

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 20, 2020

The Honorable Curt B. Leng Mayor Town of Hamden Town Hall 2372 Whitney Avenue Hamden, CT 06518 cleng@hamden.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1425** – Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Mayor Leng:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the Town of Hamden's Request to Extend the Public Comment Period and Request for a Public Hearing and Site Visit, dated August 14, 2020, for the above-referenced petition.

The Request for a Public Hearing and Site Visit will be placed on the next Council meeting agenda, a copy of which will be sent to you. You will be notified of the Council's determination immediately thereafter.

With regard to the Request to Extend the Public Comment Period, the Council hereby grants the request for an extension of time to October 6, 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

s/Melanie A. Bachman

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MB/lm

c: Service List dated August 10, 2020



Town of Hamden

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Hamden Government Center 2750 Dixwell Avenue Hamden, Connecticut 06518 Tel: (203) 287-7100

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Curt Balzano Leng August 14, 2020

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

RE: **PETITION NO. 1425** – Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and

associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

The Town of Hamden is in receipt of your August 10, 2020 notice concerning the above-referenced petition. By this letter, the Town of Hamden respectfully requests that the Connecticut Siting Council exercise its discretionary authority under RCSA §16-50j-40 and hold a public hearing and site visit on this petition.

As you know, this project has raised significant concerns from a wide array of community members in Hamden on issues that include potentially significant environmental impacts created by the deforestation of several acres of woodland. The Town respectfully submits that the Siting Council's review must include input from the community as well as environmental experts before it can decide whether to issue a declaratory ruling of no significant impact.

In addition, the Town cannot offer its own comment on this petition until those voices and expert opinions have been publicly heard. Nor can it respond without receiving and reviewing the detailed, project plans. As a result, pending your decision on our request for a public hearing and site visit, the Town would request additional time beyond September 6, 2020 to provide its own comments to the Council.

I look forward to your reply.

Cart Balzano Leng, Mayor

Town of Hamden

Sincerely

cc: Dan Kops, Hamden Town Planner