



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chair

April 24, 2024

Christopher Donnelly

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

David Kalafa

Denise Rodosevich

PETITION NO. 1623 - HQCA Energy Solutions, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility and associated equipment located at 40 Norwich Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Charles Vidich

William Warzecha

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) offers the following comment regarding Petition 1623.

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

1. Noise

The Petitioner notes that the acoustical modeling analysis for the proposed HQCA battery energy storage facility (BESF) “will comport with the State of Connecticut’s Control of Noise requirements as per Regs. Conn. Agencies § 22a-69 as well as the Town of Waterford’s standards regarding noise standards.” However, the acoustic study indicates that the A-weighted levels at the nearest residential receptors would exceed the appropriate limits and that full compliance with the applicable noise regulations will require mitigation. The acoustic study recommends that a sound barrier, consisting of wall 12 feet in height and a total of 117 feet in length (Figure 2), be installed along the west side and a portion of the north side of the proposed facility, and that with the recommended sound barrier, the proposed project “will comply with the A-weighted sound level limits “ of the applicable noise regulations. Neither the project narrative nor the Site Plan Sheet E.100 indicates the presence of the recommended sound wall. The Council recommends that the proposed facility comply with all applicable noise regulations at all adjacent property boundaries.

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.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director