



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 22, 2023

William O'Donnell
billod58@gmail.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1589** – USS Somers Solar, 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 3.0-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Somers Road, Ellington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear William O'Donnell:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your Request for a Public Hearing, dated September 21, 2023, for the above-referenced petition.

The Request for a Public Hearing will be placed on the next Council meeting agenda, a copy of which will be sent to you. You will be notified of the Council's determination immediately thereafter.

Please contact our office at 860-827-2935 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/IN/dll

c: Service List dated August 24, 2023
Council Members

From: William O'Donnell <billod58@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2023 9:21 PM
To: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>
Cc: cpiboard@mg.skydivect.com
Subject: Petition number 1589: public comment and hearing request

Good Evening,

I am a skydiver and a pilot at Connecticut Parachutists, Inc., located at Ellington Airport. I am aware of [Petition No. 1589](#), which would incorporate solar panels at the airport.

I would like to request an in-person and virtual public hearing on this petition. Additionally, I would like to submit the following as public comment:

As a pilot who operates at this airport regularly, if I were to have an aircraft emergency and needed to over run the runway for unforeseen reasons. All of the fields currently provide an extra layer of safety to myself and passengers I may have on board the aircraft with me. If there were solar panels in these locations it would be hazardous to the aircraft, my passengers life, and my life.

As a skydiver, the installation of solar panels at Ellington Airport would present a serious hazard to my health and life. This part of the airport is a safe and reasonable landing option if we are unable to land at the primary landing area for any reason.

If I land in a solar field under canopy or in aircraft I expect myself and passengers to be injured or killed. Seeking an alternate landing area outside of the airport grounds in order to avoid a solar array would be similarly dangerous as I would have to avoid power lines, trees, homes, commercial buildings, and other obstacles.

This proposal is a threat to not only my life but most importantly my passengers and I do not support it.

Thank you
William O'Donnell