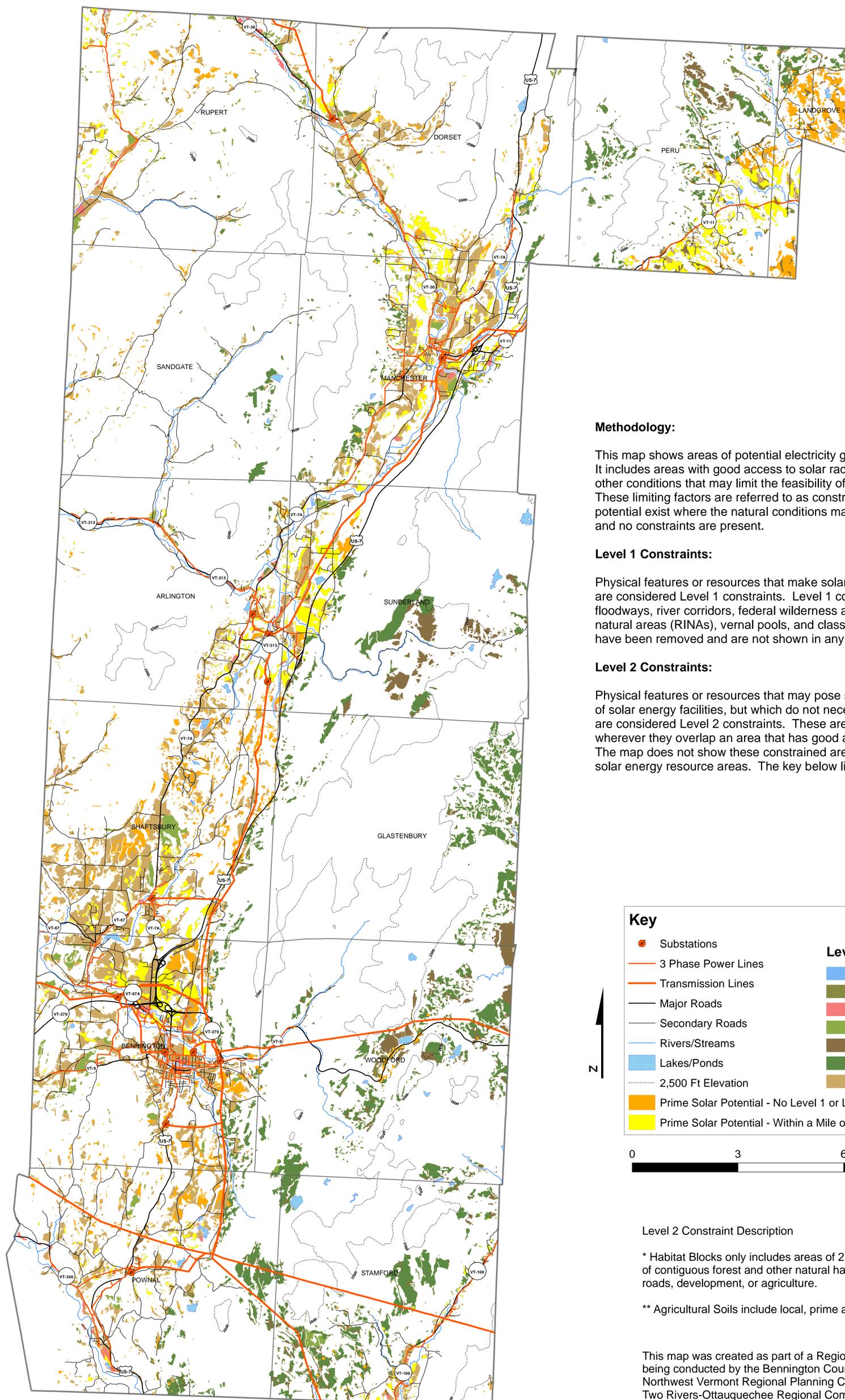


# Renewable Energy Potential: SOLAR



## Methodology:

This map shows areas of potential electricity generation from solar energy. It includes areas with good access to solar radiation and also considers other conditions that may limit the feasibility of solar energy development. These limiting factors are referred to as constraints. Areas of prime solar potential exist where the natural conditions make development feasible and no constraints are present.

## Level 1 Constraints:

Physical features or resources that make solar energy development infeasible are considered Level 1 constraints. Level 1 constraints include: FEMA floodways, river corridors, federal wilderness areas, rare and irreplaceable natural areas (RINAs), vernal pools, and class 1 and 2 wetlands. These areas have been removed and are not shown in any way on this map.

## Level 2 Constraints:

Physical features or resources that may pose some obstacle to development of solar energy facilities, but which do not necessarily preclude development are considered Level 2 constraints. These areas ARE shown on the map wherever they overlap an area that has good access to solar energy. The map does not show these constrained areas where they do not overlap solar energy resource areas. The key below lists each Level 2 constraint.

## Key

Substations	<b>Level 2 Constraints</b>
3 Phase Power Lines	Class 3 Wetlands
Transmission Lines	Deer Wintering Areas
Major Roads	Special Flood Hazard Areas
Secondary Roads	Conserved Lands
Rivers/Streams	Hydric Soils
Lakes/Ponds	Habitat Blocks *
2,500 Ft Elevation	Agricultural Soils **
Prime Solar Potential - No Level 1 or Level 2 Constraints	
Prime Solar Potential - Within a Mile of Three Phase Power Lines	



## Level 2 Constraint Description

\* Habitat Blocks only includes areas of 2,000 acres or greater of contiguous forest and other natural habitats that are unfragmented by roads, development, or agriculture.

\*\* Agricultural Soils include local, prime and statewide classifications.

This map was created as part of a Regional Energy Planning Initiative being conducted by the Bennington County Regional Commission, Northwest Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, and the Vermont Public Service Department.

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