



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 25, 2024

Tracy L. Backer, Esq.
Managing Attorney
NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
DG Connecticut Solar III, LLC
341 East Road
East Windsor, CT 06106
Tracy.Backer@nexteraenergy.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1426** – DG Connecticut Solar, III, LLC Declaratory Ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the 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, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Attorney Backer:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of email correspondence, dated June 24, 2024, from East Windsor resident, Robin Chesky, the owner of property at 102 Reservoir Avenue, regarding the above-referenced solar facility. The correspondence (attached) expresses concerns regarding the agricultural co-use of the solar facility site for sheep grazing.

The Council issued a Declaratory Ruling to East Windsor Solar One, LLC for the construction, maintenance and operation of the solar facility on May 10, 2021 with a condition to submit a final Sheep Grazing Plan, including, but not limited to, provisions for emergency evacuation and consultation with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Stormwater Division regarding the potential impacts of sheep grazing on the site as part of the Development and Management (D&M) Plan for the solar facility.

The solar facility was transferred to DG Connecticut Solar III, LLC (DGIII) on May 19, 2021.

DGIII submitted the D&M Plan for the solar facility on May 24, 2021. It included a Sheep Grazing Plan prepared by Agrivoltaic Solutions. The Council approved the D&M Plan on July 30, 2021 with a condition to address recommendations for on-site water and electrical outlets in the Sheep Grazing Plan. On August 3, 2021, the Council acknowledged DGIII's submitted plans for water to be brought on-site by grazing managers and Electro Net fencing to be powered by a portable battery.

The Sheep Grazing Plan indicates a sheep manager will visit the flock two to three times a week to provide clean water, supplemental minerals and to do a health and management check. The Sheep Grazing Plan also indicates clear signage, including emergency contact information for the sheep manager, will be displayed at the entrance gate.

Please provide a written response to the following items related to the Sheep Grazing Plan by **July 2, 2024**:

1. Who is the sheep manager?;
2. When (days and times) does the sheep manager visit the flock?;
3. Confirm the frequency of fresh water being brought to the site; and
4. Provide a photograph of the signage displayed at the entrance gate that includes emergency contact information for the sheep manager.

If more time is needed to gather the requested information, please submit a written request for an extension.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

cc: Robin Chesky (rchesky@snet.net)
Service List, dated May 19, 2021
The Honorable Jason Bowsza, First Selectman, Town of East Windsor (jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Robin Chesky <rchesky@snet.net>

Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 1:22 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Cc: LaFountain, Dakota <Dakota.LaFountain@ct.gov>

Subject: Petition 1426 sheep emergency

Good afternoon Melanie,

I am emailing you regarding the lack of emergency signage regarding sheep grazing at this facility and the need to contact the sheep herder.

Yesterday during the storms the neighbor who lives closest to the facility noticed unusual sheep activity. She could hear the sheep being excessively loud and when she investigated further, she noticed the sheep surrounding one on the ground. She notified the police, but they did not know what to do and. No further action was taken to the reporter's knowledge.

I looked up the emergency provisions for the sheep grazing in this Decision and there should be signage posted at the gate with the sheep herder's emergency contact information. The neighbor went to see if she could find the signage and there was none.

Do you have on record who this is? To ensure that the sheep are being cared for after the heat wave and storms, the sheep herder needs to be notified immediately.

Sorry to bother your office with this, but I am sure that we both agree the safety and well being of the sheep is important and the proper person needs to be notified ASAP.

Thank you,
Robin