

DRAFT

September 18, 2020

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 492** – Gravel Pit Solar application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 120-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on eight parcels generally located to the east and west of the Amtrak and Connecticut Rail Line, south of Apothecaries Hall Road and north of the South Windsor town boundary in East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection.

I. Introduction

The application is from Gravel Pit Solar for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 120 MW solar facility in the Town of East Windsor. The Town of South Windsor is within 2,500 feet of the proposed facility.

II. Technical

The application conforms to the Council's *Application Guide for a Renewable Energy Facility* dated April 2010, includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed facility, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

All service and filing requirements pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) § 16-50l (b) have been fulfilled. Notice to the general public was published in the *Hartford Courant* on September 4, 2020.

IV. Procedural

Pursuant to CGS §16-50m, the Council must schedule a public hearing not less than 30 days and no more than 150 days after receipt of an application. At least one public hearing session shall be held after 6:30 PM for the convenience of the general public. The Council must also designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. In accordance with CGS §16-50m and Governor Lamont's March 14, 2020 Executive Order No. 7B, staff recommends holding a remote public hearing via Zoom conferencing on November 12, 2020, and depositing the transcript in the East Windsor and South Windsor Town Halls.

Siting Analyst: Michael Perrone

Enclosure: Schedule



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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SCHEDULE

DOCKET NO. 492 – Gravel Pit Solar application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 120-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on eight parcels generally located to the east and west of the Amtrak and Connecticut Rail Line, south of Apothecaries Hall Road and north of the South Windsor town boundary in East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection.

Application received	07/31/20
Completeness review	09/24/20
Council Interrogatories <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set-One Filed• Set-One responses due	10/02/20 10/23/20
Pre-hearing tele-conference 11:00 a.m.	09/30/20
Final Exchange of Interrogatories between Participants	10/29/20
Deadline for Pre-filed Testimony and Responses to Interrogatories	11/05/20
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	11/05/20
Public Hearing 2:00 p.m. evidentiary session and 6:30 p.m. public comment session via Zoom conferencing (refer to Hearing Information section on Docket 492 project webpage for Zoom conferencing log in/call in)	11/12/20
Continued Evidentiary Session(s) (if necessary)	TBD
Close of Evidentiary Record	11/12/20
Close of Public Comment Period	12/12/20
Draft Findings of Fact	12/17/20
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	01/07/21
Deadline for Decision	01/27/21
90-day extension of Deadline for Decision per Executive Order No. 7DDD	04/27/21

Siting Analyst: Michael Perrone