



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051
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December 7, 2023

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director *MB*

RE: **PETITION NO. 1592** – Santa Fuel, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.85-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 159 South Road, Somers, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. **Completeness Review.**

I. Introduction

The petition is from Santa Fuel, Inc for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.85-megawatt alternating current solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 159 South Road, Somers, Connecticut.

II. Technical

The petition conforms to the Council's guide for *Petition for a Declaratory Ruling for a Renewable Energy Facility*, includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed project, costs, and the environmental effects of the proposed construction. The petition meets statutory and regulatory technical requirements for processing the petition. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

All service and filing requirements pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 16-50j-39 have been fulfilled.

IV. Procedural

Pursuant to CGS § 4-176(e), within 60 days after receipt of a petition for a declaratory ruling, an agency in writing **shall**: (1) issue a declaratory ruling; (2) hold a public hearing on the matter; (3) decide to issue a declaratory ruling by a specified date; (4) decide to initiate regulation making proceedings; **or** (5) decide not to issue a declaratory ruling.

In response to a request for a public hearing on this petition from the Town of Somers, the Council voted to hold a public hearing during the Council meeting held on November 9, 2023. Staff recommends holding the public hearing via Zoom remote conferencing on January 11, 2024 and depositing the transcript in the Somers Town Hall.

Enclosure: Schedule



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REVISED SCHEDULE

PETITION NO. 1592 – Santa Fuel, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.85-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 159 South Road, Somers, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Petition received	09/19/2023
Council 60-day Action – Hold Public Hearing	11/09/2023
Council Interrogatories <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set One Issued• Set One Responses due	TBD TBD
Pre-hearing conference via Zoom remote conferencing (11:00 a.m.)	12/13/2023
Deadline for Exchange of Interrogatories between Parties and Intervenors	12/28/2023
Deadline for Pre-filed testimony and responses to interrogatories	01/04/2024
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	01/04/2024
Public Hearing 2:00 p.m. evidentiary session and 6:30 p.m. public comment session via Zoom remote conferencing <i>(refer to Hearing Information section on the Petition 1592 project webpage for Zoom remote conferencing log in/call in)</i>	01/11/2024
Continued Evidentiary Session(s) <i>(if necessary)</i>	TBD
Close of Evidentiary Record	01/11/2024
Close of Public Comment Period	02/10/2024
Draft Findings of Fact	02/15/2024
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	02/29/2024
Deadline for Decision	03/17/2024

Siting Analyst: Robert Mercier