



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 31, 2020

TO: Parties and Intervenors

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director *MAB*

RE: **PETITION NO. 1424** - Southington Solar One, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.725-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 1012 East Street, Southington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Comments have been received from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, dated August 28, 2020. A copy of the comments is attached for your review.

MB/emr

c: Council Members



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August 28, 2020

Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

RE: 4.725-MW Photovoltaic Generating Facility
Southington One Solar LLC
Southington, Connecticut
Petition No. 1424

Dear Members of the Connecticut Siting Council:

Staff of this department have reviewed the above-referenced petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need will be required for the construction of a 4.725-MW photovoltaic generating facility located on property at 1012 East Street in Southington. A field review of the site was conducted on August 19 and 21, 2020. Based on these efforts, the following comments are offered to the Council for your consideration in this proceeding.

As in other recent DEEP comments concerning photovoltaic generating facilities, we note that the construction of facilities such as that proposed in this petition will aid in the achievement of Connecticut's vision for a more affordable, cleaner, and more reliable energy future for the ratepayers of Connecticut. Bringing more zero carbon energy projects on line is instrumental in furthering this vision as these resources help diversify the regional fuel mix, assist the state in meeting its requirement to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates from Class I renewable sources associated with 20% of its electricity by 2020, and in implementing Governor Lamont's Executive Order No. 3 that DEEP investigate pathways to achieve a 100% zero-carbon electric sector by 2040. Developing grid-scale renewables is also imperative to the state's success in achieving its goal of reducing carbon emissions by 45% below 2001 levels by 2030 and by 80% below 2001 levels by 2050.

Project Site Description

As mentioned, the DEEP site review for this proposal was conducted on August 19 and 21, 2020. The site was very accurately described in the Petition. It is accessed via a well-established gravel road originating at 975 East Street and proceeding west to the subject parcel. Not mentioned in the Petition is that the northwestern portion of the area mapped as hayfield is

currently a large vegetable garden growing mostly tomatoes but also cabbage. This area is fenced off from the remainder of the agricultural land. Slopes across the hayfield and garden are gentle.

A Tennessee Gas Pipeline, the more easterly of the two pipelines on the site, and an Algonquin Gas Transmission System pipeline to the west, will trisect the proposed array into three separate blocks. These two pipelines intersect at the southern edge of the property where an Eversource gas metering station is located between the host property and the east-west running Eversource transmission line right-of-way. Just east of the Tennessee pipeline is a small wooded island of eight trees and forest groundcover, elevated a foot or two above the surrounding field, whose continued existence within the field seems enigmatic. This forested island would need to be cleared as it is within the footprint of the eastern of the three blocks of the proposed array.

In the same area of the hayfield, there is a small east-west area of very immature corn, maybe 5 or 6 rows wide, indicating a previous use of at least a portion of the area being planted to corn.

In view of the very dry weather of late and the latter half of August date on the calendar, it was not surprising to find the intermittent watercourse in Wetland 6 totally dry as was vernal pool 2 in the same wetland. Vernal pool 3, however, though absent of standing water, most certainly lived up to the description on page 35 of the Petition as characterized by very deep muck which rendered it inaccessible. Attempts to access it resulted in sinking deeply into that muck. This vernal pool is well removed from the project footprint and would not be impacted in any fashion by the proposed action.

Visibility from Surrounding Properties

The host property is pretty much bounded by residential development. The Petition cites a home at 38 Windsor Way, 575' north of the site, as the closest home. That home sits much lower in elevation than the project site, with a slightly elevated band of higher ground just north of the hayfield in this location, and a wide band of intervening deciduous forest between it and the project site. No view of the solar farm will be offered from 38 Windsor Way.

Hamilton Avenue, Pin Oak Drive and Partridge Drive are the three proximal residential streets to the south and west of the site. The northern terminus of Hamilton Avenue is just across the transmission line right-of-way from the host property but is well to the east of the array footprint and will not experience any visual impacts from it. Pin Oak Drive terminates south of the westernmost of the three blocks of the array and goes southwesterly from there. The homes at 294 and 296 Pin Oak Drive are the closest homes. Both sit at a slightly lower elevation than the project site and are on the south, or opposite, side of the Eversource transmission line right-of-way. The former residence also benefits from some evergreen screening, while the Eversource gas metering station is located between the latter home and the project site. Homes farther to the southwest on Pin Oak Drive have more separation and more vegetative screening from the project site.

The most consequential views of the proposed solar farm will be from several residences along Partridge Drive to the west of the facility. The home at 209 Partridge Drive will have a

totally unobstructed view of the array from a distance of perhaps 400'. There is no vegetation or other screening east of that home. The house at 217 Partridge Drive, which is the last home on that street, has a single maple tree in its backyard which will provide only minimal screening. 201 Partridge Drive possesses some backyard trees as well as benefitting from some trees on the margin of the host property. If desired by the property owners at 209 and 217 Partridge Drive, some visual screening plantings are clearly merited here. The junipers proposed in the Environmental Assessment (p. 45) would be an appropriate choice.

YMCA Camp Sloper sits directly across East Street from the Catholic Cemetery Association property. Climbing to the top of the steep bank across from 975 East Street reveals that it is likely during the non-foliage season that some very minimal views of the solar farm would be had from this location at the edge of the Camp Sloper property. These views, however, besides being minimal in nature, would also occur during the inactive season for the camp.

Lastly concerning visibility, it is noted that the photo-simulations of the visibility of the facility contained in Appendix H of the Environmental Assessment are all labeled as Bristol Solar One though they are from sites at the Southington project.

Aquifer Protection Area

The Petition notes that the Southington Solar One facility would be located in an aquifer protection area. Specifically, it would be within the adopted Level A aquifer protection area for Wells 7 and 8 of the Southington Water Department. The proposed solar farm is not a regulated activity under the Aquifer Protection Regulations, Connecticut General Statutes Sections 22a-354a-bb and is not required to register with the Aquifer Protection Area Program. However, every effort should be made to protect this sensitive drinking water area. The stormwater management system design should protect both the quality and quantity of water and should provide for frequent inspections of the stormwater basins. In addition, the measures specified in Sections 3 (Petroleum Materials Storage and Spill Prevention) and 8 (Herbicide, Pesticide and Salt Restrictions) in Appendix C of the Environmental Assessment should be observed.

Natural Diversity Data Base

As noted in the Petition, consultation with the DEEP Natural Diversity Data Base has taken place and, per letter of March 9, 2020, two State-listed Species of Special Concern were identified as potentially occurring on the site: spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*) and purple milkweed (*Asclepia purpurascens*). Subsequent to that letter, the applicant has identified several spotted turtles on the site. The NDDB response included a set of standard protection measures to be applied to protect spotted turtles at the site. These measures are included in Appendix C of the Environmental Assessment.

During the DEEP site visit, at least couple dozen milkweed were found growing in the southern portion of the hayfield. Some were marked with blue ribbons, assumedly placed by a botanist for the applicant, and are assumed to be purple milkweed. Protection measures for the purple milkweed are to be developed by the applicant and forwarded to the Siting Council. Though not specified in the Petition, DEEP would also be willing to evaluate these measures if requested to do so. On the second day of the DEEP site review, numerous additional specimens of milkweed,

appearing to be the same species seen in the southern portion of the hayfield and marked by the blue ribbons, were found in the hayfield east of wetland 6, which is an area not slated for development in this proposal.

Construction Stormwater Management

Construction projects involving five or more acres of land disturbance require either an individual NPDES discharge permit from DEEP or they may register for coverage under the Department's General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (DEEP-WPED-GP-015). Representatives of both Verogy and All Points Technology have been in contact with the Stormwater Program concerning this project. Review of this project is expected to begin in early September.

Two stormwater guidance documents are attached to these comments.

While unlikely to be an issue in this proposal, the petitioner should also be aware that, prior to initiating the construction of any engineered stormwater control measures, any proposed measures must be evaluated to determine if they may qualify as dams as defined by the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Sec. 22a-409-1(10), which may require a Dam Safety Construction Permit. A determination on the need for this permit may be requested by contacting the DEEP Dam Safety Program at DEEP.DamSafety@ct.gov.

