

ORIGINAL

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

TRITEC AMERICAS, LLC
PETITION 1609
HEARING DAY 1

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

The following pages are representative of the
Public Comment Session of the hearing, before Elisa
Ferraro, Court Reporter, License 233, via Teleconference
on Thursday, May 2, 2024, commencing at 6:30 p.m.

HELD BEFORE: JOHN MORISSETTE, Presiding Officer of
Connecticut Siting Council

1 A P P E A R A N C E S :

2 VIA ZOOM

3
4 CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
5 10 Franklin Square
6 New Britain, Connecticut 06051
7 Members:

8 Brian Golembiewski
9 Quat Nguyen
10 Robert Silvestri
11 Chance Carter
12 Khristine Hall

13 Staff:

14 Melanie Bachman
15 Robert Mercier
16 Lisa Fontaine
17 Dakota LaFountain

18 MICHAUD LAW GROUP
19 515 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 503
20 Middletown, Connecticut 06457
21 BY: PAUL MICHAUD, ESQUIRE
22 [For the Petitioner TRITEC AMERICAS, LLC]

23 SOLLI ENGINEERS:

24 Kevin Solli
25 Cameron Hendry
Eric Labatte

HORTON ELECTRICAL SERVICES:

Warren Horton

WILLIAM KENNY ASSOCIATES:

William Kenny
Alexander Wojtkowiak

24 Also Present: Town of Manchester - John F. Sullivan, Esq.
25 Interveners - Rachel and Dana Schnabel, Rosemary Carroll
Party - Raymond Welnicki

1 [On the record 6:30 p.m.]

2
3 PUBLIC HEARING SESSION

4
5 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Good evening
6 ladies and gentlemen. This meeting is called
7 to order at 6:30 p.m. My name is John
8 Morissette, member and presiding officer of the
9 Connecticut Siting Council. Other members of
10 the Council are Brian Golembiewski, designee
11 for Commissioner Katie Dykes of the Department
12 of Energy and Environmental Protection; Quat
13 Nguyen, designee for Chairman Marissa Paslick
14 Gillett of the Public Utilities Regulatory
15 Authority; Robert Silvestri, Dr. Thomas Near,
16 Chance Carter and Khristine Hall.

17 Members of the staff are Executive
18 Director Melanie Bachman, Siting Analyst Robert
19 Mercier and administrative support Dakota
20 LaFountain.

21 If you haven't done so already, I ask that
22 everyone please mute your computer audio and/or
23 telephones now. Thank you. This is a
24 continuation of the public hearing that began
25 at 2:00 p.m. this afternoon. A copy of the

1 prepared agenda is available on the Council's
2 petition 1609 web page, along with a record in
3 this matter, public hearing notice,
4 instructions for public access to this public
5 hearing and the Council's Citizens Guide to the
6 Siting Council's procedures. This hearing is
7 held pursuant to provisions of Title 16 of the
8 Connecticut General Statutes and the Uniform
9 Administrative Procedure Act upon a petition
10 from TRITEC Americas, LLC for a declaratory
11 ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes
12 §4-176 and §16-50k for the proposed
13 construction, maintenance and operation of a
14 0.999-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric
15 generating facility located at 250 Carter
16 Street in Manchester, Connecticut and the
17 associated electrical interconnection.

18 This petition was received by the Council
19 on January 26, 2024. The Council's legal
20 notice of the date and time of this public
21 hearing was published in the Journal Inquirer
22 on March 30, 2024. Upon this Council's
23 request, the petitioner erected a sign in the
24 vicinity of the proposed site so as to inform
25 the public of the name of the petitioner, the

1 type of facility, the public hearing date and
2 contact information for the Council, including
3 the website and phone number.

