

# DRAFT

**Petition No. 1602A**  
**Glastonbury Solar One, LLC and VCP, LLC d/b/a Verogy, LLC**  
**17 Wickham Road, Glastonbury**

**Staff Report**  
**January 31, 2025**

## **Notice**

On April 12, 2024, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued a Declaratory Ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k, approving a proposal from Glastonbury Solar One, LLC and VCP, d/b/a Verogy, LLC (GSO) for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.0-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 17 Wickham Road, Glastonbury, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection (Petition 1602).

On November 20, 2024, GSO submitted a request to relocate a portion of electrical interconnection route to an adjacent parcel at 1238 Hebron Avenue and relocate the permanent facility site access to the existing paved driveway off 17 Wickham Road. The Council approved the relocation of the portion of the electrical interconnection route and the relocation of the facility site access on November 26, 2024. This approved site plan with associated access and electrical interconnection is attached as “Approved Access and Interconnection Route.”

After the Council’s approvals, the host parcel owner, Catholic Cemeteries Association (CCA), requested changes to the “Approved Access and Interconnection Route” to accommodate its plans to develop the northerly portion of the host parcel in the future. These plans require shifting the electrical interconnection route to the east onto another parcel owned by CCA and relocating the access drive from the north side of the facility to the east on the host parcel.

GSO submitted a request to amend the Declaratory Ruling to the Council on December 13, 2024 for a new electrical interconnection route that utilizes an adjacent CCA parcel and modified access that utilizes the host parcel. GSO provided notice of the request to amend the Declaratory Ruling to the Town of Glastonbury (Town), abutting property owners, and state and local officials who were notified of the original petition, on or about December 12, 2024.

On December 13, 2024, the Council sent correspondence to the Town stating that the Council has received the request to amend the Declaratory Ruling and invited the Town to contact the Council with any questions or comments by January 12, 2025. No comments were received.

On December 13, 2024, pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40, the Council sent correspondence requesting comments on the request to amend the Declaratory Ruling from the following state agencies by January 12, 2025: Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP); Department of Agriculture (DOAg); Department of Public Health (DPH); Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ); Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA); Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD); Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP); Department of Labor (DOL); Department of Administrative Services (DAS); Department of Transportation (DOT); the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA); the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); and the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC). No comments were received.

### **Approved Facility**

The approved solar facility is located on an approximate 15-acre site within a 46.96-acre parcel at 17 Wickham Road, Glastonbury. The parcel is owned by CCA and contains Holy Cross Cemetery, agricultural fields, and a small farm stand with associated parking and access off of Hebron Avenue (Route 94).

The approved facility consists of approximately 6,840 photovoltaic modules, rated at 520 Watts, installed on a fixed racking system supported by driven posts. The approved facility layout increases the buffer from the residential area along Glen Place to the south.

The approved interconnection route includes an overhead line supported on five utility poles on the host parcel that runs in a north-south direction to connect to existing electrical distribution on the north side of Hebron Avenue. The approved access includes a T-shaped approximately 19-foot wide gravel access road that is 212 feet long, runs in a north-south direction and includes a turnaround that extends approximately 81 feet to the west.

### **Proposed Amendment**

GSO proposes to shift the electrical interconnection route and associated easement approximately 70 feet to the east and onto the adjacent parcel located at 1238 Hebron Avenue (Interconnection Parcel). The Interconnection Parcel abuts the host parcel to the west, east and south, and Hebron Avenue to the north. The Interconnection Parcel is centrally developed with trees along the perimeter.

GSO would establish an approximately 22-foot wide by 212-foot long utility corridor in an approximately north-south direction along the western portion of the Interconnection Parcel. Three poles would be located within this corridor, and two would be located farther to the south within the approved facility footprint: one north of the revised access drive and one south of the revised access drive.

The revised approximately 15-foot wide T-shaped gravel drive would be established in the northeastern portion of the facility site. It would be approximately 211 feet long, run in a north-south direction within the approved facility footprint, and then run in an east-west direction for a total of approximately 311 feet. Of the 311 feet, approximately 187 feet would be located outside the approved facility footprint and within an approximately 34-foot wide additional area extending to the east. All of the revised access drive would be located on the host parcel.

The approved electrical interconnection route and access are located on prime farmland soils. The modified electrical interconnection route and revised access would also be located on prime farmland soils, but the incremental disturbance area would be limited, and no grading of the revised access is required. Three or four trees would be removed to accommodate the modified interconnection, and one tree would be removed to accommodate the revised access.

The revised interconnection route and access drive are not expected to increase visual impacts from the approved facility footprint due to the limited tree clearing required and no changes to the total number of utility poles installed.

DEEP issued a Natural Diversity Data Base Determination letter on October 6, 2023 for the facility that included recommended species mitigation measures. GSO would implement these measures for the proposed revised interconnection route and access drive, where applicable.

No wetlands are located proximate to the revised interconnection route and access drive.

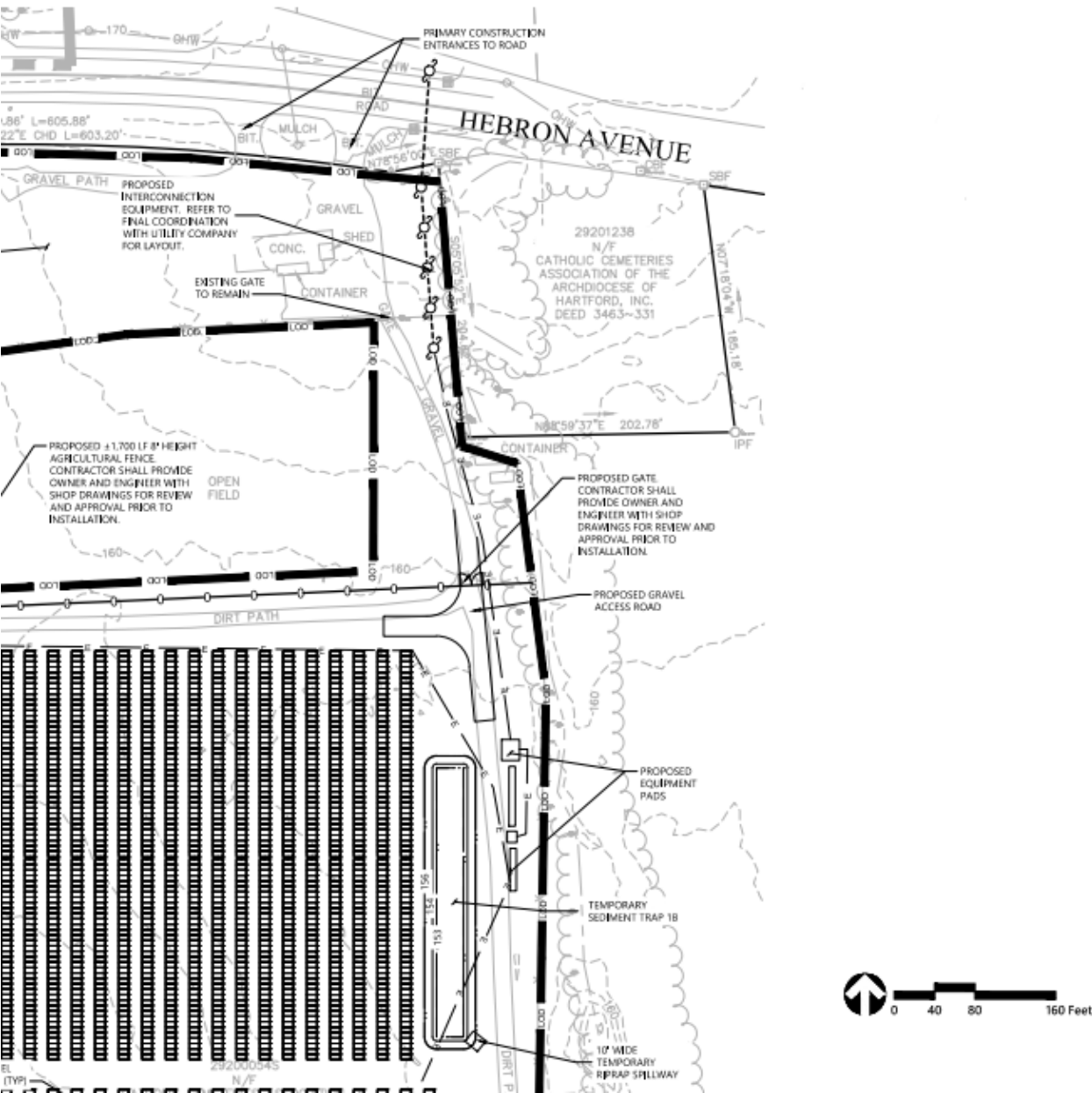
GSO would establish erosion and sedimentation controls consistent with the applicable *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*.

