

Exhibit F
NDDB
Determination



Connecticut
Department of Energy &
Environmental Protection

portal.ct.gov/DEEP

4/24/2025

Blake Nicholson
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Subject: Branford Solar

Filing #: 126983

NDDB - New Determination Number: 202503229

Expiration Date: 4/24/2027

I have reviewed the application and materials associated with the above project. The following listed species are found within the vicinity of your project area:

- Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) – Federally Endangered, State Endangered
- Tri-colored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) – State Endangered

The presence of northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a federally endangered and state endangered species, may require consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Field Office in order to be in compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act as your proposed project requires federal permits or uses federal funds. For more information on federal requirements visit:

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/>

Given that your construction timeline indicates that work will occur during the fall, I anticipate no impacts to listed bat species. However, should a delay occur in your schedule and require a time of year change, the following protection measures must be implemented:

- Do not conduct tree clearing activities **May 15 - July 21** to protect the critical period for flightless tree roosting bat pups.
- Between **April 1 - October 31**, apply soft start techniques to allow bats to move out of the area before tree clearing begins.
 - Heavy equipment activity shall be introduced with a short initial representative action, the activity should then pause for 20 min to allow animals to leave the area before activity resumes.

The best management practices listed below will benefit bat species within your project area and the surrounding community:

- Preserving natural roosting resources (safety permitting) including snags, trees with cavities, cracks or crevices, trees with exfoliating bark (e.g. shagbark hickory), coniferous trees (e.g. tamarack, hemlock, white pine) as well as preserving talus slopes
- Identifying and protecting summer roosts in man-made structures, such as barns

- Providing artificial roost structures (i.e., bat houses) and promoting their use in the surrounding community
- Minimizing erosion and maintaining clean and open water resources free of siltation
- Protecting native vegetation which promotes insect availability and diversity
- Preserving habitat corridors to allow bats to freely move among roosting, watering and foraging areas

Your submission information indicates that your project requires a state permit, license, registration, or authorization, or utilizes state funding or involves state agency action. This NDDB - New determination may be utilized to fulfill the Endangered and Threatened Species requirements for state-issued permit applications, licenses, registration submissions, and authorizations.

Please be aware of the following limitations and conditions:

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding listed species available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, land owners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Database and accessed through the ezFile portal as it becomes available. New information may result in additional review, and new or modified restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

- During your work listed species may be encountered on site. A report must be submitted by the observer to the Natural Diversity Database promptly and additional review and restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. Please fill out the [appropriate survey form](#) and follow the instructions for submittal.
- Your project involves the state permit application process or other state involvement, including state funding or state agency actions; please note that consultations with your permit analyst or the agency may result in additional requirements. In this situation, additional evaluation of the proposal by the DEEP Wildlife Division may be necessary and additional information, including but not limited to species-specific site surveys, may be required. Any additional review may result in specific restrictions or conditions relating to listed species that may be found at or in the vicinity of the site.
- If your project involves preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment, this NDDB consultation and determination should not be substituted for biological field surveys assessing on-site habitat and species presence.
- The NDDB - New determination for the Branford Solar as described in the submitted information and summarized at the end of this document is valid until 4/24/2027. This determination applies only to the project as described in the submission and summarized at the end of this letter. Please re-submit an updated Request for Review if the project's scope of work and/or timeframe changes, including if work has not begun by 4/24/2027.

If you have further questions, please contact me at the following:

Anna Toledo
CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division
Natural Diversity Database
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Anna.Toledo@ct.gov

Please reference the Determination Number 202503229 when you e-mail or write. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Anna Toledo
Wildlife Division- Natural Diversity Data Base
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Application Details:

Project involves federal funds or federal permit:	Yes
Project involves state funds, state agency action, or relates to CEPA request:	No
Project requires state permit, license, registration, or authorization:	Yes
DEEP enforcement action related to project:	
Project Type:	Energy and Utility Production Facilities and Distribution Infrastructure
Project Sub-type:	Solar Energy
Project Name:	Branford Solar
Project Description:	