Miscellaneous Petition Commentary

On page 46 of the Petition, the applicant states that the remainder of the hayfield beyond the limits of the proposed project will continue to be hayed as it is currently. How much acreage of the hayfield will remain available for agricultural usage post-project and what percentage of the currently hayed area does this represent?

There is a discrepancy repeated in both the Petition and the Environmental Assessment as to how many utility poles will be needed to effect the interconnection. In several locations of these documents, seven poles are cited as need for the interconnection while in several other locations fourteen poles are mentioned.

A similar discrepancy is noted concerning the stormwater management basins. According to page 35 of the Petition and page 44 of the Environmental Assessment, four grass-lined stormwater basins are proposed around the perimeter of the project. Figure 4 on page 32 of the Petition shows five stormwater basins.

Lastly, one resident on Partridge Drive mentioned the use of the site by wildlife including what she described as an active presence of coyotes. This would seem to have a potential bearing on the proposed use of sheep for vegetative management within the fence project areas. As this situation must arise in other locations, the vendor of the sheep may well have requirements or guidelines to be put into place to protect the animals. As coyotes are resourceful and are good at digging under fences, a secondary fence more rigid and substantial than the chain link fence may be needed to prevent coyote predation in the three fenced enclosures of the solar facility.

Petition No. 1424
Southington One Solar LLC

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August 28, 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to review this petition and to submit these comments to the Council. Should you, other Council members or Council staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (860) 424-4110 or at frederick.riese@ct.gov.

Respectfully yours,



Frederick L. Riese
Senior Environmental Analyst

Attachments: (2)
cc: Commissioner Katie Dykes



**GUIDANCE REGARDING SOLAR ARRAYS
AND THE GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE
DISCHARGE OF STORMWATER AND DEWATERING WASTEWATERS FROM CONSTRUCTION
ACTIVITIES**

January 6, 2020

Solar development has expanded over the last several years as Connecticut and other states have invested in this important resource to further greenhouse gas emission reductions. The large amount of impervious surface inherent in the construction of a large-scale solar arrays is unlike most other construction activities regulated under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (“general permit”) and entails challenges not encountered in traditional development projects. If not properly managed through appropriate design and mitigation measures, stormwater discharged during and after the construction of solar arrays can be a significant source of pollution resulting from increased runoff, erosion, and sedimentation, which can adversely impact wetlands or other natural resources. Solar installations must be properly designed to assure soil stabilization, minimize soil disturbance and soil compaction. This includes ensuring that effective controls are put in place to manage the total runoff volume and velocity that can lead to the loss of topsoil, erosion and sediment discharges from disturbed areas and stormwater outlets, and erosion along downstream channels and streambanks. The ability to address such significant environmental problems during construction and post-construction becomes more difficult as site imperviousness increases.

The environmental objectives of the general permit that solar facilities must meet have not changed. What has changed are the design assumptions and application of stormwater management techniques and engineering principles and practices to meet those requirements, as well as the Department’s knowledge and experience with respect to the ability of different techniques and engineering practices to meet the underlying environmental requirements. The Department is obligated to apply its best understanding of management techniques and engineering practices and principles. At the same time, the Department strives to provide more predictability and transparency around its approaches to permitting solar facilities in order to promote environmental compliance and competitive solar development in the state.

To that end, DEEP is publishing this Guidance, available at www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater to assist the professionals engaged in designing and constructing solar array projects, both large and small, and to provide a more transparent understanding of how the Department is considering emerging issues and the manner of addressing them. The Guidance describes the Department’s expectations around how such professionals may ensure that any such project is designed and constructed in a manner that takes into account site conditions such as: the amount, frequency, intensity and duration of precipitation; soil types, topography, surficial geology, hydrology and natural resources; and any changes to such conditions resulting from site activities during and after construction to minimize erosion and sedimentation and to control stormwater discharges, including peak flowrates and total stormwater runoff volume and velocity. This guidance should also help facilitate the preparation and efficient review of a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (Plan) submitted in support of an application for coverage under the general permit.

