

June 13, 2025

Dr. Gregory F. Walwer  
Archaeological Consulting Services  
118 Whitfield Street  
Guilford, CT 06437  
(sent only via email to [acsinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:acsinfo@yahoo.com))

Subject: Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of a Proposed Solar Development  
Exley Road  
Plainfield, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Gregory F. Walwer:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) received the technical report prepared by Archaeological Consulting Services (ACS) titled *Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey: Proposed Solar Photovoltaic Array, Exley Road, Town of Plainfield, Connecticut* dated June 2025. The completed investigation meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*. SHPO understands that the proposed project will consist of the construction of a new solar facility including associated infrastructure on a parcel measuring 58.2 acres at the referenced address. Because the project will require approval from the Connecticut Siting Council, it is subject to review by this office.

An archaeological assessment survey of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project previously completed by ACS in March of 2025. The survey concluded, and a subsequent pedestrian survey confirmed, that portions of the project area retained a moderate to high archaeological sensitivity to contain intact archaeological deposits. A subsequent archaeological reconnaissance survey was completed by ACS in May and June of 2025. During survey, 133 planned shovel tests were excavated at 15-meter intervals along transects placed 15 meters apart throughout archaeologically sensitive portions the APE. The field effort resulted in the recovery of 25 artifacts from the plowzone within 18 shovel tests. Recovered artifacts included a quartz preform, four clear window glass shards, three aqua window glass shards, a clear bottle glass shard, a green bottle glass shard, four whiteware sherds, an ironstone sherd, a window sash lock, an eyebolt, a lead bullet, six coal fragments, and an ox shoe. Four additional shovel tests placed around the quartz preform failed to produce additional evidence of Precontact cultural material or features. ACS concluded that the identified archaeological deposits were not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the information submitted to this office, it is the opinion of SHPO that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed solar facility and no additional archaeological investigation is warranted. This comment is conditional upon the submission of two bound copies of the final report; one will be kept for use in the office and the other will be transferred to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut (Storrs) for permanent archiving and public accessibility.

This office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. Do not hesitate to contact Cory Atkinson, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Reviewer, for additional information at (860) 500-2458 or [cory.atkinson@ct.gov](mailto:cory.atkinson@ct.gov).

Sincerely,



Jonathan Kinney  
State Historic Preservation Officer