



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting of January 22, 2026

A Zoom remote conference meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, January 22, 2026. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Vice Chair Morissette, at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

John Morissette
Vice Chair
Chance Carter
Khristine Hall
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Bill Syme

Brian Golembiewski
(designee for Commissioner Dykes)
Quat Nguyen
(designee for Chairman Elect Wiehl)
Dr. Scott C. Williams

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. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2026.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2026; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed with Mr. Golembiewski abstaining.

2. **DOCKET NO. 528 – Tarpon Towers III, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment located at 746 East Street, Andover, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.**

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

3. **DOCKET NO. 532 – LSE Serpens LLC (Lodestar Energy) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 3.0-megawatt-AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment on 13 parcels located south of West Hill Road (Parcel Nos. 253/003/018; 253/003/033 through 043 and 053-003-045), Torrington, Connecticut and associated electrical interconnection. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Vice Chair Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Syme and Mr. Lynch voting to approve the facility; Mr. Golembiewski voting to deny the facility due to core forest impacts, bat habitat impacts, its location on Class I watershed lands, and water quality impacts; Mr. Nguyen and Ms. Hall voting to deny the facility due to core forest impacts; Mr. Carter voting to deny the facility due to core forest impacts and proximity to reservoirs; and Dr. Williams and Vice Chair Morissette voting to deny the facility due to core forest impacts and water quality impacts.

Vice Chair Morissette directed staff to draft an Opinion and Decision and Order denying the facility to be reviewed at the next meeting.

4. **DOCKET NO. 535 – The Towers, LLC 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 835 Norwich Worcester Turnpike (Route 169), Woodstock, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Vice Chair Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Nguyen, Ms. Hall, Mr. Carter, Dr. Williams, Mr. Syme, Mr. Lynch, and Vice Chair Morissette voting to approve the facility.

Vice Chair Morissette directed staff to draft an Opinion and Decision and Order approving the facility to be reviewed at the next meeting.

5. **DOCKET NO. 548 – 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 38 and 42A Hidden Brook Drive, Brookfield, Connecticut. Completeness**

Review, Schedule, Deposition of the Transcript. Motion for Protective Order. Request for Intervenor Status.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve the schedule per staff recommendations; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carter moved to grant the Motion for Protective Order, pursuant to CGS §1-210(b), related to the disclosure of financial terms contained within the lease agreement; seconded by Ms. Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hall moved to grant the Request for Intervenor status to Lake Lillinonah Shores #1 Condo Association; seconded by Mr. Golembiewski. The motion passed unanimously.

- 6. PETITION NO. 1589B – 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. Reopening of August 2, 2024 Final Decision on Remand not to Issue a Declaratory Ruling based on changed conditions pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a(b). Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Vice Chair Morissette conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Golembiewski, Mr. Nguyen, Ms. Hall, Mr. Carter, Dr. Williams, Mr. Syme, Mr. Lynch, and Vice Chair Morissette voting to approve the facility with Development and Management Plan conditions to install plastic or foam cushion guards to the corners of the exposed panels to safeguard parachutists, maintenance personnel and livestock, and to submit a grounding study prior to commencement of construction.

Vice Chair Morissette directed staff to draft an Opinion and Decision and Order approving the facility to be reviewed at the next meeting.

- 7. PETITION NO. 1685 – Willington Solar One, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.975-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at Parcel No. 046-004-00, Lohse Road, Willington, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Decision.**

Mr. Golembiewski moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed with Mr. Nguyen and Dr. Williams voting no based on core forest intrusion.

- 8. PETITION NO. 1696 – Terryville Solar One, 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 construction, maintenance and operation of a 0.975-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at 270 Preston Road, Plymouth, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. Schedule.

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

- 9. PETITION NO. 1697 – CEFIA Holdings, 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 1.7-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at the Connecticut Department of Transportation Headquarters, 2710-2880 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, 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 May 25, 2026; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

- 10. PETITION NO. 1698 – LSE Lynx LLC (Lodestar Energy) petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 4.65-megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated equipment located at 140 Nod Road, Simsbury, Connecticut, and associated electrical interconnection. CGS §4-176 Deadline for Action – Request for Hearing.**

Mr. Nguyen moved to approve Town of Simsbury's request for a public hearing; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed unanimously.

- 11. PETITION NO. 1699 – SMS CT MG02A, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 1.93-megawatt AC battery energy storage facility and associated equipment to be located at Guilford High School, 605 New England Road, Guilford, 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 June 3, 2026; seconded by Mr. Syme. The motion passed with Dr. Williams recusing.

- 12. PETITION NO. 1700 – VFS, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 920-kilowatt fuel cell facility and associated equipment located at the University of Connecticut Avery Point Campus, 1084 Shennecossett Road, Groton, 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 June 3, 2026; seconded by Mr. Nguyen. The motion passed unanimously.

Tower Share Request Consent Calendar - Item Nos. 13 - 15

- 13. TS-VER-126-251125 – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications tower located at 308 (a/k/a 320) River Road, Shelton, Connecticut. Decision.**
- 14. TS-VER-077-251222 – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications tower located at 93 Lake Street, Manchester, Connecticut. Decision.**
- 15. TS-VER-016-251222 – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications tower located at 89 Wewaka Brook Road, Bridgewater, Connecticut. Decision.**

Vice Chair Morissette introduced the Tower Share Request Consent Calendar as Item Nos. 13-15. The Consent Calendar was adopted with Mr. Lynch recusing from Item No. 14.

16. Administrative Matters

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

- Docket No. 492A, Tuesday, January 27, 2026, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 545, Thursday, January 29, 2026, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 546, Tuesday, February 3, 2026, **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 5, 2026, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Energy/Telecommunications Meeting, Thursday, February 19, 2026, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** via Zoom remote conferencing
- Docket No. 543, Tuesday, February 24, 2026, **continued evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.
- Docket No. 542, Thursday, February 26, 2026, **evidentiary hearing session** beginning at 2:00 p.m. and **public comment session** beginning at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Adjournment.

Mr. Lynch moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Carter. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Morissette adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melanie A. Bachman", written in a cursive style.

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf