



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 4, 2020

Phillip M. Small, Esq.
Franca L. DeRosa, Esq.
Brown Rudnick LLP
185 Asylum Street,
38th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103-3463

RE: **PETITION NO. 1345A** – North Stonington Solar Center, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 15 MW AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 353 acres comprised of four abutting parcels located east of Pendleton Hill Road, north of the Pawcatuck River and south of Interstate-95 with proposed access from Ella Wheeler Road, and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy's Shunock Substation west of Pendleton Hill Road in North Stonington, Connecticut. Request for 1) an amendment to the declaratory ruling; and 2) approval of a Development and Management Plan.

Attorneys Small and DeRosa:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than August 17, 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. 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 A. Bachman

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

c: Jacob Weiser, North Stonington Solar Center, LLC

Petition No. 1345A
North Stonington Solar Center, LLC
Interrogatories – Set 2

August 4, 2020

32. Regarding Response 4 and the accompanying clearing diagram, provide the following;
- a) provide the acreage of actual wetland tree clearing (Spadefoot report lists 1650 SF of wetland impact);
 - b) Sheet CL-200 indicates the area to be grubbed is 110 acres. Does this value include both field and forest areas? If so, why is grubbing necessary in the existing field areas?
 - c) What ground cover currently exists in the former farm fields?
 - d) The tree clearing/grubbing notation was not used in the Array #4 area, please clarify. Was this area included in the tree clearing quantities provided on Sheet CL-200?
33. Please clarify Response 21, - Is the intent not to do grubbing as indicated on the site plan. If grubbing of stumps is proposed, why is tree stump grubbing only limited to a specific area if the entire utility line corridor is forested?
34. Referring to p. 17 of the September 2019 Spadefoot Toad report, have Mitigation Tasks 5 & 6 been completed to date? If not, when is completion anticipated? (#5 *Breeding pool reconstruction - completed no later than March 15, 2020.* #6 *Breeding pool plantings, April 2020*)
35. What is the anticipated minimum and maximum height above grade of the solar panels?
36. The Grading & Drainage Site Plan sheets have a notation for *Stormwater Flow Control*. Provide more information/detail as to how these areas are designed and what materials will be used for construction.
37. After the Council's approval of this Project in October 2018, the DEEP Stormwater Division has issued Proposed Modifications of the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities which includes an Appendix I that specifically pertains to Solar Projects.
- a) Has NSSC discussed this Project with the DEEP Stormwater Division regarding adherence to Appendix I? If so, when and with whom? What specific changes, if any, has DEEP requested to conform to Appendix I? If not, has NSSC reviewed Appendix I, and if so, what modifications to the Project have been made to conform to Appendix I.
 - b) Appendix I Section 1e requires a 100-foot buffer between any part of the solar array and wetlands. Given that portions of Arrays 1 & 2 do not conform to this buffer, what areas of the site are available for possible relocation of solar modules? Approximately how many modules/rows would have to be relocated to accommodate the 100-foot wetland buffer?