



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of September 28, 2023

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, September 28, 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
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Robert Hannon
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
Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo
Siting Analyst

Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst
Adam N. Morrone
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

Personal Privilege

Mr. Lynch notified the Council of the passing of former staff secretary, Gloria Owens, a dedicated employee.

1. **Minutes of September 14, 2023.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2023; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon abstaining.

2. **DOCKET NO. 516 – The United Illuminating Company (UI) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Fairfield to Congress 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 along approximately 7.3 miles of the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Metro-North Railroad corridor between Structure B648S located east of Sasco Creek in Fairfield and UI’s Congress Street Substation in Bridgeport, and the rebuild of two existing 115-kV transmission lines along 0.23 mile of existing UI right-of-way to facilitate interconnection of the rebuilt 115-kV electric transmission lines at UI’s existing Ash Creek, Resco, Pequonnock and Congress Street Substations traversing the municipalities of Bridgeport and Fairfield, Connecticut. Town of Fairfield and Grouped LLC Intervenors Motion for Continuance.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to grant in part the Town of Fairfield and Grouped LLC Intervenors’ Motions for Continuance with a continued evidentiary hearing date of November 16, 2023, and to deny in part the Motions for Continuance on claims that the Council did not provide proper notice of the application and the public hearings held on it; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **PETITION NO. 1278B - Bloom Energy Corporation, as an agent for Medtronic Inc., second request to amend to its declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, operation and maintenance of an additional customer-side 2,000-kilowatt fuel cell facility to be located at the Medtronic campus, 195 McDermott Road, North Haven, Connecticut. 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 February 3, 2024; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **PETITION NO. 1566 - 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 Card Substation to Wawecus Junction Upgrade Project consisting of the replacement of electric transmission line structures along its existing 12.5-mile electric transmission right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) Nos. 1080/1490 and 1080/1070 Lines between Card Substation in Lebanon, Stockhouse Road Substation in Bozrah and Wawecus Junction in Norwich, Connecticut traversing the municipalities of Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah and Norwich, 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 the additional condition to coordinate with the Pomeroy State Park Scenic Reserve Manager prior to commencement of construction in the park; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **PETITION NO. 1569 – Dish Wireless, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 224 Lovely Street, Avon, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Hannon moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional condition to install a generator plug for the deployment of a temporary emergency backup power source; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen recusing.

6. **PETITION NO. 1571 – Dish Wireless, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at the Norwich Public Works Department, 50 Clinton Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional condition to install a generator plug for the deployment of a temporary emergency backup power source; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1572 – East Windsor Solar Two, 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 4.0-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 31 Thrall Road, East Windsor, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.**

Mr. Lynch is recused from this proceeding.

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

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Hannon, and Presiding Officer Morissette in favor of the proposed facility with the development and management plan conditions to implement a detailed landscaping plan, install a farm-style livestock fence, and consult with Eversource Energy regarding other utility interconnection designs that reduce visibility to the extent feasible; Mr. Silvestri voting no; and Mr. Lynch recusing.

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

8. **PETITION NO. 1584 - Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a small wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on the roof of a City-owned, multiuse building located at 1212 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional condition to install a battery backup power cabinet, as proposed; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **PETITION NO. 1586 – Dominion Energy Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, that neither a new Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) nor a modification to its existing Certificate is required to revise the boundaries of the Millstone Power Station electric generating facility site located off Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut. Request for Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to grant Intervenor status to Michelle Neri; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Neri's request for a public hearing was rendered moot due to the Council's September 14, 2023 written action taken in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Section 16-50j-40(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to set the date by which to render a decision as no later than January 24, 2024.

10. **PETITION NO. 1587 – Endurant Energy 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 350 Knotter Drive, Cheshire, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. 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 February 7, 2024; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **PETITION NO. 1588 – Endurant Energy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 7.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility located at 22 Deerfield Road, Windsor, 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 February 13, 2024; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item No. 12

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item No. 12. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

12. **TS-DISH-090-230911 - Dish Wireless, LLC request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut. Decision.**

13. Administrative Matters

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. Tritec Americas, LLC, the Town of Bethany, and the Rural Bethany Association Joint Request for Stay.

Mr. Nguyen moved to add this item to the agenda; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Nguyen moved to grant the Joint Request for Stay; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Petition No. 1583, Thursday, October 5, 2023, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing. **CANCELLED**
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, October 12, 2023, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 516, Tuesday, October 17, 2023, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, October 26, 2023, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing. **CANCELLED**

Adjournment.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf