



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of March 28, 2019

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, March 28, 2019, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Presiding Officer Robert Silvestri at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Robert Silvestri
Presiding Officer
Michael Harder
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Robert Hannon
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
Larry Levesque
(designee for Acting Chairman Betkoski)

Council Members Absent:

James J. Murphy, Jr.
Vice Chairman

Michael W. Klemens
Edward Edelson

Staff Members Present:

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

Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

Moment of Silence and Recognition of Service

Mr. Lynch led the Council in a moment of silence for past Council Member Edward Wilensky who recently passed away.

Acting Chairman Murphy and Mr. Wilensky were both recognized for their dedicated service to the Connecticut Siting Council.

1. **Minutes of February 14, 2019.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve the minutes of February 14, 2019; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 337 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and management of a telecommunications facility located off North Street (Route 63), Goshen, Connecticut. Motion to Reopen.**

TS-T-MOBILE-055-181031 - T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 442 North Street, Goshen, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Lynch moved to reopen the matter without a hearing to remove the portion of Condition No. 1 of the Decision and Order that required all panel antennas of commercial wireless telecommunications providers be installed using a T-arm mount design; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the tower share request with the condition that approval of any minor changes be delegated to Council staff; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DOCKET NO. 461A - Eversource Energy Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115-kilovolt (kV) bulk substation located at 290 Railroad Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut, and two 115-kV underground transmission circuits extending approximately 2.3 miles between the proposed substation and the existing Cos Cob Substation, Greenwich, Connecticut, and related substation improvements. Partial Development and Management Plan - Greenwich Substation.**

Mr. Harder moved to approve the partial Development and Management Plan with recommendations for the use of silt socks in lieu of erosion control fencing, where necessary, and the identification of the location and detail of the temporary detention basin described in D&M Plan Section E.2.1; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **DOCKET NO. 466 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line project that traverses the municipalities of Watertown, Thomaston, Litchfield, and Harwinton, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kV overhead electric transmission line entirely within existing Eversource right-of-way and associated facilities extending approximately 10.4 miles between Eversource's existing Frost Bridge Substation in the Town of Watertown and existing Campville Substation in the Town of Harwinton; (b) related modifications to Frost Bridge Substation and Campville**

Substation; and (c) reconfiguration of a 0.4 mile segment of two existing 115-kV electric transmission lines across the Naugatuck River in the Towns of Litchfield and Harwinton within the same existing right-of-way as the new 115-kV electric transmission line. Motion for Protective Order.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the motion for protective order; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **DOCKET NO. 468 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kV overhead electric transmission line entirely within existing Eversource right-of-way and associated facilities extending approximately 3.4 miles between Eversource's existing Plumtree Substation in the Town of Bethel to its existing Brookfield Junction in the Town of Brookfield; (b) reconfiguration of two existing 115-kV double-circuit electric transmission lines at Eversource's existing Stony Hill Substation in the Town of Brookfield; and (c) related substation modifications. Motion for Protective Order.**

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the motion for protective order; seconded by Mr. Levesque. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **PETITION NO. 1313 - DWW Solar II, LLC declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 26.4 megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 289 acres comprised of 5 separate and abutting privately-owned parcels located generally west of Hopmeadow Street (US 202/CT 10), north and south of Hoskins Road, and north and east of County Road and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy's North Simsbury Substation west of Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Levesque moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional condition that information regarding access to the stormwater basins for post-construction maintenance be provided to the Council; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1339 - Wallingford Renewable Energy LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 19.99 MW AC ground-mounted solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located on approximately 158 acres of 3 contiguous parcels consisting of the former Wallingford Landfill and 2 parcels owned by the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority west of Pent Road and associated electrical interconnection to Wallingford Electric Division's Wallingford Substation in Wallingford, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report and with the recommendation that the ballast mounts will not cut into the landfill cap and that approximately 6 inches of compost be placed on the stone check dams; seconded by Mr. Levesque. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **PETITION NO. 1352 - Nutmeg 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 19.6-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 162 acres comprised of 9 separate parcels located generally south of Bailey Road and east of Route 191 (Broad Brook Road), and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy's Scitico Substation at 20 Bailey Road in Enfield, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

Mr. Lynch recused himself from discussion.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Robert Silvestri conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council Members with Mr. Levesque, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Harder and Mr. Silvestri in favor of the proposed project, and Mr. Lynch recusing.

Presiding Officer Robert Silvestri directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

9. **PETITION NO. 1361 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on the roof of an existing building located at 500 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

10. **PETITION NO. 1362 - Town of New Milford petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176, for a determination that the January 28, 2019 Development and Management Plan submitted by Candlewood Solar, LLC in Petition No. 1312 conflicts and/or is inconsistent with the Connecticut Siting Council's December 21, 2017 final decision on Petition No. 1312. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Levesque moved to approve Party status to Candlewood Solar, LLC; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

11. TS-DISH-002-190205 - Gamma Purchasing L.L.C. (Dish) request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1 Deerfield Lane, Ansonia, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Levesque moved to approve this tower share request with the following conditions:

- During construction activities, no soils should be removed from the site without proper waste characterization to determine disposal requirements consistent with condition No. 6 of the Council's Decision and Order in Docket No. 340; and
- Approval of any minor changes be delegated to Council staff.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Lynch and passed unanimously.

12. TS-DISH-155-190208 - Dish Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 467 South Quaker Lane, West Hartford, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Levesque moved to approve this tower share request with the condition that approval of any minor changes be delegated to Council staff; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

13. TS-T-MOBILE-059T-190228 - T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1662 Route 184 (aka 1662 Gold Star Highway), Groton, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve this tower share request with the following conditions:

- Conduct non-routine maintenance activities during the fall, winter and early spring to minimize potential impact to whip-poor-wills (*Caprimulgus vociferous*); and
- Approval of any minor changes be delegated to Council staff.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Levesque and passed unanimously.

14. Administrative Matters.

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 470B Thursday, April 4, 2019, **public hearing** beginning with a **1:30 p.m. public field review, a 3:00 p.m. evidentiary hearing session, and a 6:30 p.m. public comment session** at the Town Meeting Room, Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main Street, Killingly, Connecticut.
- Energy/Telecommunications meeting, Thursday, April 11, 2019, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. **CANCELED**

Discussion was also held on Raised Bill No. 5318 - An Act Establishing Local Representation on the Connecticut Siting Council for Certain Projects.

Adjournment.

Mr. Lynch moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.
Presiding Officer Robert Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf