

**TOWN OF SANDWICH**  
THE OLDEST TOWN ON CAPE COD



**PLANNING BOARD**  
100 Route 6A, Sandwich, MA 02563  
Phone: 508-833-8001  
Fax: 508-833-8006  
E-mail: [planning@sandwichmass.org](mailto:planning@sandwichmass.org)

**Special Permit Application for  
Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation**

To the Planning Board of the Town of Sandwich,  
The undersigned herewith submits an application and requests a hearing before the Planning Board for a Special Permit under Sections 1330, 1340, 2600, and 4180-4196 for the purpose of a large scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installation.

Subject property Map # \_\_\_\_\_, Parcel # \_\_\_\_\_. (Found on tax bill) Zoning District: \_\_\_\_\_

Registry of Deeds title reference: Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_, or Certificate  
Of Title Number \_\_\_\_\_ & Land Court Lot # \_\_\_\_\_ & Plan # \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Call Barnstable County Registry at (508) 362-7733).

Property Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot area subject property (Found on tax bill): \_\_\_\_\_

Frontage dimension of subject property (Call Assessor's Office at (508) 888-0157: \_\_\_\_\_

Date subject lot was created in its present form (Call Barnstable County Registry at (508) 362-7733): \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Property Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Authorized Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# **LARGE SCALE GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS**

## **CHECKLIST**

### **Applicable Sections:**

- 1330 and 1340 (Special Permits and Permit Applications), 2600 (Intensity of Use), 3470 (lighting), 4180 through 4196, and 1495 (if on town land)

### **Application Requirements:**

- Site Plan
- Blueprints or drawings of solar photovoltaic installation signed by Professional Engineer licensed in MA
- One or three line electrical diagram
- Documentation of the major system components
- Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer
- Name, contact information, and signature of any agents representing the project proponent
- An Emergency Response to be provided to Fire Chief
- An Operations and Maintenance Plan
- Proof of liability insurance
- Fully inclusive estimate of costs associated with removal of facility prepared by qualified person
- Description of financial surety that satisfies Section 1495 if on town land
- Documentation of existing or contractual rights to access and control the project site

### **Other Requirements:**

- Utility notification
- Dimensional and density requirements
- Appurtenant structures
- Lighting
- Signage
- Site design
- Land clearing, soil erosion, and habitat impacts
- Maintenance and modifications

**Please read packet before submitting application.**

**Submission Requirements for Special Permit Applications**

**Two (2) copies of the following:**

Section 1340:

- Completed application form. Applications may be submitted electronically or by hard copy. The Department of Planning & Development is authorized to require up to ten (10) hard copies of all materials.

**(Two copies of this form must be stamped in by the Town Clerk's office prior to submission. One copy stays with the Town Clerk. The original is filed with the Planning Board Application)**

- Written request for waiver of any submission requirements.
- Photographs of premises and all adjoining structures.
- A **site plan prepared** to a scale of 1" = 40' minimum, **by a Massachusetts Registered Architect, Landscape Architect, Civil Engineer or Land Surveyor**, illustrating:
  - The shape and location of the proposed building(s) and proposed addition(s).  
*(Section 2600 details setback requirements.)*
  - Vehicular and pedestrian circulation.
  - Proposed parking including service vehicles. *(Section 3120 defines parking requirements.)*
  - Entrances, roadways, sidewalks and loading areas.
  - The general extent and nature of proposed cutting of natural vegetation and the proposed planting and landscaping of disturbed areas. *(Section 3500 has lot coverage requirements.)*
  - The general intentions for proposed utilities, the location and size of septic tanks and leaching fields and the handling of surface drainage.
  - The general location and types of outdoor signs. *(Town Bylaw Section 6.60 has sign sizes and types of illumination allowed.)*
  - The general location and intent of outdoor lighting. *(Section 3470 describes type and height of outdoor lighting allowed.)*
  - The general location and type of outdoor storage, fencing and screening. *Sections 3540, 3550 & 3560 describe requirements.)*
  - Principal elevation at a scale of 1/16" = 1' minimum, showing:
    1. The general massing and height of the proposed facility, and *(Section 2600 lists height requirements.)*
    2. Any special heating, ventilation and mechanical requirements impacting the exterior.

**Abutters Notice**

The laws governing Special Permits specify that "parties in interest" (also referred to as **abutters**) are entitled to receive **notice of the public hearing** for a special permit application and the **decision** on that application. The statute defines "parties in interest" as the person requesting the special permit for the property that is the subject of the special permit application; abutters, that is all property owners whose property directly abuts the property that is the subject of the special permit application; owners of land directly opposite on any street; abutters to abutters within three hundred feet of the

property line of the petitioner and the Planning Boards of all abutting towns be sent notice as well. For Sandwich the abutting towns are Bourne, Barnstable, Falmouth and Mashpee. The Assessing department is familiar with these requirements.

