



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of September 26, 2024

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, September 26, 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
Khristine Hall
Chance Carter
Bill Syme

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

Council Members Absent:

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr

Thomas Near, Ph.D.

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst 2
Ifeanyichukwu Nwankwo
Siting Analyst 1

Christina Walsh
Supervising Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst 2
Adam Morrone
Siting Analyst 1

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

1. Minutes of September 12, 2024.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2024; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed with Mr. Syme abstaining.

2. FORECAST 2024 - Connecticut Siting Council 2024 Review of the Ten-Year Forecast of Connecticut Electric Loads and Resources. Public Comment Session Schedule.

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve the schedule per staff recommendations; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PETITION NO. 754 - Best Management Practices for Electric and Magnetic Fields. Annual Review.

Ms. Hall moved to approve the Council's current Best Management Practices for Electric and Magnetic Fields, dated December 30, 2022, without any revisions; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

4. PETITION NO. 1607 – Hanwha Q Cells America, 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 4.0-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility located at Parcel No. 95-F10-247-5 and 95-F10-247-5A, 163 State Pier Road, New London, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.

Mr. Carter moved to table this item; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

5. PETITION NO. 1609 – 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 250 Carter Street, Manchester, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.

Ms. Hall moved to deny TRITEC's motion to strike portions of the Town and other party/intervenor post-hearing briefs, or in the alternative, to allow TRITEC to submit a rebuttal brief; seconded Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Syme 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 Ms. Hall and Mr. Syme voting in favor of the proposed facility with the conditions to submit a revised Emergency Operations Plan that includes additional sources of water supply, and use of a pollinator seed mix; and Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Carter, and Presiding Officer Morissette voting to deny this petition due to the cumulative adverse environmental effects associated with development of the solar facility at the proposed site, including, but not limited

to, wetland impacts and stream crossing, potential stormwater management issues related to site topography and residences downgradient of the site, and the total acreage of forest clearing, outweigh the public benefit of the renewable energy that would be produced by the proposed solar facility.

Presiding Officer Morissette directed staff to draft an Opinion and Decision and Order denying issuance of a declaratory ruling for this petition to be reviewed at the next meeting.

6. **PETITION NO. 1623 - HQCA Energy Solutions, 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 battery energy storage facility and associated equipment located at 40 Norwich Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Motion for Protective Order – Response to Council Interrogatory Nos. 3 and 62.d Cost Information.**

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

7. **PETITION NO. 1633 - HyAxiom, 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 grid-side 4.939-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at 540 Longbrook Avenue, Stratford, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Carter moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, amending paragraph 2 on page 3 of the staff report to include the annual percentage electrical efficiency of the fuel cell facility with the utilization of waste heat, if available in the record; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 Biennium Budget.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve the budget for presentation to the energy and telecommunications industries for comment; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item No. 9

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item No. 9. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

9. **TS-VER-056-240906 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 15 North Granby Road, Granby, Connecticut. Decision.**

10. Administrative Matters

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Docket No. 524, Thursday, October 3, 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, October 10, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 525, Tuesday, October 22, 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, October 24, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

Mr. Carter moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf