

**AMENDED
RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN TEMPORARY
MORATORIUM ON SOLAR ENERGY FARMS**

Whereas, the Greene County Zoning Ordinance contains standards for the issuance of permits for Solar Panel Farms; and

Whereas, the Office of Inspection and Regulation has received a number of inquiries related to the creation of Solar Panel Farms and this has resulted in a number of comments and concerns being made by residents and members of the general public; and

Whereas, the Office of Inspection and Regulation and the Greene County Planning Commission are under great development pressure with inquiries and issues related to Solar Panel Farms; and

Whereas, the Greene County Legislative Body has been reviewing the Greene County Zoning Ordinance with respect to Solar Panel Farms and changes may be necessary to protect public health, safety, and general welfare; and

Whereas, several citizens have publicly and privately questioned the provisions of the county zoning ordinance related to solar farms demanding that the Greene County Legislative Body pass a resolution instituting a temporary moratorium on the processing of any future applications for permits for solar farms to allow time for the Office of Inspection and Regulation and the Greene County Planning Commission to study and research the proper classification, restrictions, and requirements for solar farms, bitcoin mining, and other similar activities in Greene County and to propose amendments to the present zoning ordinance to the Greene County Legislative Body to be considered for adoption and implemented to protect the public health, safety and general welfare; and

Whereas, notice was published, and public hearings was conducted on a temporary moratorium not to exceed six months; and

Whereas, it would appear then it would be in the best interests of the citizens of Greene County for the Greene County Legislative Body to pass a resolution instituting a six-month temporary moratorium prohibiting permits for solar panel farms (with the exception of the Reed Road Solar Farm, being further identified as a portion of Map 062-Parcel 006.00 which has received preliminary approval by the Building and safety Department) and bitcoin mining in order to hold discussions and hearings to determine whether amendments or changes are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Greene County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Greene County Legislative Body meeting on August 15, 2022, in regular session, a quorum being present and a majority voting in the affirmative that a temporary moratorium for a period not to exceed six months be implemented for the approval and acceptance of applications for Solar Panel Farms (with the exception of the Reed Road Solar Farm, being further identified as a portion of Map 062-Parcel

006.00 which has received preliminary approval by the Building and Safety Department) and bitcoin mining, and other similar activities; said moratorium shall become effective immediately upon its passage and publication and shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed six months.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greene County Office of Inspection and Regulation is directed to administratively deny any applications for solar farms, bitcoin mining, and similar activities during the period in which this temporary moratorium is in effect; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greene County Office of Inspection and Regulation and the Greene County Planning Commission shall schedule, publish, and notice public hearings as necessary for the purpose of studying and drafting proposed amendments and changes to the Greene County Zoning Ordinance and Land Use and Policy Plan as it relates to solar farms and bitcoin mining; that a final resolution on any proposed changes or amendments shall be made within six months.

Pam Carpenter
Sponsor

County Mayor

County Clerk

County Attorney

Approved BY: Greene County Planning Commission on August 9, 2022