The list of abutters must be certified by the Assessing Department. The Assessing Department is required to certify these lists in ten (10) days from the date they are received at the Assessing Department. The Assessing Department processes abutter's list certification requests in the order in which they are received. The Assessing Department will contact the person requesting certification when the list has been certified or if there are errors that require a revised abutter's certification request to be submitted to the Assessing Department. There is a fee for certifying abutter's lists. The phone number for the Assessing Department is 508-888-0157. You may also view instructions on the Town website at [www.sandwichmass.org](http://www.sandwichmass.org). Click on the Maps tab.

The original copy of the abutter's list certified by the Assessing Department must be submitted with the Special Permit application materials. The certified abutters list is then used by the applicant **to address the envelopes necessary for the required abutters notice** for the public hearing and for the decision.

***Addresses for the Planning Boards of the four abutting towns:***

Town of Bourne	Planning Board	24 Perry Avenue, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Town of Barnstable	Planning Board	367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601
Town of Falmouth	Planning Board	59 Town Hall Square, Falmouth, MA 02540
Town of Mashpee	Planning Board	16 Great Neck Road North, Mashpee, MA 02649

**Public Hearing Notice – 1<sup>st</sup> Mailing**

The public hearing notice is mailed to each abutter and the four abutting towns **by certified mail with return receipt requested. Remember to include an envelope for the applicant and/or property owner(s). Please be sure that the envelopes are complete with the following information:**

- a. Each envelope must be legibly addressed; the return address must also be placed on the upper left hand corner of the envelope:  
    Planning & Development Office  
    100 Route 6A  
    Sandwich MA 02563;
- b. Each envelope must have enough postage on it to mail one sheet of paper by certified mail return receipt requested;
- c. Each envelope must have the certified mail slips filled out;
- d. Each envelope must have the return receipt cards completely filled out. On the return receipt cards:
  1. The addressee is the person or organization to whom the public hearing notice is being sent.
  2. The service type is Certified Mail.
  3. The article number is the number on the Certified Mail slip.
  4. The return receipt cards must show the sender's address as:  
    Planning & Development Office  
    100 Route 6A  
    Sandwich, MA 02563;

- e. Place certified slip and green return receipt card inside each envelope and submit along with your completed application.

### **Decision – 2<sup>nd</sup> Mailing**

After the Board makes their decision the law requires that this decision must also be noticed to the abutters and the Planning Boards of the four abutting towns by regular first class mail. However, the applicant and property owner(s) must be notified by **Certified Return Receipt** (please see the above “Public Hearing Notice” section for these envelope procedures).

For the **decision** envelopes:

- a. Each envelope must be legibly addressed to the abutter or abutting town’s Planning Board; the return address placed on the upper left hand corner of the envelope is:  
Planning & Development Office  
100 Route 6A  
Sandwich MA 02563;
- b. Each envelope must have a first class stamp affixed to it.
- c. Submit these envelopes along with your completed application.

The Planning & Development Office will mail the public hearing notices and the decisions to the abutters, Towns, applicant and/or property owner(s).

If you are being represented by an attorney/consultant, make sure you include envelopes for both the public hearing notice & decision to be mailed to your attorney/consultant as well.

### **Advertising**

The laws governing Special Permits require that a public hearing be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation. The advertisement must appear two times with the first time being not less than fourteen (14) days before the public hearing. The advertisement must state the nature of the applicant’s request, along with the date, time and place where the public hearing is to be held.

The applicant is responsible for the cost of the required advertising. The Town of Sandwich has contracted with Falmouth Publishing for the advertisement of public hearing notices. Falmouth Publishing publishes the Sandwich Enterprise once a week on Fridays. A check made out to **Falmouth Publishing Co., Inc.** (please refer to Fee Schedule) is required at the time of application submittal.

### **Next Steps**

After the close of the public hearing the law gives the Board 90 days in which to file a decision with the Town Clerk. If the Special Permit is granted, the law requires that a 20 day appeal period must elapse from the date of that Town Clerk stamp before the decision is final. On the 21<sup>st</sup> day you may obtain a copy of the decision from the Town Clerk, which will bear a notice that no appeals have been filed. The decision is then eligible to be recorded at the Registry of Deeds. (*Mandatory condition of all special permits and variance grants.*)

Please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 508-888-0340 for further information regarding the appeal period and the time that your decision will be ready for you. A copy of the recorded Special Permit must be provided to the Planning Board.

If you have any questions, please contact the Planning & Development Office at (508) 833-8001 or e-mail us at [planning@sandwichmass.org](mailto:planning@sandwichmass.org).