

September 18, 2020

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director

RE: **PETITION NO. 1425** – Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

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#### I. Introduction

The petition is from Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt alternating current solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. The Town of Bethany is within 2,500 feet of the proposed facility.

#### II. Technical

The petition conforms to the Council's guide for *Petition for a Declaratory Ruling for a Renewable Energy Facility* dated August 2016, includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed project, costs, and the environmental effects of the proposed construction. The petition meets statutory and regulatory technical requirements for processing the petition. This project would not require an outside consultant.

#### III. Administrative Review

All service and filing requirements pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 16-50j-39 have been fulfilled.

#### IV. Procedural

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-176(e), within 60 days after receipt of a petition for a declaratory ruling, an agency in writing shall: (1) issue a declaratory ruling; (2) hold a public hearing on the matter; (3) decide to issue a declaratory ruling by a specified date; (4) decide to initiate regulation making proceedings; or (5) decide not to issue a declaratory ruling.

In response to requests for a public hearing on this petition, the Council voted to hold a public hearing during the Council meeting held on September 10, 2020. The Council must designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends holding the public hearing via Zoom Conferencing on November 17, 2020 and depositing the transcript in the Hamden and Bethany Town Halls.

Siting Analyst: Fred Cunliffe

Enclosure: Schedule

## SCHEDULE

**PETITION NO. 1425** – Gaylord Mountain Solar Project 2019, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 360 Gaylord Mountain Road in Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection.

Petition received	08/07/20
Council Interrogatories	
• Set One Issued	09/28/20
• Set One Responses due	10/19/20
<b>Council 60-day Action – Hold Public Hearing</b>	<b>09/10/20</b>
Pre-hearing teleconference (11:00 a.m.)	10/07/20
Final Exchange of Interrogatories between Participants	11/03/20
Deadline for Pre-filed testimony and responses to interrogatories	11/10/20
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	11/10/20
<b>Public Hearing 2:00 p.m. evidentiary session and 6:30 p.m. public comment session via Zoom conferencing</b> <i>(refer to Hearing Information section on the Petition 1425 project webpage for Zoom conferencing log in/call in)</i>	<b>11/17/20</b>
Continued Public Hearing Session(s)	TBD
Close of Evidentiary Record	11/17/20
Close of Public Comment Record	12/17/20
Draft Findings of Fact	12/17/20
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	01/14/21
<b>Deadline for Decision</b>	<b>02/03/21</b>
<b>90-day extension of Deadline for Decision per Executive Order No. 7DDD</b>	<b>05/04/21</b>

Siting Analyst: Fred Cunliffe