



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 13, 2024

Paul R. Michaud, Esq.
Michaud Law Group LLC
515 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 503
Middletown, CT 06457
pmichaud@michaud.law

RE: PETITION NO. 1619 – TRITEC Americas, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.97-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at Parcel No. 27-15-7, 0 Riggs Street, Oxford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. **Incomplete Notice.**

Dear Attorney Michaud:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received the petition for a declaratory ruling for the above-referenced facility on March 8, 2024.

According to Section 16-50j-39a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, “no declaratory ruling shall be issued to any person until a complete petition containing all information deemed relevant by the Council has been filed.”

Staff has reviewed this petition for completeness and has identified a deficiency in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k(a). Effective July 1, 2017, under Public Act 17-218, Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k(a) requires, “...**for a solar photovoltaic facility with a capacity of 2 or more megawatts**, to be located on prime farmland or forestland,... the Department of Agriculture represents, in writing, to the Council, that such project will not materially affect the status of such land as prime farmland or the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection represents, in writing, to the Council that such project will not materially affect the status of such land as core forest...”

There is neither a letter from the Department of Agriculture nor the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection submitted as part of the petition for a declaratory ruling that the above-referenced proposed facility will not materially affect the status of prime farmland or core forest.

Therefore, the petition is incomplete and not in compliance with the statute at this time. The Council recommends that the petitioner either:

1. Provide written correspondence from the Department of Agriculture that the proposed facility will not materially affect the status of prime farmland and/or written correspondence from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection that the proposed facility will not materially affect the status of core forest on or before April 12, 2024. If additional time is needed to consult with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, please submit a written request for an extension of time prior to April 12, 2024; or
2. Submit the proposed project as an Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50l.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 860-827-2951.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melanie A. Bachman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melanie" being the most prominent part.

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

c: Commissioner Katie Dykes, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
(katie.dykes@ct.gov)
Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Department of Agriculture (bryan.hurlburt@ct.gov)
The Honorable George R. Temple, First Selectperson, Town of Oxford (selectman@oxford-ct.gov)
Service List dated March 8, 2024