



# Red Branch Solar FAQ

**Q: What is the Red Branch Solar project?**

A: The Red Branch Solar project is a proposed 200-megawatt photovoltaic solar energy generating facility located on private land in Burke County, GA.

The project is proposed by AES. Together with our many stakeholders, we're improving lives by delivering the energy solutions the world needs.

**Q: How many acres does the project utilize?**

A: The project would be expected to use approximately 1,200 acres.

**Q: How much energy will Red Branch Solar generate?**

A: The Red Branch Solar project will generate 200 megawatts of solar energy. This project will use the most advanced solar energy technologies to maximize clean energy production, producing enough energy in a year to meet the equivalent needs of approximately 34,000 Georgia homes.

**Q: How is this project going to benefit me?**

A: The Red Branch Solar project will create new jobs, generate millions in long term property tax revenue, and deliver economic development to Burke County.

**Q: What are the environmental benefits?**

A: Solar energy projects offer locally produced clean energy, improved air quality, reduced CO2 emissions, and non-permanent development to ensure future land usage.

**Q: How tall are the panles?**

A: Panel arrays stand approximately 10-15 feet above ground level at their highest point.

**Q: Will the project be fenced?**

A: Yes. As according to code, the portions of the project area that contain project infrastructure will be fenced. The project's design includes wildlife corridors that are not fenced to promote continued access for wildlife in their natural environment.

**Q: Can the equipment be damaged by weather?**

A: Although the support systems for solar arrays are designed to withstand the typical wind-loading in this area, it is not possible for industrial equipment to be completely impervious to unexpected severe weather events.

In the case of severe weather or natural disaster, if panels are damaged, trained facility personnel will safely collect, recycle where feasible, and/or properly dispose of them. Any panels damaged by weather can be replaced without taking the entire project out of service. AES also maintains robust insurance coverage to ensure funds are available to restore the project in these unlikely scenarios.

**Q: Will residents be paying for this system?**

A: No, residents will not be paying for this system. AES pays for the system. AES funds the project once a contract is secured with a local utility company who agrees to purchase the electricity that the project will produce.



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## Additional questions for consideration

Q: Would the panels create glare?

A: Solar projects can generate minimal glare during certain periods of the day, but it is less than glare produced by windows or water. The project will use panels with an anti-reflective coating to minimize glare, which along with the project's vegetative buffer, will prevent glare from impacting residents.

Q: How will this impact my electric bill?

A: Your current electricity provider will continue to set the rates for your bill. Consumer electricity rates are based on the cost of all the electricity that utility companies generate or purchase. Red Branch Solar intends to sell its electricity directly to a local utility company. Solar is one of the cheapest forms of electricity and does not experience price volatility, but one project is unlikely to have a noticeable impact on electricity bills. As more projects like Red Branch Solar are constructed to increase grid diversity and stability, it will ensure that folks across Georgia are receiving the lowest cost electricity possible.

Q: What measures will be taken to manage potential stormwater runoff and to prevent issues like soil erosion?

A: The project will have a comprehensive stormwater management plan that will comply with all county and state stormwater management regulations. We are committed to regular monitoring and maintenance to ensure this plan protects the surrounding environment.

Q: Will first responders be trained on how to handle thermal incidents?

A: AES will conduct local fire and first responders training, educating participants on project components, shutoff procedures and locations, operational contacts, emergency contacts, precautions, emergency situations, and public safety. procedures and locations, operational contacts, emergency contacts, precautions, emergency situations, and public safety.