This guidance should not be confused with, and is not intended to contain, enforceable requirements. A professional may propose to design and construct a solar array in another manner. A design professional may decide, based on the particular conditions for a project or a site that the best technique or engineering practice is to deviate from this guidance. The Department is open to considering alternative approaches. To be approved, however, any proposal must address the issues noted in this Guidance as well as demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the general

permit. This guidance is provided for informational purposes only and is not meant to modify or replace any provision of the general permit or any applicable laws or regulation. In the event of a conflict between this guidance and the general permit or any applicable law or regulation, the permit or applicable law or regulation shall govern.

The Department notes that it has separately initiated a public comment process on the proposed Construction General Permit, which includes similar provisions described in this guidance. The final adoption of a new Construction General Permit will negate the need for this Guidance. Any questions about the applicability of this Guidance may be directed to Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@ct.gov.

Design and construction guidance

- (1) Roadways, gravel surfaces and transformer pads within the solar array are considered effective impervious cover for the purposes of calculating Water Quality Volume (WQV). In addition to these impervious surfaces, all solar panels in the array should also be considered effective impervious cover for the purposes of calculating the WQV if the proposed post-construction slopes at a site are equal to or greater than 15% or if the post-construction slopes at a site are less than 15% and the conditions in (a) – (e), inclusive, below have not been met:
 - (a) The vegetated area receiving runoff between rows of solar panels (see Figures 1 and 2, below) is equal to or greater than the average width of the row of solar panels draining to the vegetated area;
 - (b) Overall site conditions and solar panel configuration within the array are designed and constructed such that the runoff remains as sheet flow across the entire site;
 - (c) The following conditions are satisfied regarding the design of the post-construction slope of the site:
 - For slopes less than or equal to 5%, appropriate vegetation shall be established as indicated in Figure 1, below; and
 - for slopes greater than 5%, but less than 10%, practices including, but not limited to, the use of level spreaders, terraces or berms as described in Figure 2, below, shall be used to ensure long term sheet flow conditions; and
 - for sites with slopes greater than or equal to 8%, erosion control blankets or stump grindings or erosion control mix mulch or hydroseed with tackifier should be applied within 72 hours of final grading, or when a rainfall of 0.5 inches or greater is predicted within 24 hours, whichever time period is less; and
 - for slopes equal to or greater than 10% and less than 15%, the Plan includes specific engineered stormwater control measures with detailed specifications that are designed to provide permanent stabilization and non-erosive conveyance of runoff to the property line of the site or downgradient from the site.
 - (d) The solar panels should be designed and constructed in such a manner as to allow the growth of vegetation beneath and between the panels.
 - (e) A one-hundred (100) foot buffer should be maintained between any part of the solar array and any of the following: “wetland” as that term is defined in in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-29, “wetlands” as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-38, or “waters” as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-423, which shall include vernal or intermittent waters. The buffer shall consist of undisturbed existing vegetation or native shrub plantings.
- (2) The lowest vertical clearance of the solar panels above the ground should not be greater than ten (10) feet. The panels should, however, be at an adequate height to support vegetative growth and maintenance beneath and between the panels. If the lowest vertical clearance of the solar panels above the ground is greater than ten (10) feet, non-vegetative control measures will be necessary to prevent/control erosion and scour along the drip line or otherwise provide energy dissipation from water running off the panels.

- (3) The Commissioner may require that a letter of credit be secured prior to undertaking construction activity, in circumstances where site conditions, scale of project or previous compliance issues present elevated risks associated with potential non-compliance. For previously permitted projects, the amount of the letter of credit has been established at \$15,000.00 per acre of disturbance. The wording of such letter of credit shall be as prescribed by the Commissioner. The Permittee should maintain such letter of credit in effect until the Commissioner notifies the permittee that the Notice of Termination, filed in compliance with Section 6 of the general permit has been accepted by the Commissioner.

Design requirements for post-construction stormwater management measures.

