

1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2 CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

3
4 Docket No. 505

5 Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC, application for a
6 Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public
7 Need for the Construction, Maintenance, and Operation
8 of a 2.8-Megawatt-AC Solar Photovoltaic Electric
9 Generating Facility Located South of Haddam Quarter
10 Road and North of Johnson Lane, Durham, Connecticut and
11 Associated Electrical Interconnection

12
13 Zoom Remote Council Public Hearing
14 (Teleconference), on Tuesday, September 28, 2021,
15 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

16
17 H e l d B e f o r e :

18 JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer
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1 **A p p e a r a n c e s :**

2 **Council Members:**

3 **JOHN MORISSETTE, (Hearing Officer)**

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5 **QUAT NGUYEN,**

6 **PURA Designee**

7
8 **ROBERT SILVESTRI**

9 **ED EDELSON**

10 **DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.**

11
12 **Council Staff:**

13 **MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,**

14 **Executive Director and Staff Attorney**

15
16 **ROBERT MERCIER,**

17 **Siting Analyst**

18
19 **LISA FONTAINE,**

20 **Fiscal Administrative Officer**

1 **A p p e a r a n c e s:(cont'd)**

2 **For Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC (Applicant):**

3 **ROBINSON & COLE, LLP**

4 **280 Trumbull Street**

5 **Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3597**

6 **By: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.**

7 **KBaldwin@rc.com**

8 **860.275.8200**

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1 (Begin: 6:30 p.m.)

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good evening, ladies and
3 gentlemen. This remote public hearing is called
4 to order this Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at
5 6:30.

6 My name is John Morissette, Member and
7 Presiding Officer of the Connecticut Siting
8 Council.

9 Other members of the Council are Robert
10 Silvestri; Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.; Ed Edelson.

11 Members of the staff are Melanie Bachman,
12 Executive Director and Staff Attorney; Robert
13 Mercier, siting analyst; and Lisa Fontaine, fiscal
14 administrative officer.

15 As everyone is aware, there is currently a
16 statewide effort to prevent the spread of the
17 coronavirus. This is why the Council is holding
18 this remote public hearing, and we ask for your
19 patience. If you haven't done so already, I asked
20 everyone please mute their computer audios and
21 telephones now.

22 This is a continuation of a remote public
23 hearing that began at 2 p.m. this afternoon. A
24 copy of the prepared agenda is available on the
25 Council's Docket 505 webpage along with a record

1 of this matter, the public hearing notice,
2 instructions for public access to this remote
3 public hearing, and the Council's citizen's guide
4 to siting council procedures.

5 This hearing is held pursuant to the
6 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
7 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative
8 Procedure Act upon an application from Haddam
9 Quarter Solar, LLC, for a certificate of
10 environmental compatibility and public need for
11 the proposed construction, maintenance and
12 operation of a telecommunications facility located
13 at south of Haddam Quarter Road and north of
14 Johnson Lane in Durham, Connecticut.

15 This application was received by the Council
16 on July 9, 2021. The Council's legal notice of
17 the date and time of this remote public hearing
18 was published in the Middletown Press on August 4,
19 2021.

20 Upon this Council's request, the Applicant
21 erected a sign at the proposed site so as to
22 inform the public of the name of the Applicant,
23 the type of the facility, the remote public
24 hearing date and contact information for the
25 Council.

1 This remote public comment session is
2 reserved for the public to make brief statements
3 into the record. The deadline for the public to
4 sign up to speak during the public comment session
5 was Tuesday, September 21, 2021. No member of the
6 public signed up to speak.

7 Please be advised That written comments may
8 be submitted by any person within 30 days of this
9 public hearing.

10 Just a quick note on remote public hearings.
11 Remote public hearings are quite different from
12 in-person public hearings. For in-person public
13 hearings members of the public would sign in, step
14 up to the podium and offer their comments.

15 For remote public hearings the public is
16 required to sign up to speak well in advance in
17 order to provide counsel staff with the time
18 necessary to facilitate connection and precautions
19 to prevent interruptions, or in common terms,
20 "bombing" of the procedure.

