

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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# DRAFT Meeting Minutes Meeting of June 26, 2025

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, June 26, 2025. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Vice Chair Morissette, at 1:00 p.m.

#### **Council Members Present:**

John Morissette Vice Chair Chance Carter Khristine Hall Bill Syme Brian Golembiewski (designee for Commissioner Dykes) Quat Nguyen (designee for Chairman Gillett) Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

# **Staff Members Present:**

Melanie Bachman Executive Director/Staff Attorney Robert Mercier Siting Analyst 2 Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo Siting Analyst 1 Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst 2
Adam Morrone
Siting Analyst 1

# **Recording Secretary:**

Lisa Fontaine

# 1. Minutes of June 12, 2025.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2025, as amended; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

2. DOCKET NO. 516R – The United Illuminating Company (UI) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project that consists of the relocation and rebuild of its existing 115- kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines from the railroad catenary structures to new steel monopole structures and related modifications along approximately 7.3 miles of the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Metro-North Railroad corridor between Structure B648S located east of Sasco Creek in Fairfield and UI's Congress Street Substation in Bridgeport, and the rebuild of two existing 115-kV transmission lines along 0.23 mile of existing UI rightof-way to facilitate interconnection of the rebuilt 115-kV electric transmission lines at UI's existing Ash Creek, Resco, Pequonnock and Congress Street Substations traversing the municipalities of Bridgeport and Fairfield, Connecticut. Court-ordered Remand Regarding Connecticut Siting Council's February 15, 2024 Final Decision pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-183(j). Draft Remand Findings of Fact, Remand Opinion, and Remand Decision and Order.

Mr. Lynch moved to grant UI's Motion to Stay and table this matter until the Council is properly constituted; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

3. DOCKET NO. 531 – Arx Wireless Infrastructure, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment located at 62 and 64 Pershing Drive, Ansonia, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Vice Chair Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Nguyen, Ms. Hall, Mr. Carter, Mr. Syme, Mr. Lynch, and Vice Chair Morissette in favor of approving the facility with Development and Management Plan conditions to submit written confirmation from the Department of Transportation that there are no objections to the proximity of the facility site to the railroad right-of-way; install a yield point to ensure the tower setback radius remains within the boundaries of the host parcel; and use of natural gas as a fuel source for any emergency power generators; and with the November 1, 2024 State Historic Preservation Office recommendations to paint the facility to match adjacent materials and to install the facility to be as non-visible as possible.

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

4. DOCKET NO. 540 – The Towers, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment located at 68 Danbury Road, New Milford, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Deposition of the Transcript.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the schedule per staff recommendations; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

5. PETITION NO. 1655 – Borrelli Solar 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 and associated equipment to be located at 179 and 197 Borrelli Road, East Haven, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Vice Chair Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Nguyen, Ms. Hall, Mr. Carter, Mr. Syme, Mr. Lynch, and Vice Chair Morissette in favor of approving the facility with Development and Management Plan conditions to submit a final landscaping plan that includes vegetative screening along Borrelli Road and proximate to the 207 Borrelli Road property with a vegetative maintenance plan to be implemented for the life of the facility; install privacy screening on the fence along Borrelli Road and proximate to the 207 Borrelli Road property; perform a survey for the *Lysimachia quadrifolia* (whorled loosestrife) by a certified botanist to identify its specific location(s) at the site and include plans for relocation if it falls within the disturbance area; shift the equipment pads at least 100 feet north/northeast towards the center of the facility site; redesign the access road to maintain a setback of at least 20 feet from the 207 Borelli property line; maintain a 50-foot wetland buffer on the eastern side of the facility site; relocate the electrical interconnection to the east of the access drive, i.e. away from the 207 Borelli property; and submit a passing Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) test result for the selected solar panels.

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

6. PETITION NO. 1662 – New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a small cell wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on a new approximately 40-foot privately-owned replacement light pole at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds located at 347 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut. Decision.

Ms. Hall moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

7. PETITION NO. 1665 – TRITEC Energy Development, LLC (TRITEC Americas, 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-megawatt solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at 74 Bokum Road, Old Saybrook, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than October 29, 2025; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

8. PETITION NO. 1666 – VFS, 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 2.76-megawatt fuel cell facility collocated with a 1.99-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility and associated equipment located at the Quinnipiac University Mount Carmel Campus, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. 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 Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than November 2, 2025; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

9. PETITION NO. 1667 – 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 modifications to an existing telecommunications facility and installation of associated equipment located at the Town Public Safety Complex, 293 Elm Street, Enfield, Connecticut. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than October 5, 2025; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch recusing.

10. PETITION NO. 1668 – Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) 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 3.9-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment located at 35 North Main Street, Ansonia, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision. Request for Intervenor Status.

Ms. Hall moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than November 9, 2025; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hall moved to grant Intervenor status to HyAxiom, Inc.; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

11. PETITION NO. 1669 – VFS, 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 460-kilowatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment located at Housatonic Community College, 900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than November 9, 2025; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

# **Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 12 – 13**

Vice Chair Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 12 -

- 13. The Consent Calendar was adopted.
- 12. TS-VER-122-250528 Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 106 Sharon Road, Lakeville (Salisbury), Connecticut. Decision.
- 13. TS-ATT-134-250602 New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 51 Stony Lane, Stafford Springs, Connecticut. Decision.

#### 14. Administrative Matters.

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

- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, July 10, 2025, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing. **CANCELED**
- Docket No. 534, Thursday, July 17, 2025, evidentiary hearing session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and public comment session beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 532, Tuesday, July 22, 2025, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, July 24, 2025, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 535, Thursday, July 31, 2025, evidentiary hearing session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and public comment session beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

# Adjournment.

Mr. Carter moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/laf