



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of April 22, 2021

A tele-conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, April 22, 2021. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Presiding Officer John Morissette at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

John Morissette
Presiding Officer
Edward Edelson
Louanne Cooley
Michael Harder
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Gillett)
Robert Hannon
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
Robert Silvestri

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 April 8, 2021.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of April 8, 2021; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 495 - 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 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

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

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Ms. Cooley abstaining.

3. **DOCKET NO. 500 – Arx Wireless Infrastructure, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 1061-1063 Boston Post Road, Milford, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Deposition of the Transcript, Requests for Party/Intervenor Status.**

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

Mr. Edelson moved to grant Intervenor Status to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved to grant Intervenor Status to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T); seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **DOCKET NO. 501 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 106 Sharon Road, Lakeville (Salisbury), Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Deposition of the Transcript.**

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

5. **PETITION NO. 1222A - Windham Solar LLC 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 and four 1.0 Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating facilities located southeast of Hartford Turnpike and south of Fisk Road, Hampton, Connecticut. Reopening of this petition based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Decision.**

Mr. Edelson moved to approve this request to amend the declaratory ruling with the conditions noted in the staff report and with the additional conditions that Windham Solar, LLC (WS) submit the spill prevention procedure or protocol that would be implemented at the site prior to construction and

WS include the plans for battery storage or other mitigation measures, as applicable, to accommodate the full 8 MW AC capacity; and with the recommendation that WS discuss with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection the possibility of locating stormwater basin(s) outside of the 100-foot upland buffer; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Mr. Harder voting no and Ms. Cooley abstaining.

6. **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. Motion to Vacate, and in the Alternative, to Reconsider the Decision of March 12, 2021.**

Mr. Edelson moved to grant the motion to reconsider and develop a schedule for the exchange of additional interrogatories, specifically limited to implementation of wetland buffers and on-site processing of fill material; and render a final decision to modify, affirm or reverse the March 12, 2021 Final Decision within 90 days, consistent with the provisions of CGS §4-181a; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Silvestri and Mr. Harder voting no; and Ms. Cooley abstaining.

7. **PETITION NO. 1422 - 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 4.99-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility to be located at Mulnite Farms, Inc. off Barber Hill Road west of the intersection with Rockville Road, East Windsor, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

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

Mr. Edelson moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order with the recommendation that Greenskies Clean Energy, LLC consult with Eversource Energy to reduce the visual impact of the riser/meter poles; seconded by Mr. Harder. The motion passed with Ms. Cooley abstaining.

8. **PETITION NO. 1426 - East Windsor Solar One, 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 4.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located west of the Ellington town boundary at 341 East Road, East Windsor, and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Mr. Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Edelson, Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Harder, and Mr. Morissette in

favor of approving this project with the conditions that the solar panels selected will pass the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) test and not contain PFAS; East Windsor Solar One, LLC (EWSO) submit a plan for hosting sheep grazing at the site including, but not limited to, provisions for emergency evacuation; EWSO discuss the potential impacts of sheep grazing with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Stormwater Division; EWSO offer training to local emergency responders; and submission of a Development and Management Plan; and with the recommendation that EWSO consult with Eversource Energy to reduce the visual impacts of the poles; Mr. Silvestri voting no; Mr. Lynch recusing; and Ms. Cooley abstaining.

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

9. **PETITION NO. 1443 - SR North Stonington, 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 9.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on five parcels located north and south of Providence New London Turnpike (State Route 184), west of Boombridge Road and north of Interstate 95 in North Stonington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Schedule.**

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

10. **Administrative Matters.**

Presiding Officer Morissette announced that Mr. Harder's tenure as Council member will conclude on April 30, 2021 and thanked Mr. Harder for his dedication and service to the Council.

Adjournment.

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

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Melanie A. Bachman

**Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director**

MAB/laf