**Application for Designation**

**Commercial Solar Energy Ready Community**

*Use of this template is not required but intended to guide applicants. For additional information, refer to the Commercial Solar and Wind Energy Ready Communities Development Center at:* [*https://www.in.gov/oed/indianas-energy-policy/energy-ready-communities-development-center/*](https://www.in.gov/oed/indianas-energy-policy/energy-ready-communities-development-center/)*.*

Submit applications, either as .pdf (preferred) or .doc files, to EnergyReady@oed.in.gov.

**Applicant Information**

Name of Unit of Government (County or Municipality):

Primary Point of Contact for application questions:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

Permit authority ([IC 8-1-42-6](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-6)) to adopt and enforce local standards (governing body):

**Local Solar Standards**

Part A. Project Standards. Provide details on how the local regulatory standards are not more restrictive than the state default standards, set forth by [IC 8-1-42](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42). The state default standards are listed below. Click on the Indiana Code (IC) reference link to review the full default standard. Whenever possible, include references or citations to the local standards. Provide a detailed description or explanation when the local standard is not a clear 1:1 match with the state standard.

1. Setback requirements; highways, collector roads, and local roads; nonparticipating properties; landscape buffer; height restriction; waiver of setback and buffer requirements with consent of nonparticipating property owner ([IC 8-1-42-10](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-10)).

Response:

1. Ground cover; vegetation plan ([IC 8-1-42-11](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-11)).

Response:

1. Fencing ([IC 8-1-42-12](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-12)).

Response:

1. Underground cables; aboveground infrastructure; depth of buried cables; cables and lines outside of project site ([IC 8-1-42-13](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-13)).

Response:

1. Glare minimization; adjacent properties and roadways; vehicular traffic ([IC 8-1-42-14](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-14)).

Response:

1. Signal interference ([IC 8-1-42-15](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-15)).

Response:

1. Sound level limitations; waiver of requirement with consent of owners of adjacent nonparticipating properties ([IC 8-1-42-16](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-16)).

Response:

8. Damage to drainage infrastructure; repair; installation of new infrastructure ([IC 8-1-42-17](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-17)).

Response:

9. Decommissioning and site restoration plan; posting of surety bond or equivalent security; required posting increments; adjustment of bond or security after periodic reevaluation of decommissioning costs; costs to be net of estimated salvage value; project owner's notice of intent to decommission CSE system; ground restoration; project owner's failure to remove project assets; assets allowed to remain in place with landowner's consent ([IC 8-1-42-18](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-18)).

Response:

10. CSE system's failure to generate electricity; presumed abandonment; required removal of project assets; project owner's failure to remove assets; removal of assets by permit authority; recovery of costs ([IC 8-1-42-19](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-19)).

Response:

11. "Force majeure event"; cessation of electricity generation; project owner's notice to permit authority; failure to resume operations; presumed abandonment; project owner's failure to remove assets; removal of assets by permit authority; recovery of costs ([IC 8-1-42-20](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/8#8-1-42-20)).

Response:

12. Other standards. Do the local regulations include any other standard not listed above? If so, please note what they are and describe how they are not more restrictive.

Response:

Part B. Process Standards. Provide details on how the local regulation(s) include the following:

1. Includes a transparent process to identify potential project sites.

Response:

1. Does not unreasonably eliminate portions of the community for projects. (Providing map(s) that identifies both the unit boundaries and the regulated area is strongly encouraged.)

Response:

1. Includes a fair review and approval process with a final approval that cannot be revoked.

Response:

1. Includes a specific plan for how incentive funds granted by OED will be used for economic development within or near the project, or otherwise benefits residents and businesses within or near the project.

Response:

**Supporting Documentation**

Include a copy of regulation(s) from the unit of government that adopts commercial solar energy development standards. If changes occur, the updated ordinances must be provided within thirty (30) days if/when changes to the regulations occur.

**Affirmation and Demonstration of Commitment**

To the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is complete and accurate. I acknowledge that I have the authority to submit this application and make commitments on behalf of the local unit of government.

I acknowledge, on behalf of the local unit of government, that certification requires a demonstration of commitment, of at least 10 years from the project’s start date of full commercial operation, to maintain the standards and procedural framework established in the unit’s commercial solar regulation, and to maintain all applicable zoning, land use, and planning regulations. By submitting this application for certification, I am affirming this commitment.

I understand that if the information provided in this application changes, including any related local ordinance or standard, the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED) must be notified immediately if the application is pending or within 30 days if our unit has been designated as a Commercial Solar Energy Ready Community. If designated, Indiana OED reserves the right to review the unit’s ordinances at its discretion after certification to ensure continued compliance with certification requirements.

I acknowledge that any changes to the local unit ordinances may revoke certification, require re-certification, and/or require repayment of any funds received from the Indiana OED, should funds be available and distributed to the local unit.

Signature:

Name:

Title:

Date: