

**FACT SHEET** 

# Old Fields Solar

MN8 Energy is one of the largest U.S. renewable energy infrastructure companies. With projects across 29 states, MN8 provides clean, affordable energy and battery storage to over 200 enterprise customers—serving utilities, government agencies, schools and universities, and major corporations—strengthening the nation's energy infrastructure.

In West Virginia, MN8 is investing up to \$1 billion by 2030 to develop new energy resources, including Old Fields Solar, a solar photovoltaic (PV) project proposed for Hardy County. Building on the state's proud legacy of powering the nation, this development will bring new jobs, revenue, and will strengthen the regional grid by providing additional energy.

### THE OLD FIELDS TEAM

Originally founded as part of Goldman Sachs, MN8's team of professionals blends expertise in deploying and operating renewable energy projects spanning a range of sectors, technologies and geographic locations. The team will bring to Old Fields Solar deep experience across all phases of renewable energy projects—from development and design to construction, operations, and long-term maintenance and optimization of the site's performance.

### **DEVELOPER AND PROJECT OWNER**MN8 Energy

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY** 

Potesta & Associates, Inc.

**ENGINEERING AND DESIGN** 

Potesta & Associates, Inc.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Ann Green Communications

### THE PROJECT

Old Fields Solar is a utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) project as large as 250 megawatts, with the potential to include battery energy storage (BESS). That's enough clean energy to power approximately 37,000 typical West Virginia homes.

Electricity from Old Fields Solar will feed into the PJM Interconnection (PJM)—the regional grid operator serving West Virginia and 12 other states. Like a water system delivering resources where

needed, PJM ensures electricity is delivered where needed across the region, stabilizing supply and reducing outages. Old Fields Solar will help strengthen this grid, providing reliable energy for West Virginians.

Beyond the energy it generates, this project will also directly benefit the Hardy County community through direct and indirect spending, tax payments and land lease payments.

## ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION TO HARDY COUNTY

Old Fields Solar will encourage economic growth in Hardy County by generating revenue to support education and public services. The project will create short-term construction jobs and long-term roles in operations and maintenance—hiring local talent when possible—while also boosting local businesses through spending at restaurants, hotels, and shops.

With as much as \$430 million in capital investment, Old Fields is expected to generate up to an estimated \$75 million in new county revenue and landowner payments over the initial 20-year period. Old Fields will support as many as 9 local jobs—including technicians, vegetation and module washing crews, pest control, and ancillary staff.

## COMMITMENT TO HARDY COUNTY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

MN8 Energy is committed to being a good partner for the communities in which it operates. To identify impactful opportunities, the Old Fields Solar team is actively meeting with leaders in education, government, business, and community organizations across Hardy County. MN8 Energy is also partnering with the Hardy County Commission to launch a community benefit fund that will invest directly in local priorities. Details will be shared as plans develop.

As the project progresses, MN8 will keep the community informed through regular updates.

### **COLLABORATION WITH WVU**

MN8 Energy is engaging with the WVU Davis College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to explore and enhance agrivoltaics—the dual use of land for both solar energy production and agriculture—across its West Virginia projects, including Old Fields Solar.

Agrivoltaics integrates solar panels with active farmland—such as crops or grazing animals—to create dual-use systems that generate energy while maintaining agricultural productivity. This innovative approach supports both landowners and local communities by enabling dual revenue streams, improving land use efficiency, reducing water loss through shaded soil, and promoting biodiversity with pollinator-friendly vegetation. Through this collaboration, WVU researchers are studying how water movement, soil health, and plant growth respond under and around solar panels. Faculty and graduate research assistants are leading the process, working closely with MN8 to develop best practices that support long-term economic and environmental benefits for Hardy County and beyond.

### AESTHETICS AND FENCING

Old Fields Solar will incorporate a range of thoughtful design elements across the project. These include strategic setbacks from roads and property lines, vegetative buffers, and wildlifefriendly fencing.

### Ways MN8 will keep the community updated:

#### **EMAIL**

info@oldfieldssolar.com
OLD FIELDS WEBSITE
oldfieldssolar.com
OLD FIELDS FACEBOOK PAGE
Coming soon

The MN8 team will host mobile office visits in the area, with dates and times shared in advance on the project's Facebook page.





The primary perimeter fencing will use agricultural-style materials—wooden posts and wire mesh with approximately six-inch square openings—allowing for the safe passage of small animals while discouraging livestock from entering the area. Larger wildlife, such as deer, will be able to safely move around the project due to setbacks from public roadways and non-participating properties.

Fencing around the substation will differ to meet National Electrical Safety Code requirements, utilizing a seven-foot chain link fence for public safety.

## PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE

Old Fields Solar is undergoing a comprehensive environmental review to ensure responsible development and stewardship of the land. The project will meet all state and federal environmental regulations, including those from the West Virginia Public Service Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, WV Department of Natural Resources,

and WV State Historic Preservation Office. Studies are being conducted to assess wildlife habitat, wetlands, soil and water conditions, and other ecological factors. These findings will help inform project design and minimize environmental impact.

MN8 Energy is also coordinating with agencies and local experts to meet permitting requirements and identify opportunities for restoration or habitat enhancement where applicable.

### **DECOMMISSIONING PROCESS**

As part of the permitting process with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, Old Fields Solar must provide a detailed decommissioning plan with a commitment to implement the plan and post financial security, which is administered by the WV Department of Environmental Protection. At the end of the project's useful life (35-40 years on average), panels can be removed and recycled. Up to 90% of the materials used in panels, much of which is glass and aluminum, are recyclable.

