

IMPACTS OF DUAL-USE SOLAR ON CROP PRODUCTIVITY AND THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN MASSACHUSETTS AND BEYOND

*Funding from the
U.S. Department of Energy, Solar Energy Technologies Office*

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #1 May 24, 2022



UMassAmherst

Center for Agriculture,
Food, and the Environment

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Resource Economics



UMassAmherst | Clean Energy Extension

AGENDA

Welcome: UMass and U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office
Role and Charge of the PAC
Introduction of Project Team (15 minutes)

Introduction of PAC Members (30 minutes)

Prompts

- Name, affiliation
- How has your work intersected with agrivoltaics, solar, or farm viability?
- What are the research questions in this project that interests you the most, and that you might be able to help us with?

Discussion: Current Project Tasks (30 minutes)

Summer 2022 Site Trials – Project Design and Farm Plan, Research Protocols
Sam Glaze-Corcoran, Clem Clay, Julie Fine
Overview and Status of Cranberry Dual-Use Projects
Giverson Mupambi, Hilary Sandler
Economic Research – Overview and PAC Assistance
Jill Fitzsimmons

Moving Forward (15 minutes)

Quarterly PAC Meetings
Role of PAC in Project Reviews and Input

Project Team



Project Funder/Sponsor	
U.S. Department of Energy, Solar Energy Technologies Office	Zachary Goff-Eldredge, PhD, Technology Manager Chris Anderson, TPO

Organization	Contributors
UMass Amherst Clean Energy Extension UMass Extension Cranberry Station Resource Economics	Dwayne Breger, PhD, River Strong, Mary Kraus Clem Clay, Sam Glaze-Corcoran, PhD Hilary Sandler, PhD and Giverson Mupambi, PhD Jill Fitzsimmons, PhD, Taehyun Kim
American Farmland Trust	Emily Cole, PhD (through mid-May 2022) Julie Fine Ethan Winter
Solar Agricultural Services, Inc.	Iain Ward
MA State Agencies Dept of Energy Resources Dept of Agricultural Resources	Kara Sergeant Gerry Palano
Solar Owners / Developers	AES / BlueWave Pine Gate Renewables, Greenbacker Capital / NextSun Energy Hyperion Systems

Meet the PAC

Agriculture in Relative Crops		
Brian Wick	Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association	Executive Director
Margaret Christie	Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture	Special Projects Director
Chris Grant	New England Vegetable & Berry Growers Assoc	Secretary
Agricultural Economics		
Irene (Meg) Xiarchos	USDA OCE	Economist
Corey Lang	University of Rhode Island	Associate Professor, Economist
Alex DePillis	Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets	Senior Agricultural Development Coordinator
Land Use Issues		
Jim Hafner	Land for Good	Executive Director
Genevieve Byrne	Vermont Law School	Assistant Professor / Staff Attorney
Karen Heymann	Mass Audubon	Advisor
Whitney Beals	Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition	Conservation Advisory Council
Solar Development		
Kaitlin Kelly O'Neill	Coalition for Community Solar Access	Northeast Regional Director
National Agrivoltaic Research/Consultancy		
Alexis Pascaris	AgriSolar Consulting	Founder

Project Year 1 – PAC Engagement

Quarterly Meetings (next one TBD in late August/early September)

PAC Research Project Input and Reviews

- Research Protocols for Site Trials
- Literature on Economics and Social Acceptance
- Project Information Outreach and Dissemination Plan

Targeted Outreach to PAC Experts by Research Team