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August 20, 2020

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

- cc: Lee D. Hoffman, Attorney Pullman & Comley LLC 90 State House Square Hartford, CT 06103-3702
- RE: Greenskies Clean Energy Proposed 5.0 MW (AC) Solar Array 227 Broom Bridge Road, North Stonington, CT 06359

Dear Ms. Bachman,

Lee D. Hoffman, Attorney for Pullman & Comley LLC on behalf of Greenskies Clean Energy ("Petitioner") has contacted the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") Bureau of Natural Resources and informed us of the intention to file a petition for a declaratory ruling with the Connecticut Siting Council. Petitioner proposes to construct a solar photovoltaic facility with a capacity of two or more megawatts, to be located at 227 Broom Bridge Road, North Stonington, CT 06359 ("Site").

No core forested acres will be impacted by the installation of the solar panels, associated systems and site work involved with this proposed project. Pursuant to Sec. 16-50k of the Connecticut General Statutes the DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources staff have reviewed documents submitted by the Petitioner concerning this proposed project, which include a site map dated July 10, 2020 with an email dated August 7, 2020 prepared by Lee D. Hoffman, Attorney for Pullman & Comley LLC.

In conducting such review of the proposed project, DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources has determined that such proposed project, as represented in the above mentioned documents **will not** materially affect the status of such Site as core forest.

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, you may contact me at 860-424-3010, or by mail at 79 Elm Street, Sixth Floor, Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

Connecticut is one of the most heavily forested states in America. Our forests clean our air and water, shelter our wildlife, sequester carbon, contribute tens of millions of dollars to our economy, and add immeasurably to the quality of our lives. Yet every day, our forests are under threat. Invasive insects

and diseases and our dense and growing human population continue to stress our forests in unprecedented ways. Thank you for helping us to conserve a healthy core forest for future generations, providing public transparency and working to make thoughtful development choices.

Sincerely,

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Rick Jacobson, Chief Bureau of Natural Resources Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

CC: Bryan P. Hurlburt, Connecticut Department of Agriculture Jenny Dickson, Director of Wildlife, Bureau of Natural Resources, DEEP Christopher Martin, Director of Forestry, Bureau of Natural Resources, DEEP <u>DEEP.OPPD@ct.gov</u> siting.council@ct.gov