

Lee D. Hoffman

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March 31, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Re: PETITION NO. 1426 – DG Connecticut Solar, III, 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 4.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located west of the Ellington town boundary at 341 East Road, East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

I am writing in response to your letter of March 29, 2022. This letter will address both the permanent and temporary noise mitigation measures being considered by the Project to address the neighbors' noise complaints.

Temporary Noise Mitigation Measures

Although the Project has taken sound measurements that demonstrate that the Project is in compliance with all appropriate noise standards, the Project understands that the noise presents concerns to the Project's neighbors. Given the neighbors' concerns on this issue, the Project wishes to work on an outcome that will satisfy all stakeholders, however, such an outcome will take time. As a result, the Project is proposing to install temporary noise mitigation measures on an expedited basis. The hope is that these temporary measures will provide the neighbors with relief from any noise issues while a full acoustical study can be completed, and a permanent solution developed.

To that end, on January 27, 2022, Project representatives went to the site to undertake field tests for a temporary noise mitigation solution. After this field work, Verogy determined that the best course of action would be to engage an acoustical engineering consulting firm to perform an acoustic study. The intent of completing the study is to confirm that the installation of dampening

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materials will cause the desired reduction in noise emissions. On January 31, 2022, the Project selected Brooks Acoustics Corporation ("Brooks Acoustics") as its preferred candidate to perform the sound study and began negotiating a contract with that company. The Project negotiated a contract with Brooks Acoustics, and the Project engaged the services of Brooks Acoustics on February 23, 2002. Brooks Acoustics has informed the Project that it cannot undertake the required site visit until the middle of April, and that the exact date of the site visit will be dependent on the weather. As such, the Project believes that temporary measures are appropriate until such time as Brooks Acoustics can complete its study and design a permanent solution.

Obviously, when constructing mitigation measures with sound-dampening materials, one must be cognizant of the potential that such construction may have with respect to visual impacts. Fortunately, however, in this case, the Project's fencing facing its neighbors is eight feet in height. The Project proposes to construct a temporary sound baffle immediately inside the Project's fencing at the north end of the Project, as indicated in the attached drawing, on a temporary basis. In addition to responding to the Siting Council's March 29, 2022 letter, this letter will also serve as a formal request by the Project to modify the Project's D&M Plan to allow for the construction of the temporary sound mitigation measure as depicted on the attached drawing for a period of time from installation to when the permanent noise mitigation solution is constructed.

Permanent Noise Mitigation Solutions

As stated above, Brooks Acoustics has been retained by the Project to formally study the noise levels at the Project site and to develop appropriate, permanent noise solutions. The scope of the work to be completed by Brooks Acoustics is as follows:

- Brooks Acoustics will visit the Project site in mid-April to undertake a sound survey. Short term sound tests, of approximately 15 to 30 minutes will be conducted at the Project site near neighborhood locations, at a typical time for the system to be in operation.
- Brooks Acoustics will develop a series of design case studies to explore the relative
 acoustical performance of various proposed sound mitigation features in order to meet
 sound isolation goals at the Project. If needed, Brooks Acoustics will recommend the
 materials and installation methods to be utilized for the final design of any mitigation
 methods.
- If necessary, Brooks Acoustics will assist the Project with its bid process for the construction of the sound mitigation efforts and any construction administration that the Project is not able to undertake with internal Project resources.
- Brooks will present all of its findings to the Project in a written report, which the Project expects to receive on or before May 13, 2022.

Within two weeks of receiving that report, the Project will make a submission to the Siting Council requesting a modification of the Project's D&M Plan to allow for the construction of the permanent



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sound mitigation measures. Once the Project receives approval of the D&M Plan modification, it will commence procurement and construction of the permanent measures.

I trust that this provides sufficient information regarding the issues identified in your March 29, 2022 letter. If that is not the case, or if you have any questions concerning the foregoing, please contact me at your convenience. I certify that copies of this submittal have been made to all parties on the Petition's Service List as of this date, as well as to the individuals listed below.

Sincerely,

Lee D. Hoffman

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Enclosures

cc: Hon. Jason Bowsza, First Selectman, Town of East Windsor (jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com) Attorney Tracy Backer, DG Connecticut Solar III, LLC (tracy.backer@nexteraenergy.com)





