



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC & CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 22, 2022

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
kbaldwin@rc.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1508** – Enfield Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC d/b/a Verogy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.0-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 110 North Street, Enfield, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a public meeting held on July 21, 2022, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal meets air and water quality standards of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k, would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, with the recommendation that the petitioner examine the feasibility of reducing the number of interconnection utility poles for the project, and with the following conditions:

1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
2. Submit the Phase 1B cultural resource survey and the associated SHPO response, if any;
3. Provide contact information for the spill response contractor;
4. Install landscape screening at the northwest corner of the facility along the fence line;
5. Submit a copy of the DEEP Stormwater Permit prior to the commencement of construction;
6. Submit the final structural design for the racking system stamped by a Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut prior to commencement of construction;
7. Retain mature trees between the proposed perimeter fence and North Street to the extent feasible;
8. Provide training to emergency responders;

9. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed within three years from the date of the mailing of the Council's decision, this decision shall be void, and the facility owner/operator shall dismantle the facility and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The facility owner/operator shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable;
10. Any request for extension of the time period to fully construct the facility shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this decision and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, if applicable, and the Town of Enfield;
11. Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed;
12. The facility owner/operator shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v;
13. The facility owner/operator shall file an annual report on a forecast of loads and resources pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50r;
14. This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred, provided the facility owner/operator/transferor is current with payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v and the transferee provides written confirmation that the transferee agrees to comply with the terms, limitations and conditions contained in the Declaratory Ruling, including timely payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v; and
15. If the facility owner/operator is a wholly owned subsidiary of a corporation or other entity and is sold/transferred to another corporation or other entity, the Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition dated April 25, 2022 and additional information received April 27, 2022, May 17, 2022, June 16, 2022, June 17, 2022 and June 30, 2022.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/RDM/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated July 21, 2022

c: Service List dated, April 26, 2022

The Honorable Robert Cressotti, Mayor, Town of Enfield, (bcressotti@enfield.org)

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)

: ss. Southington, Connecticut July 22, 2022

COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1508 issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.

ATTEST:



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)

: ss. New Britain, Connecticut July 22, 2022

COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

I certify that a copy of the Connecticut Siting Council Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1508 has been forwarded by Certified First Class Return Receipt Requested mail, on July 22, 2022, to all parties and intervenors of record as listed on the attached service list, dated April 26, 2022.

ATTEST:



Lisa A. Mathews
Office Assistant
Connecticut Siting Council

Date: April 26, 2022

Petition No. 1508

Page 4 of 4

LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS
SERVICE LIST

Status Granted	Document Service	Status Holder (name, address & phone number)	Representative (name, address & phone number)
Petitioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail	Enfield Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC d/b/a Verogy	Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597 (860) 275-8200 kbaldwin@rc.com William Herchel Chief Executive Officer Bryan Fitzgerald Director of Development Bradley Parsons, P.E. Director of Design & Permitting VCP EPC, LLC d/b/a Verogy 150 Trumbull Street, 4 th Floor Hartford, CT 06103 wherchel@verogy.com bfitzgerald@verogy.com bparsons@verogy.com (860) 288-7215



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Petition No. 1508

Enfield Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC

110 North Street, Enfield, Connecticut

Staff Report

July 21, 2022

Introduction

On April 25, 2022, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Enfield Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC (Petitioner) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for the construction, operation and maintenance of a 4.0-megawatt alternating current (AC) solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 110 North Street, Enfield, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection (Petition or Project).

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40 on or about April 20, 2022, the Petitioner notified the abutting property owners and Town of Enfield (Town) officials, state officials and agencies of the proposed project.

On April 26, 2022, the Council sent correspondence to the Petitioner noting a deficiency in the completeness of the Petition. Specifically, the notice of the Petition filing was not mailed to the Department of Labor, the Department of Administrative Services, Senator Richard Blumenthal, Senator Christopher Murphy and Congressman Joe Courtney, pursuant to RCSA § 16-50j-40. On April 27, 2022, the Petitioner submitted a Certificate of Mailing, rendering the Petition complete.

The Council issued interrogatories to the Petitioner on May 24, 2022. The Petitioner submitted responses to the Council's interrogatories on June 16, and June 30, 2022, one of which included photographic documentation of site-specific features intended to serve as a "virtual" field review of the project.

Pursuant to CGS §4-176(e) of the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act (UAPA), an administrative agency is required to take an action on a petition for a declaratory ruling within 60 days of receipt. On June 23, 2022, pursuant to CGS §4-176(e), the Council voted to set the date by which to render a decision on the Petition as no later than October 22, 2022, which is the 180-day statutory deadline for a final decision under CGS §4-176(i).

Municipal Consultation

The Petitioner met with Town officials on July 2, 2021 and February 4, 2022 to discuss the Project. During the outreach to the Town, the Petitioner mailed a fact sheet to all abutters describing the proposed project. One abutter contacted the Petitioner for site location information, which the Petitioner provided.

The Petitioner also attended a Town Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting held on March 24, 2022 and answered questions about the Project.

On April 26, 2022, the Council sent correspondence to the Town stating that the Council has received the Petition and invited the Town to contact the Council with any questions or comments by May 25, 2022. On April 27, 2022, the PZC issued a letter in support of the Project. On May 24, 2022, the Town Council sent a letter in opposition to the Project due to the loss of a golf range operating under lease on the host parcel.



State Agency Comments

On April 26, 2022, pursuant to RCSA §16-50j-40, the Council sent correspondence requesting comments on the proposed project from the following state agencies by May 25, 2022: Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP); Department of Agriculture (DOAg); Department of Public Health (DPH); Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ); Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA); Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD); Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP); Department of Consumer Protection (DCP); Department of Labor (DOL); Department of Administrative Services (DAS); Department of Transportation (DOT); the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA); and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

No state agencies provided written comments on the Project.

Public Act 17-218

Public Act (PA) 17-218¹ requires “for a solar photovoltaic facility with a capacity of two or more megawatts, to be located on prime farmland or forestland, excluding any such facility that was selected by DEEP in any solicitation issued prior to July 1, 2017, pursuant to section 16a-3f, 16a-3g or 16a-3j, the DOAg represents, in writing, to the Council that such project will not materially affect the status of such land as prime farmland or DEEP represents, in writing, to the Council that such project will not materially affect the status of land as core forest.” PA 17-218 requires a project developer to obtain a letter from DOAg **OR** DEEP. The Petitioner has secured written confirmation from both DOAg and DEEP.

Pursuant to CGS §16-50x, the Council has exclusive jurisdiction over the construction, maintenance and operation of solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities throughout the state. PA 17-218 requires developers of solar facilities with a generating capacity of more than 2 megawatts (MW) to obtain a written determination from DOAg or DEEP that the project would not materially affect the status of land as prime farmland or core forest prior to submission of a petition for a declaratory ruling to the Council. PA 17-218 does not confer the Council’s exclusive jurisdiction over the construction, maintenance and operation of solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities throughout the state upon DOAg or DEEP. PA 17-218 also does not permit DOAg or DEEP to impose any enforceable conditions on the construction, maintenance and operation of solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council.

Public Benefit

The Project would be a distributed energy resource facility as defined in CGS § 16-1(a)(49). CGS § 16a-35k establishes the State’s energy policy, including the goal to “develop and utilize renewable energy resources, such as solar and wind energy, to the maximum practicable extent.” The 2018 Comprehensive Energy Strategy (2018 CES) highlights eight key strategies to guide administrative and legislative action over the next several years. Specifically, Strategy No. 3 is “Grow and sustain renewable and zero-carbon generation in the state and region.” Furthermore, on September 3, 2019, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order No. 3, which calls for the complete decarbonization of the electric sector by 2040. The proposed facility will contribute to fulfilling the State’s Renewable Portfolio Standard and Global Warming Solutions Act as a zero emission Class I renewable energy source.

The Project was selected in the statewide Shared Clean Energy Facility (SCEF) Program which is a competitive procurement process administered by the state’s electric distribution companies to develop utility scale renewable energy. New or incremental Class I renewable generation projects ranging in size

¹ Codified at Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50k(a) and §16a-3k (2021)

from 100 to 4,000 kW (AC) are eligible to bid into the SCEF Program for a Tariff Terms Agreement (TTA) with a 20-year term.

