



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of November 5, 2020

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, November 5, 2020. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Presiding Officer Robert Silvestri at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Robert Silvestri
Presiding Officer
Edward Edelson
Michael Harder
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Gillett)
Nicole Lugli
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
John Morissette

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Fred Cunliffe
Supervising Siting Analyst
Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo
Siting Analyst

Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of October 22, 2020.

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2020; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed with Ms. Lugli abstaining.

2. **DOCKET NO. 489 – The First Taxing District Water Department of Norwalk application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 173 ½ West Rocks Road, Norwalk, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Silvestri conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Morissette, Mr. Edelson, Mr. Lynch, Ms. Lugli, Mr. Harder, and Mr. Silvestri in favor of the proposed project; and Mr. Nguyen abstaining.

Presiding Officer Silvestri directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

3. **PETITION NO. 1347A – GRE GACRUX 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 16.78-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 117 Oil Mill Road and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy’s existing substation at 325 Waterford Parkway North in Waterford, Connecticut. Reopening of this petition based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Edelson is recused from this matter.

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order, as amended; seconded by Ms. Lugli. The motion passed with Mr. Edelson recusing; Mr. Nguyen and Mr. Lynch abstaining; and Mr. Harder voting no.

4. **PETITION NO. 1421 - Bristol Solar One, 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 3.25 megawatt AC solar photovoltaic generating facility located at 399 Hill Street, Bristol, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional condition that the petitioner submit a Development and Management Plan for the project per Sections 16-50j-60 through 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies with the inclusion of a Landscaping Plan for Council approval; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **PETITION NO. 1432 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a small cell wireless telecommunications facility on a new approximately 30-foot privately-owned light pole to be located at the Goshen Fair Grounds, 116 Old Middle Street, Goshen, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Lynch moved to approve this petition with the condition noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **PETITION NO. 1436 - Groton Utilities petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 1.7 miles of its existing 115-kilovolt (kV)/69-kV 1410/400 double-circuit electric transmission line and 115-kV 1280-single-circuit electric transmission line within existing Groton Utilities electric transmission line right-of-way between the Groton/Ledyard town line and Buddington Substation located north of Gold Star Highway in Groton, Connecticut, and related transmission line and substation improvements. Motion for Protective Order.**

Mr. Lynch moved to grant the motion for the protective order; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **TS-EVER-102-200922 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 350B Cossaduck Hill Road, North Stonington, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Morissette moved to approve this tower share request with the condition that approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff and with the recommendation that Eversource consider reducing the size of the 1,000-gallon propane fuel tank associated with the emergency backup generator; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **TS-VER-131-201005 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 435 Mill Street, Southington, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve this tower share request with the condition that approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- Petition No. 1410, Tuesday, November 10, 2020, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing
- Docket No. 492, Thursday, November 12, 2020, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing
- Petition No. 1425, Tuesday, November 17, 2020, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing
- Energy/Telecommunications telemeeting, Thursday, November 19, 2020, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**

Adjournment.

Mr. Edelson moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf