



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of November 19, 2020

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, November 19, 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 (departed from meeting at 2:58 p.m.)

Michael Harder

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Quat Nguyen

(designee for Chairman Gillett)

Robert Hannon

(designee for Commissioner Dykes)

John Morissette

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

1. Minutes of November 5, 2020.

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Minutes of November 5, 2020; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon abstaining.

2. **DOCKET NO. 488 - Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites: Kent Tax Assessor ID #M10, Block 22, Lot 38 Bald Hill Road or 93 Richards Road, Kent, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Silvestri conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Morissette, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Harder in favor of proposed

Site A with a 135-foot tower height and a two-tone color scheme; Mr. Edelson, Mr. Hannon and Mr. Silvestri in favor of proposed Site B with a 135-foot tower height and a two-tone color scheme; and Mr. Nguyen in favor of the proposed project but undecided on site preference at this time.

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

3. **DOCKET NO. 489 – The First Taxing District Water Department of Norwalk application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 173 ½ West Rocks Road, Norwalk, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

Mr. Lynch stated for the record that he read the record of the proceeding.

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order; as amended; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen abstaining.

4. **DOCKET NO. 494 - 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 south of Chestnut Hill Road at the intersection with Grilley Road and Lyman Road (Parcel No. 101-1-5B), Wolcott, Connecticut. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Morissette moved to grant Intervenor Status to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **PETITION NO. 1293 - Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvements to comply with the updated National Electric Safety Code clearance requirements. SUB-PETITION NO. 1293-LG-01 (Ledyard-Groton) Request for Intervenor Status. Motion for Hearing.**

Mr. Morissette moved to deny John Creaturo and Genevieve Triplett's Request for Intervenor status and Motion for a Public Hearing; seconded by Mr. Edelson. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **PETITION NO. 1310A - Quinebaug Solar, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 50 megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 561 acres comprised of 29 separate and abutting privately-owned parcels located generally north of Wauregan Road in Canterbury and south of Rukstela Road and Allen Hill Road in Brooklyn, Connecticut. Reopening of this petition based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Partial Development and Management Plan – Site Clearing, Substation and Switchyard.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the Partial Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1395A – Windham Solar LLC amended petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of one 1.0-megawatt (MW) and one 0.99 MW solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities located at 31 Benz Street, Ansonia, Connecticut. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Edelson moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e), Section 16-50j-40(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and Governor Lamont’s March 25, 2020 Executive Order No. 7M, as no later than March 20, 2021; seconded by Mr. Morissette. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Edelson moved to grant Party status to the City of Ansonia; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **TS-CING-052-201007 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 190 Colt Highway, Farmington, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

- Approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff;
- Prior to AT&T’s antenna installation the tower reinforcements shall be installed in accordance with the Structural Analysis prepared by Turris Engineering Inc. dated August 19, 2020 and stamped and signed by John Wahba;
- Prior to AT&T’s antenna installation, the antenna mount modifications shall be installed in accordance with the Mount Analysis prepared by Hudson Design Group, LLC, dated November 22, 2019 and stamped and signed by Daniel Hamm; and
- Within 45 days following completion of equipment installation, AT&T shall provide documentation certified by a Professional Engineer that its installation complied with the recommendations of the Structural Analysis and the Mount Analysis.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Morissette and passed with Mr. Hannon recusing.

Mr. Edelson departed from the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

9. **TS-VER-001-201013 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 122 Jonathan Trumbull Highway (Route 6), Andover, Connecticut. Decision.**

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

- Approval of any changes be delegated to Council staff; and
- Site preparation and construction activities shall occur during the time period of November 1 through March 31 to reduce potential impacts to populations of the Wood Turtle (*Clemmys Insculpta*), a State Species of Special Concern consistent with Condition No. 3 of the Council's Decision and Order in Docket No. 242.

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

10. **Administrative Matters.**

The following calendar dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 492, Tuesday, December 1, 2020, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m.
- Energy/Telecommunications telemeeting, Thursday, December 3, 2020, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**
- Docket No. 494, Tuesday, December 8, 2020, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing
- Petition No. 1425, Tuesday, December 15, 2020, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m.
- Energy/Telecommunications telemeeting, Thursday, December 17, 2020, beginning at **1:00 p.m.**

Adjournment.

Mr. Lynch moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Melanie A. Bachman

**Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director**

MAB/laf