

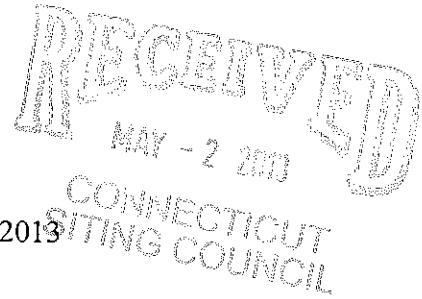
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

SOMERS SOLAR CENTER, LLC PETITION
FOR A DECLARATORY RULING THAT NO
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED IS
REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION
AND OPERATION OF A 5.0 MWAC SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT LOCATED AT
458 & 488 SOUTH ROAD, SOMERS,
CONNECTICUT

PETITION NO. 1042

MAY 2, 2013



**RESPONSES OF SOMERS SOLAR CENTER, LLC TO
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN INTERROGATORIES**

On April 29, 2013, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued Development and Management Plan Interrogatories to Somers Solar Center, LLC (SSC) in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. Below are SSC's responses.

Question No. 1

When was the Project's Stormwater Pollution Control Plan approved by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)?

Response

In connection with the project, SSC submitted an application to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for registration under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities (General Permit). Because the project involves the disturbance of ten (10) acres or more, as part of that application, SSC also submitted a copy of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan for

DEEP's review and acceptance. On April 4, 2013, DEEP issued SSC a Certificate of Registration under the General Permit (copy attached hereto at Exhibit A).

Question No. 2

When will the final performance testing of the project equipment and analysis of local weather conditions be conducted?

Response

Analysis of local weather conditions will begin in June 2013. Final performance testing of the project equipment will occur upon completion of the construction of the project, which is scheduled for November 2013. Information and data collected from the local weather analysis will be used in conjunction with the final performance testing of the project to predict its ongoing performance characteristics.

Question No. 3

Should the results of the final performance testing and analysis of weather conditions change the final number of solar panels installed, will SSC submit plans reflecting any such changes to the CSC?

Response

If there is a change in the final number of solar panels installed, such a change will not have a material impact on the project site and will remain well within the confines of what was approved in the Council's Decision and Order. Nevertheless, in such an event, SSC will submit plans reflecting any such change in conjunction with the construction progress reports and/or the final report for the project required by the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies section 16-50j-62.

Question No. 4

Will all of the solar panels to be installed utilize the Array Technologies DuraTrackHZ™ tracking system?

Response

Yes, all of the solar panels to be installed will utilize the Array Technologies DuraTrackHZ™ tracking system.

Question No. 5

Does SSC have a decommissioning plan for this project? If so, can SSC file such plan with the Council?

Response

A copy of SSC's Decommissioning and Removal Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

EXHIBIT A



Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
www.ct.gov/deep

SOMERS SOLAR CENTER, LLC
JUSTIN AMIRAUTL
237 Kearny St - Suite 179
San Francisco, CA 94108-4502

4/04/2013

Dear Permittee:

Enclosed is a certificate of registration for the general permit recently issued to you by our office.

This certificate will serve two purposes. First, this is a way for us to acknowledge to you that your registration has been processed. Second, it is a way for our inspection staff to know that you have the appropriate permit for your discharges.

The expiration date noted is the expiration date for all discharges registered for this permit. A mass mailing will be done nine months prior to the expiration of this permit to notify you of this date together with instructions on how to file for a permit renewal.

When corresponding with our office regarding your registration please use the "Site No." and the "Permit No." on the certificate. These numbers are unique to your discharge and its location.

If you have any questions regarding general permits for wastewater discharges please feel free to call 860-424-3018 and ask for the Engineer of the Day.

Enclosure



Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
www.ct.gov/deep

Certificate of Registration

Issued To

SOMERS SOLAR CENTER, LLC

For

Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities-GP >10 Acres

General Permit

Daniel C. Esty
Commissioner

Facility Information:

Somers Solar Center
488 South Rd
Somers, CT 06071-2226

Permit No: GSN002433

Application No: 201301218

Issue Date: 4/4/2013

Expiration Date: 10/1/2013

Water Location No:

EXHIBIT B

Decommissioning and Removal Plan – Somers Solar Center, LLC

Anticipated Life of Utility Scale Solar Projects:

Utility scale solar projects, like Somers Solar Center (SSC), have a useful life if properly maintained in excess of 30 years. Modules used for SSC have a guaranteed operational performance of 80% of their original power output after 20 years and likely will perform significantly better than that. The current power purchase agreement that SSC has with CL&P is for 20 years and currently the lease agreement SSC has with the property owner aligns with this timeframe. The lease does allow for SSC to operate for up to an additional 10 years (for a total of 30 years) under an extension agreement with the property owner. In all likelihood a new power purchase agreement or other mechanism that is economically feasible to the project would justify operating SSC beyond the 20 year term of the current power purchase agreement with CL&P. Upon cessation of operations, under the terms of the lease agreement with the landowner, SSC will be required to remove the project from the site and return the site to its original condition except for ordinary wear and tear within 180 days.

Decommissioning / Removal Process Description:

After the facility has been disconnected from the utility power grid and all electrical components have been disconnected within the facility, components will be dismantled and removed. Decommissioning/Removal will be undertaken by licensed contractors using similar techniques and equipment as those employed during construction. Erosion and sediment control procedures would be utilized similar to those described for the construction of the facility and all future best management practice/procedures will be observed. It is expected that this process will take three to five months.

Decommissioning/Removal activities would include, but not be limited to the following:

- Dismantling and removal of all above-ground equipment (solar panels, tracker units, transformers, substation, inverters, etc.);
- Excavation and removal of all below-ground cabling;
- Removal of posts/piers;
- Fencing rolled up on an industrial sized spool, and;
- Removal of inverter pads and foundations.

It is expected that the solar modules will continue to have a useful life beyond this project and will be sold in the secondary market for continued use or repurposed elsewhere. If there is not a secondary market for the modules upon the removal of the project, the modules will be recycled for their glass, metal and semiconductor materials. If recycling is the chosen course, the modules will be managed as per best management practices that may be in effect at the time of removal.

The majority of the remaining project components, such as tracker units, drive controllers, inverters, transformers, and switchgear would likely be recycled or re-used. Appropriate hazardous materials control and erosion control measures would be used throughout the decommissioning/removal process.

It is anticipated that such controls would be substantially similar to those implemented during construction but will conform to future local requirements.

All non-recyclable materials will be taken to the nearest approved landfill for disposal.

Site Restoration Process Description:

SSC will be built with minimal impact to the existing site and will be returned to its original agricultural use upon decommissioning/removal of the project. Given the limited disturbance to the actual soil on this site due to the minimal nature of the civil work conducted on site, it is expected that minimal work will be required to return the land to its original condition. Any depressions, voids or excavation areas that may result from the removal of the project will be repaired/backfilled to their original elevation and condition. Upon completion of the removal of equipment and repair/backfill of any areas, the land will be returned to normal agricultural use.