



End-of-life Management of Photovoltaic Systems

Stakeholder Workgroup

September 14, 2021

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**

Budget Proviso

The department shall submit regulations to guide in:

- the management of end-of-life photovoltaic modules and energy storage system batteries on solar projects
- the decommissioning of solar projects in excess of thirteen acres- to include partial refurbishing and complete decommissioning

Budget Proviso

Consider:

- Disposal as HW or SW
- Reuse/recycling options
- Impact on landfill capacity
- Financial Assurance needs for decommissioning
- Infrastructure to collect, transport EOL material
- Stewardship for smaller-scale installations

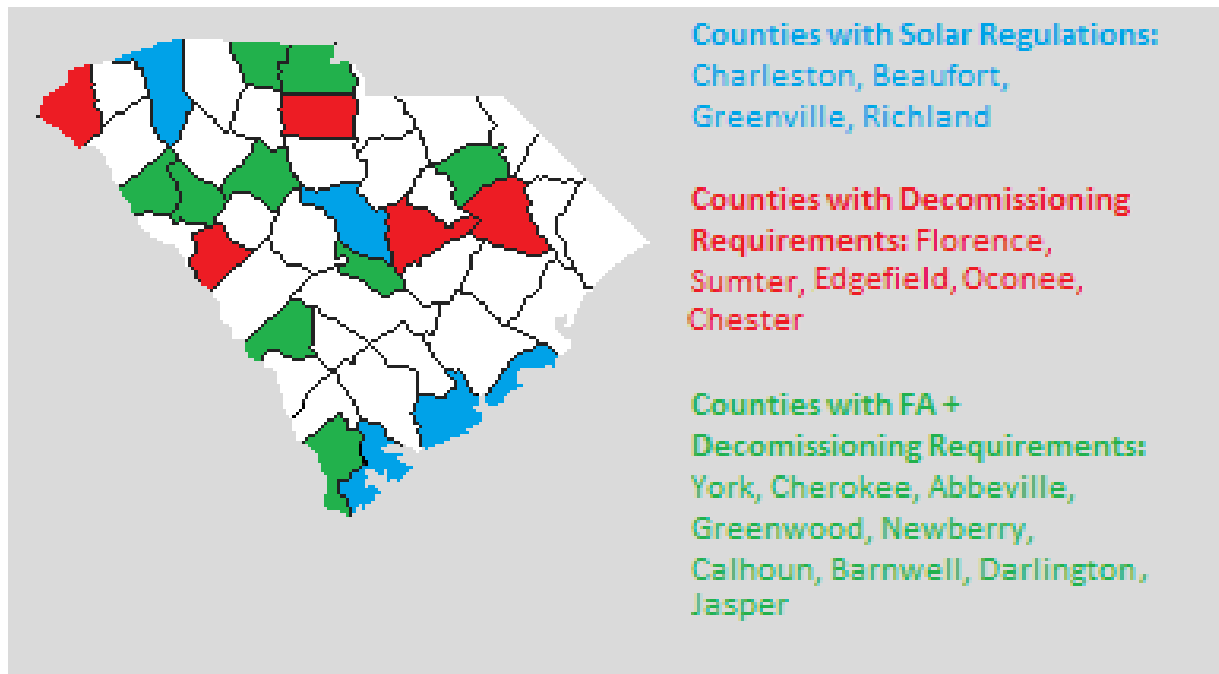
End-of-Life Management

- EOL Options: Refurbish, recycle, dispose
- Concerns: Responsible parties
- Costs and Financial Assurance
- Items: panels, inverters, ballasts, batteries

Decommissioning in SC

- 18 counties w. ordinances to regulate PVMs
- 14 counties w. decommissioning requirements for large-scale projects
- 9 ordinances require financial assurance
- No statewide requirements for decommissioning large-scale projects

Decommissioning in SC (cont'd)



Decommissioning in SC (cont'd)

- Typically required within six-months after a six-month period of no electricity being generated or sold
- Includes removal of solar panels, buildings, cabling, electrical components and any other associated facilities

Decommissioning Questions

- Are facilities being decommissioned and/or refurbished?
- What is the EOL timeline?
- Who has responsibility for EOL facilities?
- What entities perform decommissioning?
- Should SC enact statewide decommissioning requirements?
- Should SC publish guidance for LGs in establishing decommissioning requirements

Financial Assurance Questions

Should it be required? If so:

- Payable by whom?
- Payable to whom?
- Payable in full at start?
- How triggered?
- How should costs be determined?

Other discussion items (TBD)

- Who is missing from this group?

Quarterly Reports

1st report due Sept. 30

- Summary of directives
- Process overview

Subsequent reports due Dec. 31, March 31

Final report due June 30, 2022



Next Steps

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Questions?

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