

Meeting Minutes
Meeting of January 18, 2018

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, January 18, 2018, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Chairman Stein at 1:05 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Robert Stein
Chairman
James J. Murphy, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Edward Edelson
Michael W. Klemens
Robert Silvestri

Robert Hannon
(designee for Commissioner Klee)
Larry Levesque
(designee for Chairman Dykes)
Michael Harder
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Staff Members Present:

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

Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of December 21, 2017

Dr. Klemens moved to approve the minutes of December 21, 2017; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

2. DOCKET NO. 452 - Homeland Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 250 Canaan Road, Salisbury, Connecticut. Request for Transfer of Certificate.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Transfer of Certificate; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed with Dr. Klemens recusing.

3. **DOCKET NO. 474 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Greater Hartford-Central Connecticut Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Hartford, West Hartford, and Newington, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line within existing Eversource, Amtrak and public road rights-of-way and associated facilities extending overhead approximately 2.4 miles and underground approximately 1.3 miles between Eversource's existing Newington Substation in the Town of Newington and existing Southwest Hartford Substation in the City of Hartford; (b) modifications to a .01 mile section within existing Eversource right-of-way of the existing overhead 115-kV electric transmission line connection to the Newington Substation (Newington Tap); and (c) related modifications to Newington Substation and Southwest Hartford Substation. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council Members with Mr. Murphy, Dr. Klemens, Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Levesque, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hannon, and Mr. Harder in favor of the proposed project, and Mr. Edelson and Chairman Stein abstaining.

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

4. **DOCKET NO. 475 - 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 adjacent to the maintenance building at the Skungamaug Golf Course, south of Folly Lane, at Coventry Tax Assessor's Map 006, Block 0026, Lot 0101, Coventry, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council Members with Mr. Murphy, Dr. Klemens, Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hannon, and Mr. Harder in favor of the proposed project, and Chairman Stein, Mr. Edelson, and Mr. Levesque abstaining.

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

5. **DOCKET NO. 480 - SectorSite LLC and T-Mobile Northeast, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility on town-owned property behind the Southwest Fire Station located at 2 Westwoods Drive, Farmington, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Deposition of Transcript.**

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the schedule for processing the application as per staff recommendations; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon and Mr. Levesque recusing.

6. **PETITION NO. 1323 - Windham Solar LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of three 2.0 Megawatt AC and two 1.0 Megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities on an approximate 43 acre parcel located at 134 Bilton Road, Somers, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve the petition with the alternate site plan submitted on December 20, 2017, the conditions noted in the staff report, and the additional condition that a Development and Management Plan be submitted to the Council for approval with a copy to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Water Permitting and Enforcement Division for review; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Dr. Klemens voting no.

7. **PETITION NO. 1325 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility on electric transmission line structure No. 9950, owned by Eversource Energy within an existing Eversource Energy electric transmission line right-of-way, located at the Birchwood Condominium Complex, 27 Crows Nest Lane, Danbury, Connecticut. Decision.**

Vice Chairman Murphy presided over the meeting with Chairman Stein returning prior to the vote on this petition.

Dr. Klemens moved to approve the petition with the condition noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **PETITION NO. 1328 - Windham 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 one 1-megawatt (MW) and one .99-MW solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities located at 481 Mashamoquet Road, Pomfret, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve the petition with the condition noted in the staff report and with the additional condition that a Development and Management Plan be submitted to the Council for approval with a copy to the DEEP Water Permitting and Enforcement Division for review that includes, but is not limited to, a soil survey that identifies soil types to ensure proper design and installation of the drainage swale; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **PETITION NO. 1337 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed Stepstone to Green Hill Substation Upgrade Project that includes replacement of approximately 5.6 miles of its existing No. 1508 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line structures within existing Eversource electric transmission line right of way between Stepstone Substation located at 50 Stepstone Road, Guilford, Connecticut and Green Hill Substation located at 775 Green Hill Road, Madison, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line structure improvements. Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to set the date by which to render a decision in this matter as no later than May 18, 2018; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar events were discussed:

- Docket No. 479 Tuesday, January 23, 2018, **public hearing** beginning with a **2:00 p.m. public field review, a 3:00 p.m. evidentiary hearing session, and a 6:30 p.m. public comment session** at the Bridgeport City Hall Council Chambers, 45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport, Connecticut.
- Energy/Telecommunications meeting, Thursday, February 1, 2018, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Docket No. 478, Tuesday, February 8, 2018, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at **1:00 p.m.** in Hearing Room One, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Energy/Telecommunications meeting, Thursday, February 15, 2018, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Docket No. 480 Thursday, February 22, 2018, **public hearing** beginning with a **2:00 p.m. public field review, a 3:00 p.m. evidentiary hearing session, and a 6:30 p.m. public comment session** at the Farmington Town Hall, Council Chambers, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, Connecticut.

Adjournment.

Dr. Klemens moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stein adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Stein
Chairman

RS/laf