

STATE OF CONNECTICUT *CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL* Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: <u>siting.council@ct.gov</u> Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 4, 2024

Linda Woodall 51 Blue Ridge Drive Manchester, CT 06040 woodallwiz@gmail.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1609** – TRITEC Americas, LLC notice of election to waive exclusion from Connecticut Siting Council jurisdiction, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k(e), and petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 0.999-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 250 Carter Street, Manchester, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Linda Woodall:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your Request for a Public Hearing, dated March 3, 2024, 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,

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Melanie Bachman Executive Director

MAB/RDM/dll

c: Service List dated January 26, 2024 Council Members From: Linda Woodall <woodallwiz@gmail.com> Sent: Sunday, March 3, 2024 8:08 PM To: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov> Subject: Petition 1609

Dear Ms. Bachman:

Please find attached my letter of opposition to Petition 1609.

Linda Woodall 51 Blue Ridge Drive Manchester, CT 06040 Linda Woodall 51 Blue Ridge Drive Manchester, CT 06040

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

March 3, 2024

Dear Ms. Bachman:

## This letter is in objection to Petition 1609

It was very disturbing to find out that in our lovely quiet neighborhood we are about to be invaded by a solar facility. At 250 Carter Street they are already beginning preliminary work on getting ready for it.

This is a beautiful wooded wetlands. It is home to many wildlife, plants and trees. A great eco system helping to naturally clean our environment. It helps to feed and cleanse our drinking water supply. Now some company from California called Tritec Americas wants to come in and destroy nearly eight acres to build a 0.999megawatts solar facility! Why?

Five years ago as we were moving to Connecticut and Manchester in particular, this area of the city was considered a "very desirable" neighborhood to live in. We love the beauty, the quiet, the animals, the birds, the neighbors and the sereneness of the area. Now that is all about to be lost, because of this invasion of a low watt solar facility. Something smells rotten!

What a shock it was to find at the Manchester Planning and Zoning Commission that they (the Planning and Zoning Commission) has no authority over this permit. Instead it goes to a State Siting Council which meets in secret with anonymous members. So much for transparency in government. Reeks a little of fascism. Why can't we have a public hearing?

Why is Tritec Americas or anyone involved with this underhanded project at 250 Carter afraid to meet the neighbors? Why don't they want the public involved? What are they hiding? Or are they looking for a favor such as spot zoning?

The governor talks big about Connecticut becoming more carbon neutral and lowering our carbon footprint. Is clear cutting woodlands becoming more carbon neutral? Why not **recycle**? Recycling is a major component helping reduce carbon imprint. Why not recycle land?

Driving around Manchester there are several vacant, abandon or derelict properties. They need repurposing. Some examples:

- Board Street The old drive-in theater
- Buckland Mall The old Sears store area
- Christmas Tree Shop strip mall
- Hartford Rd and West Center where the electric power tower and grid are located

Why cut down nearly eight (8) acres of woods and wetlands and disrupt a natural eco-system for solar panels. How is that being environmentally wise? Is this really reducing our carbon footprint?

If this is an industry – Tritec Americas. Why have they not been directed to locate in an industrial park as other companies? Just how much regulation is there on Solar Companies that are building solar facilities? Surely there is a regulatory board that oversees these companies. Why is this company only asking for 0.999 megawatts on just under eight acres? Most solar companies ask for at least 1,000 megawatts and at least ten or more acres. Is there something else lurking in the shadows that slither in behind them? After all, once industry gets a foot hole, what will stop them from continuing to invade the rest of the neighborhood?

Just who benefits from this facility? Is Tritec Americas just the front name? Who will run it once it is operational? We know Eversource will get the electricity, but are they buying it? Or is this an Eversource project? Who is paying for the project? Who owns the land? Just how much electricity will this plant really contribute to helping to make our State in reducing our carbon footprint? After all this facility only has a productive life of twenty years.

We have not addressed health issued that will arise from this facility, safety issues, fire, flood, chemicals used, erosion, property values, noise, loss of animal habitat and life. Oh, yes, in their neat and tidy professional report, where we the public need not be involved, everything looks

fine and perfect. **Bull! Who** are they accountable to? And **who** do we the neighbors go to with our complaints? Will we be heard? Or will anything ever be done?

I am angry about this project. Why is this being done so underhanded? What is the real motive for this 0.999 megawatt solar photovoltaic project to be constructed at 250 Carter Street, Manchester CT? Will you hold an open meeting for this proposal, so that we the neighbors (who must live with this invader) can have a chance to voice our concerns? Or will you just rubber stamp the project without a thought of our neighborhood?

A very angry voter,

Linda Woodall