



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

March 18, 2025

Michael Melone, Esq.
Borrelli Solar LLC
c/o Allco Renewable Energy Limited
157 Church St, 19th Floor
New Haven, CT 06510
mjmelone@allcous.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1655** – Borrelli Solar 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 1.99-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment to be located at 179 and 197 Borrelli Road, East Haven, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. **Council Interrogatories to Petitioner.**

Dear Attorney Melone:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than April 3, 2025. Please submit an original and 15 copies to the Council's office and an electronic copy to siting.council@ct.gov. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and in accordance with Section 16-50j-12 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Council requests all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Please be advised that the original and 15 copies are required to be submitted to the Council's office on or before the April 3, 2025 deadline.

Copies of your responses are required to be provided to all parties and intervenors listed in the service list, which can be found on the Council's website under the "Pending Matters" link.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melanie Bachman".

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/MP

c: Service List dated January 8, 2025

Enclosure: Revised Schedule, dated March 18, 2025



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REVISED SCHEDULE

PETITION NO. 1655 – Borrelli Solar 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 1.99-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment to be located at 179 and 197 Borrelli Road, East Haven, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Petition received	01/07/2025
Council 60-day Action – Hold Public Hearing	02/20/2025
Council Interrogatories <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set One Issued• Set One Responses due	03/18/2025 04/03/2025
Pre-hearing conference via Zoom remote conferencing - 11:00 a.m.	03/19/2025
Deadline for Exchange of Interrogatories between Parties and Intervenors	03/27/2025
Deadline for State Agency Comments	04/03/2025
Deadline for Municipal Comments	04/03/2025
Deadline for Pre-filed testimony and responses to interrogatories	04/03/2025
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	04/03/2025
Public Hearing 2:00 p.m. evidentiary session and 6:30 p.m. public comment session via Zoom remote conferencing <i>(refer to Hearing Information section on Petition No. 1655 project webpage for Zoom remote conferencing log in/call in)</i>	04/10/2025
Continued Evidentiary Session(s) <i>(if necessary)</i>	TBD
Close of Evidentiary Record	TBD
Close of Public Comment Period	TBD
Draft Findings of Fact	TBD
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	TBD
Deadline for Final Decision	07/06/2025

Petition No. 1655
Borrelli Solar LLC
179 and 197 Borrelli Road, East Haven, Connecticut

Interrogatories to Petitioner
March 18, 2025

Notice

1. Has Borrelli Solar LLC (BSL) received any comments since the petition was submitted to the Council? If yes, summarize the comments and how these comments were addressed.

Public Benefit

2. Referencing Petition p. 20, is the NRES Tariff Terms Agreement (TTA) with The United Illuminating Company (UI) for the entire facility output?
3. Referencing Petition p. 20, would UI purchase the electricity, capacity and renewable energy certificates for the facility?

Project Development

4. What is the estimated cost of the project?
5. Is the project, or any portion of the project, proposed to be undertaken by state departments, institutions or agencies, or to be funded in whole or in part by the state through any contract or grant?
6. If BSL transfers the facility to another entity, would BSL provide the Council with a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any outstanding conditions of the Declaratory Ruling and quarterly assessment charges under CGS §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility, including contact information for the individual acting on behalf of the transferee?
7. Would BSL construct the facility if the solar array area footprint was reduced and/or if the facility design features (ex. row spacing, panel height, etc.) were modified? Explain.

Proposed Site

8. Pursuant to CGS §16-50o, submit a copy of the unredacted lease for the proposed site. A motion for protective order may be submitted for any confidential/proprietary information.
9. Referencing Petition p. 19, what are the favorable characteristics of the selected site? Identify the locations of other properties that were investigated and why they were less favorable than the selected site.
10. If the project is sold and/or transferred to another entity, would the sale and/or transfer include management and maintenance of the agricultural activity areas?
11. Provide the distance, direction and address of the nearest property line and nearest off-site residence from the solar panels.

