



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Meeting of May 6, 2021

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, May 6, 2021. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Presiding Officer John Morissette at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

John Morissette
Presiding Officer
Louanne Cooley
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Robert Silvestri

Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Gillett)
Robert Hannon
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)

Council Members Absent:

Edward Edelson

Staff Members Present:

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

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

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of April 22, 2021.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of April 22, 2021; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 494 - Cellco 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 south of Chestnut Hill Road at the intersection with Grilley Road and Lyman Road (Parcel No. 101-1-5B), Wolcott, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Mr. Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Silvestri, and Mr. Morissette in favor of the proposed project with the additional conditions to develop a Wetland and Vernal Pool Protection Plan and a Spill Prevention Plan, as appropriate; design a yield point to ensure that the tower setback radius remains within the boundaries of the host parcel; employ security measures in the fence design; implement a screening plan and/or minimize tree removal between the access drive and existing well/building foundation; and with the recommendation that an open bottom box culvert design be considered for the wetland crossing in lieu of the three-pipe design; and Ms. Cooley abstaining.

Mr. Morissette directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

3. **DOCKET NO. 497 - Burlington Solar One, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.5-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at Lot 33, Prospect Street, Burlington, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Request to Reopen Evidentiary Record to Allow for Submission of the Revised Response to Council Interrogatory No. 38.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to deny the request to reopen the evidentiary record to allow for submission of the revised response to Council Interrogatory No. 38; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion failed with Mr. Hannon, Mr. Nguyen; Mr. Lynch, and Ms. Cooley voting no.

Mr. Hannon moved to grant the request to reopen the evidentiary record to allow for submission of the revised response to Council Interrogatory No. 38; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Silvestri and Mr. Morissette voting no.

4. **DOCKET NO. 498 - Diamond Towers V, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 185 Academy Road (Route 68/Route 70), Cheshire, Connecticut. Motion for Protective Order.**

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

5. **DOCKET NO. 499 - Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 16 Coote Hill Road, Sherman, Connecticut. Motion for Protective Order.**

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

6. **DOCKET NO. 500 - Arx Wireless Infrastructure, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 1061-1063 Boston Post Road, Milford, Connecticut. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to grant Party Status to the City of Milford; seconded by Ms. Cooley. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1097A - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC request to amend its declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed modifications to an existing wireless telecommunications facility located at 174 South Grand Street, Suffield, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this request to amend the declaratory ruling with the condition noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **PETITION NO. 1398A - LSE Pictor, 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 1.99-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on an approximately 104 acre parcel located off of Platt Hill Road, Winchester, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Reopening of this petition based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Decision.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed with Ms. Cooley abstaining.

9. **PETITION NO. 1406 - Doosan Fuel Cell America, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a grid-side 9.66-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at 600 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection to the United Illuminating Company's existing Congress Street Substation. NuPower Bridgeport FC, LLC Motion to Reopen and Modify. Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to grant the Motion to Reopen and Modify the Council's December 18, 2020 decision to deny the petition for a declaratory ruling without prejudice; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen abstaining.

Mr. Silvestri moved to grant Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status to Joseph R. Provey noting the request for Intervenor Status under CGS §16-258e related to electric distribution company procurement of electricity and renewable energy credits from combined heat and power systems is moot as it is not an intervention or Council jurisdictional statute; seconded by Ms. Cooley. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon voting no and Mr. Nguyen abstaining.

10. **PETITION NO. 1426 - East Windsor 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 4.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located west of the Ellington town boundary at 341 East Road, East Windsor, and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

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

11. **PETITION NO. 1440 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on an extension of the support structure above the top of an existing billboard located on a commercial property at 115 Peat Meadow Road, New Haven, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and with the recommendation that security measures be employed in the wood fence design; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Ms. Cooley abstaining

12. **PETITION NO. 1441 - Bloom Energy Corporation petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a customer-side 1,750-kilowatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at Yale New Haven/Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, 412 Ocean Avenue, New London, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Ms. Cooley abstaining.

13. **TS-T-MOBILE-059T-210326 – T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1662 Route 184 (a/k/a 1662 Gold Star Highway), Groton, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve this tower share with the following conditions:

- Conduct non-routine maintenance activities during the fall, winter and early spring to minimize potential impact to whip-poor-wills (*Caprimulgus vociferous*) consistent with condition No. 4 of the Council's Decision and Order in Docket No. 319; and
- Approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Lynch and passed unanimously.

14. **Administrative Matters.**

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 498, Tuesday, May 11, 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, May 20 2021, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**
- Docket No. 499, Tuesday, May 25, 2021, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Presiding Officer Morissette thanked staff for their outstanding work, especially throughout the pandemic.

Adjournment.

Mr. Silvestri moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Cooley. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf