

KENNETH C. BALDWIN

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April 10, 2024

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

Re: **Petition No. 1617 - Woodstock Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC d/b/a Verogy –
Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
and Public Need is not Required for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance
of a Proposed Solar Voltaic Power Generating Facility at 11 Castle Rock Road,
Woodstock, Connecticut**

Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer's Determination

Dear Attorney Bachman:

Enclosed are fifteen (15) copies of an April 9, 2024 letter from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer confirming, after its review of the Phase 1B Survey, that “no historic properties will be affected” by the proposed development activities associated with the Woodstock Solar One facility.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

Enclosures

Copy to:

Jay Swan, Woodstock First Selectman

29326596-v1

April 9, 2024

Mr. David George
Heritage Consultants, LLC
830 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
(sent only via email to dgeorge@heritage-consultants.com)

Subject: Phase IB Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Survey
Proposed Solar Development
11 Castle Rock Road
Woodstock, Connecticut

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the report titled, *Phase IB Cultural Reconnaissance Survey of the Woodstock Solar One Project at 11 Castle Rock Road in Woodstock, Connecticut* prepared by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage), dated March 2024. The completed investigation meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*. The proposed ground mounted solar array facility and associated improvements will cover approximately 17 acres on the north side of Castle Rock Road at the referenced address. The proposed activities are under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and will require a stormwater discharge permit issued by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency through the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency. As a result, it is subject to review by this office pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

An archaeological reconnaissance survey of the Area of potential Effect (APE) was completed by Heritage in March of 2024. During the survey, a total of 76 of 79 planned shovel tests measuring 50x50 cm were excavated at 30-meter intervals along transects placed 30 meters apart throughout the APE. The three planned but unexcavated shovel tests fell within areas containing mulch piles or wetland soils not well correlated with archaeological deposits. The survey resulted in the recovery of five Postcontact period artifacts recovered from three shovel tests. Recovered artifacts included two clear curved glass shards, two clear flat glass shards, and a single yellow ware sherd. Heritage determined that the identified archaeological deposits were representative of typical low-density field scatter and were not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the information submitted to this office, it is the opinion SHPO that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed solar facility.

This office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. Do not hesitate to contact Cory Atkinson, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Reviewer, for additional information at (860) 500-2458 or cory.atkinson@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Kinney".

Jonathan Kinney
State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc (all via email): Baldwin, Robinson & Cole
Fitzgerald, Verogy

