTY SOLAR PROJECT

Embrace the Power of the SUN, Pike County



## Pike County Solar Project

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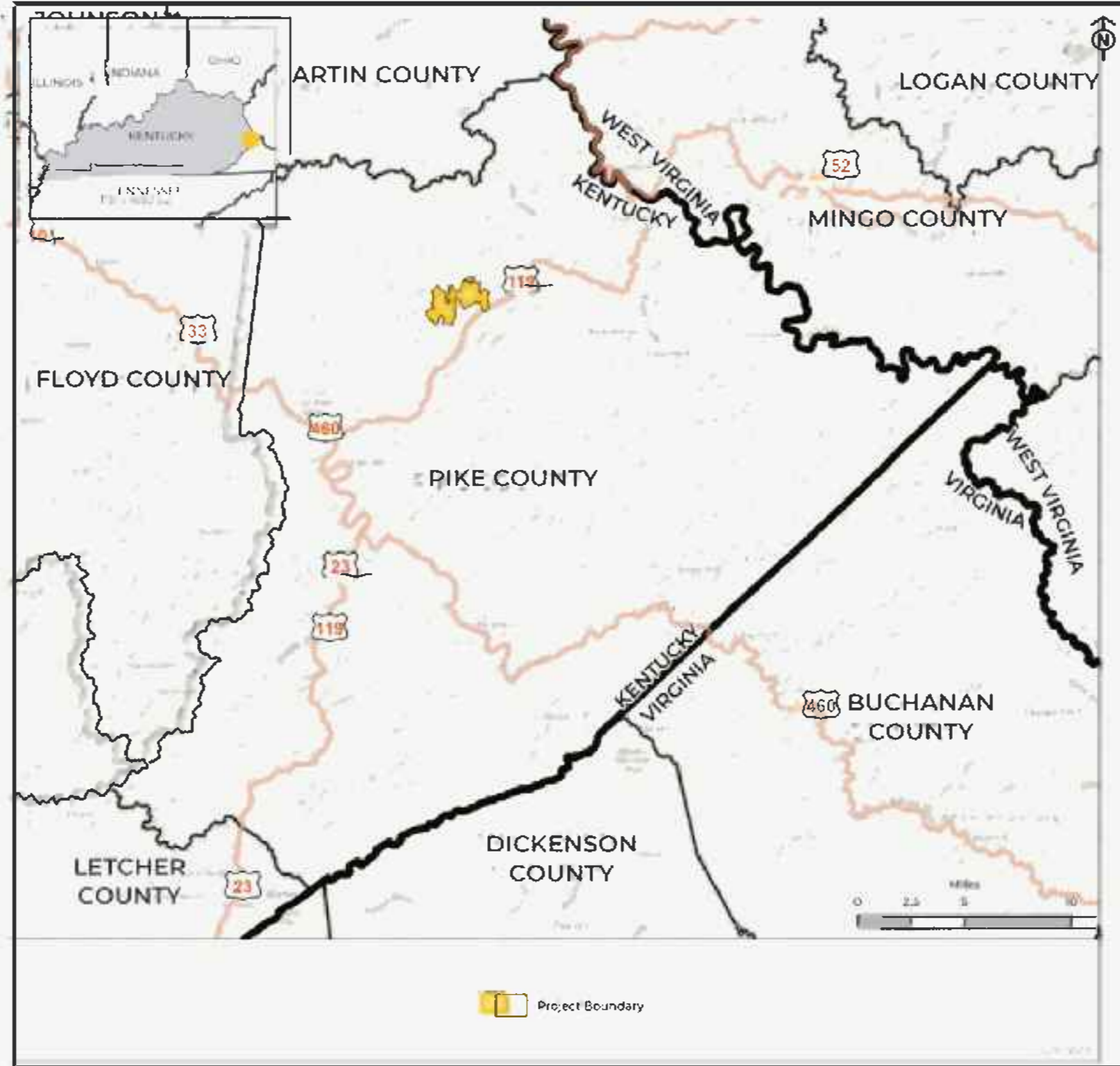
The solar project is both an economic development opportunity for greater Pike County and a significant revenue development opportunity for the local tax jurisdictions that deliver key services to residents.

The project will also benefit regional electricity consumers and the environment by generating clean, low-cost renewable energy and providing vital backup power that increases electric grid resilience and reduces outages.

[Project Map](#)

## Benefits of Solar Energy

A solar project provides a healthy, productive economic development opportunity for local landowners to harvest a



## Benefits of Solar Energy

A solar project provides a healthy, productive economic development opportunity for local landowners to harvest a stable cash crop—the sun. Benefits include positive impacts on the local economy through tax revenues to local governments and support to other local services. Host communities typically experience economic boosts for local businesses and supply chains and opportunities for new jobs—primarily during the construction phase.

In addition to being safe and compatible with agricultural and rural residential uses, solar energy facilities exist in harmony with wildlife and the environment. They make good neighbors because they operate almost silently without producing odor or byproducts; or attracting additional traffic.

In the bigger picture, solar energy projects provide an abundant, earth-friendly, sustainable power resource to help stabilize electricity costs. These amazing systems contribute to diversifying the nation's electricity grid.