21 There are protocols, procedures and
22 consistency measures that are followed as part of
23 the remote public hearing process. Written
24 comments may be submitted within 30 days of this
25 public hearing.

1 I request the Applicant to make a brief
2 presentation for the public describing the
3 proposed facility. Attorney Baldwin, could you
4 identify who's going to make the brief
5 presentation?

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, in light of our late
7 change in our witness panel today, as we talked
8 about earlier, I've been elected to take on that
9 task. So I'll be giving the presentation.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Baldwin.

11 MR. BALDWIN: Again for the record, my name is Ken
12 Baldwin. I'm a lawyer with Robinson & Cole, and I
13 represent Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC, Louth Callan
14 Renewables and Madison Energy Investments in this
15 project, which is the development of a 2.8
16 megawatt AC solar facility in Northeast Durham.

17 What you see on the screen is a overall locus
18 plan that is included in the application materials
19 sheet OP-1.

20 What this map shows, with an aerial map as a
21 base map, is a 49-acre parcel outlined in the
22 dashed line that Louth Callan renewables has
23 leased from the property owner.

24 The lower portion where the solar arrays are
25 shown is a 10.9 acre portion of the larger 49-acre

1 parcel that would be used for the solar facility.
2 This portion of the site is located south of
3 Hersig Brook and north of Johnson Lane.

4 The project maintains, as we discussed
5 earlier today in the evidentiary session,
6 maintains adequate and appropriate setbacks from
7 environmental resources on the property, setbacks
8 from property lines and from Johnson Lane.

9 Access -- if we could go to the next slide?
10 Thank you. Access to the solar facility is
11 proposed from two separate driveways, one on the
12 eastern end of the project area and one on the
13 western end of the project area. Those are shown
14 as those T-shaped structures.

15 That will be used for access during operation
16 of the facility and maintenance of the facility.

17 Landscaping is proposed along Johnson Lane in
18 accordance with direction that the Applicant
19 received from the Town during the local
20 consultation process. That landscaping includes a
21 combination of maintaining existing vegetation to
22 the extent that that's possible with the
23 introduction of additional vegetation along
24 Johnson Lane to provide for some screening of the
25 proposed facility given the grades in the area and

1 the grades along Johnson Avenue which are in some
2 cases higher than the project area. The screening
3 is limited in those areas.

4 Again, as requested by the Town the project
5 incorporates a farm-like fence as opposed to the
6 originally proposed chain-link fence which was
7 discussed during, again the local consultation
8 meetings.

9 Interconnection of the facility to the
10 distribution, the Eversource distribution system
11 would be commenced on the southwesterly portion of
12 the project area and tie into existing
13 distribution service, which would be upgraded
14 along Johnson Lane.

15 Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Baldwin.

17 Before closing the evidentiary record in this
18 matter, the Connecticut Siting Council announces
19 that briefs and proposed findings of fact may be
20 filed with the Council by any Party or Intervener
21 no later than October 28, 2021.

22 The submission of briefs or proposed findings
23 of fact are not required by this Council. Rather,
24 we leave it to the choice of the parties or
25 interveners.

1 Anyone who has not become a party or
2 intervener, but who desires to make his or her
3 views known to the Council may file written
4 statements with the Council within 30 days of the
5 date hereof.

6 The Council will issue draft findings of fact
7 and thereafter parties and interveners may
8 identify errors or inconsistencies between the
9 Council's draft findings of fact and the record.

10 However no new information, no new evidence,
11 no argument and no reply briefs without our
12 permission will be considered by the Council.

13 Copies of the transcript of this hearing will
14 be filed with the Durham Town Clerk's office.

15 I hereby declare this hearing adjourned and
16 thank you everyone for your participation.

17 Thank you. Good evening.

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19 (End: 6:38 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 10 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the remote public hearing in Re:

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, which was held before JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer, on September 28, 2021.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857
Notary Public
BCT Reporting, LLC
55 Whiting Street, Suite 1A
Plainville, CT 06062
My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025