



Agricultural
Preservation
Restriction
Program

MDAR APR Program Application for

Certificate of Approval (COA) Alternative Energy

Certificate of Approval (COA) Application Requirements & Information

Upon review of this application, the APR Program reserves the right to request additional materials such as business plans, projected income, additional site plans, or a farm plan.

- Work related to this application may not begin prior to receiving a recordable Certificate of Approval (COA) from the Department.
- APR Regulations limit the area of impervious surface allowed on APR land. Please refer to your APR Stewardship Planner for additional details.
- For information regarding the location of prime agricultural soils on your APR, please visit: <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx> or contact your assigned Stewardship Planner for assistance.

Landowner Contact (name, address, phone & email): _____

Name of Original Grantor of APR & Address of APR: _____

Is the APR Co-held by a municipality? Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐

- The Co-holder is identified in the APR document or a separately recorded Co-holder Agreement. If yes, you may need to request additional approval from the Co-holder.

Will this new improvement rely on MDAR grant funding? Yes ☐ No ☐ If so, which grant? _____

Describe need for approval. How will this project improve the agricultural operations and/or resource quality on the property? _____

Alternative Energy

1. System Input: Ground-Mounted ☐ Solar ☐ Wind ☐ Biomass ☐ Anaerobic Digester ☐ Other _____

-If Ground-Mounted Solar, will the system be a dual-use system? Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Describe all system components (e.g. panels, controllers, turbines, holding tanks, energy storage (batteries or tanks), transformers) and dimensions/square footage of those components. If applying for solar, also list the number of panels and the panel size. _____

3. Will the project require an easement from a utility company to conduct the work? Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Describe the foundation of all components and if any excavation is involved: _____

5. What are your existing energy needs using the past year of actual energy bills and what are your projected energy needs for the agricultural operations? Please provide bills. If projected, please provide calculations. _____

6. What is the rated annual output capacity (kWh or BTUs) of the proposed renewable energy system? Please provide quantification calculations. _____

7. Will this structure be connected to any utilities or other improvements on the property? Yes ☐ No ☐

- If yes, will those connections or improvements be new or existing? New ☐ Existing ☐

- If yes, which type? Electric ☐ Septic/Sanitary ☐ Sewer ☐ Water ☐ Manure management ☐ Other ☐

- For each connection type, describe system & how it will be tied-in to the structure (i.e. will any excavation be required): _____

8. Describe how the siting of the project will minimize the loss of quality agricultural soils: _____

9. Will construction of a new road be required to access the structure? Yes ☐ No ☐

- If yes, will the road be paved? Yes ☐ No ☐

10. You must include the following attachments to this application:

- ☐ Detailed design plans & site plan showing location of proposed system and existing structures
- ☐ Previous year's energy bills
- ☐ Decommissioning Plan

Landowner signature: _____ Date: _____

Landowner signature: _____ Date: _____

NEED MORE SPACE FOR WRITING?



HOW TO SUBMIT:

Please send the completed application to your Stewardship Planner or email to apr.update@mass.gov.

If you prefer providing a hard copy you can mail or drop it off at one of our office locations:

Southborough:
225 Turnpike Road - 3rd Floor
Southborough, MA 01772

West Springfield: 413-726-2000
138 Memorial Avenue, Suite 42
(for GPS - 42 Century Way, West Springfield)
West Springfield, MA 01089



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