

Exhibit D – CT DEEP NDDB Final Determination Letter



11/20/2025

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Subject: Exley Road Solar Plainfield

Filing #: 128518

NDDB - New Determination Number: 202503863

Expiration Date: 11/20/2027

Location Description: Exley Road Solar, 0 Exley Road (Parcel ID: 002-053A-0058) in Plainfield, Connecticut

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base maps and files regarding the proposed Exley Road Solar, 0 Exley Road (Parcel ID: 002-053A-0058) in Plainfield, Connecticut.

According to our information there are known extant populations of State Endangered and Special Concern species that occur within the vicinity of this property. These species include:

State Listed Plant Species

Aristida purpurascens (Arrowfeather) - State Status: Endangered

Crocanthemum propinquum (Low frostweed) - State Status: Special Concern

Lygodium palmatum (Climbing fern)- State Special Concern

Prunus alleghaniensis (Alleghany plum) - State Status: Special Concern (Historic)

We received a State-Listed Plant Species Survey Report Arrowfeather (*Aristida purpurascens*), Low frostweed (*Crocanthemum propinquum*), Climbing fern (*Lygodium palmatum*), Alleghany plum (*Prunus alleghaniensis*), Whip nutrush (*Scleria triglomerata*) Plainfield Solar One Project 0 Exley Road, Plainfield developed by Davison Environmental and dated November 7, 2025. None of the state listed species were observed at the project site. The NDDB accepts and concurs with the results of the state-listed plant species report. The NDDB Program does not anticipate adverse impacts to state listed plant species and no further protection or conservation is needed.

State Listed Animal Species

Scaphiopus holbrookii (Eastern spadefoot) – State Endangered

Bufo fowleri (Fowler's toad) - State Special Concern

Ambystoma laterale (Blue-spotted salamander “Diploid” Population) – State Endangered

Terrapene carolina carolina (Eastern box turtle) - State Special Concern

Glyptemys insculpta (wood turtle) – State Special Concern

Opheodrys vernalis (Smooth green snake) – State Special Concern

Thamnophis sauritus (Eastern ribbon snake) - State Special Concern

Heterodon platirhinos (Eastern hognose snake) – State Special Concern

We received a Final Report Eastern Spadefoot Habitat Assessment and Nocturnal Species Surveys Exley Road Solar Plainfield Filing #: 128518 0 Exley Road (Parcel ID: 002-053A-0058) Plainfield, Connecticut prepared by

Dennis P. Quinn of Quinn Ecological, LLC. No state listed amphibians or reptiles were observed during the field surveys. The NDDDB accepts this report and concurs with the conclusions. The NDDDB Program does not anticipate adverse impacts to state listed amphibians and reptiles and no further conservation actions are needed.

State Listed Freshwater Mussels

Margaritifera margaritifera (Eastern pearlshell) – State Special Concern

The NDDDB Program accepts and concurs with the protection strategies proposed in a memo dated 11/19/2025 from Anthony Capuano for freshwater mussels that may occur in this area.

The protection measures will include:

- A qualified Inspector will be on-site within 24 hours of storm events with 0.5 inches of precipitation or more to inspect sedimentation and erosion controls to ensure that they continue to function as intended.
- Stock-piled soils to be situated at least 10 feet from the watercourse and within sedimentation and erosion control devices.
- Water quality standards will be addressed as the change in ground cover from orchard (woods/grass combination) and poor brush to a grassed meadow will mitigate peak runoff flows, as well as treat the Water Quality Volume (WQv) due to simple impervious disconnection per CT DEEP requirements.
- No vegetation will be removed from the 100ft buffer of any waterways.
- Turf grass and impervious surface will be minimal in the surrounding watershed.

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 NDDDB - 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 NDDDB consultation and determination should not be substituted for biological field surveys assessing on-site habitat and species presence.
- The NDDDB - New determination for the Exley Road Solar Plainfield as described in the submitted information and summarized at the end of this document is valid until 11/20/2027. 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 11/20/2027.

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

Dawn McKay
CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division
Natural Diversity Database
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
(860) 424-3592
Dawn.McKay@ct.gov

Please reference the Determination Number 202503863 when you e-mail or write. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Dawn McKay
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Application Details:

Project involves federal funds or federal permit:	No
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:	
Project Sub-type:	Solar Energy
Project Name:	Exley Road Solar Plainfield
Project Description:	Proposed 4.0 MW solar array with associated equipment, gravel access drive, and chain link fence