



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
*CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL*

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**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting of February 25, 2021**

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, February 25, 2021. 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)  
Robert Hannon  
(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 February 11, 2021.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2021; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. DOCKET NO. 487 - Homeland Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 183 Soundview Lane, New Canaan, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Development and Management Plan; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen and Mr. Harder abstaining.

3. **DOCKET NO. 491 - Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 110 Yantic Lane, Norwich, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **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. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Harder moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **DOCKET NO. 496 - Tarpon Towers II, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 800 Prospect Hill Road, Windsor, Connecticut. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Morissette moved to grant Intervenor status to T-Mobile Northeast LLC; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **PETITION NO. 1347A - GRE GACRUX LLC 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). Request to Commence Tree Clearing.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Request to Commence Tree Clearing with the additional conditions that tree clearing activities shall conclude no later than March 31; an environmental monitor shall be on-site during tree clearing; and that the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan be revised with the following provisions: leaky vehicles and equipment will not be allowed on site, vehicles and equipment that are determined to be leaking be removed from the site for repair, and that all leaks, fuel overfills, and spills will be contained and cleaned up immediately; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen and Mr. Harder abstaining.

7. **PETITION NO. 1421 - Bristol Solar One, LLC 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. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the recommendation that the installation of the temporary electric fence for each paddock area not cause an impediment to facility operation and maintenance or access for emergency responders; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **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 Groton/Ledyard town line and Buddington Substation located north of Gold Star Highway in Groton, Connecticut, and related transmission line and substation improvements. Decision.**

Mr. Morissette moved to approve this petition with the condition noted in the staff report and the additional condition that an environmental monitor oversee construction in sensitive resource areas; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- Petition No. 1426, Tuesday, March 2, 2021, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 496, Thursday, March 4, 2021, **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, March 11, 2021, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**
- Docket No. 497, Tuesday, March 23, 2021, **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, March 25, 2021, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment.**

Mr. Lynch moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously. Presiding Officer Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Melanie A. Bachman**  
**Executive Director**

MAB/laf