Exhibit K Prime Farmland Letter and Map



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 701 | Hartford, Connecticut 06103 | 860.713.2500 Office of the Commissioner

An Equal Opportunity Employer



April 25, 2025

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

Re: ECOS Energy – 135 Hill Street in Ansonia, proposed 2.99-Megawatt AC solar project – No Material Affect Letter from the Department of Agriculture

Dear Executive Director Bachman:

Pursuant to 16-50k(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, we have reviewed the above cited project with respect to agricultural impacts, specifically, to determine whether "...such project will not materially affect the status of such land as prime farmland..."

The Petitioner is proposing to construct a 2.99-megawatt solar photovoltaic electric generating facility to be located on Hill Street in Ansonia, Connecticut. The entire 16.56-acre parcel does not contain any prime farmland soils.

Based on preliminary information provided to DOAG on April 16, 2025 (enclosed), the Department of Agriculture concludes this project **will not** materially affect the status of project land as prime farmland.

Should any changes raise concerns to the Agency, we reserve the right to modify our position on this project, including opposing it, as detailed plans are provided by the Petitioner. Nothing in this letter relieves the Petitioner of other obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law that may be necessary as part of the proposed project design and implementation.

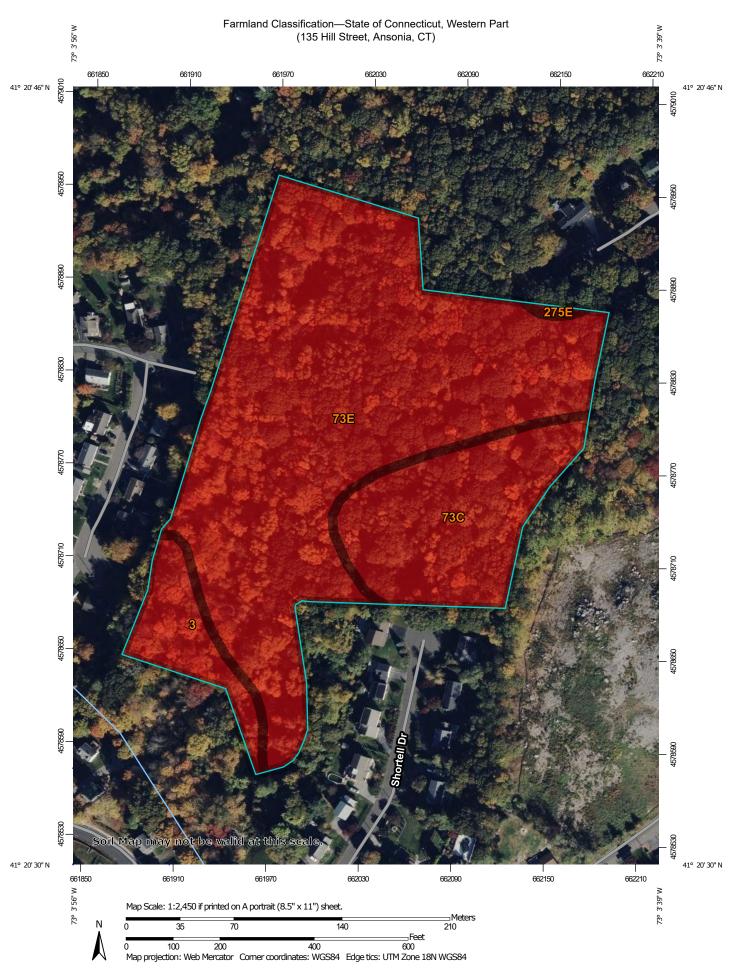
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jaime Smith of my staff. Jaime can be reached at <u>jaime.smith@ct.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Bryan P. Hurlburt
Commissioner

Enc.

Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Cc: Chris Little, ECOS Energy



		MAP LEGEND		
Area of Interest (AOI) Not prime farmland All areas are prime farmland Prime farmland if drained Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Prime farmland if irrigated and drained Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60 Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium Farmland of statewide importance Farmland of statewide importance, if drained Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed Farmland of local importance Farmland of local importance, if irrigated	Farmland of unique importance Not rated or not available Soil Rating Lines Not prime farmland All areas are prime farmland Prime farmland if drained Prime farmland if protected from floodin or not frequently flood during the growing season Prime farmland if irrigated Prime farmland if drained and either protected from floodin or not frequently flood during the growing season Prime farmland if irrigated and drained Prime farmland if irrigated and drained Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from floodin or not frequently flood during the growing season

Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut, Western Part (135 Hill Street, Ansonia, CT)

,e v,e	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root	~	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently	***	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium	~	Farmland of unique importance Not rated or not available	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root
~	inhibiting soil layer Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60	~	flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained	***	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently	Soil Rati	ting Points Not prime farmland All areas are prime farmland	inhibiting soil layer Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
~ ~ ~ ~	,	~ ~		2 2 2 2	flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed Farmland of local importance Farmland of local importance, if irrigated			

Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut, Western Part (135 Hill Street, Ansonia, CT)

- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
 - Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
 - Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
 - Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
 - Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
- Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
- Farmland of local importance
- Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

- Farmland of unique importance
- Not rated or not available

Water Features

Streams and Canals

Transportation

Rails

~

Interstate Highways

US Routes

Major Roads

~

Local Roads

Background

No.

Aerial Photography

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: State of Connecticut, Western Part Survey Area Data: Version 2, Aug 30, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Oct 21, 2022—Oct 27, 2022

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI				
3	Ridgebury, Leicester, and Whitman soils, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony	Not prime farmland	1.1	7.2%				
73C	Charlton-Chatfield complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	Not prime farmland	3.1	20.1%				
73E	Charlton-Chatfield complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, very rocky	Not prime farmland	11.2	72.4%				
275E	Urban land-Chatfield- Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	0.0	0.3%				
Totals for Area of Inter	est	15.5	100.0%					

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower