



# SA SOLAR

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. HOW WILL THE PROJECT IMPACT FARMLAND AND LOCAL AGRICULTURE?

A. Solar development and traditional agriculture can co-exist side-by-side, and increasingly are found together. Responsible solar development provides benefits to both agriculture and ecosystems by improving soil health, retaining water, nurturing native species, and supporting native pollinators which improves local food production. In addition, solar farms help farmers and landowners diversify their income by providing a reliable, drought-resistant revenue stream. This steady income means that farmers are less vulnerable to fluctuations in market prices on their products, uncertain trade regimes, and volatile annual weather, thus helping farmers stay in business. Additionally, at the end of its useful life, the project will be decommissioned, and the land will be available for all future potential uses, including traditional agriculture.

### 2. IS THERE A FIRE RISK ASSOCIATED WITH UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR POWER GENERATION FACILITIES?

A. There is a very low risk of fire at large-scale solar facilities. The equipment at SA Solar will be electronically monitored 24/7, and physically monitored throughout a standard work week. It is the Project's number one priority to ensure the safe operation of the Project facility and the safety of nearby residents and landowners. As SA Solar is being developed, the Project team will work with local fire departments regarding all necessary procedures for the safe handling of fires within the facility. While this is prudent planning, fires within the Project are highly unlikely to occur.

### 3. ARE PROPERTY VALUES IMPACTED BY THIS FACILITY?

A. Industry studies show that large-scale solar power facilities economically benefit the community and do not decrease residential property resale values. The increase in state revenues generated by the facility typically lead to more funding for local services like schools, roads and emergency services. Additionally, homeowners may view the solar facility as a safe, quiet neighbor.

### 4. HOW IS THE SOLAR PROJECT TAXED?

A. Sumter County collects taxes from this project for the value of the land (property taxes) and for the value of the equipment. The value of equipment for SA Solar is estimated to be \$200 million dollars.

### 5. WHERE WILL THE POWER GENERATED FROM THE PROJECT GO?

A. The power from SA Solar will be delivered into the local Georgia electric grid, helping to diversify the state's energy portfolio. Power generated by the Project will be used both locally and transmitted to where it is needed based on demand.

### 6. ARE SOLAR PANELS TOXIC?

A. No. SA Solar will utilize monocrystalline silicon photovoltaic (PV) solar panels, which account for over 90% of solar PV panels installed today. These panels use a crystalline lattice of silicon atoms to convert sunlight into electricity. Silicon is the second-most abundant material on Earth (after oxygen) and the most common semiconductor material used in computer chips. It is nontoxic and does not pose a risk to public health or safety. When a project is decommissioned, panels can be recycled.

### 7. WHAT WILL THIS DO TO LOCAL WILDLIFE?

A. Impacts to local wildlife are expected to be minimal. Project environmental experts have been assessing the Project footprint by conducting site-specific studies to understand and mitigate potential impacts on wildlife. The Project will comply with all state and federal wildlife regulations, including requirements of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR). Small local wildlife will be able to come and go through wildlife friendly fencing, including rabbits and other small mammals as well as turtles and other small reptiles. The Project fencing will be set back from public roadways, and larger animals, such as deer, will be able to safely traverse around the Project area.

### 8. WHAT HAPPENS TO SOLAR PANELS AT THE END OF THEIR LIFE?

A. As part of the permitting process, SA Solar will provide a detailed decommissioning plan and a commitment to implement the same. 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.

Please go to [sasolarproject.com](http://sasolarproject.com) for additional Frequently Asked Questions and Answers.