

V. Assessor Surveys

I have been working on a survey of Virginia Assessors regarding property values related to solar farms and whether or not the local assessors have found any data to support any changes to value on property adjoining solar farms. In this process I have contacted every assessor's office by email and I have received responses by email and by phone from a number of these counties. Many of the counties in Virginia rely on outside firms to assist in gathering data for the assessments and where that is the case, we have contacted the outside firms regarding the question of whether or not the assessors are currently making any adjustments to properties adjoining solar farms.

I currently have response from 16 counties that have solar farms in them and of those 16 responses none of the assessors are currently applying a negative impact on property value. One response suggested that adjoining values may go up.

I did speak with Randy Willis with Pearson Assessors. His company assists in the assessments in many of the counties south of Richmond. He indicated that they had found no data to suggest a negative impact on property value and they have looked as they were concerned about that issue. He indicated that they would make no negative impact adjustments and that he recognizes that there are a number of agricultural adjoining uses that have a greater impact on adjoining properties in terms of noise, dust and odor than a solar farm would have. He did indicate that there could be situations where an individual home might have a greater visual impact and those should be looked at on a case-by-case basis, but he also agreed that many allowed agricultural uses could have similar visual impacts on such properties as well.

VIRGINIA Commissioner of the Revenue

County	Assessor Name	Number of Farms in Operation	Change in adjacent property value
Appomattox	Sara Henderson	1, plus one in process	No
Augusta	W. Jean Shrewsbury	no operational	No
Buckingham	Stephanie D. Love	1	No
Charlotte	Naisha Pridgen Carter	1, several others in the works	No
Clarke	Donna Peake	1	No
Frederick	Seth T. Thatcher	none, 2 approved for 2022	No, assuming compatible with rural area
Goochland	Mary Ann Davis		No
Hanover	Ed Burnett	1	No
Louisa	Stacey C. Fletcher	2 operational by end of year	No, only if supported by market data
Mecklenburg	Joseph E. "Ed" Taylor		No
Nottoway	Randy Willis with Pearson Assessors		No
Powhatan	Charles Everest	2 approved, 1 built	Likely increase in value
Rockingham	Dan Cullers	no operational	Likely no
Southampton	Amy B. Carr	1	Not normally
Surry	Jonathan F. Judkins	1	None at this time
Westmoreland	William K. Hoover	4	No

Responses: 16

Negative Impact on Adjoining Value = Yes: 0

Negative Impact on Adjoining Value = No: 16

I have also attempted to contact all of the assessor departments in North Carolina to determine how local assessors are handling solar farms and adjoining property values. I have spoken personally with a number of assessors, but much of this data was obtained via email. I have 39 counties in NC that have both responded to these questions on property value and also have solar farms in that county. I have excluded responses from assessors from counties where there are no current solar farms.