



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 November 21, 2024

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, November 21, 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
Chance Carter

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

Council Member Absent:

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Robert Mercier
Siting Analyst 2
Ifenyichukwu 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 November 7, 2024.

Ms. Hall moved to approve the Minutes of November 7, 2024; seconded by Ms. Katz. The motion passed with Mr. Golembiewski abstaining.

2. **DOCKET NO. 524 - Greenskies Clean Energy, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 4.625-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at Fawn Meadow Lane (Parcel No. 029-018D), Woodbury, 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; Mr. Carter, Ms. Hall, Mr. Syme, and Presiding Officer Morissette in favor of approving the facility with the Development and Management Plan conditions to include consultation with the Town of Woodbury to determine an acceptable access road slope; avoid filling the wetland if the access drive is paved; consultation with property owners to the east regarding landscape plantings to mitigate views of the facility, if necessary; submission of an Eastern Hognose Snake Protection Plan; relocation of the southwest inverter/transformer pad to increase the distance to the abutting property line; removal of the northern access road to avoid impacts to farmland soil; and consultation with emergency responders regarding adequate water supplies for any fire issues at the facility site; and with the Decision and Order conditions to furnish a bond for costs associated with decommissioning the facility and restoration of the prime farmland soils within the boundaries of the site as identified in Application Figure 7 at the end of the solar facility's useful life in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k(a) and the site lease agreement; and Ms. Katz abstaining.

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

3. **PETITION NO. 923A - Fuel Cell Energy, Inc. amended petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the installation and operation of a Fuel Cell test facility located at 539 Technology Park Drive, Torrington, Connecticut. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Ms. Hall 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 April 6, 2025; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **PETITION NO. 1592A - 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. Reopening of this petition based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Schedule.**

Mr. Carter moved to take this item off the table; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

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

5. **PETITION NO. 1641 - 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 Best Western Hotel and associated equipment at ground level located at 490 Saw Mill Road, West Haven, Connecticut. Decision.**

Ms. Hall moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, and an addition to Condition No. 7 to include notice of the decommissioning of the non-tower antenna array on the billboard structure at 478 Saw Mill Road or a date by which the non-tower antenna array is expected to be decommissioned, seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **PETITION NO. 1642 - 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 Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project consisting of the replacement and partial relocation of its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1270 and 1337 high pressure fluid filled (HPFF) electric transmission cables with cross linked polyethylene (XLPE) electric transmission cables along approximately 3.6 miles of existing and new right-of-way between Triangle Street Substation and Middle River Substation in Danbury, Connecticut and related electric transmission cable and substation improvements. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Ms. Hall 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 March 26, 2025; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **PETITION NO. 1644 - C-Tec 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 1.625-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment to be located at the former Bristol Landfill, 685 Lake Avenue, Bristol, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Set Date for Decision.**

Ms. Hall 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 March 29, 2025; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item No. 8

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item No. 8. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

8. **TS-T-MOBILE-161-241104 - T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 180 School Road, Wilton, Connecticut. Decision.**
9. **Administrative Matters**

The following energy/telecommunications meeting dates were discussed:

- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, December 5, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Petition No. 1637, Tuesday, December 10, 2024, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 526, Thursday, December 12, 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, December 19, 2024, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf