



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of August 17, 2023

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, August 17, 2023. 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
Robert Hannon
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Robert Silvestri

Brian Golembiewski
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Gillett)

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst
Adam N. Morrone
Siting Analyst

Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of August 3, 2023.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of August 3, 2023; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 505 – Haddam Quarter Solar, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 2.8-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located south of Haddam Quarter Road and north of Johnson Lane, Durham, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Development and Management Plan.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the condition noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DOCKET NO. 508 – The United Illuminating Company (UI) Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Milvon to West River Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project that consists of the relocation and rebuild of its existing 115- kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines from the railroad catenary structures to new steel monopole structures and related modifications to facilitate interconnection of the rebuilt 115-kV electric transmission lines at UI’s existing Milvon, Woodmont, Allings Crossing, Elmwest and West River substations along approximately 9.5 miles of the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Metro-North Railroad corridor traversing the municipalities of Milford, Orange, West Haven and New Haven, Connecticut. Partial Development and Management Plan II - Segment 2.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve Partial Development and Management Plan II with the condition noted in the staff report and a recommendation that UI contact local railroad museums regarding possible bonnet preservation and display; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **DOCKET NO. 514 - Glenvale, LLC d/b/a Glenvale Solar application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 4.0-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 56 River Road, Putnam, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Hannon, and Mr. Morissette in favor of approving the facility with the conditions to examine possible relocation of the access drive and interconnection facilities farther to the south; submit the tracker and transformer manufacturer/model specifications with information regarding the quantity and type of insulating oil within the transformer, submit a Spill Prevention Control Plan for site construction; submit a revised Emergency Action Plan that includes local emergency contact information; submit a Landscaping Plan with additional plantings fronting River Road; submit a sheep grazing co-use plan that includes pesticide/herbicide use restrictions; submit Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure test results for the selected solar panels that indicate the panels would not be characterized as

hazardous waste under current testing criteria; and install straw bales or other generally accepted similar control measures to reinforce silt fencing; Mr. Golembiewski not in favor of approving the facility; and Mr. Lynch abstaining.

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

- 5. DOCKET NO. 515 - 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 east of the Student Transportation Parking Lot at 180 School Road, Wilton, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

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

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order, Presiding Officer Morissette took a final vote of each Council member with Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Lynch, and Presiding Officer Morissette voting to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order. The motion passed unanimously.

- 6. PETITION NO. 1497A – Bloom Energy Corporation amended petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a customer-side 2-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at Bridgeport Hospital, 267 Grant Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and an additional condition to submit a post-construction noise analysis including but not limited to, measurements performed near 25 Ford Place; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon abstaining.

7. **PETITION NO. 1574 - 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 Southington Substation to Cook Hill Junction Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 11.2 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1690, 1208, 1355 and 1610 Lines between Southington Substation in Southington and Cook Hill Junction in Wallingford including the installation of approximately 650 feet of the 1690 Line underground at Lucchini Junction in Meriden, traversing the municipalities of Southington, Cheshire, Wallingford, and Meriden, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. Decision.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and an additional condition to submit a wetland and vernal pool protection plan prior to commencement of construction; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **PETITION NO. 1579 – KCE CT 9, 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 5.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility located at 2 Ella T. Grasso Turnpike, Windsor Locks, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Motion for Protective Order.**

Mr. Hannon moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order, related to the disclosure of project costs, cost recovery mechanisms and energy pricing; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **PETITION NO. 1581 - KCE CT 8, 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 battery energy storage facility located at 44 Skinner Street, East Hampton, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Lynch moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Section 16-50j-40(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, as no later than December 24, 2023; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **PETITION NO. 1582 - 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 Pootatuck to West Devon Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 3.3 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1580, 1241, 1483 and 1545 Lines between The United Illuminating Company's (UI) Pootatuck Substation in Shelton, UI's Trap Falls Substation in Shelton and Eversource's West Devon Junction in Stratford, traversing the municipalities of Shelton and Stratford, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Section 16-50j-40(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, as no later than December 30, 2023; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **PETITION NO. 1583 - TRITEC Americas, LLC notice of election to waive exclusion from Connecticut Siting Council jurisdiction, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k(e), and petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 0.999-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at Parcel Nos. 113-1 and 113-1-A, 428 Bethmour Road, Bethany, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Request for Party and CEPA Intervenor Status. Schedule.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to grant Party Status to the Town of Bethany; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

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

After taking up Item No. 14, the Council returned to this item and Mr. Nguyen moved to grant Party and CEPA Intervenor Status to the Town of Bethany; seconded by Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 12 – 13

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 12 - 13. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

12. **TS-DISH-134-230728 - Dish Wireless, LLC request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 35 South Road, Stafford, Connecticut. Decision.**

13. **TS-VER-134-230731 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 169 Hampden Road, Stafford, Connecticut. Decision.**

14. **Administrative Matters**

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 516, Tuesday, August 29, 2023, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, August 31, 2023, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing
- Petition No. 1572, Thursday, September 7, 2023, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

After taking up Item No. 14, the Council returned to Item No. 11.

Adjournment.

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

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf