Exhibit G SHPO Letter



Department of Economic and Community Development

State Historic Preservation Office

December 28, 2020

Mr. Blake Nicholson Jefferson Solar, LLC 222 South 9th Street, Suite 1600 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Subject: Solar Facility

121 West Pond Road

North Branford, Connecticut

ENV-21-0335

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the submittal for the above mentioned project. The proposed activities are under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and are subject to review by this office pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). The proposed undertaking includes the construction of a solar photovoltaic generation facility, which is to occupy an approximately 11.5 acre project area located at 121 West Pond Road.

No previously recorded archaeological sites are located within 500 feet of the project area. Similarly, no properties listed or formally determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are located within 500 feet of the project area. Soil profiles of the area are categorized as low sloping, though very stony. The project area is also located on a glacial moraine, and is unlikely to contain significant intact archaeological deposits.

As a result of the information submitted, the subject property does not appear to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the information provided to this office, <u>no historic properties will be affected</u>. However, please be advised that if construction plans change to include previously uninvestigated/undisturbed areas, this office should be contacted for additional consultation.

This office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. For additional information, please contact Marena Wisniewski, Environmental Reviewer, at (860) 500-2357 or marena.wisniewski@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State Historic Preservation OfficeDepartment of Economic and Community Development



December 26, 2024

Blake Nicholson
Ecos Energy, LLC
80 S 8th Street, Suite 900
Minneapolis, MN 55404
(sent via email only to blake.nicholson@ecosrenewable.com)

Subject: North Branford Solar

121 West Pond Road North Branford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed your request for information concerning the potential effects to historic properties associated with the referenced project. SHPO understands that the proposed solar facility will entail the construction of an unspecified number of ground-mounted solar panels within a larger 18-acre site with access from both Maple Road and West Pond Road. As described in your submission, the project will entail clearing, grading, installation of a perimeter fence, trenching, driving of steel h-beams to support the racking system, landscaping, and other related facility needs. The proposed activities are under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and may also require a Stormwater Discharge permit issued by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection through the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency. Therefore, the project may also be subject to review by this office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

SHPO notes that the subject property appears to be a gently sloping, wooded parcel surrounded by residential neighborhoods. Although no properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places have been documented within or immediately adjacent to the project area, the project parcel retains environmental characteristics associated with archaeological sites. Therefore, SHPO is requesting that a professional archaeological assessment and reconnaissance survey be completed prior to construction. Areas that will not be developed do not need to be tested. Subsurface testing should evaluate all areas of anticipated ground disturbance unless sufficient research or fieldwork documents that this level of effort is unwarranted. All work should be in compliance with our *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* and no construction or other project-related ground disturbance should be initiated until SHPO has had an opportunity to review and comment upon the requested survey. A list of qualified consultants is attached for your convenience.

SHPO appreciates the opportunity to comment upon this project and we look forward to continuing consultation. Do not hesitate to contact Catherine Labadia, Staff Archaeologist and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, for additional information at (860) 500-2329 or catherine.labadia@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney

State Historic Preservation Officer