4 As a reminder to all, off-the-record
5 communications with a member of the Council or
6 a member of the Council staff on the merits of
7 this petition is prohibited by law. This
8 public comment session is reserved for members
9 of the public who have signed up in advance to
10 make brief statements. These limited
11 appearance statements are not subject to
12 questions from the parties or the Council and
13 the members of the public making statements may
14 not ask questions of the parties or the
15 Council. In accordance with the public hearing
16 notice and in fairness to everyone who has
17 signed up to speak, these public statements
18 will be limited to three minutes. Please be
19 advised that written comments may be submitted
20 by any person within 30 days of this public
21 hearing. I wish to note that parties and
22 interveners, including the representatives and
23 witnesses are not allowed to participate in the
24 public comment session. I also wish to note
25 for those who are here and for the benefits of

1 your friends and neighbors who are unable to
2 join us for the public comment session, that
3 you or they may send written statements to the
4 Council within 30 days of the day hereof by
5 mail or email.

6 Please be advised that any person may be
7 removed from the public comment session at the
8 discretion of the Council. We ask that each
9 person making a limited appearance statement in
10 this proceeding to confine his or her
11 statements to the subject matter before the
12 Council and to avoid unreasonable repetition so
13 that we may hear all of the concerns you and
14 your neighbors may have. Please be advised
15 that the Council cannot answer questions from
16 the public about the proposal. A verbatim
17 transcript will be made of this hearing and
18 deposited with the Manchester Town Clerk's
19 office for the convenience of the public.

20 At this time, I request the petitioner
21 make a brief presentation to the public
22 describing the proposed facility, either Kevin
23 Solli or Cameron Hendry or Eric Labatte will be
24 making the presentation.

25 MR. LABATTE: Good evening. My name is

1 Eric Labatte. I'm a Solli engineer. I believe
2 the site plans -- there it is. So, tonight's
3 meeting is regarding the site that you see on
4 your screen. It's a 41.08-acre site in
5 Manchester off Carter Street. Proposed
6 project, if approved, consists of 7.8 acres of
7 disturbance by 2,590 photovoltaic solar panels.
8 There's associated equipment on concrete pads
9 on the west side of the site, along with two
10 swales that are grass, lawn that will direct
11 stormwater to a stormwater management basin
12 that's also located on the west side of the
13 site. On the east side of the site, we're
14 proposing an evergreen buffer consisting of 14
15 American holly and 30 Eastern red cedar
16 evergreen trees. There is one wetland crossing
17 for the access drive located on the north side
18 of the site that will disturb approximately
19 1,100 square feet of wetlands. Access to the
20 site will be off of Carter just to the north of
21 this wetland crossing. The solar panels
22 themselves will be enclosed by a 7-foot tall
23 chain link fence which is required by the
24 National Electric Code.

25 With that said, Mr. Morissette, I believe

1 we've covered the site plan itself and I hand
2 it over to you.

3 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
4 Mr. Labatte. We will now call on State
5 Representative Jason Doucette to make a public
6 statement, followed by First Selectman Rodney
7 Fournier. State Representative Doucette
8 please.

9 MR. DOUCETTE: Good evening and thank you.
10 Can you hear my okay?

11 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Yes, we can.

12 MR. DOUCETTE: Wonderful. To the Council
13 staff, thank you for your time tonight. I'm
14 State Representative Jason Doucette. I
15 represent the 13th House District in which the
16 subject proposal is located. I have the honor
17 of representing this area and I'm here in
18 support of my constituents who have done a
19 fantastic job I believe in representing their
20 interests with respect to this particular
21 petition. So I will certainly let the
22 presentations and the evidence that has been
23 submitted by the various parties and
24 interveners who have an interest in the area
25 and of course the town of Manchester as well

1 speak for themselves. I'm actually in session
2 here at the state capitol right now where we're
3 voting on bills, hopefully that bell does not
4 ring in the House of Representatives during my
5 three minutes.

6 I wish to, at the outset, state that I do
7 oppose the petition as currently presented. My
8 job as a state representative obviously
9 representing my constituents, also in their
10 interests here at the state capitol, obviously
11 I have the task as we are doing fast and
12 furious right now of reviewing legislation. As
13 you may know and I know Director Bachman has
14 been up here to testify in various committees
15 of cognizance. We do have several bills right
16 now relating to the siting process and the
17 various types of applications that come before
18 you. I mention that -- again, I think my
19 perspective as a state legislator in reviewing
20 the existing law and any legislation that comes
21 before us, and there are several as I
22 mentioned, that impact potentially the siting
23 process, and a lot of discussion frankly
24 happening at the capitol right now about it. I
25 look at the existing statute in the instance of

1 this specific application as providing the
2 clear authority and in fact I believe obviating
3 towards the result of rejecting this petition.
4 I say that specifically because I think in
5 Connecticut General Statute 16-50p where some
6 of the criteria are outlined to grant a
7 petition such as this one, it requires you to
8 find that there's not a significant impact on
9 the ecological balance, public health and safety,
10 scenic, historic and recreational values,
11 agriculture, forest and parks, air and water
12 purity, fish, agriculture and wildlife.

13 Again, as I consider legislation to
14 perhaps improve on the process and the criteria
15 as to the decisions that you make on the
16 Council, I think there is adequate evidence to
17 support the finding that this petition be
18 denied. Specifically, this project is a
19 densely forested tract, surrounded by
20 residences, containing substantial wetlands,
21 including a wetlands crossing that would be
22 required to access the actual facility.
23 Obviously various species of wildlife, some of
24 which have been identified as species of
25 special concern and those I believe are all

1 outlined in the evidence. We have a section of
2 the Shenipsit Trail, which is a blue blazed
3 hiking trail of cultural and historic
4 significance that stretches throughout our
5 state and is a wonderful resource for our state
6 and for this particular property.

7 In addition, I've heard many concerns and
8 questions about the stormwater management plan
9 for the project, potentially having a
10 significant negative impact on the abutting
11 properties located down I believe directly west
12 of the project, down the slope, as it were, on
13 Amanda Drive. Furthermore, because of all the
14 physical constraints of the site and the
15 presence of the trail and using it for a gas
16 line also located near the proposed location
17 facility is likely to be located immediately
18 across the boundary line of several residential
19 properties likely within zoning setbacks that
20 would otherwise be applicable. Based on this
21 fact alone, I do believe that the site is
22 inappropriate for this type of development and
23 will cause a substantial disturbance to
24 abutting residents. So, again, I do believe it
25 would be inappropriate for the Council to find

1 that this project is environmentally
2 compatible. I think the existing law, as I
3 said, is sufficient without any of the
4 potential future changes to the law as I
5 mentioned that we would entertain here at the
6 legislature. I believe in this specific
7 instance, the existing law is sufficient and
8 the evidence shows that it would have a
9 significant environmental impact on the
10 wetlands, the trail, wildlife. I think it
11 checks frankly all of the boxes that should
12 enable the Council to find that this is not an
13 appropriate development for this site. So with
14 that, I will conclude. Again, thank you for
15 your time. I'm interested to hear again from
16 others. I'm certainly available for any
17 questions, if not tonight and beyond, and look
18 forward to hearing back from the Council on
19 this application. And have a good night.

20 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
21 State Representative Doucette. Thank you for
22 coming out this evening.

23 We will now call upon First Selectperson
24 Rodney Fournier, followed by James Memery.
25 First Selectperson.

1 MR. FOURNIER: I'd first like to thank the
2 Council for their service. I know you're all
3 volunteer on there. I do have Pam Sawyer
4 present with me, who will not be speaking. And
5 I would like to say that the Board of Selectmen
6 supports the removal of the proposal from the
7 Connecticut Siting Council, for the
8 jurisdiction to go back to the community, the
9 Town of Manchester for petition 1609 of the
10 Siting Council. I would also like to say that
11 we have concerned citizens that are intense in
12 their opposition and I would hope that you
13 would please carefully consider all of their
14 research prints that they've produced. As a
15 matter of fact, I don't think we've had any
16 residences come forward to the Board to support
17 this particular project, so I hope that you
18 would turn it back over to Manchester and let
19 them have their zoning laws and rules enforced.
20 That's it for me. Thank you very much.