### **OLD FIELDS PROJECTED TIMELINE**

Permit Application

Q3 '25

Anticipated Approval

Q3 '26

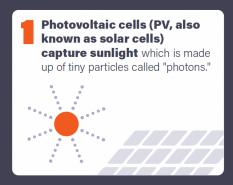
Construction Start

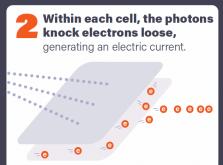
2028

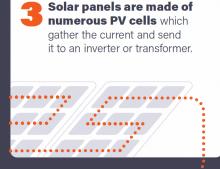
Site Operational

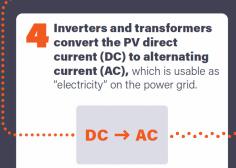
2030

## **How does solar energy work?**



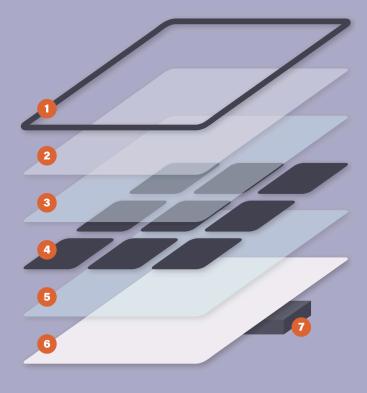








## What are solar panels made of?



#### 1. Aluminum Frame

Holds the panel structure together, provides mounting support.

#### 2. Tempered Glass

Protects the panel from environmental damage.

#### 3. Encapsulant

Holds solar cells in place, protects against moisture and dirt.

#### 4. Solar Cells

The heart of the panel, where sunlight is converted into electricity.

#### 5. Encapsulant

Provides additional protection and structural support.

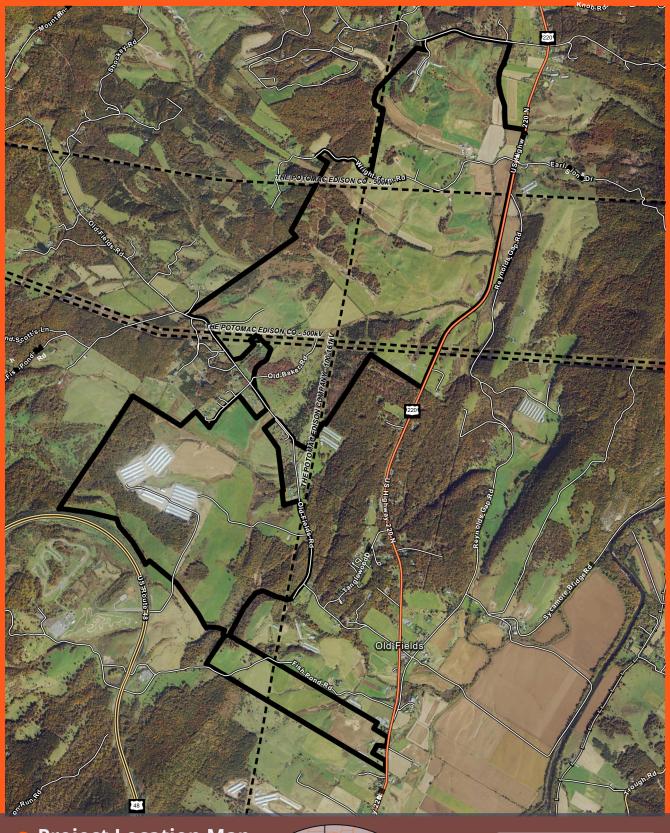
#### 6. Back Sheet

Acts as an electrical insulator. Prevents moisture and contaminants from reaching the cells.

### 7. Junction Box

Houses electrical connections. Transfers electricity generated to an inverter or battery.

For informational purposes only



Pennsylvania

Virginia



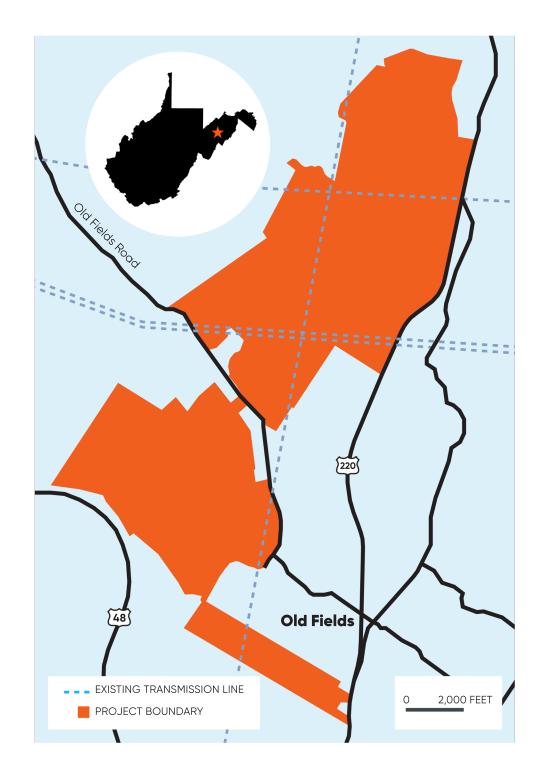


### Legend

- Existing Transmission Line
- Project Boundary

### **PROJECT LOCATION**

# Hardy County, WV



### **KEY CONTACTS**



Mary A. Green - Communications

Erik Duncan - Project Developer

Please direct inquiries to info@oldfieldssolar.com