



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 January 18, 2024

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, January 18, 2024. 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 Silvestri
Thomas Near, Ph.D.

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
(Mr. Lynch was absent for Item Nos. 1 – 3)

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 January 4, 2024.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve the Minutes of January 4, 2024; seconded by Dr. Near. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **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. Draft Findings of Fact.**

Dr. Near stated that he read the record for this proceeding.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Presiding Officer Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Silvestri, Mr. Golembiewski, and Dr. Near in favor of the proposed facility with the development and management plan conditions to implement the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)-recommended protective measures for the Savannah sparrow; submit a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Plan that includes contact information for regulatory agencies, spill cleanup contractors and local responders; submit the glare analysis that was conducted for the facility; submit a grounding study for the facility; and provide operations and emergency response training to local emergency responders; and Mr. Nguyen and Presiding Officer Morissette voting no.

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

3. **PETITION NO. 1591 - KCE CT 5, 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 Village Hill Road, Stafford (Parcel No. 71-6) and Willington (Parcel No. 52-001-00), Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, as amended, and the additional conditions to submit a BESF operational noise study, with mitigation measures, if necessary, confirming compliance with DEEP Noise Control Regulations; submit a site construction plan consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control* that contains a blue spotted salamander and Vernal Pool and Wetland Protection Plan; install temporary and permanent isolation barriers around the stormwater detention basin to reduce the potential for vernal pool obligate species from using the basin as a breeding area; submit a final access drive design sufficient to accommodate a tanker truck; submit a final stream crossing culvert design that conforms to DEEP and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stream crossing guidelines with a weight limit sufficient to accommodate a tanker truck; and provide a signed certification by the Fire Chief confirming the access drive and stream crossing culvert designs are

sufficient to accommodate a tanker truck and emergency vehicles; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski.
The motion passed unanimously.

4. **PETITION NO. 1596 - USS Torrington 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 1.99-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located on the former Torrington Landfill at 105 Vista Drive, Torrington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Silvestri moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Dr. Near. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 5 - 6

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 5 – 6. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

5. **TS-VER-069-231108 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1249 Hartford Pike, Killingly, Connecticut. Decision.**
6. **TS-VER-059T-231122 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 130 Welles Road, Groton, Connecticut. Decision.**
7. **Administrative Matters**

The following public hearings and energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 517, Tuesday, January 23, 2024, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, February 1, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Petition No. 1598, Thursday, February 8, 2024, **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, February 15, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 519, Tuesday, February 27, 2024, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

Dr. Near moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Silvestri. The motion passed unanimously.
Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melanie A. Bachman".

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf