

THE TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. 9483

STATUS REPORT

Citizens UB Solar, LLC filed an Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity with the Maryland Public Service Commission in Case No. 9483 in June 2018 for a large scale solar generating facility. The Town voiced a number of concerns publicly with the initial Application which led to an Amended Application in April 2019. The Mayor and Town Council at various meetings again voiced concerns with the Amended Application. The Town then filed formal opposition to the Amended Application on the record with the Public Service Commission. The State agencies commenting on the amended plan recommended in favor of the project. The Town specifically argued that if the Project were to proceed it would need to be annexed into Town and generate sufficient tax revenue in accordance with the Town's adopted Comprehensive Plan.

The Applicant asked to strike the Town's opposition on legal grounds, but then requested to cancel the evidentiary hearing scheduled for August 21, 2019 and instead tendered a confidential offer to the Town to settle the case. The case has been suspended since then.

The Town Council has voted to meet in closed session several times due to the confidential nature of the settlement negotiations. Counterproposals were exchanged between the parties and, as of September 27, 2019, the parties reached an understanding in principle on the primary terms. This settlement is tentative in nature pending a formal written agreement to be negotiated between the parties, approved by the Town in public session, executed and submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval.

While the agreement remains tentative, the primary terms are as follows:

1. The Applicant's land adjacent to the Town lying in Carroll County would be annexed into Town. This appears to be approximately 68 acres.
2. The Applicant would be allowed to install its solar panels as described in its Amended Application upon the lands to be annexed, plus upon certain additional land already lying inside the Town's boundaries south of the Potomac Edison substation zoned I-R.
3. The Applicant will enter into a tax agreement which will generate revenue for the Town greater than what otherwise would be payable under current tax laws.

4. The Applicant will pay any fees or expenses incurred by the Town as a result of the case, including consulting fees and attorney's fees.
5. The Applicant will pay all fees associated with the annexation proceedings.

If a final agreement is reached, it will be presented and voted upon by the Town Council in open session. More information may be obtained at the Town office at 104 West Locust Street, phone 410-775-2711.