- (1) Post-construction stormwater control measures should be designed and constructed to provide permanent stabilization and non-erosive conveyance of runoff to the property line of the site or downgradient from the site.
- (2) Orientation of panels should be considered with respect to drainage pattern, flow concentration, drainage area and velocity (i.e. rows perpendicular to the contours may result in higher runoff and flow concentration).
- (3) The permittee should conduct a hydrologic analysis that:
 - (a) Evaluates 2, 25, 50 and 100-year storm post-construction stormwater flows; and
 - (b) Is based on site specific soil mapping to confirm soil types; and
 - (c) Is able to determine and confirm the infiltrative capacity of any stormwater management measures and, in addition, reflects a reduction of the Hydrologic Soil Group present on-site by one (1) step (e.g. soils of HSG B shall be considered HSG C) to account for the compaction of soils that results from extensive machinery traffic over the course of the construction of the array; and
 - (d) Is based on slope gradient, surveyed soil type (adjusted per subparagraph (c), above), infiltration rate, length of slope, occurrence of bedrock, and change in drainage patterns (see also page 23 at https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/Permits_and_Licenses/Land_Use_Permits/Inland_Water_Permits/IWRD_inst.pdf); and
 - (e) For an engineered stormwater management system, demonstrates no net increase in peak flows, erosive velocities or volumes, or adverse impacts to downstream properties.

Figure 1
Solar Panel Installation with Slopes $\leq 5\%$

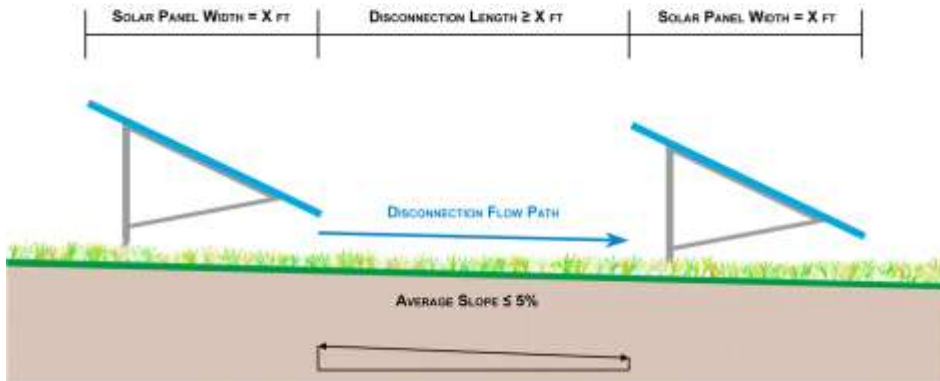
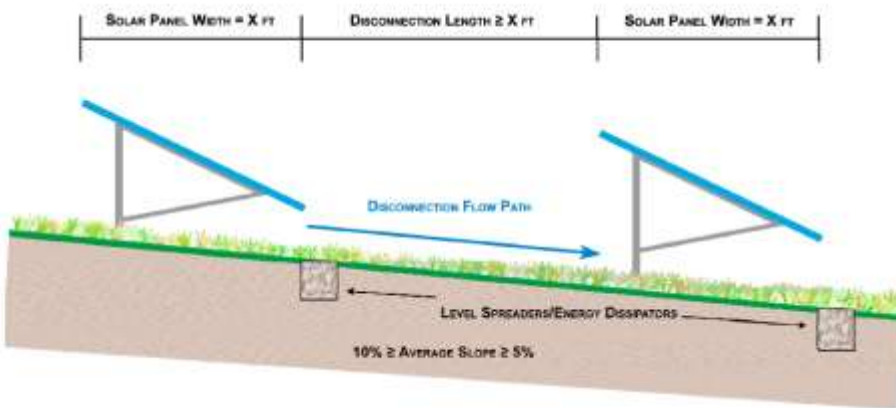


Figure 2
Solar Panel Installation with Slopes $> 5\%$ and $\leq 10\%$



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Source: Maryland Department of the Environment: Stormwater Design Guidance – Solar Panel Installations

