



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
*CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL*

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051  
Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950  
E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)  
Web Site: [www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

April 30, 2020

Paul R. Michaud, Esq.  
Michaud Law Group LLC  
515 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 502  
Middletown, CT 06457  
[pmichaud@mlgcleanenergy.com](mailto:pmichaud@mlgcleanenergy.com)

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. **Development and Management Plan Revisions.**

Dear Attorney Michaud:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than May 14, 2020. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available. At this time, consistent with the Council's policy to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, please submit an electronic copy only to [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov). However, please be advised that the Council may later request one or more hard copies for records retention purposes.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

*s/Melanie Bachman*

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director

MB/MP

**Petition No. 1312  
Candlewood Solar LLC  
197 Candlewood Mountain Road  
New Milford, CT  
Interrogatories**

**Project Development**

1. For the proposed Development and Management (D&M) Plan Revisions, identify the closest off-site residential structure to the proposed perimeter fence line and provide the distance. Also, identify the closest off-site residential structure to the limits of work (LOW) and provide the distance.
2. For the proposed D&M Plan Revisions, provide the distance from the residential structure at 185 Candlewood Mountain Road to the LOW. Provide the distance from the property line of the 185 Candlewood Mountain Road property to the LOW.
3. Referencing Drawing L-1 (Overall Planting Plan) of the D&M Plan Revisions, how many linear feet of 7-foot high cedar screening fence would be installed in total? Please clearly identify on a drawing which portions of the fence would be cedar versus chain link. How many linear feet of landscape plantings (measured along the fence line) would be installed in total?
4. Referencing Drawing L-5 (Planting Details), Candlewood Solar, LLC (CS) depicts an approximately three-inch gap between the bottom of the cedar fence and finish grade. Drawing C-506 shows that the bottom portion of the cedar fence would be buried, i.e. there would be no gap at the bottom. Please clarify which is correct, and revise the drawing(s) as necessary.
5. Does the proposed electrical interconnection still consist of two circuits of about 10 megavolt-amperes each? What is the line voltage? Provide the final quantity of new poles and estimate the heights.

**Energy Output**

6. Provide the final projected annual alternating current (AC) megawatt-hours output and capacity factor based on the solar panel configuration of the D&M Plan Revisions. Indicate whether the capacity factor was calculated on an AC MWh/AC MWh or an AC MWh/DC MWh basis.

**Public Safety**

7. Provide the current status of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Determinations of No Hazard to Air Navigation. Would CS need to seek any extensions or refile with the FAA for revised determinations?

## **Environmental**

8. Would the proposed changes to the electrical interconnection in the D&M Plan Revisions affect the visibility of the electrical interconnection from Candlewood Lake or Lynn Deming Park? Explain.
9. For the proposed D&M Plan Revisions, estimate the amount of net cut required for the solar array area and also for the project access road.
10. Referencing Attachment 4 of the D&M Plan Revisions – February 7, 2020 Revised NDDB Request, page 7, it states, “The southern and northern access roads may require some improvements to facilitate the passage of construction equipment, however, large areas of clearing are not anticipated.” (Emphasis added.) Would the clearing associated with the southern and northern access roads materially impact Table 1, “2020 Forested Area to be Cleared” for the electrical interconnection which totals 6.36 acres?
11. Would the proposed D&M Plan Revisions be consistent with the 2015 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vernal Pool Best Management Practices?
12. Referencing Attachment 3 of the D&M Plan Revisions – March 3, 2020 DEEP NDDB Correspondence, page 2, DEEP notes that CS has proposed to extend the tree clearing window to outside of the November 1 through March 30 time period. Acoustical monitoring for bats may be necessary. Please provide CS’ projected target tree clearing window and an update on consultations with DEEP with regard to the acoustical bat monitoring.

## **Construction**

13. Referencing page 2 of the Council’s April 25, 2019 staff report for the D&M Plan, would there be any changes to the proposed work hours associated with the D&M Plan Revisions?
14. Referencing page 2 of the D&M Plan Revisions and Attachment 10 – State Historic Preservation Office Correspondence dated April 9, 2020, page 2, it notes, “SHPO still suggests that construction matting be used in Area 4 to lessen the potential impact to undisturbed resources.” Would CS utilize construction matting in the vicinity of Area 4? If no, explain why not.