[Solar FAQs](#)



**PIKE COUNTY**  
**SOLAR PROJECT**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON GROUND-MOUNTED

**SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS**





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## Sound

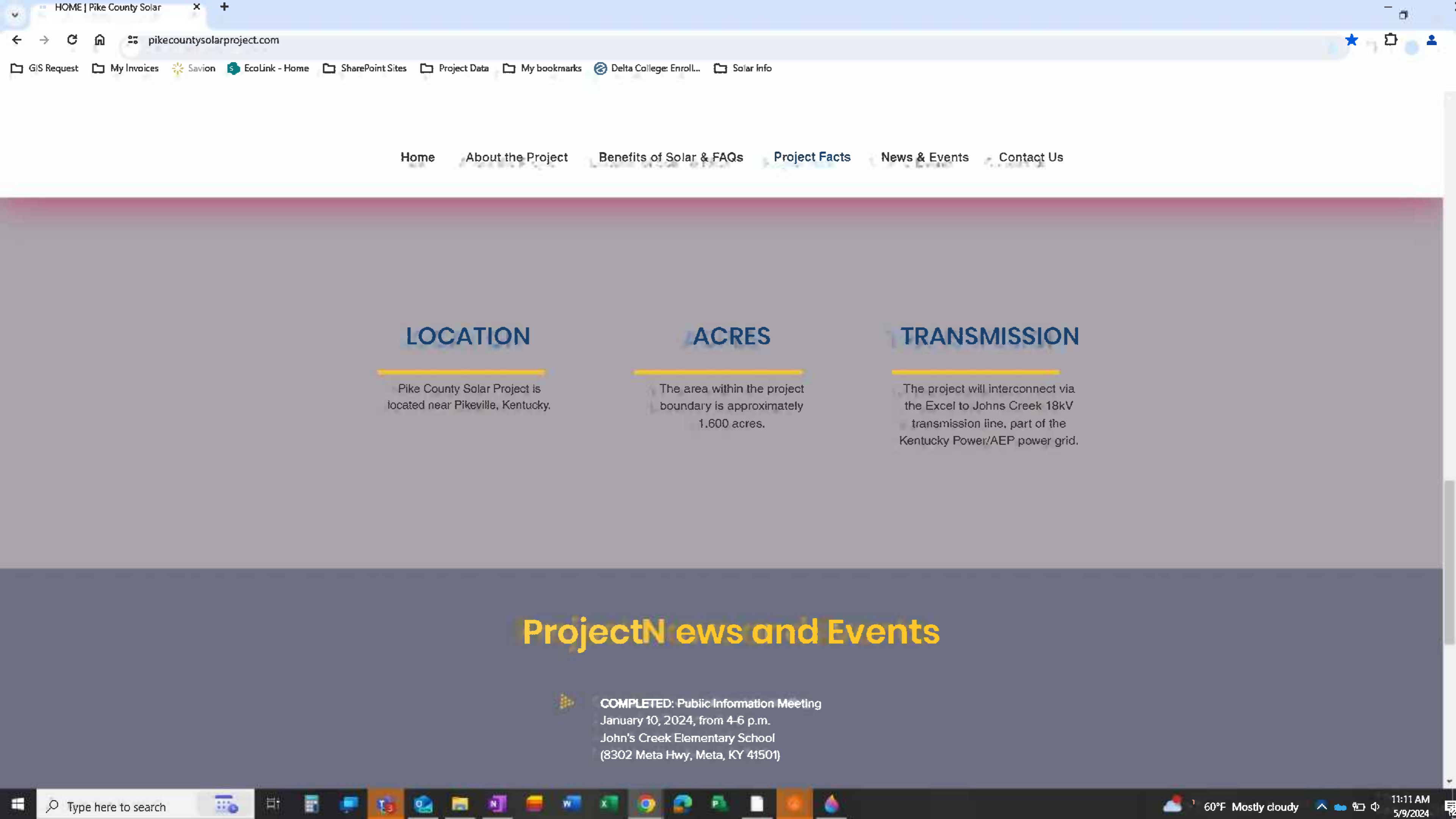
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<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources; Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection; Massachusetts Clean Energy Center June 2015

<sup>2</sup> Solar Energy Industries Association, "What happens to solar panels when it's cloudy or raining?," SEIA.org, 2023, <https://www.seia.org/initiatives/what-happens-solar-panels-when-its-cloudy-or-raining>

<sup>3</sup> NC State University. Health and Safety Impacts of Solar Photovoltaics. NC Clean Energy Technology Center, May 2017, page 12.



## LOCATION

Pike County Solar Project is located near Pikeville, Kentucky.

## ACRES

The area within the project boundary is approximately 1,600 acres.

## TRANSMISSION

The project will interconnect via the Excel to Johns Creek 18kV transmission line, part of the Kentucky Power/AEP power grid.

## Project News and Events

**COMPLETED:** Public Information Meeting  
January 10, 2024, from 4-6 p.m.  
John's Creek Elementary School  
(8302 Meta Hwy, Meta, KY 41501)

## OUR TEAM



**Erich Miarka**  
Development Director



**Jeannine Johnson**  
Development Manager

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## CONTACT

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First name

Last name

Email

Phone

Message