



October 30, 2023

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

cc: Timothy A. Coon, P.E.
Principal Engineer
J.R. Russo & Associates, LLC
P.O. Box 938, 1 Shoham Road
East Windsor, CT 06088

RE: Somers Solar, 159 South Road Somers, CT. ~ 3.85 MWAC Solar Photovoltaic Generating Facility

Dear Ms. Bachman,

Timothy A. Coon, P.E for J.R. Russo & Associates, LLC (“Petitioner”) has contacted the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“DEEP”) Bureau of Natural Resources and informed us of the intention to file a petition for a declaratory ruling with the Connecticut Siting Council. Petitioner proposes to construct a solar project with a capacity of two or more megawatts, to be located at 159 South Road in Somers Connecticut 06071 (“Site”).

Pursuant to Sec. 16-50k of the Connecticut General Statutes the DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources staff have reviewed documents submitted by Timothy Coon concerning this proposed project, which includes a site map attached to an email received October 25, 2023.

In conducting such review of the proposed project, DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources has determined that such proposed project, as represented in the above-mentioned documents **will not** materially affect the status of such Site as core forest.

Nothing in this letter relieves the Petitioner of other obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law that may be necessary as part of the proposed project design and implementation.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 860-424-3060, or by mail at 79 Elm Street, Sixth Floor, Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

Connecticut is one of the most heavily forested states in America. Our forests clean our air and water, shelter our wildlife, sequester carbon, contribute tens of millions of dollars to our economy, and add immeasurably to the quality of our lives. Yet every day, our forests are under threat. Invasive insects and diseases and our dense and growing human population continue to stress our forests in unprecedented ways. Thank you for helping us to conserve a healthy core forest for future generations, providing public transparency and working to make thoughtful development choices.

Sincerely,



Christopher Martin, State Forester
Bureau of Natural Resources
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

CC: Bryan P. Hurlburt, Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Eileen Underwood, Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Jenny Dickson, Acting Chief, Bureau of Natural Resources, DEEP
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