

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

March 19, 2021

DRAFT

Decision and Order

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) § 16-50k(a), CGS §4-176 and the foregoing Findings of Fact and Opinion, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) finds that the 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 would have a substantial adverse environmental effect, would not meet all applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Water Quality Standards, and therefore, the Council will not issue a declaratory ruling and hereby denies the petition for a declaratory ruling for the proposed solar photovoltaic electric generating project.

The Council finds that the proposed project will have an adverse effect on water quality by not including adequate buffer areas and/or forest canopy protective of on-site wetlands. The wetlands are perched on slopes with soils that are prone to erosion, thus tree clearing and other site disturbance associated with the project could affect these highly erodible on-site soils, cause sedimentation, and alter wetland ecology.

We hereby direct that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order be served on each person listed in the Service List, dated February 9, 2021, and notice of issuance published in the New Haven Register.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.