Proposed Facility and Associated Equipment

12. Provide specification sheets for the proposed solar panels, inverters and transformer, if available.

13. Referencing Petition p. 8, an 8-foot tall fence is proposed. Sheet 13 of Exhibit A depicts a 7-foot tall fence. Please clarify the correct fence height. Would the proposed fence comply with the National Electrical Code and/or the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC)?
14. Referencing Petition p. 8, BSL notes that the fence would surround the facility. However, Sheet 2 of Exhibit A appears to only depict a fence along the southern limits of the facility near Borrelli Road. Please clarify and/or provide a corrected fence plan on a drawing.
15. Referencing Petition Exhibit A, Sheet 6, provide the length of the proposed gravel access drive.
16. Would the wiring from the panels to the inverters be installed on the racking system? If wiring is external, how would it be protected from potential damage from weather exposure, vegetation maintenance, or animals?

Energy Output

17. Would BSL participate in an ISO-NE Forward Capacity Auction? If yes, which auction(s) and capacity commitment period(s)?
18. If the facility operates beyond the terms of the NRES TTA, will BSL decommission the facility or seek other revenue mechanisms for the power produced by the facility?
19. Referencing Petition p. 19, does BSL still intend to perform a shading study and if so, when?

Electrical Interconnection

20. Referencing Petition p. 24 and Exhibit O, BSL included its Interconnection Agreement with UI. Was a distribution system impact study performed before such agreement? Explain.
21. Does the interconnection require a review from ISO-NE?
22. Will the interconnection provide energy to a substation? If yes, which one?
23. Referencing Petition Exhibit A, Sheet 6, four new utility poles would be installed. What are the approximate heights above grade of these poles? Provide the approximate horizontal spacing between the poles. Which equipment would be installed on each pole? Which of the four poles would be BSL-owned? Which of the four poles would be UI-owned?
24. Referencing Petition Exhibit A, Sheet 6, would the northern-most pole be a riser pole to convert the underground electrical interconnection line to overhead?
25. Has BSL discussed with UI the possibility of reducing/minimizing the number of utility poles required for the interconnection? Explain.

Public Health and Safety

26. Referencing Petition p. 21, would the project comply with the current NESC and National Fire Protection Association codes and standards, as applicable?
27. Referencing Petition p. 6, is the width of the proposed access road adequate to accommodate emergency vehicles and construction vehicles?

28. What type of media and/or specialized equipment would be necessary to extinguish a solar panel/electrical component fire?
29. What is the distance of the nearest municipal fire hydrant to the proposed facility? What alternative water sources are available to the fire department? How would water be brought to the site in the event of a fire?
30. Would firewater or other runoff from a solar panel/electrical fire be considered hazardous and require cleanup by a hazardous materials response contractor?
31. Please submit an Emergency Response Plan.
32. Referencing the Town Fire Department Comments dated February 5, 2025, please respond to the following:
 - a) Could a Knox padlock be installed at the gate to provide 24-hour emergency access for the fire department?
 - b) Could a 12-foot width be maintained for the entire proposed access drive?
 - c) Could the access drive be extended to loop back into itself or contain a turnaround?
 - d) Could at least 10 feet of brush-free area be maintained around the solar arrays?
 - e) Where would comprehensive safety-related signage be installed at the site?
 - f) Could emergency lighting be provided around the disconnect or any other areas that need to be de-energized?
33. Would notice to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) be necessary for the temporary use of a crane during construction?
34. Could the equipment pads be moved farther from the abutting property line to the west? What noise mitigation measure could be employed to ensure compliance with DEEP Noise Control Standards at the property lines?
35. Referencing Petition p. 19, provide a Sheep Grazing Plan that includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Identification of flock protection animals such as dogs, llamas or donkeys, if necessary;
 - b. How many days per week would Vineyard Sky Farms Corp./sheep manager visit the site?
 - c. How would sheep be managed if electrical contractors/personnel were dispatched to the site for nonscheduled maintenance or emergency repair work?
 - d. How would sheep be managed in the event of an emergency?
 - e. Provide a copy of a sample sign for contact information for the sheep manager and DOAg Animal Control Officer and the location where the sign would be prominently displayed on the fence.
 - f. How would water be provided at the site for the sheep?
36. Has the soil at the proposed facility site been tested to ensure it is suitable for sheep grazing?
37. How many acre-feet of storage would each proposed stormwater basin have? Has BSL consulted with DEEP Dam Safety program regarding permitting requirements, if any, for the proposed stormwater basins?
38. Are there any wells on the site or in the vicinity of the site? If so, how would BSL protect the wells and/or water quality from construction impacts? What best management practices would be employed to protect the Saltonstall Reservoir System?
39. Would blasting be expected to construct the proposed facility (e.g. excavation for stormwater basins)?

