

Maryland Landfill Solar Assessment

Appendix A: Glossary

Brownfield - A brownfield is a property; the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

Landfill - Modern landfills are well-engineered facilities designed to receive specific kinds of waste, including municipal solid waste (MSW), construction and demolition debris (C&D), and hazardous waste. Landfill facilities must be designed to protect the environment from contaminants, which may be present in the solid waste disposed in the unit.

Photons - a particle representing a quantum of light or other electromagnetic radiation. A photon carries electromagnetic energy proportional to the radiation frequency but has zero resting mass.

Photovoltaic - of, relating to, or utilizing the generation of a voltage when radiant energy falls on the boundary between dissimilar substances (such as two different semiconductors)

Point of Interconnection (POI) - The point of connection between an electrical generating system, such as a solar PV system, and the utility grid. This is the transition point between things that are considered “behind-the-meter” and things that are considered “in-front-of-the-meter.”

Recommended site – A site that is not only suitable but is an excellent candidate for solar development that is recommended by MES.

Rubble fill - A subtype of landfill that only accepts large construction, demolition, land clearing, or household appliance debris. Rubble fills also accept tires and asbestos waste. Rubble fills often have highly sloped land as a result of the larger debris deposited on site.

Substations - A set of equipment decreasing the high voltage of electrical power transmission to that suitable for supply to consumers or increasing the voltage of generation or distribution electricity to that suitable for transmission through the bulk power system (generation and transmission grid). Substations are also where electricity flows from the bulk power system to the utility distribution system for delivery to consumers, and vice versa.

Suitable site – A site that is available to be pursued for solar development, but not recommended at this time by MES.

Superfund site - EPA's Superfund program is responsible for cleaning up some of the nation's most contaminated land and responding to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters. Associated sites have been deemed "Superfund sites" through this program.

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