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TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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November 24, 2021

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

Re: Petition 1444 – CP NB Solar I & II Solar Projects in the Town of North Branford

Dear Attorney Bachman:

I am writing this letter in response to the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") decision denying the Partial development and Management Plan ("D&M Plan") on November 22, 2021.

As you are already aware, we fully support the solar projects on Forest Road developed by Citrine Power LLC ("Citrine") and its investors in the Town of North Branford ("Town"). (Please refer to the file to see our support letters, dated February 26, 2021, and May 21, 2021.)

Our Town has collaborated closely with Petitioners in the development and design elements of the projects since its inception. Our motivation to collaborate with Citrine are multifold. We are interested in promoting and benefiting from renewable energy, which includes beneficiary accounts under a Virtual Net Metering arrangement. We also own property which abuts the approved projects. Accordingly, we have worked with the developer and site engineers to scrutinize and locate the projects in the optimal footprint, with minimal environmental disturbance, while providing the highest use of the land. The Town was, therefore, actively involved in the informational meetings hosted by the developer both town-wide and for the abutting property owners.



Along with members of the Economic Development Commission, I am excited that the projects will be part of our annual Sunflower Project, with the sunflowers proposed by the developer being a part of the pollinator path surrounding the systems. These solar projects also have a unique benefit in that the lease revenue will be used towards remediating nearby properties the landlord owns based on an agreement between the landlord and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP"). We believe this is an added benefit to our Town where unused land will have the opportunity to be rehabilitated. The Projects have received their DEEP General and Stormwater Permit to be able to start construction.

As such, the town was pleased to hear about Council's favorable decision in June of 2021 approving the projects as designed. We reaffirm our support for the projects and urge the Council to finalize their review as soon as practicable so that construction can start, and these benefits can be realized.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 203-484-6000.

Sincerely,



Michael T. Paulhus
Town Manager