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

40. What is the total disturbance area (in acres) for the proposed facility? Of this total area, approximately how many acres are each of the two solar array areas?
41. Referencing Petition p. 6, approximately 3.75 acres of trees would be cleared to construct the proposed facility. Petition p. 14 notes that 1.71 acres of trees would be cleared to construct the proposed facility. Please clarify the correct tree clearing acreage.
42. Are there any known northern long-eared bat hibernacula within 0.25 miles or known maternity roost trees within 150 feet of the limit of disturbance?
43. Referencing Petition p. 17 and Exhibit A, Sheet 6, arborvitae would be planted along the southwestern limits of the facility site. Has BSL considered a native, deer-resistant species for landscape plantings?
44. Is the proposed facility located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency-designated 100-year or 500-year flood zone?
45. Is the proposed facility located within a DEEP-designated Aquifer Protection Area?
46. Referencing Petition p. 22, what is the status of the DEEP General Permit (Stormwater Permit)?
47. Referencing Petition p. 18 and Exhibit A – Sheets 2 to 6, a 50-foot buffer between the wetlands and the solar panels is proposed. Would the proposed Project comply with Appendix I of the DEEP Stormwater Permit? Explain. If no, could the proposed facility be modified to comply with Appendix I requirements?
48. Has a stormwater management report (i.e. stormwater analysis/calculations) been prepared? If yes, provide a copy of such report.
49. Referencing Petition p. 8, was the preliminary design of the Project at least 50 percent complete as of March 2024? If not, would construction comply with the *Connecticut Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines* and *Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*, effective March 30, 2024?
50. Provide a Spill Prevention Plan.
51. Submit photographic site documentation with notations linked to the site plans or a detailed aerial image that identify locations of site-specific and representative site features. The submission should include photographs of the site from public road(s) or publicly accessible area(s) as well as Site-specific locations depicting site features including, but not necessarily limited to, the following locations as applicable:

For each photo, please indicate the photo viewpoint direction and stake or flag the locations of site-specific and representative site features. Site-specific and representative site features include, but are not limited to, as applicable:

1. wetlands, watercourses and vernal pools;
2. forest/forest edge areas;
3. agricultural soil areas;
4. sloping terrain;
5. proposed stormwater control features;
6. nearest residences;
7. Site access and interior access road(s);
8. utility pads/electrical interconnection(s);
9. clearing limits/property lines;
10. mitigation areas; and
11. any other noteworthy features relative to the Project.

A photolog graphic must accompany the submission, using a site plan or a detailed aerial image, depicting each numbered photograph for reference. For each photo, indicate the photo location number and viewpoint direction, and clearly identify the locations of site-specific and representative site features shown (e.g., physical staking/flagging or other means of marking the subject area).

Facility Construction

52. How would construction traffic be managed during construction?
53. Provide the amounts of cut and fill (in cubic yards) to develop the proposed facility. If there is excess cut material, would this material be removed from the site or deposited on the site? Explain.
54. What are Best Management Practices for constructing solar facilities on brownfields?

Facility Maintenance/Decommissioning

55. Has the manufacturer of the proposed solar panels conducted Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) testing to determine if the panels would be characterized as hazardous waste at the time of disposal under current regulatory criteria? If so, submit information that indicates the proposed solar modules would not be characterized as hazardous waste. If not, would BSL agree to install solar panels that are not classified as hazardous waste through TCLP testing?