

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Department of Energy and Environment



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment

**FROM:** Casey Studhalter *CS*  
Green Building Program Analyst, DOEE

**DATE:** March 1, 2019

**SUBJECT:** BZA Case No. 19927 – 2800 Otis Street NE

---

**APPLICATION**

Application of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc., pursuant to 11 DCMR Subtitle X, Chapter 9, for a special exception under Subtitle U § 203.1(p), to construct a solar array in the R-1-B Zone at premises 2800 Otis Street N.E. (Square PAR 167, Lots 67 and 68).

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) has reviewed the application materials and has no objection to the approval of this application.

A fundamental goal of the Sustainable DC Plan is to increase the use of renewable energy to make up 50% of the District's energy use. This goal is an essential piece of the Mayor's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 to combat global climate change. Pursuant to these goals, on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser signed into law the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018. This bill built upon previous legislation to increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard requirement to 100% by 2032, and increased to 10% the amount of the District's electricity supply required to come from solar installed within the District.

Mayor Bowser and DOEE are committed to bring more solar energy to the District in order to achieve our vital climate change mitigation and economic development goals. Projects like this one from the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington will further the District's long-term sustainability goals, and position the city as a national leader in sustainable development.

**REGULATORY REVIEW**

DOEE's lack of objection to this application should not be viewed as an approval of the project from a regulatory perspective. All elements of the project subject to the various regulatory programs administered by DOEE, including but not limited to stormwater management, will still be subject to review at the time of permit application.