

**PERMITS NEEDED FOR SOLAR FARMS / COMMERCIAL SOLAR FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF TUCSON**

Updated 9/28/10

This table provides general information about regulations that will likely need to be addressed as part of developing large solar facilities within the City of Tucson. While every attempt has been made to ensure accuracy, given the dynamic nature of the regulatory environment, please check with each agency to assure the accuracy of this information.

<b>Permit</b>	<b>Issuing Agency</b>	<b>Estimated* Time Required</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Groundwater/ Surface Water Management Permit	Arizona Department of Water Resources Contact: Scott Miller (602)771-8604 <a href="mailto:jsmiller@azwater.gov">jsmiller@azwater.gov</a>  <a href="http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/WaterManagement/solar/default.htm/">http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/WaterManagement/solar/default.htm/</a>	1 month	Required if using water (e.g. Concentrating Solar Power facility). Tucson is in an AMA. If a solar developer is using a non-exempt well inside the AMA, they will need to obtain some type of withdrawal permit (ex. GUI) or grandfathered groundwater right and obtain the proper well permits.
Stormwater Construction General Permit (CGP)/Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Stormwater Smart NOI system Contact: Chris Henninger (602)771-4508 <a href="mailto:cph@azdeq.gov">cph@azdeq.gov</a>  <a href="http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/stormwater.html#const/">www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/stormwater.html#const/</a>	1 month	Required if disturbing 1 or more acres. SWPPP required before construction starts.  City of Tucson PDSO also reviews SWPPP as part of development plan or grading plan
Aquifer Protection Permit (APP)	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  <a href="http://www.azdeq.gov/function/forms/appswater.html#app">http://www.azdeq.gov/function/forms/appswater.html#app</a>	9-14 months	Call to see if permit is needed.  If any discharge of liquid to land, especially if any water impoundment, permit will be required.
Cactus Salvage	Arizona Department of Agriculture (520)628-6317 M-F 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  <a href="http://www.azda.gov/ESD/clearland.pdf">http://www.azda.gov/ESD/clearland.pdf</a>	30-60 days	ARS 3-904-Notice of Intent to Clear Land  Only required if planning to remove certain plants from site
Zoning Issues	City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSO) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a>	4-6 months	See Tucson Land Use Code and City Ordinance 10818  Determine zoning classification. If Industrial Zone, permitted land use with certain performance criteria. If Commercial or Office Zone, must go through limited notice procedure. If Residential Zone, follow Full Notice Special Exception Land Use Process.

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<p>Site Plan / Development Plan review</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>Up to 4-6 months</p>	<p><b>Note: Some or all of the following permits may be considered simultaneously. Overall time frame is determined by number of resubmittals and re-reviews needed for compliance. Time frame for each permit is based on a single review.</b></p> <p>Start with preliminary development plan. Check rezoning or annexation stipulations. Includes many parts – see below.</p>
<p>City of Tucson Flood Plain Permit</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>4 weeks concurrent with other applications</p>	<p>Concurrent with other permits - part of site and development plans review. Needed if site is in floodplain, erosion hazard area or regulated riparian habitat</p>
<p>Native Plant Preservation Ordinance Permit (NPPO)</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>1 month concurrent with other applications</p>	<p>NOTE: this is part of site and development plans review.</p> <p>Need to hire arborist, landscape architect or biologist/botanist to survey land for protected plants. Then seek exception or do NPPO plan.</p> <p>See COT Land Use Code, Article III, Div 8 for specifically protected plants.</p>
<p>Wash issues</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>Up to 3-4 months concurrent with site review</p>	<p>Part of development plan/site plan review. Determine if wash is Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ) or W.A.S.H. Wash and if there is possible encroachment</p>
<p>Grading permit</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>4 weeks concurrent with other permit reviews</p>	<p>part of site and development plan review</p>
<p>Engineering Preconstruction</p>	<p>City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550  <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a></p>	<p>1 day</p>	<p>included in other reviews</p>

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Building permit	City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550 <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a>	Up to 4 weeks part of other reviews	After initial site review. Part of other reviews
Electrical	City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550 <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a>	3 weeks	part of other reviews
Dust Control Pima County Activity Permit	Pima County Department of Environmental Quality <a href="http://www.deq.pima.gov/">http://www.deq.pima.gov/</a>	1 day	Address dust control during construction, normally pulled by contractor just prior to start of construction
Certificate of Occupancy	City of Tucson Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) (520) 791-5550 <a href="http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd">http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dsd</a>	1 day	At end of project; issued when all inspections are complete

\*These estimates are to provide general guidance regarding the time each process may take to complete. However, actual times may vary.

Please note that fees apply to most of these permits. Contact the issuing agency for additional information about fees.

For additional information about this chart, please contact Bruce Plenk, City of Tucson Solar Energy Coordinator at (520) 791-5111 ext. 327 or [bruce.plenk@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:bruce.plenk@tucsonaz.gov).