

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting of February 1, 2018**

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, February 1, 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 1:00 p.m.

**Council Members Present:**

Robert Stein  
Chairman  
James J. Murphy, Jr.  
Vice Chairman  
Michael Harder  
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Robert Hannon  
(designee for Commissioner Klee)  
Larry Levesque  
(designee for Chairman Dykes)  
Michael W. Klemens  
Robert Silvestri

**Council Member Absent:**

Edward Edelson

**Staff Members Present:**

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

Robert Mercier  
Siting Analyst  
Michael Perrone  
Siting Analyst

**Recording Secretary:**

Lisa Fontaine

**1. Minutes of January 18, 2018**

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2018; seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **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, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order, as amended, approving the proposed project; seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed with Chairman Stein abstaining.

3. **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, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Harder moved to approve the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order, approving the proposed project; seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed with Chairman Stein and Mr. Levesque abstaining.

4. **DOCKET NO. 476 - Eco-Site, Inc. 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 located at 248 Hall Hill Road, Somers, 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. Levesque, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hannon, and Chairman Stein in favor of the proposed project; and Mr. Harder in favor of the proposed project with the access road moved from the west side to the north side of the compound, and Mr. Silvestri voting no.

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

5. **DOCKET NO. 477 - 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 at 46 Cemetery Road, Canterbury, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

Dr. Klemens stated for the record that he read the transcripts of the proceeding.

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, and Mr. Hannon in favor of the proposed project with the tower relocated approximately 50 feet to the east to increase the buffer to nearby wetlands and the use of the existing utility route, and with Mr. Harder in favor of the proposed project if the utility route is installed along the driveway. Chairman Stein abstained.

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

6. **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. Decision.**

Mr. Levesque moved to approve the petition with the condition noted in the staff report and the additional condition that silt socks or comparable material be used in place of silt fencing to demarcate the line of construction and prevent migration of sediment or construction materials into wetlands and watercourses, and with the recommendation that Eversource consider the feasibility of shifting Structure No. 5924 to the southwest, to the extent practicable, to avoid wetland disturbance; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1338 - 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 on the roof of an existing commercial building located at 150 Danbury Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

## 8. Administrative Matters.

The following calendar events were discussed:

- Docket No. 478 Thursday, February 8, 2018, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at **1:00 p.m.** in Hearing Room Two, 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. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stein adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Robin Stein**  
**Chairman**

RS/laf