

Title: Proposed Title 16 Amendments to Regulate Solar Energy Systems
Prepared for: Climate Adaptation Committee, Town of Kittery
Prepared by: Department of Planning and Development, Town of Kittery
Date: December 31, 2020
Draft Edition: 1.0

16.3 Definitions

EXISTING DEFINITIONS AMENDED

PUBLIC UTILITY FACILITY

Buildings, structures, and facilities, including generating and switching stations, poles, lines, pipes, pumping stations, repeaters, antennas, transmitters and receivers, valves, and all buildings and structures relating to the furnishing of utility services, such as electric, gas, telephone, water and sewer, to the public. **This definition excludes solar energy system facilities.**

DEFINITIONS TO BE ADDED

BENEFICIAL HABITAT

An area of land that provides native perennial vegetation and foraging habitat fitting for game birds, songbirds, pollinators and other symbiotic species.

POLLINATOR

Bees, birds, bats, and other insects or wildlife that pollinate flowering plants, and includes both wild and managed insects.

SOLAR ACCESS

Space open to the sun and clear of overhangs or shade so as to permit the use of active and/or passive solar energy systems on individual properties.

SOLAR COLLECTOR

A solar photovoltaic cell, panel, or array or solar thermal collector device, that relies upon solar radiation as an energy source for the generation of electricity or transfer of stored heat.

SOLAR ENERGY

Radiant energy received from the sun that can be collected in the form of heat or light by a solar collector.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM

A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, ACTIVE

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A solar energy system whose primary purpose is to harvest energy by transforming solar energy into another form of energy or transferring heat from a collector to another medium using mechanical, electrical, or chemical means.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, BUILDING-INTERGRATED

Photovoltaic materials that are used to replace conventional building materials in parts of a building envelope

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, DUAL-USE

The integration of agricultural production with a photovoltaic system that allows for solar energy production while maintaining agricultural activities in such a manner that primary agricultural undertakings including animal grazing, crop or vegetable production can continue simultaneously on that farmland.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, EQUIPMENT

Electrical material, hardware, inverters, conduit, storage devices, or other electrical and photovoltaic apparatuses associated with the production of electricity.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, GLARE

The effect by reflections of light with intensity sufficient as determined in a commercially reasonable manner to cause annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility in any material respects.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, GROUND-MOUNTED

An active solar energy system that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted nor a component of a building; may be of any size (small-, medium-or large-scale).

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, LARGE SCALE

An Active Solar Energy System whose physical size based on total airspace projected over the ground is greater than 5,000 square feet.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, MEDIUM-SCALE

An Active Solar Energy System whose physical size based on total airspace projected over the ground is greater than 1,000 square feet but less than or equal to 5,000 square feet.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, ROOF-MOUNTED

An Active Solar Energy System that is mounted on the roof of a building or structure.

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SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM, SMALL-SCALE

An Active Solar Energy System whose physical size based on total airspace projected over the ground is equal to or less than 1,000 square feet

VEGETATION, NATIVE

Vegetation that is native to Maine and does not include invasive species.

VEGETATION, NATURALIZED

Vegetation that is not native to Maine, but is now considered to be well established and part of Maine flora. Naturalized vegetation does not include invasive species.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

A written document that includes short-and long-term site management practices that will provide and maintain native and naturalized vegetation, and in the instances of a dual-use application, the reestablishment of prime agricultural land in the instance fertile land becomes discontinued from agricultural production to accommodate the solar energy system.