Stormwater Management at Solar Farm Construction Projects September 8, 2017

Solar farms are on-the-ground installations of arrays of photovoltaic cell panels, supporting structures and related equipment for the production of electricity. As with other types of construction projects, the construction of solar farms can involve land clearing, grading, excavation, trenching, dewatering and similar activities that create land disturbances which potentially result in soil erosion and sediment discharges polluting wetlands, streams and other surface waters. Construction-related land disturbances of 0.5 acres or larger are regulated in Connecticut pursuant to the Connecticut Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act under Sections 22a-325 to 22a-329, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes (“CGS”). Construction-related land disturbances of one (1) acre or larger are also regulated under CGS Section 22a-430 and under Section 402(p) of the federal Clean Water Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) program. Prior to the start of such regulated activities, authorization is required from local authorities and, for larger projects, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“Department”). Construction projects involving five (5) or more acres of land disturbance require an individual NPDES discharge permit from the Department, or may be eligible to register for coverage under the Department’s NPDES General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (general permit).

The Department has encountered repeated problems associated with solar farm construction projects covered under the general permit, from the registration process through construction activities. Although in no way an exhaustive list, the following are common problems associated with solar farm general permit registration applications and ways to address such problems:

- Applicants have been submitting registration applications that lack the requisite information or the requirements necessary for authorization under the general permit. The Department requires a complete and sufficient application when a registration application is filed, and may reject any registration application it deems to be incomplete or insufficient.
- Applicants are not adhering to the sixty (60) day/ninety (90) day time frame for Department review as required by Section 3(c) of the general permit. While the Department has on occasion shortened the review timeframe, Applicants are expected to allocate no less than the requisite time frame for the registration application review process and must plan accordingly.
- Registration applications for solar farm projects often fail to identify the project’s contractor and sub-contractors. Section 5(b)(1)(viii) of the general permit mandates that this information be included in the registration application.
- Applicants have been repackaging the Siting Council submittal, which is not acceptable. Section 3(c)(2)(D) of the general permit mandates that the application submittal include only materials required to support the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SWPCP”). This information must be up-to-date and accurate. Any superfluous information delays the registration application review process.
- SWPCPs for solar farm projects are often lacking sufficient detail and information. An approvable SWPCP shall include, but not be limited to, the location of all erosion, sediment and stormwater control measures including detailed design cut sheets with supporting calculations, construction means and methods, project phasing (i.e., site planning, pre-construction, construction, and post-construction stabilization, etc.), construction sequencing and a construction schedule.
- The Applicant’s design professional must be well-versed in the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (“E&S Guidelines”), specifically the techniques found in Chapter 4, Large Construction Sites, the 2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual, as well as *current* best management practices (BMPs) recognized by the International Erosion Control Association (IECA), provided such BMPs are equal to or better than the E&S Guidelines.
- From the Department’s perspective, an approvable SWPCP will include methods for avoiding compaction of soils, disconnection and reduction of runoff associated with solar panel arrays, avoidance of concentration of stormwater, and other measures necessary to maintain or improve pre-construction hydrologic conditions.

- Applicants need to follow the SWPCP review checklist when preparing the SWPCP, giving specific attention to post-construction stormwater controls and the development of a detailed long-term maintenance plan to ensure that the SWPCP meets the terms and conditions of the general permit.

Subsequent to authorization for coverage under the general permit, the Registrant is responsible for ensuring compliance with all terms and conditions of the general permit and the approved SWPCP once construction has been initiated. However, for solar farm projects, Registrants often fail to comply with the terms and conditions of the general permit, including the approved SWPCP. In particular, Department staff have observed the following issues that a routine inspection protocol and proper oversight, as required under the general permit, would have prevented, including but not limited to:

- pre-construction site planning and management deficiencies (e.g., existing vegetation, scheduling, training, phasing/sequencing, tree protection, etc.)
- ineffective placement, maintenance, and/or repair of administrative/procedural, vegetative, and structural BMPs (e.g., erosion, sediment and stormwater runoff controls, good housekeeping, materials management, and training)
- lack of thorough inspections
- ineffective or untimely corrective action
- ineffective stabilization practices
- ineffective permanent post-construction controls (i.e., store, treat and direct storm-water quality and quantity to pre-construction levels)

