



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

December 15, 2022

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PETITION NO. 1553 – Allen Place FC, LLC (Petitioner) proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a customer-side 250-kilowatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment near North Campus Hall in the northern portion of the Trinity College campus located at 159 Allen Place, Hartford, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Council on Environmental Quality (“Council”) offers the following comment regarding Petition 1553.

The Petitioner notes that the proposed site is predominantly surrounded by college and residential buildings. The Petitioner also notes that FuelCell Energy, Inc has “agreed to install soundproofing equipment and/or utilize materials that will ensure the fuel cell facility’s sound level does not exceed 65 dBA at ten (10) feet in any direction from the outermost point of the physical fuel cell unit during standard operation of the SureSource 250”. However, the Petitioner has not confirmed that the noise generated by the proposed facility would be less than the applicable standard at nearby properties, which might be used as residences. If so, it might be appropriate to apply both the state of Connecticut and city of Hartford noise limit of 45 dBA at night. The Council recommends that the Petitioner confirm that the noise generated by the proposed facility would be less than the applicable limit¹ at nearby properties.

The Council notes that the comment above address only certain elements of the materials provided by the Petitioner at the time of the filing. Additional information can become evident through comments offered by other parties and during the Siting Council’s administrative hearing process. The absence of comment(s) by this Council about any Petition or Application, or any aspects thereof, may not be interpreted as an endorsement of a proposed project, or its components or that this Council might not have comments or concerns on more specific issues raised during the hearing process.

Thank you for your consideration of the Council’s comments.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

¹ Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, Sections 22a-69-2.3, 22a-69-2.4, and 22a-69-3.5 and City of Hartford Noise Ordinance, Section 23-3, (Ord. No. 04-09, 2-9-09).