21 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
22 First Selectperson Fournier. Thank you for
23 coming out this evening.

24 MR. FOURNIER: You're welcome.

25 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: I'll now call

1 upon James Memery, and followed by Bridgett
2 Woodall. Mr. Memery.

3 MR. MEMERY: Yes. Hello?

4 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Yes. Please
5 continue.

6 MR. MEMERY: My name is James Memery. I
7 live at 31 Bette Drive in Manchester. We want
8 the Connecticut Siting Council to direct the
9 petitioner, TRITEC, to consider all
10 environmental damage that will result if the
11 proposed solar farm is approved. Petition 1609
12 calls for removing 8 acres of woodland on a
13 steep slope in a residential neighborhood and
14 install 2,590 solar panels. None of us is
15 opposed to solar, but we firmly believe the
16 environment should not be destroyed on the one
17 hand while claiming to protect it on the other.
18 This area has a history of drainage issues as
19 mentioned, the wildlife habitat --

20 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Mr. Memery,
21 you're cutting out.

22 COURT REPORTER: Excuse me, Mr. Memery,
23 you're cutting out.

24 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Please
25 continue.

1 MR. MEMERY: Are you able to hear me now?

2 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Yes, it seems
3 to be better.

4 MR. MEMERY: Sorry about that. I'll
5 repeat. The impact on the wildlife, wetlands
6 and Shenipsit Trail are significant, as are the
7 noise and visual impact on hikers and property
8 owners. This disruption of habitat once
9 implemented can never be fully restored. The
10 Manchester directors have concluded this is a
11 town-wide issue and directed town staff to
12 actively participate. [Inaudible.] examine the
13 other Manchester sites that would avoid the
14 environmental issues. We urge TRITEC and the
15 Council to work with the town to achieve a
16 better solution that supports solar without the
17 serious concerns. The undeveloped 21-acre
18 Walmart property at 205 Spencer Street now is
19 on the market, as an example. The land is
20 flat, no woodlands, zoned commercial, no gas
21 line, no hiking trail, no environmental issues.
22 The site is accessible to Spencer Street and
23 the electric grid.

24 I thank the Council for your time, and I
25 will hope that you can find a way to work with

1 the petitioner and the town. Thank you.

2 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
3 Mr. Memery, and thank you for coming out this
4 evening. I'll call upon Bridgette Woodall,
5 followed by Linda Woodall. Bridgette Woodall
6 please.

7 MS. BRIDGETTE WOODALL: Hi. I'm Bridgette
8 Woodall, reside at 51 Blue Ridge Drive. I
9 would like to say TRITEC claims to be a leader
10 in the solar industry field with 30-plus years
11 of experience. It has arrived in Connecticut
12 and it has made its way to Manchester. And the
13 best that it can offer the town is a less than
14 one-megawatt solar facility, sited in the
15 middle of a forested residential neighborhood
16 that abuts a public trail, with a plan to
17 decimate a thriving ecosystem and upend an
18 innocent neighborhood. Surely it can do better
19 than this. Any schoolchild can tell you that
20 destroying trees for the sake of industrial
21 development is wrong. Just look at the South
22 American Rainforest. Destroying a forest and
23 displacing wildlife to build a carbon-free
24 solar facility which is intended to help
25 protect the environment is a hypocrisy in the

1 finest degree. There are plenty of
2 commercially zoned uninhabited locations with
3 ample acreage to build an industrial standard
4 one-megawatt or higher solar facility that
5 would actually generate some electricity for
6 the grid. TRITEC has all kinds of answers and
7 solutions to make the rural residential site at
8 250 Carter Street work. So with 30 years of
9 experience, why can't it invest in a
10 commercially zoned site and make it work?

11 TRITEC's online portfolio is primarily
12 dominated by projects of rooftop solar panels,
13 small scale ground panels in commercially zoned
14 areas, such as parking lots and in open fields
15 that are away from trees and homes. It does
16 not show a vast array of its foresting projects
17 for the purpose of installing solar panels.

18 There is no reason a forest must give its life,
19 wildlife be displaced and a neighborhood marred
20 by a virtually nonessential nonelectric
21 producing facility. All for the sake of
22 becoming a carbon-free state. If this is what
23 responsible carbon-free solar energy looks
24 like, we don't need it in Connecticut. This
25 petition stinks. Leave our trees alone. Leave

1 our animals alone. Leave our neighborhood
2 alone. Go commercial or go home, TRITEC.
3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
5 Miss Woodall. We will now call on Linda
6 Woodall, followed by Elizabeth Krawjewski.
7 Linda Woodall.

8 MS. LINDA WOODALL: Thank you. My name is
9 Linda Woodall, and I'd like to say that five
10 years ago, my husband, my daughter, Bridgette
11 and myself bought our house at 51 Blue Ridge
12 Drive. At the time, I was so excited about it.
13 I was excited. We hit the jackpot, we've got
14 the American dream. What a neighborhood we
15 moved into. Even now I can't believe we've got
16 this beautiful wooded neighborhood to live in.
17 But then in March, we received this note in our
18 mailbox telling us about a solar company that
19 wanted to slither into our neighborhood, chop
20 down nearly 8 acres of woods to put in a low
21 voltage solar facility. Really? An industry
22 which is touted to help the environment is now
23 going to destroy a natural wooded ecosystem and
24 change our amazing neighborhood. Why? Weren't
25 there better sites suited for this kind of

1 industry? We all know there's a need for
2 alternative energy sources, such as solar. And
3 in looking at alternative sources and using
4 them, we must make wise decisions about their
5 applications. TRITEC and companies like them
6 are always going to have perfect answers on
7 paper and make everything sound really good.
8 But do they do their due diligence? They don't
9 have to live with the consequences of their
10 actions, we in the neighborhood do. We are
11 left with beautiful woodlands destroyed,
12 wildlife that lose their homes and habitat, the
13 fear of flooding, noise pollution, the threat
14 of fires, contamination maybe to our water
15 supply and the possibility of maybe home values
16 going down. Who knows what else? This solar
17 industry really needs to be regulated. Towns,
18 neighborhoods and cities need to be able to
19 have some input into the decisions of where
20 they go and what they do. I was shocked by the
21 statement that Mr. Howard Reed said in his last
22 report in which he said, The site was selected
23 due to the proximity to the sufficient grid
24 interconnected capacity, which is not true of most sites.
25 Really?

1 In closing, I'd like to answer that
2 statement with the words from Shel Silverstein
3 which say I've done it, I've done it. Guess
4 what I've done? I've invented a light that
5 plugs into the sun. The sun is bright enough,
6 the bulb is strong enough. But oh, there's
7 only one thing wrong, the cord ain't long
8 enough.

9 Please, don't let TRITEC come into our
10 neighborhood. Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
12 Linda. We'll now call upon Elizabeth
13 Krawjewski, followed by Eric Fuerst.
14 Elizabeth.

15 MS. KRAJEWSKI: Thank you. I'm Elizabeth
16 Krajewski of 295 Carter Street and I do have
17 solar panels in my property and fully support
18 solar, like my neighbors, when deployed
19 responsibly and sustainably. When I look at
20 this petition, I see five stakeholders with an
21 interest in this matter. As I followed the
22 discussions and the commentary on this
23 petition, it became clear to me that there are
24 alternate solutions that would meet the needs
25 of all five stakeholders. Let's start with the

1 first two stakeholders, TRITEC and the Siting
2 Council. It's my understanding that the town
3 is going to partner with both parties to meet
4 their objectives by finding a more appropriate
5 location for this industrial project. I'm
6 certain there's other locations in this town
7 that could be used for this purpose that would
8 require less work, such as clearing trees and
9 have less resistance as well so that both
10 TRITEC and the Siting Council can move forward
11 with their projects quickly. So there's a
12 solution for the first two stakeholders.

