

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of November 9, 2023

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, November 9, 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 Robert Silvestri Daniel P. Lynch, Jr. 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

1. Minutes of October 12, 2023.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the Minutes of October 12, 2023; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch abstaining.

2. DOCKET NO. 509 - Homeland Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road, New Canaan, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report and the recommendations to utilize mechanical removal if bedrock is encountered and install a 1,000-gallon propane tank for emergency backup generation; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed with Mr. Silvestri abstaining.

3. DOCKET NO. 517 – MCM Holdings, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at the Boy Scouts of America Camp Hoyt, 288 Simpaug Turnpike (Parcel No. 12-29), Redding, Connecticut. Motion for Protective Order.

Mr. Silvestri moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order, pursuant to CGS §1-210(b) related to the disclosure of monthly rent and financial terms contained within the lease agreement; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

4. PETITON NO. 1533A – ReNew Developers, LLC Declaratory Ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a customer-side 4.99-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at 42 Old Amston Road, Colchester, Connecticut. Reopening of this Declaratory Ruling based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Decision.

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve the modification to the declaratory ruling and grant the request for an extension of the construction deadline for the approved facility to be coextensive with the construction deadline for the additional facility, with the conditions noted in the staff report; the additional condition to consult with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Parks Division regarding vegetative screening to reduce visibility of the approved additional facility from the Airline State Park Trail; and the recommendation to implement the carbon capture technology in the event that the owner of the data center chooses to activate such functionalities; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

5. 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. Decision.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the additional conditions to submit a copy of the building permit prior to commencement of operation; and submit a revised Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that includes how water will be supplied to the site during a fire, a cross-section layout of the facility per manufacturer specifications and signed certification by the Fire Chief that training has been completed and the EOP is approved prior to commencement of operation; seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed unanimously.

6. 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. Decision.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, the additional conditions to submit a copy of the building permit prior to commencement of operation; submit a revised Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that includes how water will be supplied to the site during a fire, a cross-section layout of the facility per manufacturer specifications and signed certification by the Fire Chief that training has been completed and the EOP is approved prior to commencement of operation; and submit a post-construction sound measurement report that demonstrates compliance with Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Noise Control Regulations; and the recommendation that KCE consult with Eversource to determine the feasibility of connecting to existing electric distribution poles along the access drive; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

7. PETITION NO. 1589 - USS Somers Solar, 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 located at 360 Somers Road, Ellington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Schedule.

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

8. PETITION NO. 1592 - Santa Fuel, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.85-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 159 South Road, Somers, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Request for Public Hearing.

Mr. Nguyen moved to grant the request for a public hearing; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

9. PETITION NO. 1593 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy petition for the proposed Montville Substation to North of Kitemaug Road Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 1.1 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1090 and 1000 Lines between Montville Substation and approximately 1200 feet north of Kitemaug Road in Montville, 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 March 18, 2024; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

10. PETITION NO. 1594 - Cellco 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 on the roof of the Greenwich Country Club clubhouse and associated equipment at ground level located at 19 Doubling Road, Greenwich, 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 January 4, 2024; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Administrative Matters

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 516, Thursday, November 16, 2023, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 517, Thursday, November 30, 2023, evidentiary hearing session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and public comment session beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2023, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

Mr. Silvestri moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously. Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/laf