

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DRAFT Meeting Minutes Meeting of October 13, 2022

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, October 13, 2022. 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
Mark Quinlan (arrived at 1:03 p.m.)
Robert Silvestri

Brian Golembiewski (designee for Commissioner Dykes) Quat Nguyen (designee for Chairman Gillett)

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr. (absent from 1:00 p.m. to 1:25 p.m. for Item No. 1)

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman Executive Director/Staff Attorney Robert Mercier Siting Analyst Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo Siting Analyst Christina Walsh Supervising Siting Analyst Michael Perrone Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of September 29, 2022.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of September 29, 2022; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

2. DOCKET NO. 3B – The United Illuminating Company Amended Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for replacement of a portion of the existing Derby – Shelton 115-kV electric transmission line facility. Reopening of this Certificate based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Draft Findings of Fact.

Mr. Lynch entered the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Mr. Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Silvestri, Mrs. Cooley, Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Nguyen, and Mr. Morissette in favor of approving the project in the Option 1 configuration with the conditions that the Council shall review and approve any alternative configurations to Osbornedale State Park Option 1 that may result from consultation between UI and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; and that the Development and Management Plan include 1) a plan to notify the public when helicopters would be used for project construction; 2) a spill prevention plan for the petroleum storage site and plans to locate the storage site at least 50 feet from wetlands; 3) plans to avoid tree cutting between June through August; and 4) review and consideration of double-circuit monopole configurations for Structure Nos. 17 and 18; and Mr. Lynch abstaining.

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

3. DOCKET NO. 507 - Homeland Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility located at 222 Clintonville Road, North Branford, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Development and Management plan with the condition noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

4. PETITION NO. 1533 – ReNew Developers, 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 customer-side 4.99-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at 42 Old Amston Road, Colchester, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report with an amendment to Condition No. 4 to include the phone numbers for the Town and other agencies listed in the Petroleum Materials Storage and Spill Prevention section of the Resources Protection Plan, and a recommendation that a copy of the Resources Protection Plan be kept on-site; seconded by Mrs. Cooley. The motion passed unanimously.

5. PETITION NO. 1534 - Groton Utilities petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed modifications to its existing Buddington Substation located at the intersection of Buddington Road and Gold Star Highway in Groton, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line structure improvements. Decision.

Mrs. Cooley moved to approve this petition with the condition noted in the staff report and with the additional conditions that an environmental monitor shall oversee construction in sensitive resource areas and that notice of completion of construction be submitted to the Council; seconded by Mr. Quinlan. The motion passed unanimously.

6. PETITION NO. 1537 - T-Mobile petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed extension and modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 1 Fairfield Avenue, Danbury, Connecticut. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.

Mr. Lynch moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Section 16-50j-40(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, as no later than February 14, 2023; seconded by Mr. Quinlan. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 7 – 9

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 7 through 9. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

- 7. TS-DISH-064-220909 Dish Wireless, LLC request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 305 West Service Road, Hartford, Connecticut. Decision.
- 8. TS-T-MOBILE-150-220921 T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 10 Blackville Road, Washington, Connecticut. Decision.
- 9. TS-DISH-069-220927 Dish Wireless, LLC request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1375 North Road, Killingly, Connecticut. Decision.

10. Administrative Matters

The following energy/telecommunications meeting and public hearing dates were discussed:

- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, October 27, 2022, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 512, Thursday, November 3, 2022, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

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• Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, November 10, 2022, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

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

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/laf