



August 4, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY ONLY

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

RE: Petition #1398 -- LSE Pictor LLC Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that No Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is Required for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Winchester, Connecticut

Dear Attorney Bachman:

Petitioner LSE Pictor LLC ("Lodestar") is in receipt of the enclosed final determination from the State Historic Preservation Office rendering a determination that the project proposed by Lodestar in Petition #1398 will have no impact on any historic resources in the vicinity of the proposed Project.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carrie Larson Ortolano

Carrie Larson Ortolano

Encl.



July 31, 2020

Dr. Michael S. Raber
81 Dayton Road, PO Box 46
South Glastonbury, CT 06073
(sent only via email to msraber@aol.com)

Subject: Final Archaeological Survey Report of a Solar Energy Development
450-470 Platt Hill Road
Winchester, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Raber:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the Cultural Resources Assessment, Reconnaissance, and Intensive Survey Report prepared by Raber Associates for the referenced project. The survey was completed at the request of this office in a letter dated March 11, 2020 and additional investigations requested in a letter dated June 19, 2020 pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). The submitted report meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*.

During the archeological reconnaissance survey, a total of 168 shovel tests were excavated along the access road, stockpile areas, stormwater management basin, and solar array field. A cluster of artifacts was recovered from the proposed solar array field and subjected to an additional 25 shovel tests. The recovered material suggested that the site retained both integrity and research potential. SHPO concurred that an intensive level survey was need to evaluate the site. As a result, an additional 39 shovel tests and 4 shovels tests that formed a 1 meter square unit were excavated. The additional investigation of the site yielded a cluster of common types of lithic artifacts resulting from stone tool manufacturing or maintenance, but no evidence of other activities was identified. In addition, no cultural features or temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered. SHPO concurs that this low-density scatter of common types of artifacts are not considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is SHPO's opinion that no additional testing of this location is warranted

SHPO appreciates the identification of several historic buildings in the surrounding areas. Because of their distance from the solar array field and the substantial wooded buffer, SHPO concurs that these properties do not need to be further evaluated for indirect (e.g. visual) impacts. In addition, this office concurs with the recommendation to avoid impacts to a small stream impoundment constructed with large un-coursed, un-mortared boulders. This feature is located



west of the proposed stormwater management area and within the defined wetland limits. It is SHPO's opinion that no additional testing of the project area is warranted and no historic properties will be affected by the proposed activities. This office requests two bound copies of the final report; one will be kept for use in the office and the other will be transferred to the Dodd Research Center in Storrs for permanent archiving and accessibility.

SHPO appreciates the cooperation of all interested parties in the professional management of Connecticut's archeological resources. This letter supersedes all prior communications. For additional information, please contact Catherine Labadia, Staff Archaeologist, at (860) 500-2329 or catherine.labadia@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Kinney".

Jonathan Kinney
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer