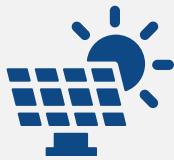


Local Energy Siting Fact Sheet

Arizona is growing, and demand for energy is growing with it. The process to decide where to build new energy generating facilities is called “local siting.” Members of the public have a say in what gets built and where. Finding good locations for renewable energy projects that power thousands of homes, often called 'utility-scale' projects, is a big part of building a more sustainable future for Arizona.

Renewable Energy Sources



Solar Energy



Wind Energy



**Battery
Storage**

Large-scale battery systems store electricity and send it back to the grid when needed.

Arizona is Great for Renewables

- Arizona is the sunniest state in the nation, making it uniquely suited to lead in solar and other utility-scale renewable energy development.
- Wind and solar are now the cheapest forms of new electricity, helping keep bills affordable for Arizona families and businesses.
- These projects create high-paying jobs in construction, engineering, operations, and maintenance—particularly in rural counties and tribal communities.
- Renewable energy makes our grid more reliable, prevents outages, and distributes power to residents even through extreme weather events.

How Can I Get Involved?

Neighborhood Meeting

- A neighborhood open house will be held before local permit authorization.
- This allows community members to learn about the project, discover its benefits, and ask questions.
- The meeting will be announced in the local paper, on signage near the project site, and by mail to nearby residents.

Planning and Zoning Hearing

- After the permit application is submitted and reviewed by county or municipal staff, the local jurisdiction schedules Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission hearing(s). These hearings review the project, hear public testimony, and vote to recommend or approve the permit.
- The hearing will be announced in the local paper 15 days before and on the local government's website a few days prior.
- This is a good time to voice your support by calling or writing local officials, submitting letters to the editor, and posting on social media.
- At the P&Z meeting, you can deliver public testimony.

In some localities, P&Z holds the final vote on a project permit.

In most places, the Commission recommends to the Board of Supervisors or City/Town Council.

Board of Supervisors (BOS) or City Council (Council) Hearing

- A few weeks or months after a P&Z hearing, the BOS or Council will vote to approve or deny the project permit.
- The hearing will be noticed in the local paper and on the local government website.
- This is a good time to voice your support by calling or writing local officials, submitting letters to the editor, and posting on social media.
- At the BOS/Council meeting, you can deliver public testimony.
- This is the last major hurdle for a renewable energy project. Once approved, projects usually complete construction and start sending clean energy to the electrical grid within 18 months.

**The Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans
is invested in local energy siting because we believe in protecting our
planet and resources for generations to come.**