

**DOCKET NO. 505** - Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 2.8-megawatt- AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located south of Haddam Quarter Road and north of Johnson Lane, Durham, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. }

Connecticut

Siting

Council

December 2, 2021

### **Decision and Order**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50p and the foregoing Findings of Fact and Opinion, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) finds that the effects associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 2.8 MW AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility in Durham, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection, including effects on the natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety, scenic, historic, and recreational values, agriculture, forests and parks, air and water purity, fish, aquaculture and wildlife are not disproportionate either alone or cumulatively with other effects compared to need, are not in conflict with the policies of the State concerning such effects, and are not sufficient reason to deny the application. Therefore, the Council directs that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, as provided by General Statutes § 16-50k, be issued to Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility.

Unless otherwise approved by the Council, the facility shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this matter, and subject to the following conditions:

1. Submit a copy of a DEEP-issued Stormwater Permit prior to the commencement of construction.
2. The Certificate Holder shall prepare a Development and Management (D&M) Plan for this site in compliance with Sections 16-50j-60 through 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The D&M Plan shall be submitted to and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of facility construction and shall include:
  - a) A final site plan including, but not limited to, final facility layout, access road, electrical interconnection including riser pole locations, equipment pads, fence design, and stormwater management control structures;
  - b) Erosion and sedimentation control plan consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Erosion and Sedimentation Control* and the DEEP-issued Stormwater Permit including, but not limited to, temporary sediment basin details, site stabilization seeding/growing season details prior to the installation of post driving/racking system, site stabilization measures during construction, inspection and reporting protocols, methods for periodic cleaning of temporary sediment traps and swales during construction, and final cleaning of sediment traps/stormwater basins upon site stabilization;
  - c) Site construction detail/phasing plan including, but not limited to, construction laydown area, site clearing/grubbing, site grading, excess earth material disposal locations, and soil stockpile locations;
  - d) Modification of the limit of disturbance to increase the wetland buffer adjacent to the southeast temporary sediment trap, if feasible;
  - e) Final Landscaping Plan including, but not limited to, tree removal inventory, landscape plantings, pollinator plantings, and final seed mix;
  - f) Post-Construction Operations and Maintenance Plan that includes inspection of facility components, vegetation and stormwater basin/controls, corrective/remediation measures, and vegetation/site management procedures;

- g) Details of any Agricultural Co-uses that could be implemented at the facility site;
- h) Fuel Storage and Spill Prevention Control Plan with details of refueling and contact information for the spill response contractor;
- i) Installation of underground lines and pad-mounted equipment on the customer side of the electric distribution interconnection or other interconnection design that reduces visibility to the extent feasible;
- j) Final structural design for solar module racking system stamped by a Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut; and
- k) Project construction hours/days of the week.

3. The Certificate Holder shall offer training to local emergency responders.
4. The Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with a copy of necessary permits from any other state or federal agency with concurrent jurisdiction prior to the commencement of construction.
5. In accordance with Section 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities. In addition, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice of the completion of site construction and the commencement of operation.
6. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, this Decision and Order shall be void if all construction authorized herein is not completed within three years of the effective date of the Decision and Order, or within three years after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The Certificate Holder shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable.
7. Any request for extension of the time period referred to in Condition 6 shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this Certificate and shall be served on the Town of Durham. Any proposed modifications to this Decision and Order shall likewise be so served.
8. The Certificate Holder shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v.
9. The Certificate Holder shall file an annual report on a forecast of loads and resources pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50r.
10. This Certificate may be transferred in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50k(b), provided both the Certificate Holder/transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. In addition, both the Certificate Holder/transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility.
11. The Certificate Holder shall maintain the facility, components, landscaping, and drainage features, in a reasonable physical and operational condition that is consistent with this Decision and Order and the Development and Management Plan to be approved by the Council.

12. If the Certificate Holder is a wholly-owned subsidiary of a corporation or other entity and is sold/transferred to another corporation or other entity, the Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the Certificate Holder within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer.
13. This Certificate may be surrendered by the Certificate Holder upon written notification to the Council.

We hereby direct that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order be served on each person listed in the Service List, dated August 19, 2021, and notice of issuance published in The Middletown Press.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.