13 I see the landowner is our third
14 stakeholder. We know that the landowner wants
15 to sell this property, and I've learned that
16 there were at least two other offers from
17 individuals who wanted to purchase this
18 property solely to protect its rural character.
19 So knowing that this landowner has options to
20 sell the property and protect the land tells me
21 that it's possible to satisfy the landowner's
22 desire to sell the property and still satisfy
23 the remaining two stakeholders in this matter,
24 the residents and the Town of Manchester, who
25 wish to see this forest protected.

1 Our core forests are disappearing at an
2 alarming rate, so I urge the Siting Council to
3 consider requiring a more responsible location
4 to be satisfy the interests of all impacted
5 parties. Thank you for your time.

6 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you.

7 Next is Eric Fuerst, and then MaryFran
8 McGarry. Eric.

9 MR. FUERST: Yes. Good evening. My name
10 is Eric Fuerst, and I live at 120 Amanda Drive
11 in the neighborhood surrounding the project of
12 the proposed petition. I'm strongly opposed to
13 this commercial solar installation in rural
14 residential zoning on 250 Carter Street. This
15 proposal is detrimental and its purported
16 benefits do not outweigh the harm it will
17 impart on the environment and surrounding
18 community. My areas of concern include, but
19 are not limited to core forest destruction and
20 habitat destruction. I do not support the
21 destruction of approximately 8 acres of core
22 forest. My position is supported by both the
23 Connecticut Department of Energy and
24 Environmental Protection, or DEEP, and the
25 Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality.

1 CT DEEP states, Quote, A solar energy
2 generating facility should not be located in a
3 core forest. End quote. And the Council on
4 Environmental Quality states the Council does
5 not support the destruction of core forest.
6 With respect to habitat destruction and
7 fragmentation, many species utilize this forest
8 for sustenance, shelter and safe passage. Of
9 these species is the Eastern Box turtle listed
10 as a species of special concern by CT DEEP.
11 These turtles tend to spend their lives in an
12 area of less than two acres. The proposed site
13 will destroy approximately eight acres of this
14 animal's habitat, with the petitioner's
15 solution being to move them out during
16 construction and simply put them back after.
17 This is hardly a solution, as the site will no
18 longer be an appropriate habitat, thus the
19 animal will be forced to find new homes.

20 There are six species of bat in Hartford
21 County, three of which are species of special
22 concern that dwell or roost in trees. Exhibit
23 G, Environmental Assessment also mentions that
24 the habitat within the parcel is suitable for
25 the Northern long-eared bats, one of six bat

1 species and an animal that is listed endangered
2 by CT and threatened federally. Destruction of
3 their habitats is one of the primary drivers of
4 this species' decline. This will displace many
5 other animals, including deer, coyotes, birds
6 and rodents, among others.

7 With the points listed above, the
8 detriments clearly outweigh the purported
9 benefits of this proposal. Destroying acres of
10 forest is counterproductive when there are many
11 suitable alternative locations that are more
12 developed and not situated in residential
13 zoning. I urge the Siting Council to reject
14 petition 1609. Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
16 Mr. Fuerst. I'll now call on MaryFran McGarry
17 please. We will then have Elaine Welnicki
18 please. MaryFran. MaryFran McGarry?

