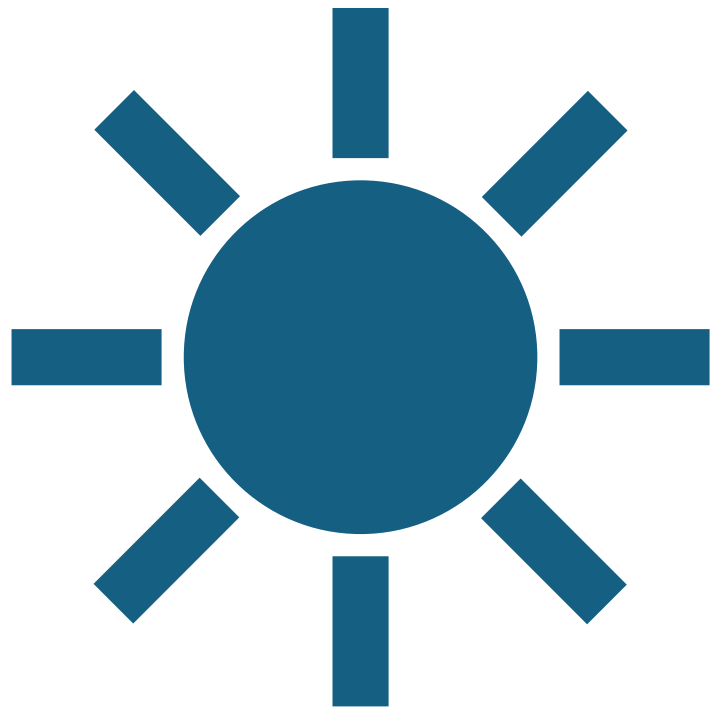


# Dual – Use Agrivoltaics Pilot Program Update

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

# Dual-Use Agrivoltaics Pilot Program

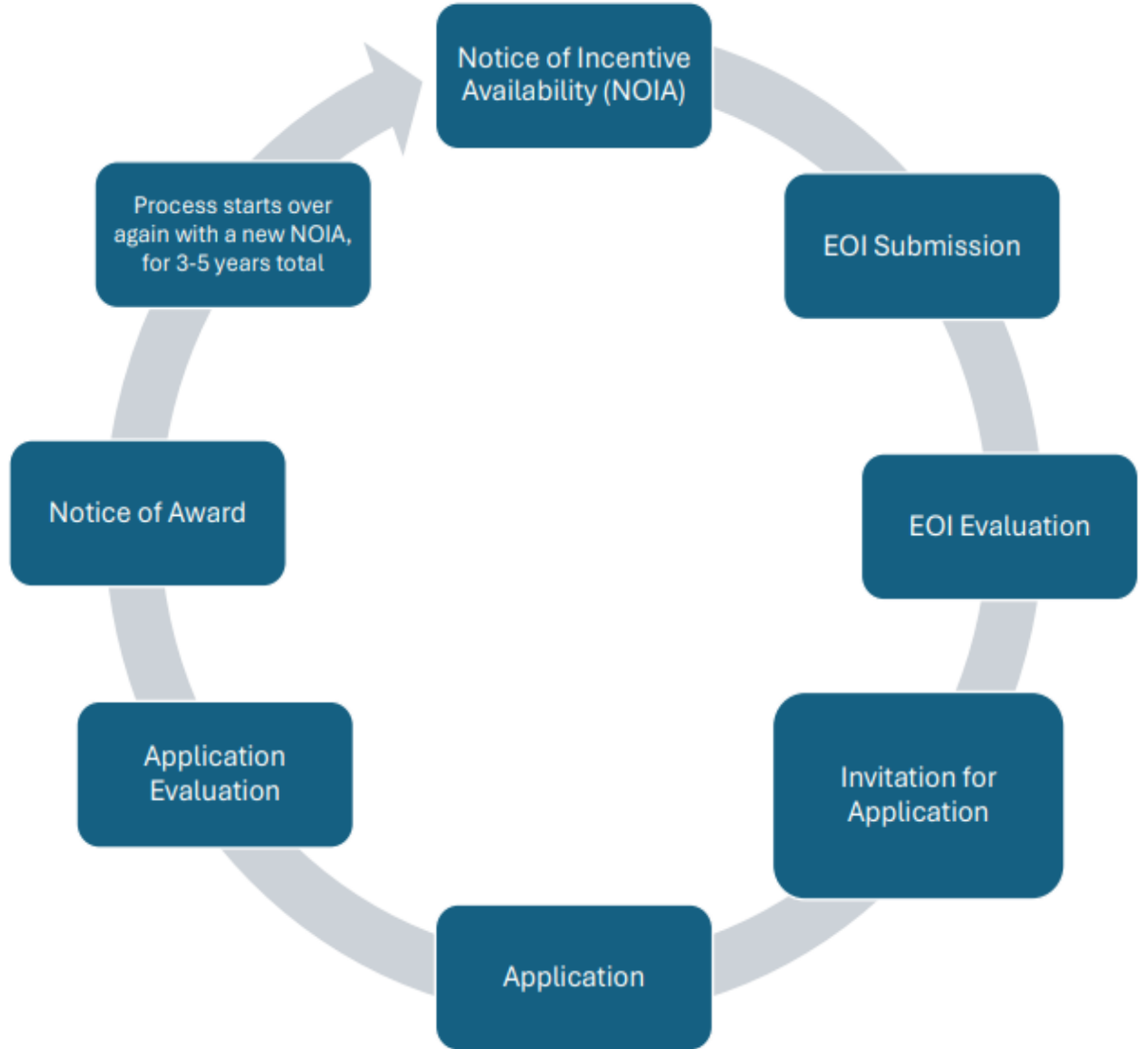
- Dual-Use Solar Energy Act of 2021
  - Directed BPU to adopt rules establishing a dual-use solar pilot program
  - 3 year – 200 MW, can be extended for 2 additional years
  - Lands Used for Solar Project (i.e. lands below and adjacent to solar array) must be maintained in agricultural/horticultural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