Such issues at solar farm construction projects raise concerns, since such projects often create areas of land disruption larger than the generally accepted BMPs of five (5) acres anticipated under the general permit. As a result, any applicant seeking coverage under the general permit for a solar farm construction project should take care to address the issues noted above. While by no means exclusive, some recommendations that should be incorporated into a SWPCP to address these issues include:

- Ensuring that only a Professional Engineer and/or Landscape Architect, as defined in Section 2 of the general permit, who meets the qualifications described in Section 5(b)(4)(A)(ii) and who has been approved in writing by the Commissioner, serve as the Commissioner's agent to inspect the site and also serve as the qualified inspector for the purposes of Section 5(b)(4) of the general permit ("authorized professional"). Such authorized professional must remain in good standing with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and be technically and ethically qualified to inspect the site and be retained for the duration of the construction project until the Notice of Termination acceptable to the Commissioner has been filed as described below.
- Ensuring that the authorized professional prepare a proposed inspection checklist to assure the construction project is being conducted in compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit, and the approved SWPCP is implemented in accordance with the general permit. The inspection checklist shall comply with Section 5(b)(4)(B)(iii) of the general permit, and include a space for the authorized professional's signature and professional stamp.
- Ensuring that the credentials for the authorized professional proposed by the Applicant and the proposed inspection checklist prepared by such authorized professional be submitted for the review and approval of the Commissioner and be included with the registration application for the general permit. No other professional may serve as the authorized professional without the prior submittal of relevant credentials and inspection checklist for the Commissioner's review and written approval.

- Ensuring that the authorized professional personally perform all pre-construction, construction, and post-construction site inspections; perform inspections at the end of any storm event whether or not such storm generates a discharge; and prepare and submit all inspection reports including the supporting inspection checklists in compliance with Sections 5(b)(4)(A) and 5(b)(4)(B) of the general permit.
- Ensuring that the authorized professional report any violations of the terms and conditions of the general permit or the SWPCP to the Commissioner's designee within two (2) hours of becoming aware of such violation, or at the start of the next business day of becoming aware of such violation outside normal business hours and shall, within five (5) days, prepare and submit a signed and stamped written report, which documents the cause of the violation, duration including dates and times, and corrective action taken or planned to prevent future occurrences.
- Ensuring that if circumstances necessitate a revision to the SWPCP, the authorized professional works with the Permittee's design professional to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit, and any such change to the SWPCP shall be submitted for the review and written approval of the Commissioner.
- Ensure that the authorized professional reviews all stormwater monitoring reports to evaluate the effectiveness of the SWPCP and to document any adverse impacts that any stormwater controls on the construction site or discharges from the construction site may have on wetlands, streams, any other receiving waterbodies. Such evaluation shall be documented in the inspection reports and inspection checklists performed pursuant to Section 5(b)(4) of the general permit.
- Ensuring that, in the event the authorized professional identifies a violation of the terms and conditions of the general permit, the SWPCP, or otherwise identifies adverse impacts on wetlands, streams or any other receiving waterbodies, that construction activity shall immediately cease and the site stabilized until such violation or adverse impacts have been corrected.
- Ensuring that reporting and record-keeping of all inspection checklists and inspection reports comply with the requirements of Section 5(d) of the general permit, except that a copy shall also be submitted electronically to the Department within ten (10) days from the date of such inspection was performed.
- Ensuring that all inspection checklists and inspection reports comply with the requirements for Certification of Documents in Section 5(i) of the general permit, including the requirement that such checklists and reports shall also be prepared, stamped and signed by the authorized professional.
- After completion of a construction project, ensuring that a Notice of Termination is filed in compliance with Section 6 of the general permit, including the requirement that such Notice of Termination be stamped and signed by the authorized professional certifying that such authorized professional has personally inspected and verified that the site has been stabilized following the first full growing season (i.e., April through October) in the year following completion of the construction project.
- Ensuring that any transfer of the registration comply with the requirements of Section 5(m) of the general permit.

These recommendations are by no means intended to be exclusive. To help address the issues noted above, the Commissioner will also be considering the posting of a performance bond or

other security, in accordance with Section 22a-6(a)(7) of the Connecticut General Statutes, to assure the solar farm construction project maintains compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit and the SWPCP.