



South Carolina Solar Habitat Site Application

The purpose of this program is to encourage dual benefits of renewable energy with pollinator plants that provide benefit to wildlife and agriculture production.

Items needed for your submittal include:

- Soil test results
- Seed list
- Percentage of seed proposed to be planted
- Site photo

Contact Information

Landowner Name: _____ Solar Site Size: _____ acres

Property Address: _____
(solar site)

Solar Site Coordinates: _____
(latitude/longitude)

Landowner Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Solar Developer or Lease Holder Company Name: _____

Point of Contact Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Vegetation Company Name: _____
(if applicable)

Point of Contact Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

South Carolina Solar Habitat Site Prep

The purpose of this section is to outline the steps you will take to prepare your site for planting.

1. Describe the existing condition of your proposed solar habitat site. Is it currently in agriculture, barren land or forested?

2. Has herbicide treatment been applied in the past 5 years? Yes No

a. If so, describe which ones that have been applied and when:

3. Describe how you plan to prepare the soil and handle any existing vegetation prior to planting.

4. How do you plan to plant the site?

Broadcast seeding

Drop seeding

Drill seeding

Transplanting plugs or seedlings

5. Where do you plan to purchase your seed? _____

6. List the percentage of your seed mix that you plan to purchase for the following:

_____ % grasses

_____ % forbs (herbaceous flowering plant)

7. What percentage of your seed mix is native plant species?

_____ %

8. Provide a list of plant species you plan to plant and the seeding rates of your seed mix. This can be done as an additional attachment to this form. Please note that it is recommended that at least 4-6 different species be utilized. Additionally, it is helpful to have at least one blooming species per season (spring, summer or fall)

9. Where do you plan to plant pollinator friendly species on your solar site? Check all that apply.

Panel Zone (beneath the panels and in between rows)

Buffer Zone (area on the periphery of the panels inside the security fence)

10. Is there an opportunity to do a vegetated buffer outside of the security fence?

Yes No

a. If yes, how wide is that vegetated buffer?

Less than 30 ft wide 30 ft – 49 ft wide More than 50 ft wide

b. Do you plan to manage this buffer with native species beneficial for wildlife?

Yes No

c. If yes, please list what native species are present that benefit wildlife or native species you may plant to benefit wildlife.

11. Will there be a Long-term Refuge Zone left or managed within your solar site?

Yes No

a. If yes, please describe your long-term refuge zone.

12. Provide an overall timeline for the development of your solar site by completing the table below.

Solar Habitat	Activity	Date (Month/Year)
	Order seeds	
In Progress Status	Start site prep (herbicide application)	
	Start soil prep (grading, discing, etc)	
	Plant seeds	
	Year 1 maintenance (mowing, weedeating or herbicide spot spraying)	
	First inspection (after two growing seasons)	
Certified Solar Site	Certified Solar Site signage displayed	
	Second inspection (after four growing seasons)	

Following the implementation of your site prep plan, you will need to provide proof of site prep and planting within 30 days of activities occurring. This will include:

- Site prep records of any site vegetation maintenance completed (herbicide treatment, grading, disking, etc.) and the dates completed.
- Receipts of seed purchases
- Photos of the site

South Carolina Solar Habitat Management

The purpose of this section is to outline the steps you will take to manage the pollinator habitat at your solar site.

1. How will you manage your solar habitat site? Check all that apply.

Mowing Herbicide Weedeating

2. If mowing or weedeating, how often do you plan to do so?

Once a year

More than once a year

Other _____

3. If planning to apply herbicide, which method of herbicide application do you plan to use?

Spot spraying

Grass selective herbicide

Other selective herbicide _____

Other herbicide method _____

4. Please list all herbicides you plan to use.

Provide a written management plan for your pollinator habitat at your solar site. A management plan outlines the purpose of the land management activity to maintain pollinator habitat and prescribes how that will be conducted. The Technical Guidelines for Development of Wildlife & Pollinator Habitat at Solar Farms should be consulted as you develop your management plan. The Guidelines provide overviews on site preparation and planting and long-term management.

Your management plan should include:

- A description of the plant species that you plan to plant and at what seeding rate and the time of year you plan to plant. If a cover crop (brown top millet, rye, wheat or oats) is planned for use, include that in the plan. Describe where you will plant, whether in the Panel Zone or Buffer Zone.
- Details about mowing frequency, time of year, height of mower deck, etc.
- Details about herbicide application, the type of chemicals used, the mode of spraying, the time of year you plan to spray, etc.