



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Curt Balzano Leng
Mayor
August 14, 2020

Melanie A. Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: **PETITION NO. 1425** – Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

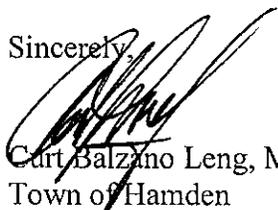
The Town of Hamden is in receipt of your August 10, 2020 notice concerning the above-referenced petition. By this letter, the Town of Hamden respectfully requests that the Connecticut Siting Council exercise its discretionary authority under RCSA §16-50j-40 and hold a public hearing and site visit on this petition.

As you know, this project has raised significant concerns from a wide array of community members in Hamden on issues that include potentially significant environmental impacts created by the deforestation of several acres of woodland. The Town respectfully submits that the Siting Council's review must include input from the community as well as environmental experts before it can decide whether to issue a declaratory ruling of no significant impact.

In addition, the Town cannot offer its own comment on this petition until those voices and expert opinions have been publicly heard. Nor can it respond without receiving and reviewing the detailed, project plans. As a result, pending your decision on our request for a public hearing and site visit, the Town would request additional time beyond September 6, 2020 to provide its own comments to the Council.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,


Curt Balzano Leng, Mayor
Town of Hamden

cc: Dan Kops, Hamden Town Planner