



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of March 11, 2021

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

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the Minutes of February 25, 2021; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **PETITION NO. 1385 - Cobb Road, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.95-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 11.16 acres located at 20-1 Short Hills Road, Old Lyme, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Partial Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the partial Development and Management Plan with the recommendation to limit Sunday work hours when feasible; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **PETITION NO. 1395A - Windham Solar LLC amended petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of one 1.0-megawatt (MW) and one 0.99 MW solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities located at 31 Benz Street, Ansonia, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion failed with Mr. Edelson, Mr. Nguyen, and Mr. Hannon voting in favor of the proposed project; Mr. Morissette and Mr. Lynch voting to deny without prejudice; Mr. Harder voting to deny; and Mr. Silvestri voting to deny with prejudice.

Mr. Harder moved to deny this petition with prejudice; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed with Mr. Edelson, Mr. Nguyen and Mr. Hannon voting no.

4. **PETITION NO. 1397 – Constitution Solar, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 20-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 149 acres comprised of four separate parcels located off of Cornell Road in Plainfield, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Mr. Silvestri voting no.

5. **PETITION NO. 1417 – DG Connecticut Solar II, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.975 megawatt AC solar photovoltaic generating facility located at 669 Platt Road, Watertown, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the condition noted in the staff report and granted DG Connecticut Solar II, LLC relief from compliance with Condition

No. 2 of the Council's December 3, 2020 Declaratory Ruling due to the implementation of site stabilization and protection practices required by its DEEP Stormwater Permit; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **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. Draft Findings of Fact.**

Mr. Silvestri asked Mr. Morissette to preside over this item.

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Mr. Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Edelson and Mr. Nguyen in favor of the proposed project; Mr. Lynch abstaining; Mr. Silvestri recusing; and Mr. Hannon, Mr. Harder, and Mr. Morissette voting no.

Mr. Morissette directed staff to draft an Opinion and Decision and Order denying this project to be reviewed at the next meeting.

7. **Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- 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 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf