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October 23, 2020

Via Electronic Filing Melanie Bachman, Executive Director/Staff Attorney Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re: PETITION 1422 - Petition by Greenskies Clean Energy LLC for a Declaratory Ruling, Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the Proposed Construction, Operation and Maintenance of a 4.99 MW AC Ground-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Electric Facility Located on Barber Hill Rd in East Windsor, Connecticut

Dear Ms. Bachman:

I am writing on behalf of my client, Greenskies Clean Energy, LLC. Enclosed you will find the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB") Determination Letter; Preliminary Assessment No. 201908948, sent to VHB on October 22, 2020. The assessment is for the project listed above and as stated in the letter is good for two years.

As you can see from the enclosed Determination Letter, the Department does not "anticipate negative impacts to the State-listed species" at the site since no suitable habitat will be impacted by the footprint of the Project. Accordingly, Petitioner will be able to construct the Project as currently designed without anticipated impact to state-listed species.

Should you have any questions about this submittal, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

cc: Service List



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Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

October 22, 2020

Mr. Jeffery Shamas Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. 100 Great Meadows Road Wethersfield, CT 06109 jshamas@vhb.com

Project: Greenskies Clean Energy LLC, 5 Megawatt AC Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility "Mulnite Solar" on a 32 Acre Site along Wapping, Rockville and Barber Hill Roads in East Windsor, Connecticut NDDB Determination No. 202010288 (Previous NDDB No. 201908948)

Dear Jeffery Shamas,

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base maps and files regarding the Greenskies Clean Energy LLC, 5 Megawatt AC Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility "Mulnite Solar" on a 32 Acre Site along Wapping, Rockville and Barber Hill Roads in East Windsor, Connecticut. In our NDDB Preliminary Assessment No. 201908948 dated August 20, 2019 we identified known extant populations of State Endangered, Threatened and State Special Concern Species that occur within or close to the boundaries of this project.

I received the Memorandum from VHB dated August 26, 2020 which outlined rare species investigations at this project site. I do not anticipate negative impacts to the State-listed species (RCSA Sec. 26-306) since only one state listed species, state special concern brown thrasher, was found on the subject property but the suitable habitat for this species is not part of the project footprint The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

This determination is good for two years. Please re-submit an NDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun by October 22, 2022.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the Data Base should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available. The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

Please contact me if you have further questions at (860) 424-3592, or <u>dawn.mckay@ct.gov</u>. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. Meka

Dawn M. McKay Environmental Analyst 3