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April 13, 2020

**DELIVERED VIA U.S. MAIL AND E-MAIL**

Melanie Bachman, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: PETITION NO. 1312 - Candlewood Solar LLC declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 20 megawatt AC (26.5 megawatt DC) solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located on a 163 acre parcel at 197 Candlewood Mountain Road and associated electrical Interconnection to Eversource Energy's Rocky River Substation on Kent Road in New Milford, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Bachman:

I am writing on behalf of Candlewood Solar, LLC, in connection with the above-referenced Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") proceeding.

Enclosed please find an original and fifteen (15) hard copies of Development and Management Plan ("D&M Plan") as required by the Council in its December 22, 2017 Opinion, Decision and Order.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Paul R. Michaud'.

Paul R. Michaud

Enclosures



Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

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April 13, 2020

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

Re: Petition No. 1312  
Development and Management Plan  
Proposed 20 MW (AC) Solar PV Development  
Candlewood Mountain Road, New Milford, CT

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On behalf of Candlewood Solar LLC (Candlewood Solar), this letter is being filed with the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) in accordance with Condition 1 included in the April 26, 2019 approval of the Development and Management (D&M) Plan submitted for the above referenced project on January 28, 2019. Specifically, Condition 1 states:

1. Pursuant to RCSA §16-50j-62, submit the applicable revisions including, but not limited to, the solar array layout, clearing limits, fence design and stormwater management plan for Council review and approval prior to the commencement of construction

Since the issuance of the April 26, 2019 D&M Plan approval, there have been changes to the project design including solar array layout, clearing limits, and fence design. These design changes are summarized as follows:

- The solar array layout and associated stormwater design have been revised to avoid development of the array on slopes 15% or steeper. In order to reduce development in areas containing slopes that are 15% or greater, solar photovoltaic (PV) panels from the northwest have been relocated to the east side of the site, where flatter topography exists (see Attachment 1).
- The total project area and total forested area to be cleared has decreased (see Attachment 4. Table 1.)
- A 50-foot vegetated setback from the property lines to the proposed limit of work (LOW) have been incorporated. Additionally, to visually screen the solar PV array, Candlewood Solar will employ a 7-foot high cedar screening fence and landscape plantings (trees and shrubs) in various locations along the western and southern sides of the solar PV array to aid in the screening of the solar array from surrounding land uses (see Attachment 2).
- The electric interconnection route on First Light Hydro Generating Company (First Light) parcels (9/6 and 34/31.1) has been modified and three different engineering methods (ground mount, overhead, and horizontal directional drill [HDD]) will be employed (see Attachment 1).
- New and existing access roads have been identified for use during construction and operation/maintenance of the electric interconnection (see Attachment 1).



As a result of the project design changes, Candlewood Solar entered into additional consultation with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Wildlife Division (Natural Diversity Data Base [NDDDB]) (see Attachments 3 – 6) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) (see Attachments 7 – 8).

Additionally, since the issuance of SHPO's November 28, 2017 letter, it has been determined that in order to allow for the loading and unloading of equipment and materials, an approximate 35 foot wide temporary stabilized construction entrance/exit from Candlewood Mountain Road into Area 4 is required. The proposed temporary entrance/exit will require removal of an approximate 35 foot long segment of stone wall parallel to Candlewood Mountain Road. The stone wall will be reconstructed using the existing stones upon completion of work. This change to the avoidance and management plan is documented in a letter to SHPO dated April 8, 2020 (see Attachment 9). In a letter dated April 9, 2020, SHPO states, "Based on the information submitted, the revised scope will have no adverse effects to cultural resources. SHPO still suggests that construction matting be used in Area 4 to lessen the potential impact to undisturbed resources." (see Attachment 10)

In accordance with Condition 2 of the April 26, 2019 D&M Plan approval, Candlewood Solar will submit a copy of the DEEP General Permit and DEEP-approved stormwater management plan under separate cover, prior to commencement of construction.

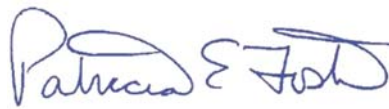
Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rob Bukowski at (978) 392-5307; rob.bukowski@woodplc.com or Ms. Tricia Foster at (508) 840-9609; tfoster@epsilonassociates.com.

Sincerely,

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. and Epsilon Associates, Inc.



Robert J. Bukowski, P.E.  
Project Manager



Tricia Foster  
Senior Scientist

cc: R. Jackson, Candlewood Solar LLC  
M. Daigneault, Candlewood Solar LLC

Enclosures

- Attachment 1. Issued For Construction Project Drawings dated and stamped February 28, 2020 including Landscape Planting Plans
- Attachment 2. Visual Simulations
- Attachment 3. September 23, 2019 Request for Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) State Listed Species Review
- Attachment 4. February 7, 2020 Revised Review Request
- Attachment 5. February 28, 2020 Response to NDDDB Questions and Comments on February 28, 2020 Revised Review Request
- Attachment 6. NDDDB March 3, 2020 Determination
- Attachment 7. Phase II National Register of Historic Places testing and evaluation of Site 96-166 (Locus 7) - Redacted
- Attachment 8. November 14, 2019 SHPO Phase II National Register of Historic Places Testing and Evaluation Letter
- Attachment 9. April 8, 2020 Area 4 Letter to SHPO
- Attachment 10. April 9, 2020 SHPO Phase IB Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Survey, Amended

