



City of New London

Office of the Mayor

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August 22, 2025

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Petition No. 1607A
Battery Energy Storage System
State Pier Road, New London

Dear Executive Director Bachman:

I write to you today to reaffirm the City of New London's full support for the approval of a battery energy storage system ("BESS") proposed by Hanwha Q Cells America Inc. ("HQCA" or "Petitioner") to be located at Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5A and Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5 known as 163 State Pier Road, New London. In a letter dated July 5, 2023 to the Connecticut Siting Council I stated that a BESS located at State Pier Road, New London would help manage the power grid more efficiently and will help integrate clean, renewable sources of energy into the power grid. I also understand the BESS proposed at State Pier Road will help improve grid resiliency and reliability for New London electric customers. These attributes continue to align with the City's longstanding support for energy efficiency efforts as well as for making zero carbon renewable energy available to its residents, businesses, and institutions. Importantly, the City is a designated Environmental Justice Community and prioritizing the delivery of increased resilience to New London customers is of utmost importance to the City.

I understand the Petitioner has continued to work in concert with the City's Fire Chief Vernon Skau and Acting Fire Marshal David Heiney regarding the installation and operation of the proposed BESS. As stated in my July 5, 2023 letter, in the absence of Connecticut Siting Council jurisdiction, the BESS proposed use would be allowed by special permit under its General Commercial District (C-1) designation [City of New London Zoning Regulations, Section 510.3 (25) "Public and private utility installations."]. Moreover, the BESS use would not be a nuisance to the existing abutters. And the fact that the International Association of Fire Chiefs' recommendation for initial firefighter staging areas in the unlikely event of a fire has been reduced from 300 feet to 150 feet makes Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5A and 163 State Pier Road an even more ideal candidate for the proposed BESS.

I respectfully submit this letter to reflect the City of New London's full support of the approval of the BESS proposed at Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5A and Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5 known as 163 State Pier Road, New London.

Thank you for your consideration of this information

Sincerely,

The handwritten signature of Mayor Michael Passero.

Mayor Michael Passero
City of New London

