General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 316

February Session, 2026

LCO No. **1475**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TESTING OF SOILS AT CERTAIN SOLAR FACILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall develop a program for the biennial testing of soil for contaminants, including, but not limited to, degraded heavy metals and toxic substances such as cadmium, lead, arsenic and zinc at utility-scale solar arrays in the state. Such program shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Disclosure of soil test results to the owner of the subject property, (2) provision for the remediation of any such contamination, including any attendant groundwater remediation, and recovery of associated costs from the applicable responsible parties, and (3) appropriate public notification, including any requisite land record recording, of such test results and effects of such remediation such as any land use restriction or other limit on the utilization of such property. The commissioner shall implement such program not later than October 1, 2027, and may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section. Such regulations may provide

for the assessment of a biennial soil testing fee to cover the reasonable costs of such program. Any such fee shall be assessed against the owner or operator of any such utility-scale solar array.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*October 1, 2026*	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to conduct soil testing on a biennial basis at utility-scale solar arrays in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]