



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 24, 2024

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

PETITION NO. 1635 – VFS, 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 195-kilowatt customer-side fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at the Taft School, 110 Woodbury Road, Watertown, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) offers the following comment regarding Petition 1635.

#### Noise

The Petitioner states that “noise mitigation of at least 12 dB is needed to ensure that operation of the Bloom fuel cell will have no significant acoustic impact at all of the nearby properties adjacent to the fuel cell site on North Street. Overall day and night noise requirements at six of the closest homes could be exceeded without the noise mitigation.” In addition, the Petitioner states that “a detailed report and engineered mitigation recommendations are being developed and will be incorporated into the final design drawings to assure compliance”. The Council recommends that the Petitioner provide the detailed report and engineered mitigation recommendations to ensure compliance with all applicable noise regulations at all adjacent residential receptors while the record and public comment period are still open so that interested stakeholders can review and potentially provide comments on the proposed mitigation measures.

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

Keith Ainsworth  
Acting Chair

Christopher Donnelly

David Kalafa

S. Derek Phelps

Denise Rodosevich

Charles Vidich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta  
Executive Director