### **Conclusion**

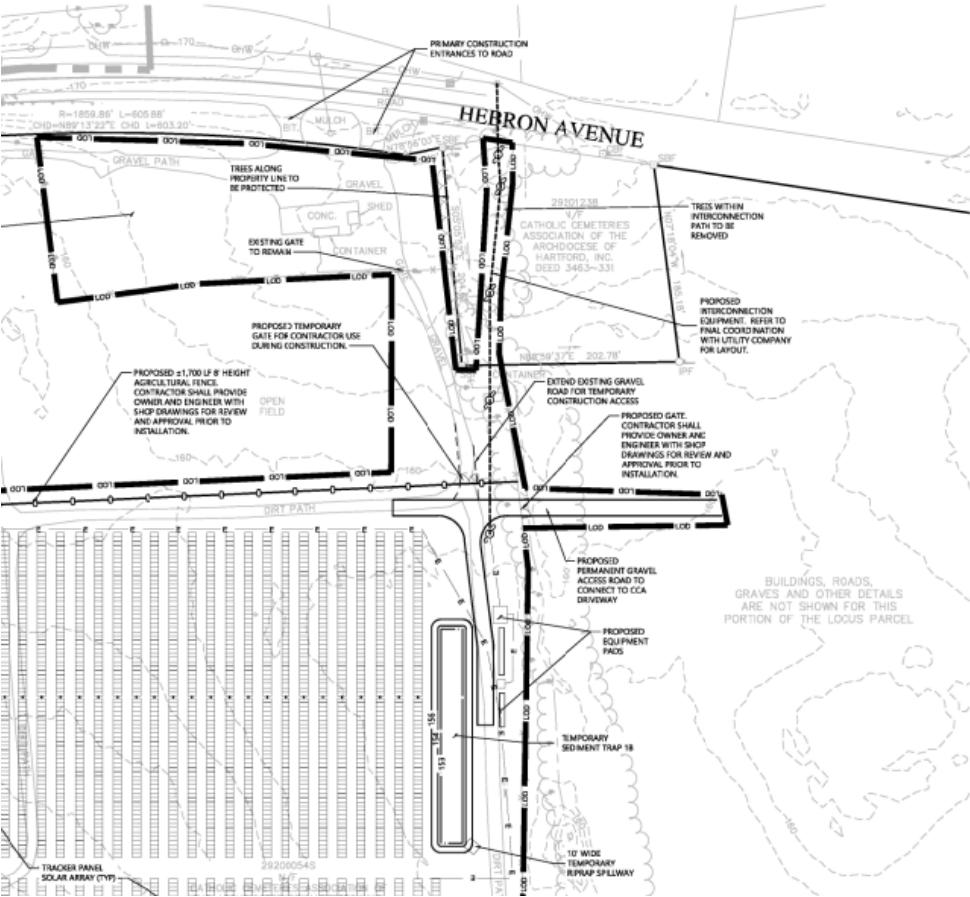
If approved, staff recommends the following condition:

1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff.

Approved Access and Interconnection Route



**Proposed Access and Interconnection Route**



  
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