The Petitioner executed a TTA with Eversource for the Project's installed capacity. One hundred percent of the electricity and renewable energy credits produced by the facility would be sold to Eversource in accordance with the TTA.

The TTA includes the transfer of capacity to Eversource. Thus, the Petitioner would not participate in the ISO-NE Forward Capacity Auction.

Proposed Site

Pursuant to CGS §16-50x, the Council has exclusive jurisdiction over the proposed solar electric generating facility "site." Under RCSA §16-50j-2a(29), "site" means a contiguous parcel of property with specified boundaries, including, but not limited to, the leased area, right-of-way, access and easements on which a facility and associated equipment is located, shall be located or is proposed to be located. The Council does not have jurisdiction or authority over any portion of the host parcel beyond the boundaries of the project "site." This includes portions of the parcel retained by the landowner and portions of the parcel the landowner may lease to third parties. Once a facility is decommissioned, the Council no longer has jurisdiction or authority over the project "site."

Under a lease agreement with the property owner, the Petitioner proposes to construct the solar facility on an approximate 19.6-acre site on a 73.8-acre parcel located at 110 North Street in Enfield owned by the Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc. (CCA). The host parcel, zoned residential – R-33, is located on the south side of North Street and consists of agricultural land, a portion of a cemetery that extends onto abutting property and a golf range operation with an outbuilding and parking area. The golf range is leased from the CCA.

The site is in the northern portion of the parcel in the area occupied by the golf range. The Site is flat with a ground elevation of 180 to 190 feet above mean sea level. The nearest off-site residence from the solar facility perimeter fence is located approximately 270 feet to the west at 96 North Street.

The Petitioner selected the site due to site availability, site suitability and compatibility with adjacent uses, and proximity to an electrical interconnection. Pursuant to CGS §16-50p(g), the Council has no authority to compel a parcel owner to sell or lease property, or portions thereof, for the purpose of siting a facility.²

The initial term of the lease is 20 years. The lease can be extended for three successive renewal terms of five years each. At the end of the lease, the Petitioner must decommission the project and restore the site to its pre-existing condition.

Proposed Project

The proposed 4.0 MW AC solar facility consists of a total of 11,050 solar panels rated at 540 Watts. Other equipment includes 28 inverters, two pad-mounted switchgears and two 2,000 kVA transformers. Two 14-foot by 17-foot concrete pads for electrical equipment would be installed in the center of the solar array area.

The panels would be installed on a fixed tilt racking system facing south at a 30 degree angle, approximately 10 feet above grade at the highest point and 3 feet above grade at the lowest point.

² *Corcoran v. Connecticut Siting Council*, 284 Conn. 455 (2007); CGS §16-50p(g) (2019).

Panel row wiring would extend along the racking system to reduce potential damage from weather events, maintenance activities, or animals. From collection points at the end of the panel-rows, underground wiring would extend to the inverters and to the switchgear/transformer pads. From the transformers, an underground line would extend for approximately 525 feet, then transition to an overhead line for a distance of 250 feet to North Street.

The proposed overhead electrical interconnection would require five new utility poles in the northwest portion of the site. The Petitioner completed the interconnection agreement with Eversource in July 2021. Eversource would need to install a 1,100 foot, three-phase line extension along North Street eastward from Park Street to the interconnection point. An ISO-NE interconnection review is not required.

The projected capacity factor for the Project is approximately 21.4 percent and includes loss assumptions such as shading, soiling, reflection, inverter losses, wiring, and temperature variation. The power output would decline over time with an anticipated annual power output loss of approximately 0.5 percent.

The Project is not designed to support a microgrid or battery storage system. If a battery storage system were to be installed in the future, it would be installed on the customer side of the DC/AC inverters and would not disrupt the interconnection approval with Eversource.

Access to the solar facility would be from a new 16-foot wide, 210-foot long gravel drive extending from North Street to the solar array access gate. From the gate, a new 670-foot long gravel drive would extend along the west fence line and to the center of the array.

The facility would be enclosed by a seven-foot tall chain link fence.

Earthwork at the site is primarily required for installation of the stormwater control basin resulting in 1,430 cubic yards of cut and 930 cubic yards of fill, for a net cut of 500 cubic yards.

A site construction phasing plan has been developed that includes two main construction phases. Phase 1 includes all work necessary to establish stormwater basins and sediment traps and other erosion control measures at the site. Phase 2 includes any remaining earthwork, followed by site infrastructure installation and site stabilization.

Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2023 and would occur over a seven month period. Typical construction hours and work days of the week are as follows: Monday – Saturday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$9,800,000.

Public Safety

The proposed project would comply with the National Electrical Code, National Electrical Safety Code and National Fire Protection Association codes and standards, as applicable. TTA designed the system in accordance with the CT State Fire Prevention Code, Section 11.12.3 - Ground Mounted Photovoltaic System Installations by including a 15-foot wide perimeter access aisle around the array.

The nearest federally-obligated airport to the site is Skylark Airport located 4.6 miles northeast of the site. Under Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) criteria, the Project would not be a Hazard to Air Navigation or require a FAA glare analysis.

The Facility would be remotely monitored through a 24/7 data acquisition system capable of detecting weather, energy production, and safety concerns related to grid outages or faults. If a problem with the facility is detected, system diagnostics and/or facility shutdown can be performed remotely.

Manual disconnect switches are located on-site. The Petitioner would conduct facility operation and safety training for local emergency responders.

The Project would be enclosed by a seven-foot high chain link fence.³ The entrance to the facility would be gated, limiting access to authorized personnel. Emergency responders would be provided access to a Knox Box at the entrance gate.

The proposed facility would be in compliance with DEEP Noise Control Standards. The Project inverters are located in the middle of the solar array, maximizing the distance to adjacent property lines. The nearest residential property line to an inverter is approximately 421 feet to the northwest at 96 North Street. The predicted noise level at this property line from operation of the inverter is approximately 34 dBA. The Project inverters do not operate at night. Construction noise is exempt from DEEP Noise Control Standards.

The site is not located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency designated 100-year or 500-year flood zone.

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

Historic and Recreational Resources

The SHPO submitted correspondence to the Petitioner on July 26, 2021, indicating that the proposed project would not affect historic properties or known archeological resources; however, SHPO recommended a Phase 1B cultural resource survey of the site. The Petitioner is in the process of completing this survey.

There are no state parks or trails proximate to the site. The nearest publicly-accessible recreational area is Scantic River State Park, located approximately 0.5 mile from the proposed site. The proposed project would not be visible from the state park.

Visibility

The proposed facility would be visible from open fields and cleared areas along Park Street north and south of the site and North Street east and west of the site. This includes residential areas that lack intervening vegetation approximately 0.3 mile to the west of the site. The facility would be partially screened from North Street in front of the site by mature trees that surround the existing golf range parking area. The abutting properties across North Street are zoned Industrial and used, in large part, for industrial and agricultural purposes.

No state or local designated scenic roads or scenic areas are located adjacent to the site.

Agriculture

The host parcel contains 48.6 acres of prime farmland soils according to mapping maintained by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service. Under PA 17-218,

³ Section 691.4(2) of the National Electrical Code (NEC), 2020 Edition notes that, "Access to PV electric supply stations shall be restricted by fencing or other adequate means in accordance with 110.31..." Section 110.31 notes that for over 1,000 Volts, "...a wall, screen, or fence shall be used...A fence shall not be less than 7 feet in height or a combination of 6 feet or more of fence fabric and a 1 foot or more...utilizing barbed wire or equivalent."

“prime farmland” means land that meets the criteria for prime farmland as described in 7 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) 657, as amended from time to time. 7 C.F.R. 657 defines prime farmland in relevant part as “land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses.”

The site would be constructed on 15.6 acres of prime farmland soil in an area that has operated as a golf range for 30 years. The property owner would continue to conduct agricultural operations on the remaining portion of the property. The Petitioner intends to utilize existing grades within the solar array area to minimize disturbance to prime farmland soils.

