



Department of Economic and
Community Development

State Historic Preservation Office

November 25, 2022

Mr. David R. George
Heritage Consultants
PO Box 310249
Newington, CT 06131

Subject: Phase IB Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Survey
North Haven Solar One
Mill Road
North Haven, Connecticut
ENV-23-0306

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the archeological survey report prepared by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage), dated September, 2022. The proposed activities are under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and are subject to review by this office pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). The proposed undertaking includes the construction of a solar facility, which is to occupy an approximately 12.3 acre project area, located off Mill Road, and is bordered by Drazen Drive South to the north, Mill Road to the west, wooded areas to the east and south. Access to the facility is to be from Mill Road. The submitted report is well-written, comprehensive, and meet the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*.

Two previously recorded archaeological sites are located within 1 mile of the project area; however, they will not be impacted by the proposed action. One Property (Rising Sun Taven, NR# 79002638) is listed on National Register of Historic Places and located within 1 mile of the project area; however, distance and varying topography will prevent the facility from being visible form the resource; it will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Phase IB of the reconnaissance survey consisted of subsurface testing of the areas determined to have moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. A total of 81 of 87 planned shovel tests were excavated successfully throughout the proposed work area; 6 unexcavated shovel tests fell within areas disturbed by the formation of brush piles. A single prehistoric period artifact, a quartz

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flake, was recovered from the plowzone. 12 modern and historic period artifacts were recovered from the plow zone and fill soils, and were characterized as field scatter. No other cultural features or materials from either historic or prehistoric periods were identified. The limited number of artifacts, coupled with the lack of identification of any other cultural features or soil anomalies demonstrate a lack of research potential and therefore, not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]).

As a result of the information submitted, SHPO concurs with the findings of the report that additional archeological investigations of the project area are not warranted and that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed activities. However, please be advised that if construction plans change to include previously uninvestigated/undisturbed areas, this office should be contacted for additional consultation.

This office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. For additional information, please contact Marena Wisniewski, Environmental Reviewer, at (860) 500-2357 or marena.wisniewski@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Kinney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Jonathan Kinney
State Historic Preservation Officer

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