



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of March 20, 2025

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, March 20, 2025. 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
Elin Katz
Bill Syme
Chance Carter

Brian Golembiewski
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Gillett)
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 March 6, 2025.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the Minutes of March 6, 2025; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **DOCKET NO. 490 - The United Illuminating Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Old Town Substation Rebuild Project that entails construction, maintenance and operation of a 115/13.8- kilovolt (kV) air-insulated replacement substation facility located on the existing Old Town Substation parcel at 282 Kaechele Place and two parcels immediately north totaling approximately 3 acres that are owned by the United Illuminating Company at 312 and 330 Kaechele Place, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and related transmission structure and interconnection improvements. Development and Management Plan.**

Ms. Hall moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DOCKET NO. 519 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 11 Chamberlain Road, East Windsor, Connecticut. Transfer of Certificate.**

Mr. Carter moved to approve the Transfer of Certificate to The Towers LLC; seconded by Ms. Katz. The motion passed with Mr. Syme and Mr. Lynch recusing.

4. **DOCKET NO. 530 – Homeland Towers, LLC and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment located at 196 East Haddam-Colchester Turnpike, East Haddam, Connecticut. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.**

Mr. Nguyen moved to grant Party Status to Stephen and Cindyann Longobardi; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **PETITION NO. 1440A - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless amended petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on an extension of the support structure above the top of an existing billboard located on a commercial property at 115 Peat Meadow Road, New Haven, Connecticut. Decision.**

Ms. Katz moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **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). 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, Ms. Katz, Mr. Lynch, and Presiding Officer Morissette in favor of approving the facility with the Development and Management Plan conditions to submit a Landscaping Plan; submit an Operations and Maintenance Plan that includes annual vegetation maintenance to be implemented for the life of the facility; install an agricultural-style fence; and install noise mitigation measures at the inverter locations, and the Declaratory Ruling conditions to conduct a post-construction operational noise study that documents compliance with state standards and, if necessary, the identification of any additional noise mitigation measures that are employed to adhere to the standards; and submit a copy of the final Emergency Response Plan to local emergency responders prior to commencement of operation, and provide emergency response training that includes an itemized list of necessary fire suppression equipment and adequate water supplies for any fire issues at the facility site.

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

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. Decision.**

Ms. Hall moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, as amended, with Condition No. 4 to include *an itemized list of necessary fire suppression equipment and adequate water supplies for any fire issues at the facility site*; Condition No. 5 to submit a post-construction operational noise study that documents compliance with state standards, *if deemed necessary by Council staff* and the identification of any mitigation measures that are employed to adhere to the standards, if necessary; and the additional condition to submit a copy of the DEEP Authorization for Disruption of a Solid Waste Disposal Area prior to commencement of construction; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch recusing.

8. **PETITION NO. 1645 – VCP Mansfield LF, LLC d/b/a Verogy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.8-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment to be located at the former Mansfield Landfill, 221 Warrenville Road, Mansfield, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, as amended, with Condition No. 5 to include *an itemized list of necessary fire suppression equipment and adequate water supplies for any fire issues at the facility site*; Condition No. 6 to submit a post-construction operational noise study that documents compliance with state standards, *if deemed necessary by Council staff* and the identification of any mitigation measures that are employed to adhere to the standards, if necessary; and the additional conditions to implement the State-listed Species Protection Plan and submit a copy of the DEEP Authorization for Disruption of a Solid Waste Disposal Area prior to commencement of construction; seconded by Ms. Katz. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Lynch opposed to amended Condition No. 6.

9. **PETITION NO. 1656 - 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 South Naugatuck Substation to Beacon Falls Junction Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 4 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1142, 1319, 1580, and 1808 Lines between South Naugatuck Substation and Beacon Falls Substation traversing the municipalities of Naugatuck, Beacon Falls, and Oxford, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. 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 Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-40(c), as no later than August 3, 2025; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 10-11

Presiding Officer Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 10-11. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

10. **TS-T-MOBILE-143-250115 - T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 1210 Highland Avenue, Torrington, Connecticut. Decision.**
11. **TS-T-MOBILE-158-250213 - T-Mobile request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located at 92 Greens Farms Road, Westport, Connecticut. Decision.**
12. **Administrative Matters**

The following upcoming calendar events were discussed:

- Docket No. 470C, Tuesday, April 1, 2025, **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, April 3, 2025, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Petition No. 1655, Thursday, April 10, 2025, **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, April 17, 2025, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 530, Thursday, April 24, 2025, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

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

Presiding Officer Morissette adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf