



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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### Meeting Minutes

#### Meeting of August 27, 2020

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, August 27, 2020. 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  
Edward Edelson  
Michael Harder  
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Linda Guliuzza  
(designee for Chairman Gillett)  
Robert Hannon  
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)  
John Morissette

#### Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director/Staff Attorney  
Christina Walsh  
Supervising Siting Analyst  
Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo  
Siting Analyst

Robert Mercier  
Siting Analyst  
Michael Perrone  
Siting Analyst

#### Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

#### 1. Minutes of August 13, 2020.

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Minutes of August 13, 2020, as amended; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. DOCKET NO. 483 - The United Illuminating Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Pequonnock Substation Rebuild Project that entails construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115/13.8-kilovolt (kV) gas insulated replacement substation facility located 700 feet southwest of UI's existing Pequonnock substation on an approximately 3.7 acre parcel owned by PSEG Power Connecticut, LLC at 1 Kiefer Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and related transmission structure and interconnection improvements. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve the Development and Management with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DOCKET NO. 490 – The United Illuminating Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Old Town Substation Rebuild Project that entails construction, maintenance and operation of a 115/13.8- kilovolt (kV) air-insulated replacement substation facility located on the existing Old Town Substation parcel at 282 Kaechele Place and two parcels immediately north totaling approximately 3 acres that are owned by the United Illuminating Company at 312 and 330 Kaechele Place, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and related transmission structure and interconnection improvements. Completeness Review, Schedule and Deposition of the Transcript.**

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

4. **DOCKET NO. 491 - 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 110 Yantic Lane, Norwich, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule and Deposition of the Transcript.**

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

5. **PETITION NO. 1345A - North Stonington Solar Center, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 15 MW AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 353 acres comprised of four abutting parcels located east of Pendleton Hill Road, north of the Pawcatuck River and south of Interstate-95 with proposed access from Ella Wheeler Road, and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy's Shunock Substation west of Pendleton Hill Road in North Stonington, Connecticut. Request for 1) an amendment to the declaratory ruling; and 2) approval of a Development and Management Plan. Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the amendment to the declaratory ruling; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional conditions that the Petitioner submit Environmental Monitoring Reports completed by a third party environmental inspector with its monthly construction progress reports, and the submission of a final plan depicting planting locations and pool excavation areas for the Spadefoot Toad Management Area; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Ms. Guliuzza abstaining and Mr. Edelson voting no.

6. **PETITION NO. 1371 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed 667 Line Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of approximately 6.1 miles of its existing No. 667 69-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line structures within existing Eversource electric transmission line right-of-way between Falls Village Substation in Falls Village (Canaan) and Salisbury Substation in Salisbury, Connecticut, traversing Canaan, Sharon and Salisbury, and related substation and electric transmission line structure improvements. Boynton Motion to Reopen and Modify Declaratory Ruling.**

Mr. Edelson moved to deny Boynton's Request to Reopen and Modify the Council's June 7, 2019 final decision; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Ms. Guliuzza and Mr. Harder abstaining.

7. **PETITION NO. 1408 – FairWindCT, Inc., et al petition, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176, for a declaratory ruling that: (a) the January 9, 2020 Development and Management Plan (D&M Plan) Modification submitted by BNE Energy, Inc. in Petition No. 983 conflicts with the Connecticut Siting Council's (Council) June 2, 2011 final decision on Petition No. 983; (b) the Council did not have jurisdiction over the D&M Plan Modification; (c) the Council did not have statutory authority to approve the D&M Plan Modification; (d) the D&M Plan Modification violated due process rights; and (e) the D&M Plan Modification violates the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act. Petitioners' Objection and Motion to Strike Correspondence.**

Mr. Edelson moved to overrule FairWindCT, Inc., et al's Objection and deny FairWindCT, Inc., et al's Motion to Strike BNE Energy, Inc.'s July 31, 2020 correspondence; seconded by Ms. Guliuzza. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch recusing.

8. **PETITION NO. 1410 - Greenskies Clean Energy, 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 3.0-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on two parcels at the Elmridge Golf Course located to the east and west of North Anguilla Road at the intersection with Elmridge Road, Stonington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Hanson Additional Request for CEPA Intervenor Status. Schedule.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve Douglas Hanson's Request for CEPA Intervenor Status; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Morissette moved to approve the schedule per staff recommendations; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **PETITION NO. 1412 - LSE Phoenix, 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 generating facility on an approximately 23-acre parcel located at 100 Sand Road, North Canaan, Connecticut, and associated electrical connection.**

Mr. Harder moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and an addition to Condition 4 to include a Smooth Green Snake Habitat Planting Monitoring Report regarding the status of the plantings and replacement of any plantings as necessary, to be submitted annually for a period of three years; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **PETITION NO. 1414 - 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 replacement of an existing 25.5-foot wall-mounted steel pipe-mast with a new 34-foot wall-mounted galvanized steel pipe mast and associated radio communications equipment located at its East Windsor Area Work Center, 112 Prospect Hill Road, East Windsor, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

11. **PETITION NO. 1416 - Bloom Energy Corporation petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 150-kilowatt customer-side fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at the Home Depot, 89 Interstate Park Drive, Southington, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

12. **TS-VER-043-200708 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 465 Hills Street, East Hartford, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

- Approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff;
- Verizon's antennas and equipment to be installed on the tower shall be camouflaged by the existing pine branches consistent with Condition No. 1 of the Council's Decision and Order in Docket No. 436; and

- The Eastern Box Turtle Protection Program shall be implemented to mitigate any possible impacts to Eastern Box Turtles in the event any are found in the vicinity of the site consistent with Condition No. 3 of the Council's Decision and Order in Docket No. 436.

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

**13. TS-DRW-062-200714 - DRW NX request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 101 Talmadge Road, Hamden, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve this tower share request with the condition that approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Silvestri recusing.

**14. TS-EVER-068-200715 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 38 Maple Street, Kent, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

**15. Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 488, Thursday, September 3, 2020, **closed evidentiary hearing session beginning at 2:00 p.m., and open continued evidentiary hearing session immediately thereafter** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications telemeeting, Thursday, September 10, 2020, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**
- Docket No. 489, Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 2:00 p.m. evidentiary hearing session and 6:30 p.m. public comment session via Zoom remote conferencing.

**Adjournment.**

Mr. Harder moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*s/Melanie A. Bachman*

**Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director**

MAB/laf