



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 20, 2024

Melanie Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council (CSC)
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov

PETITION NO. 1643 - C-Tec Solar, LLC (Petitioner) petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 2.95-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment to be located at 77 Pompeo Road, Thompson, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) offers the following comment regarding Petition 1643.

1. Visual Impact

The correspondence from the Town of Thompson Conservation Commission to the CSC, dated October 24, 2024, states that “On May 23, 2023, the Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission voted to designate Pompeo Road a scenic road, following a public hearing to consider application PZC 23-14 to request designation of Pompeo Road as a Scenic Road according to Town of Thompson Ordinance No 10-042, the Designation of Scenic Roads.” While the Petitioner provided a visibility analysis from the property at 35 Pompeo Road to the proposed facility, the Council recommends that the Petitioner assess the visibility of the proposed facility from several locations along Pompeo Road. Such analysis will help the CSC to determine if the proposed site is appropriate for the proposed facility, whether the proposed facility should be relocated/reoriented, and/or if a visual screen, such as vegetation, would be appropriate to minimize any visual impact. The Council also recommends that the Petitioner limit the removal of vegetation along Pompeo Road to the greatest extent practicable and, if vegetation is proposed as a visual screen, that the Petitioner consider utilizing native, deer-resistant species that would be of sufficient size to effectively screen the proposed facility.

The Council’s comment above addresses 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 comment.

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chair

Linda Bowers

Christopher Donnelly

David Kalafa

Aimee Petras

S. Derek Phelps

Denise Rodosevich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Aresta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul Aresta
Executive Director