19 Okay. We'll move on to Elaine Welnicki
20 and then we'll come back to MaryFran. Elaine.

21 MS. WELNICKI: Good evening. My name is
22 Elaine Welnicki and I reside at 121 Amanda
23 Drive. We live at the bottom of the hill on
24 which TRITEC proposes to build their solar
25 facility. We have spent thousands of dollars

1 on French drains in attempt to deal with the
2 already existing high volumes of groundwater
3 coming out of the bottom of the hill. One
4 spring we measured this flow in just one spot
5 about 50 feet from our house, not the area of
6 the wetlands that abuts the house, but just in
7 the center. 800 gallons of groundwater a day
8 were coming out of the base of the hill in that
9 one spot. Think about 800 gallons a day
10 50 feet from our house. And now we learn that
11 TRITEC stormwater management plan would
12 increase the amount of stormwater flow below
13 their proposed stormwater basin. They hide
14 behind technical jargon and say that the peak
15 discharge from this site will be less than at
16 present. But what they're not telling the
17 Siting Council and the public is that the total
18 volume of water that will flow from the swales
19 to the storm basin and then to the wetlands
20 will be much greater than at present. It's
21 impossible for this not to be the case. This
22 excess volume of stormwater will overwhelm our
23 already imperfect French drains and send water
24 to our basement. I request that the Siting
25 Council ask the petitioner to provide their

1 estimate of the total volume of stormwater that
2 will enter the wetlands to the west of their
3 solar facility. Please ask them to compare
4 that total of water volume to the amount of
5 stormwater that currently flows into that
6 wetland during and following large intense
7 storms. This is the critical metric, not the
8 peak discharge. The increased stormwater that
9 enters the wetlands will wind up flowing down
10 the hill and add to the groundwater that
11 already plagues the properties at the base of
12 the hill at Amanda Drive.

13 Just as worrisome is the potential for
14 damage of our property that would occur when
15 large storms or hurricanes cause the stormwater
16 basin to overflow. Large storms are becoming
17 more frequent and more intense with climate
18 change. Last July Governor Lamont said, and I
19 Quote, These storms are biblical in terms of
20 the torrential rainfall you get and they're
21 happening more and more frequently, unquote.
22 He's right.

23 Water overflowing from the stormwater
24 basin will cascade down the hill toward my
25 house and the houses of other neighbors. The

1 physical damage that would cause would be
2 devastating. And waiting for it to happen will
3 be mentally stressful every time we have a
4 potential rainstorm. That's no way to live.
5 With this said, please don't let them build
6 this facility at 250 Carter Street. Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER MORISSETTE: Thank you,
8 Elaine. We'll go back and call on MaryFran
9 McGarry. Has MaryFran joined us?
10 Unfortunately, she's not online.

11 That concludes our public comment session
12 for this evening, so the Council announces that
13 it will continue with the evidentiary session
14 of this public hearing on Tuesday, May 21, 2024
15 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing. The
16 copy of the agenda for the continued
17 evidentiary hearing session will be available
18 on the Council's petition number 1609 web page,
19 along with the record in this matter, the
20 public hearing notice, instructions for public
21 access to the evidentiary hearing session and
22 the Counsel's Citizens Guide to Siting
23 Council's procedures.

24 Please note that anyone who has not become
25 a party or intervener but who desires to make

1 his or her views known to the Council may file
2 written statements with the Council until the
3 public comment record is closed. Copies of the
4 transcript of this hearing will be filed with
5 the Manchester Town Clerk's office.

6 I hereby declare this hearing adjourned,
7 and thank you everyone for your participation
8 this evening. Good evening.

9 [Public Comment Session was adjourned at
10 7:05 p.m.]

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1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT :
2 : CHESHIRE
3 COUNTY OF NEW HAVEN :

4 I, Elisa Ferraro, LSR, and Notary Public for the
5 State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that the
6 preceding pages of the Siting Council Hearing Public
7 Comment Session on Petition 1609 were stenographically
8 recorded by me on Thursday, May 2, 2024, commencing at
9 6:30 p.m.

10 I further certify that I am not related to
11 the parties hereto or their counsel, and that I am not
12 in any way interested in the events of said cause.

13 Dated at New Haven, Connecticut, this 7th day of
14 May 2024.

15 
16 Notary Public

17
18 My Commission Expires: December 31, 2026.
19 License No. 233
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