



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
*CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL*

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**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

February 2, 2024

Lee D. Hoffman, Esq.  
Pullman & Comley, LLC  
90 State House Square  
Hartford, CT 06103-3702  
[lhoffman@pullcom.com](mailto:lhoffman@pullcom.com)

RE: **DOCKET NO. 492** - Gravel Pit Solar Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 120-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on eight parcels generally located to the east and west of the Amtrak and Connecticut Rail Line, south of Apothecaries Hall Road and north of the South Windsor town boundary in East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. **Request for Extension of Construction Time.**

Dear Attorney Hoffman:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the request for an extension of construction time in the above-referenced matter dated January 31, 2024. Pursuant to Condition No. 6 of the Certificate issued on March 1, 2021, the Council hereby grants your request for an extension of time to complete the construction of this facility until September 1, 2025.

Pursuant to Condition Nos. 6 and 7 of the Certificate, any request for an extension to fully construct this facility shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration of this Certificate and shall be served on the Town of East Windsor.

This extension is granted with the understanding that the Council will be notified should the Certificate Holder decide not to proceed with construction.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

MAB/MP/laf

c: Service List dated August 7, 2020

The Honorable Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectperson, Town of East Windsor ([jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com](mailto:jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com))



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January 31, 2024

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director/Staff Attorney  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

**Re: Docket No. 492 - Gravel Pit Solar Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 120-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on eight parcels generally located to the east and west of the Amtrak and Connecticut Rail Line, south of Apothecaries Hall Road and north of the South Windsor town boundary in East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection.**

Dear Ms. Bachman:

I am writing on behalf of my client, Gravel Pit Solar, LLC (“GPS”), in connection with this Docket. As you are aware, on February 25, 2021, the Council granted the Certificate for the application referenced above. The Certificate has been set to expire on February 25, 2024 unless otherwise approved by the Council. For the reasons set forth in greater detail below, GPS formally requests that the Council extend GPS’s Certificate for eighteen months, until August 25, 2025.

As you know, in order to ensure proper site stabilization, GPS first planted the site with grass seed and allowed the site to stabilize. This obviously took a great deal of time to undertake. In addition, GPS had to remediate certain gullies that had been damaged prior to GPS taking over the site. Finally, migratory birds nested in a portion of the site, and GPS suspended construction in that area in order to fully comply with the requirements of the Migratory Bird Act.

Despite these delays, the construction is proceeding apace, and good progress is being made (as outlined below). Nonetheless, GPS requires an extension to of its Certificate to complete its construction activities. As is explained in further detail, GPS has been moving forward with

construction activities in good faith and will be able to complete construction within the requested extension period.

GPS anticipates that the Facility will be ready for commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2024, however, it is requesting an eighteen month extension in order to not have to burden the Council with a second request should unforeseen circumstances arise. Accordingly, GPS hereby requests that the Council extend GPS's Certificate until August 25, 2025, for the completion of the Facility. Once the Facility is commercially operational, GPS will work with the Council during construction de-mobilization to ensure that all requirements of the Council's various Decisions and Orders are adhered to.

The following construction progress is provided for the Project along with construction progress photos attached hereto. Quarterly progress updates will be provided until the completion of construction.

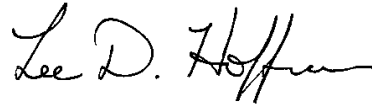
#### July – December 2023

- Conducted contractor education of all Council requirements, including species protection and environmental concerns.
- Installed all stormwater perimeter controls and obtained approval for such controls from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.
- Completed grading activities and continued with stabilization of disturbed areas.
- Continued turtle sweeps in work areas through the summer and fall.
- Implemented dust control measures in existing gravel pit areas.
- Began post and racking installation and installed over 90% of posts and 60% of racking components.
- Installed inverters.
- Continued to trench for AC and DC cables.
- Completed the HDD crossing of Ketch Brook and the CTDOT Rail bed.
- Civil contractor continued and completed installation of foundations at the GPS collector substation. Foundation installation at the Eversource switchyard began and is ongoing.
- Received delivery of equipment for the substation and began construction of the substation.
- Continued Weekly/Monthly stormwater monitoring, inspections, and reporting.

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Should you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact me at your convenience. I certify that copies of this submittal have been made to all parties on the Certificate's Service List as of this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee D. Hoffman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "L" and "H".

Lee D. Hoffman

cc: Service List, Docket 492