

Ian Gottheim

From: Bilyard, Jessica <Jessica.Bilyard@ct.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 1:33 PM
To: Steve Kochis; Darius Baskys; Brad Parsons; Ian Gottheim; James Cerkowicz
Cc: Dinh, Brian; DiDomenico, Jordan; Hammerling, Eric; Garrison, Laschone P; DEEP
Subject: Pre-Application Meeting Summary: Willington Solar Array

It was a pleasure to meet with you on July 1, 2025 regarding your current proposed activity. Thank you to all who attended.

If you could help us improve our pre-application process by completing [this quick survey](#), we would appreciate it!

In summary, the applicant, Willington Solar One, is proposing to construct a 1.975 MW AC ground-mounted solar array on the ± 20-acre property located at 41-43 Lohse Rd in Willington. Approximately 10 acres are estimated to be disturbed for construction. The applicants propose to lease the project area from the property owner. Wetlands are located on the property however the panels are proposed to be located greater than 100-ft from wetlands, and site disturbance is proposed to be greater than 50-ft from wetlands. There is an existing culvert beneath the access road, and the applicants don't anticipate any need for improvements. Stormwater detention basins are proposed which may impound water above grade.

Based upon the information presented at the meeting, a summary of the possible permitting requirements is as follows:

Stormwater Program: your contact is Brian Dinh.

- For disturbance of land over 1 acre and energy generation of 1MW or greater, regardless of phasing, the applicant would need to register under DEEP's [stormwater construction general permit](#) as a locally exempt project at least 60 days before beginning construction. The applicant will need to [submit their registration](#) through ezFile. Please refer to the [Stormwater Quality Manual](#), [Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control](#), and stormwater guidance for solar projects in [Appendix I of the Construction Stormwater General Permit](#) to address specific details.

Environmental Review and Strategic Initiatives (ERSI): your contacts are Jordan DiDomenico, Eric Hammerling, and Laschone Garrison.

- Visual and noise screening should be provided when necessary to avoid public concerns on the project.
- Specifications for perimeter fencing should maintain a 6-inch gap at the bottom for small wildlife crossings.
- Once there is a filing with the CT Siting Council you may be hearing from ERSI to schedule a site visit.

Dam Safety Program.

- Dams and Berms created above the existing ground level need to be registered with the Office of Dam Safety regardless of the hazard class or storage capacity. The hazard classification will be

determined by what is located downstream of the proposed structure and what would be damaged (inundated/ flooded) in case that structure fails. If the proposed stormwater basin(s) are below grade then a Dam Registration will not be required.

- To request a Dam Registration Form please contact the Dam Safety Regulatory Office at DEEP.DamSafety@ct.gov and refer to the [Dam Safety Regulatory Program page](#) for further guidance.

If the project plans change and improvements to the existing culvert, or any other wetland impacts are anticipated, please reach out to Jessica Bilyard to schedule a follow-up pre-application meeting with the Land and Water Resources Division (LWRD).

Please contact us if you have further questions. I have copied everyone who was in attendance at the meeting.

Thanks,
Jessica

Jessica A. Bilyard (she/her)

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