



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 20, 2024

The Honorable Robert Brule
First Selectperson
Town of Waterford
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385-2886
rbrule@waterfordct.org

RE: **PETITION NO. 1623** - HQCA Energy Solutions, LLC Declaratory Ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility and associated equipment located at 40 Norwich Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear First Selectperson Robert Brule:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your recent correspondence concerning Petition No. 1623. Thank you for taking the time to provide the Council with the comments.

The Council considered and denied the above-referenced petition on November 8, 2024. In reaching a final decision on a petition for a declaratory ruling, the Council carefully considers all of the facts contained in the evidentiary record that is developed by the Council, the petitioner, parties and intervenors, and all of the concerns received from members of the public who submit written statements to the Council.

Please note that the Council developed a deliberate schedule to provide all persons an opportunity to participate in the proceeding.

Please also note that you can view all of the documents related to this petition on our website at <https://portal.ct.gov/csc> under the "Decisions" link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and meeting agenda.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/RDM/dll

- c. Service List, dated March 28, 2024
Council Members

FIFTEEN ROPE FERRY ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385-2886



PHONE: 860-442-0553
www.waterfordct.org

July 17, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Melanie A. Bachman, Executive Director
State of Connecticut
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: PETITION NO. 1623 – HQCA Energy Solutions, 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 4.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility and associated equipment located at 40 Norwich Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Dear Attorney Bachman:

In furtherance of our correspondence dated March 1, 2024, the Town of Waterford has received the attached letter from an abutter to the proposed battery facility referenced in Petition No. 1623. The abutter, United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Eastern CT, provides onsite services to individuals with disabilities including significant sensitivities to noise and vibration. The Town is concerned about the potential adverse consequences of this proposed project for our citizens and users of these services who are particularly vulnerable because of their special needs. We all should endeavor to identify extra measures to protect these individuals from such deleterious project impacts. The Town recommends the Siting Council to employ the strategy Waterford included in its Host Fee Agreement with a proposed data center project which required that facility could not create more noise than the current documented ambient levels in the neighborhood. Replicating this approach would protect the clients who rely on UCP's essential treatment services each day.

The Town recognizes that the applicant is presently amending its application to replace the proposed battery storage equipment and propose sound and vibration mitigation to abutting properties such as the property owned by UCP, no doubt in part because the previously proposed unit's noise levels were found to be excessive by the Council on Environmental Quality in its comments on the project. The Town of Waterford opposes the project moving forward at this particular location unless the new equipment and noise and vibration mitigation results in no increase to the ambient existing noise and vibration at the proposed site post-construction and satisfies all other Council on Environmental Quality's noise requirements.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Brule
Waterford First Selectman

Enclosure

cc: Mark J. Cooke, Esquire
Glen Padilla, HQCZ Energy Solutions, LLC
Jennifer Keatley, UCP Executive Director



United Cerebral Palsy of Eastern CT
42 Norwich Road
Quaker Hill, CT 06375
T: 860.443.3800
F: 860.443.8272
www.ucpect.org

June 12, 2024

Board of Selectmen
Town of Waterford
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Dear Members of the Board of Selectmen,

I am writing on behalf of United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Eastern Connecticut to express our deep concerns regarding the proposed construction of a battery storage facility adjacent to our property at 42 Norwich Road, Quaker Hill. Our facility serves individuals with significant disabilities, and the potential impact of the noise generated by such a facility is of great concern to us.

UCP of Eastern Connecticut has been dedicated to providing critical services and support to individuals with disabilities in our community. Our Quaker Hill location is a place of care, education, and respite for many individuals who rely on us for a safe and nurturing environment. The introduction of a battery storage facility poses several risks that could significantly disrupt our operations and the well-being of our clients.

Noise pollution is a primary concern. Many of the individuals we serve are particularly sensitive to noise, which can exacerbate their conditions and lead to increased stress, anxiety, and behavioral issues. The continuous hum or intermittent sounds from the battery storage facility could create an environment that is not only uncomfortable but potentially harmful to our clients. It is crucial for their health and well-being that we maintain a quiet and stable environment.

Additionally, there are potential safety concerns associated with the proximity of a battery storage facility. While modern facilities are designed with numerous safety measures, the risk of accidents, however minimal, cannot be completely disregarded. This poses an unacceptable risk to our vulnerable population and our dedicated staff.

We respectfully request that the Town of Waterford write a letter in opposition of the battery storage facility to the Siting Council. We believe that such a facility is better suited to a location that does not directly impact facilities that serve sensitive populations. Our commitment is to the well-being of those we serve, and we urge you to consider the potential negative consequences this project could have on our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns. We hope to work together to ensure that the needs and safety of all Waterford residents are prioritized.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keatley
Executive Director

UCP Day Program
255 Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, CT 06375

UCP Residential Program
LaTriumphe Apts.
255 Michelle Lane, Apt. 107
Groton, CT 06341
860.448.0411

Disability Support
Old Saybrook Center
590 Boston Post Road
Old saybrook, CT 06475
860.510.0677