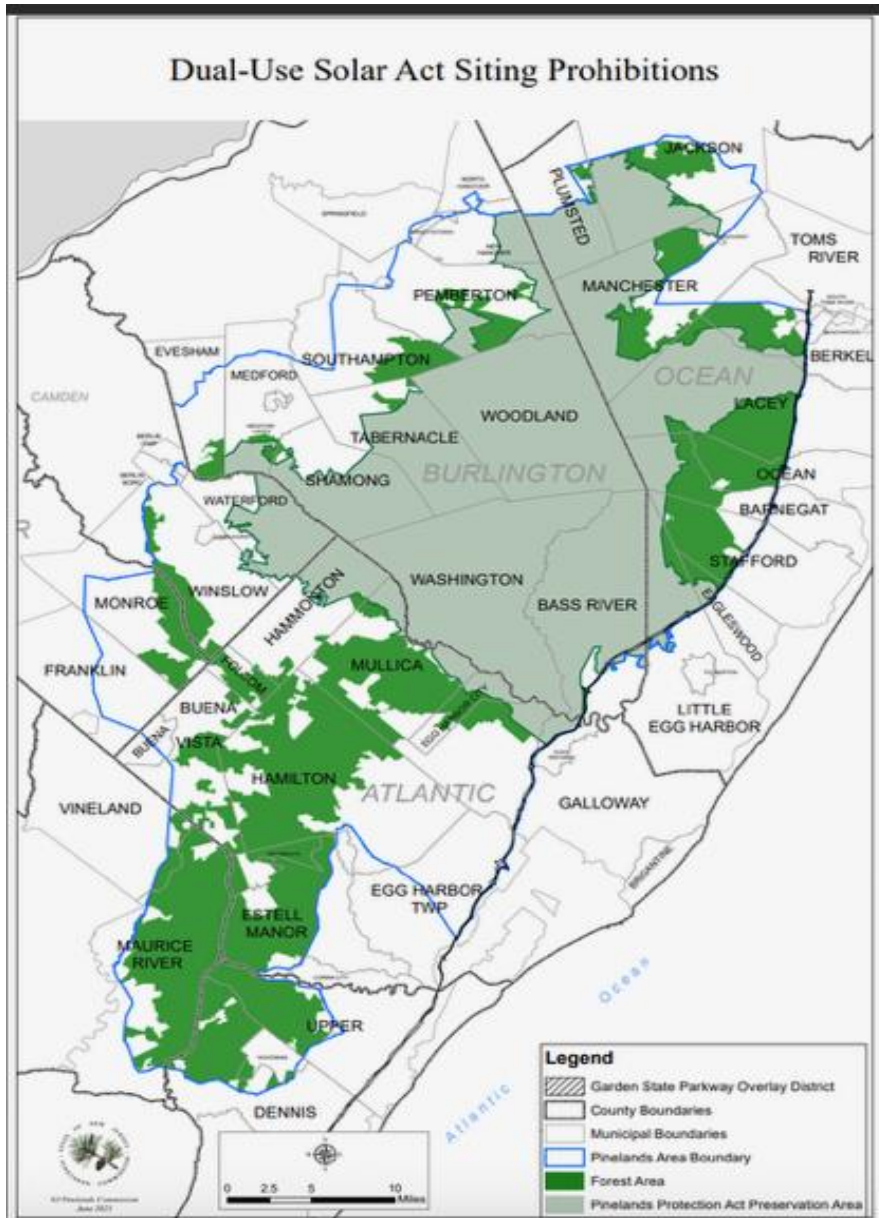
# Pinelands Issues

## 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.



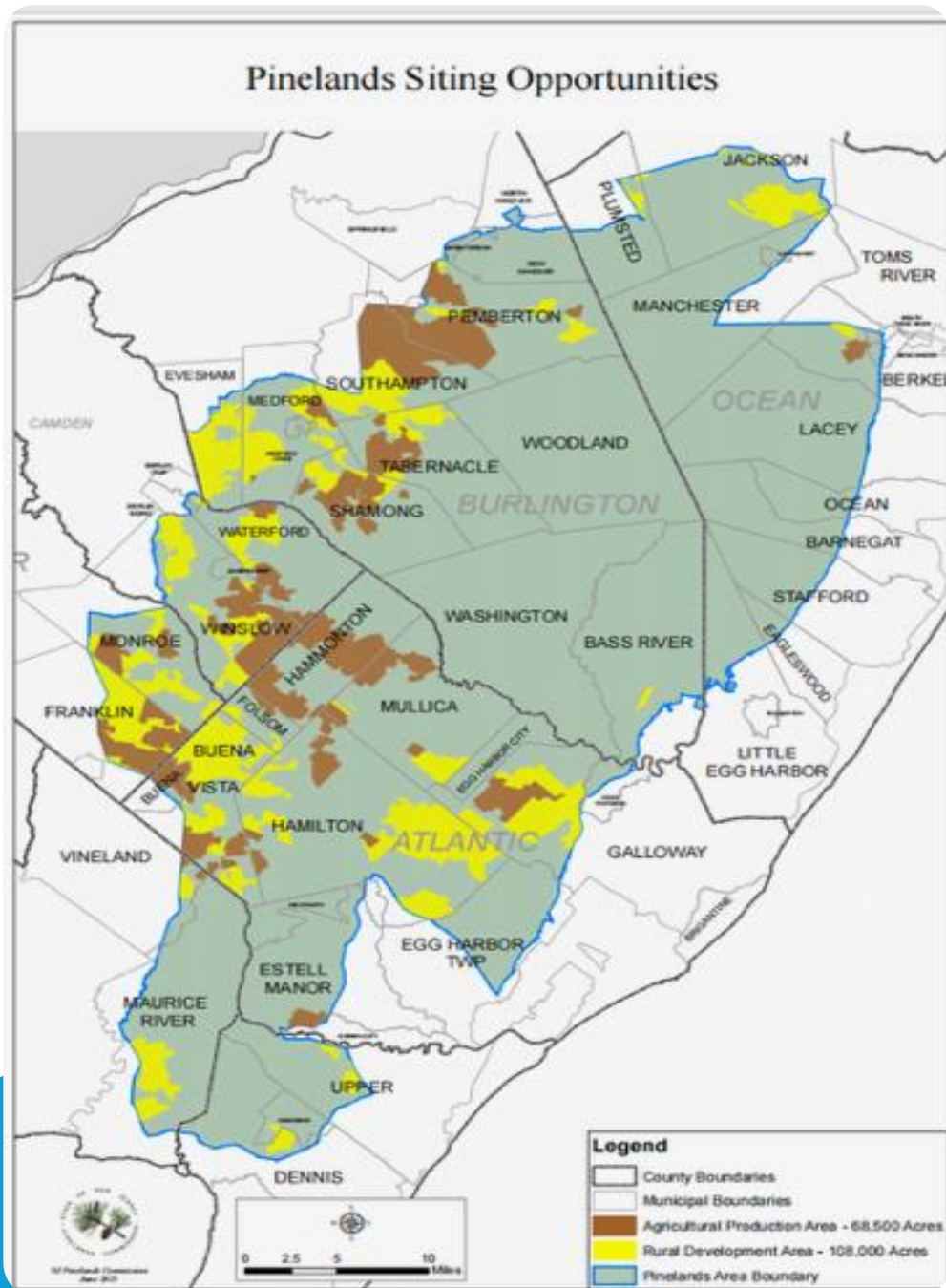
# CMP Requirements

## PAD, SAPA & Forest Area

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

- Closed Landfills
- Hazardous Waste Sites
- Resource Extraction Site





# 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