



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of October 10, 2024

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, October 10, 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
Bill Syme

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

Council Members Absent:

Chance Carter

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr

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 26, 2024.

Mr. Syme moved to approve the Minutes of September 26, 2024; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 175 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Bell Atlantic Mobile Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a cellular telecommunications facility at the Groton Police Department headquarters, Groton Long Point Road, Groton, Connecticut. Transfer of Certificate.**

Ms. Hall moved to approve the Transfer of Certificate; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DOCKET NO. 522 – Stafford Solar One, LLC 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 and associated equipment located at 92 Upper Road, Stafford, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Motion for Protective Order – Lease Agreement Financial Terms.**

Mr. Nguyen moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210(b) and §16-50o, related to the disclosure of financial terms contained within the lease agreement; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **PETITION NO. 1443A - SR North Stonington, LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 9.9-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on five parcels located north and south of Providence New London Turnpike (State Route 184), west of Boombridge Road and north of Interstate 95 in North Stonington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Motion for Protective Order – R.C.S.A. §16-50j-62 Final Report.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order; pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-62, related to the disclosure of construction cost information contained within the Final Report; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **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. Motion to Reopen based on Changed Conditions.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve the Motion to Reopen and Modify and to hold a public hearing; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **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, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

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. Nguyen, Mr. Golembiewski, Ms. Hall, Mr. Syme, and Presiding Officer Morissette voting for denial due to the cumulative substantial adverse environmental effects associated with the development of the facility at the proposed site that outweigh the public benefit of the renewable energy that would be produced.

7. **PETITION NO. 1611 – LSE Scutum LLC and LSE Bootes LLC (Lodestar 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 1.93-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 141 Town Farm Road, and Parcel Nos. 86-326 and 86-164, Abbe Road, Enfield, 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. Nguyen, Mr. Golembiewski, Ms. Hall, Mr. Syme, and Presiding Officer Morissette in favor of approving the facility with the Development and Management Plan conditions to shift the southern equipment inverter pad at least 100 feet from the east property line; submit a final landscaping plan that includes vegetative screening along the entirety of the eastern, western and southern boundaries of the site; submit an annual maintenance plan for the landscaping that shall be implemented for the life of the facility; submit a post-construction operational noise study that documents compliance with state standards and the identification of any noise mitigation measures that are employed to adhere to the standards; and submit a report after consultation with Eversource as to the feasibility of consolidating the two electrical interconnections; and with the recommendation to coordinate facility construction with the Town to minimize disruption to the development of the multi-use trail to the extent feasible.

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

8. **PETITION NO. 1634 – IPB Fuel Cell 1, LLC and IPB Fuel Cell 2, LLC (FuelCell Energy, 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 customer-side 1-megawatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment to be located at the Innovation Partnership Building on the University of Connecticut campus, 159 Discovery Drive, Storrs (Mansfield), Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Motion for Protective Order – Response to Council Interrogatory No. 3 – Cost Information.**

Ms. Hall moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210(b) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-62(d), related to the disclosure of project costs, cost recovery mechanisms and energy pricing; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **PETITION NO. 1638 – LSE Sextans LLC and LSE Sextans II LLC (Lodestar 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 3.0-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at Parcel Nos. 221-3-1 and 222-4-26, Lovers Lane, Torrington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Nguyen moved to set the date by which to render a decision in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176(e) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than February 12, 2025; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Administrative Matters

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- 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.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, November 7, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Petition No. 1637, Tuesday, November 19, 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, November 21, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

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

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf