



WELCOME

CEEJAC Land Subcommittee Meeting July 12, 2025

If you are online, Please introduce yourself in the chat:

- *Name,*
- *Affiliation,*
- *Where you're calling from*

What is CEEJAC?

Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council is an appointed body of environmental justice residents and advocates, business and state agency representatives.

The council advises the Commissioner of DEEP on incorporation of environmental justice across DEEP's programs, policies, and activities.

Agenda

Connecticut Equity and
Environmental Justice
Advisory Council (CEEJAC)



- **Welcome**
- **Solar & Clean Energy in EJ Communities**
 - **Shared Clean Energy Facilities (SCEF)**
 - Claire Sickinger, CT DEEP
 - **Community Stories**
 - Bates Friends Forever
 - City of Bridgeport
- **Discussion and Q&A**
- **Calls to Action**



Land Subcommittee

Co-Chairs:

Yaw Darko, CT Land
Conservation Council

Jhoni Ada, Sierra Club CT

Subcommittee Goals:

- Identify a public participation process that includes community stakeholders in the development of grant funding programs that are specifically focused on EJ communities
- Identify strategies for conserving and revitalizing/remediating land in urban environments
- Identify opportunities to reduce barriers to accessing open space beyond urban parks

Meeting Ground Rules

Connecticut Equity and
Environmental Justice
Advisory Council (CEEJAC)



1. Listen respectfully, without interrupting
2. Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views
3. Only have one conversation at a time
4. Be mindful to give others and opportunity to speak
5. Focus on the task at hand rather than the position
6. Avoid off-topic conversations
7. Criticize ideas, not individuals
8. Commit to learning, not debating
9. Avoid blame, speculation, and inflammatory language
10. Avoid assumptions about any member of the workgroup



SHARED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITY PROGRAM – YEAR 7

CEEJAC LAND SUBCOMMITTEE

SHARED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITIES PROGRAM (SCEF)



- Competitive clean energy procurement run annually by Eversource and United Illuminating (UI) and overseen by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)
 - Currently planning for Year 7 procurement in 2026
- DEEP makes recommendations to PURA annually on September 1st regarding:
 - Procurement price cap
 - Bid preferences
 - Revisions to Program Manual
 - Including changes from recently passed legislation, such as Public Act 25-173
 - Revisions to Appendix B (part of the bidder's application)

SHARED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITIES PROGRAM (SCEF)



- Electric customers can subscribe to the program and receive a \$0.025/kwh credit on their energy bill
- Required subscriber breakdown: 50% low-income customers (including affordable housing), 20% small business customers, 20% low- and moderate-income customers, and 10% any eligible customer

SCEF ID	Electric Distribution Company	Municipality	Technology	Size (MW)	Number of Subscribers
SCEF-7122	Eversource	Enfield	Solar	4	678
SCEF2-7856	Eversource	Norfolk	Solar	4	398
SCEF3-8532	Eversource	Enfield	Solar	4	519
SCEF3-8547	Eversource	Colchester	Solar	3.984	785
SCEF12007101 724169	United Illuminating	Derby	Fuel cell	2.8	735
SCEF12007101 852221	United Illuminating	Milford	Solar	1.5	211

BID PREFERENCES



- Bid preferences are used to incentivize project types/characteristics that help achieve state policy goals, even if they make the project more expensive.
- In crafting bid preferences, DEEP must consider the bid preference percentage amount, establish clear eligibility requirements, and determine an appropriate enforcement mechanism.
- The bid preference does not act as an adder to provide more money to the developer; it reduces the bid price for evaluation purposes to make it more competitive.
 - If a project bids in at \$100/MWh and gets a 20% bid preference it is evaluated as if it costs \$80/MWh. If selected, it still received \$100/MWh.
- Past bid preferences:
 - 20% bid preference for projects on landfills and Brownfields (Years 1-6, 2020-2025)
 - 30% bid preference for solar canopy projects (Years 3-5, 2022-2024)
 - 40% bid preference for solar canopy projects, allowed to bid above the price cap (Year 6, 2025)

BID PREFERENCES



Recommendation:

- 20% bid preference for projects on landfills and Brownfields
- 40% bid preference for solar canopy projects

Considering:

- Bid preference for projects sited in Distressed Municipalities

DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITY BID PREFERENCE CONSIDERATIONS



Definition: “Distressed Municipality” has the same meaning as in C.G.S. Sec. 32-9p(b)

Benefit:

- Customers in a Distressed Municipality are prioritized for subscriptions to SCEFs located within their Distressed Municipality
 - Hypothetical: Project is located in Waterbury (a Distressed Municipality), eligible customers that live in Waterbury are prioritized for subscriptions
- Public Act 25-173 created a uniform solar capacity tax requiring project owners to pay taxes to the municipality where the project is located

Background:

- Of the 52 projects selected to date, 10 are located in Environmental Justice Communities (2 in West Haven, 1 in Bridgeport, 1 in Stratford, 1 in Groton, 4 in Plainfield, and 1 in Griswold)
- Before PURA changed the program rules to allow prioritization of subscriptions for local customers, DEEP advocated against this bid preference, since there was not direct benefit to the community

DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITY BID PREFERENCE CONSIDERATIONS



Possible Structures:

- Bid preference for all projects located in Distressed Municipalities;
- Increased bid preference for projects located on landfills or brownfields in Distressed Municipalities; or
- Bid preference for certain projects within Distressed Municipalities, such as those located a certain distance away from areas zoned as residential

Other Considerations:

- Lack of bid preference for projects in Distressed Municipalities doesn't prevent customers in Distressed Municipalities from becoming subscribers
- Regardless of where a project is located, eligible customers in that service territory that are located in any Environmental Justice Community are prioritized for subscriptions, as well as other customers meeting certain criteria
 - Hypothetical: Project is located in Simsbury (not a Distressed Municipality), eligible customers within Eversource territory that live in any Environmental Justice Community are prioritized for subscriptions

QUESTIONS

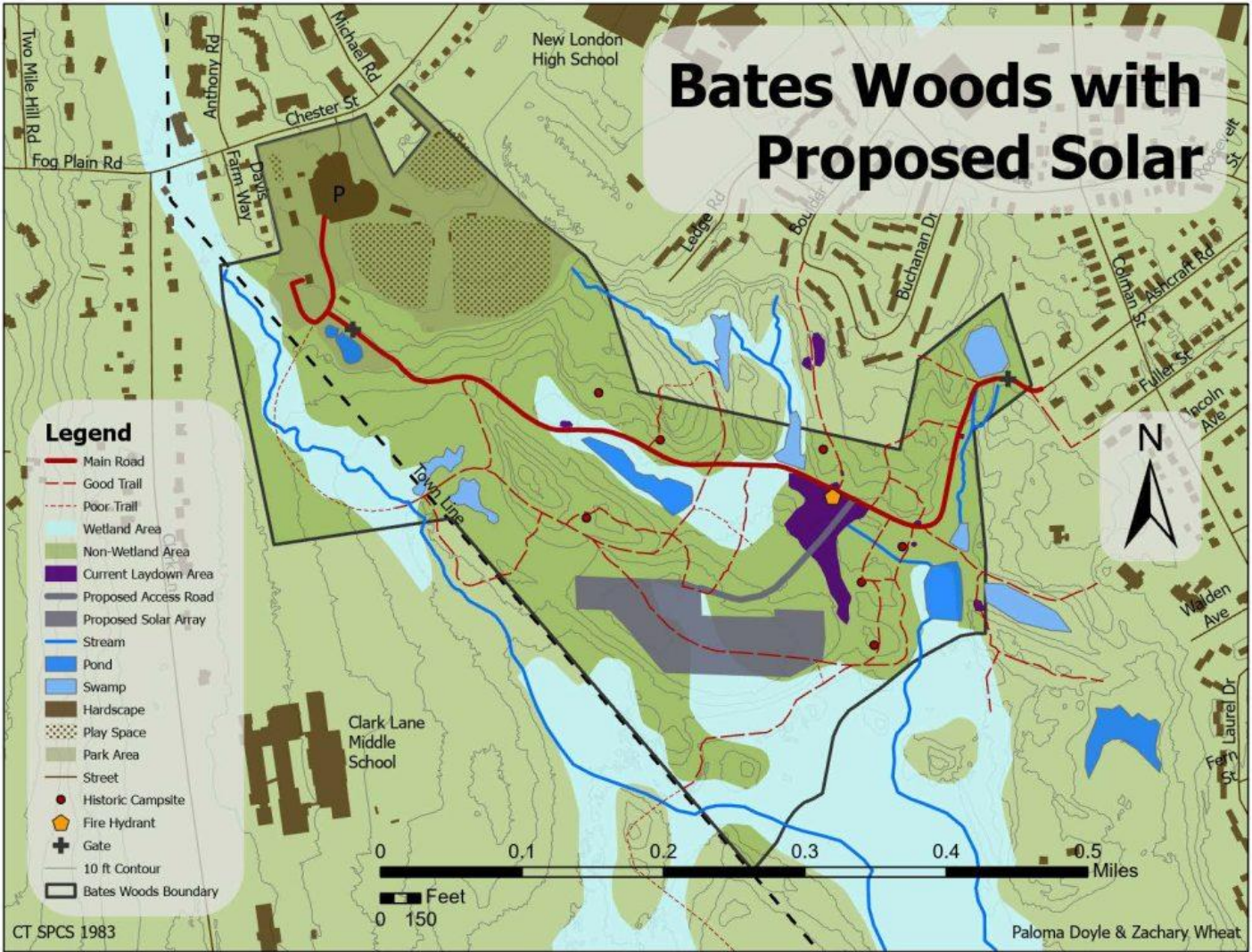


- Should DEEP recommend a bid preference for projects sited in Distressed Municipalities to PURA?
- If so, which projects should be eligible? Some options:
 - Bid preference for all projects located in Distressed Municipalities;
 - Increased bid preference for projects located on landfills or brownfields in Distressed Municipalities; or
 - Bid preference for certain projects within Distressed Municipalities, such as those located a certain distance away from areas zoned as residential

NEXT STEPS

- DEEP was accepting written comments on the Year 7 SCEF Recommendations until July 29, 2025 at 5pm
 - Any further comments can be sent to DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov as soon as possible with the subject line "SCEF Comments"
 - All comments will be posted on DEEP's website
- DEEP will file SCEF recommendations with PURA by September 1, 2025, in Docket No. 25-08-04

BATES WOODS SURROUND AND TRAIL MAP



TOP OF LANDFILL IN THE FALL: BEFORE CONSTRUCTION



TOP OF LANDFILL IN JULY: AFTER INITIAL PHASES OF CONSTRUCTION



TEAM CLEANING UP A WORK DAY





Contact us at:
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THANKS!