By letter dated March 16, 2022, pursuant to PA 17-218, DOAg determined that the proposed project would not materially affect the status of prime farmland as long as an agricultural co-use plan is implemented, as proposed by the Petitioner. The Petitioner submitted a Sheep Grazing Plan (dated April 2022) for the site that includes four temporary paddocks within the solar array. The density of sheep flock would be determined by site specific forage quantity and weather conditions. No outbuildings to support livestock grazing are proposed. Sheep would not be on-site during winter months.

The solar field would be seeded with the Ernst Fuzz and Buzz seed mix developed to promote pollinator species and to provide sufficient forage for livestock.

The property is not enrolled in the Public Act 490 Program for agricultural land tax abatement.

Wetlands and Watercourses

The Petitioner performed a wetland and watercourse survey in May 2021 that identified a forested wetland in the southeast portion of the host parcel. A farm pond and a vernal pool (VP) are located within this wetland. The site is approximately 580 feet from the nearest portion of the wetland.

Development of the site would not impact the VP or associated vernal pool envelope (100 feet from VP edge). The southeast corner of the solar array (0.46-acre) would be located within the vernal pool envelope (750 feet from VP edge). Although the project would increase the developed area of the Critical Terrestrial Habitat associated with the VP from approximately 4 percent to 5 percent, it would remain well below the 25 percent development area threshold as recommended by the 2015 US Army Corps of Engineers Vernal Pool Best Management Practices.

The Petitioner would implement Vernal Pool and Wetland Protection Measures during construction and would establish erosion and sedimentation controls consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. The Site plans specify the use of meshless or jute erosion control netting to reduce the potential entanglement of amphibian and reptile species that may inhabit the site.

Wildlife

DEEP issued a Natural Diversity Data Base Determination letter on June 18, 2021 indicating that the blue spotted salamander “complex”, a state special concern species, may inhabit the wetland and forest on the host parcel. Although the Project would not clear any forest or be constructed near the wetland, the Petitioner would adhere to DEEP recommended species protective measures that include, but not limited to, contractor education, exclusionary fencing and the avoidance of machinery within 100 feet of the wetland.

The northern long-eared bat (NLEB), a state-listed Endangered Species and federally-listed Threatened Species, is known to occur in Connecticut. However, the nearest known NLEB habitat resource is located more than 10 miles from the site and no impact to NLEB is expected. A US Fish and Wildlife Service

(USFWS) NLEB impact permit is not required. No forest clearing would occur at the site that could disturb NELB.

The USFWS consultation did not identify any other federally-listed species at the site.

The stormwater basin would be seeded with a wetland plant mix.

Core Forest

Under PA 17-218, “core forest” means unfragmented forest land that is three hundred feet or greater from the boundary between forest land and nonforest land, as determined by the Commissioner of DEEP. UCONN’s Center for Land Use Education and Research defines “core forest” as forested areas that are essentially surrounded by more forested areas and fall into three classes – small core forest, medium core forest and large core forest. Small core forest is comprised of core forest patches that are less than 250 acres. Medium core forest is comprised of core forest patches that are between 250-500 acres. Large core forest is comprised of core forest patches that are greater than 500 acres. Forestland that does not meet the definition of core forest is considered “edge forest”. Edge forest is a forested area extending up to 300 feet from a non-forest feature such as a road.

The Project would not require tree clearing. By letter dated March 22, 2022, pursuant to PA 17-218, DEEP determined that the proposed project will not materially affect the status of core forest.

Air Quality

The Project would not produce air or water emissions as a result of operation. The Project would not produce air emissions of regulated air pollutants or greenhouse gases during operation.

Water Quality

The site is not within a DEEP-designated Aquifer Protection Area or a Public Drinking Supply Watershed.

Residences near the Project site are served by private water wells. The Petitioner does not expect the installation of the racking posts would have an impact to nearby wells.

The facility would not use or discharge water during site operations.

Fuel is anticipated to be stored on site during construction. The Petitioner developed a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan for the Project.

Stormwater

Pursuant to CGS Section 22a-430b, DEEP retains final jurisdiction over stormwater management and administers permit programs to regulate stormwater discharges. DEEP regulations and guidelines set forth standards for erosion and sedimentation control, stormwater pollution control and best engineering practices.

The DEEP General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (General Permit) requires implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) to prevent the movement of sediments off construction sites into nearby water bodies and to address the impacts of stormwater discharges from a proposed project after construction is complete. In its

discretion, DEEP could require an Individual Permit for discharges and hold a public hearing prior to approving or denying any General or Individual Permit (Stormwater Permit) application.

A DEEP-issued Stormwater Permit is required prior to commencement of construction activities. The Stormwater Permit includes erosion control measures that comply with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* and the *2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*.

A construction sequence is included on the site plans that include the establishment of erosion control measures, site clearing and construction and installation of three temporary sediment traps. Once the disturbed areas are stabilized, installation of site infrastructure would commence.

The Petitioner discussed the Project with the DEEP Stormwater Division and the Dam Safety Program on February 24, 2022. The Petitioner performed a stormwater analysis that concluded one detention basin and associated swales would be required to keep post-construction runoff below pre-construction levels. The Stormwater Division did not comment on the proposed stormwater management design. A dam safety permit would not be required for the proposed stormwater basin

Operation and Maintenance

A post-construction Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan has been developed that includes provisions for periodic inspections of physical site features and structural and electrical components.

An evaluation of the facility and performance of preventative maintenance measures would be conducted annually by on-site personnel. The evaluation would include the electrical system/components, physical infrastructure, and site vegetation. Replacement modules would not be stored on-site.

The Petitioner does not anticipate routine module cleaning but if cleaning is required, water and a soft bristle brush would be used. Snow removal is not anticipated. A snow depth of three feet would negatively affect performance of the modules.

Pesticides and/or herbicides would only be used at the site when necessary and would not be used within 100 feet of wetlands.

Decommissioning

The Project is designed for an operational life of 35 years. At the end of the Project's useful life, the Project would be decommissioned and the site restored to its original condition. Project decommissioning would include removal and disposal or recycling of all above-surface project components. It is anticipated decommissioning would be completed within 6 months.

All recyclable materials would be transported to appropriate recycling facilities. Any non-recyclable materials will be properly disposed of at a nearby landfill. The equipment pads and conduit would be removed. The access road and tension basins may remain, at the direction of the landowner.

Disturbed areas would be backfilled with native soil, stabilized and seeded. Any compacted areas that could inhibit the growth of new vegetation would be aerated.

The selected solar panels for the Project meet current Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) criteria for characterization as nonhazardous waste in the event the solar panels are not recycled at the end of the project's life.

Conclusion

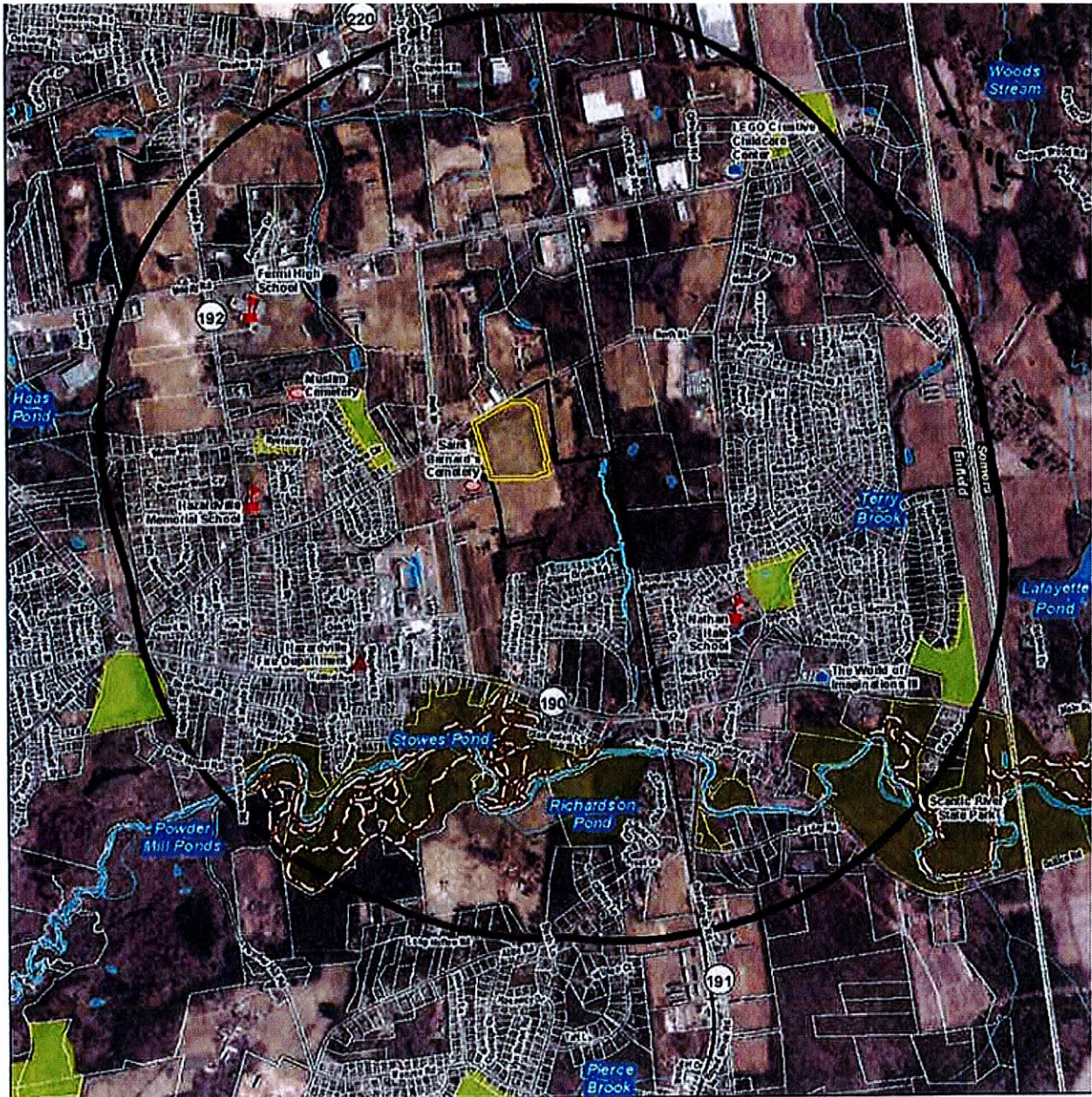
The project is a grid-side distributed resource with a capacity of not more than sixty-five megawatts, meets air and water quality standards of the DEEP, and would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect. The proposed project will not produce air emissions, will not utilize water to produce electricity, was designed to minimize environmental impacts, and furthers the State's energy policy by developing and utilizing renewable energy resources and distributed energy resources. Furthermore, the project was selected under the state's SCEF Program.

Recommendations

If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
2. Submit a copy of the DEEP Stormwater Permit prior to the commencement of construction;
3. Submit the final structural design for the racking system stamped by a Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut prior to commencement of construction;
4. Retain mature trees between the proposed perimeter fence and North Street to the extent feasible;
and
5. Provide training to emergency responders.

Site Location

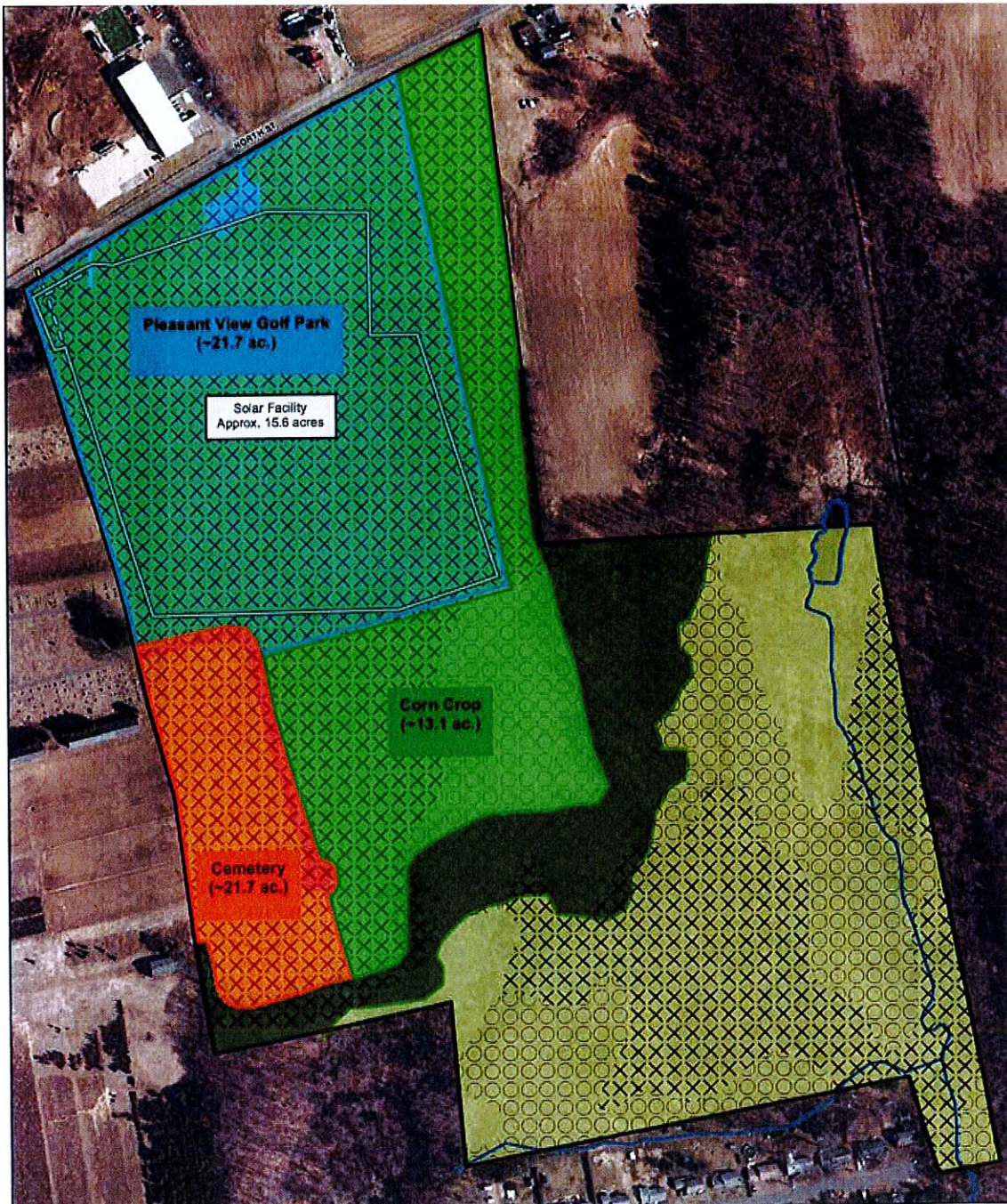


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|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Legend | Surrounding Features | State CT DEEP Property |
| Site | Fire Department | Municipal and Private Open Space Property |
| 1-Mile Radius | School | Hiking Trail |
| Project Area | | Open Water (CTDEEP) |
| Municipal Boundary | | |

Figure 6
Surrounding Features Map
 Proposed Enfield Solar One
 Solar Facility
 110 North Street



Host Property- Existing Conditions



Legend

- Site
- Approximate Project Area
- Approximate Interconnect Path
- Approximate Access Drive
- Approximate Watercourse
- Delineated Wetland Boundary
- Existing Farm Pond

Farmland Soils

- Prime Farmland Soils
- Statewide Important Farmland Soils

Habitat Cover Type

- Cultivated Agricultural Field
- Developed
- Forested Wetland
- Maintained Lawn
- Mixed Hardwood Forest



Proposed Site



- Legend**
- Site
 - Approx. Parcel Boundary
 - Railroad
 - Trapline
 - Overhead Utility Lines
 - Existing Utility Poles
 - Existing Culvert
 - Existing Farm Pond
 - Approximate Watercourse
 - Colineated Wetland Boundary
 - Wetland Area
 - Vernal Pool
 - Limit of Disturbance
 - Solar Modules / Equipment
 - Concrete Pad
 - Gravel Access Drive
 - Stormwater Basin
 - Stormwater Gravel Outfall
 - Perimeter Fence
 - Underground Electrical Path
 - Interconnection Path
 - Interconnection Utility Pole

Figure 3
Proposed Conditions
Proposed Enfield Solar One
 110 North Street
 Enfield, Connecticut