



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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### CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 1, 2015

Richard Procanik  
Core States Group  
58 Mount Bethel Road, Suite 301  
Warren, NJ 07059

RE: **PETITION NO. 1147** – Bloom Energy Corporation, as an agent for Home Depot USA, Inc., petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the location and construction of a Customer-Side 200-Kilowatt Fuel Cell to be located at the Home Depot store at 1932 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Montville, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Procanik:

At a public meeting held on April 30, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, with the following conditions:

- The facility owner/operator shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v.
- This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred, provided the facility owner/operator/transferee is current with payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v and the transferee provides written confirmation that the transferee agrees to comply with the terms, limitations and conditions contained in the Declaratory Ruling, including timely payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v.
- If the facility owner/operator is a wholly owned subsidiary of a corporation or other entity and is sold/transferred to another corporation or other entity, the Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition, dated March 6, 2015, and in compliance with Public Act 11-101, An Act Adopting Certain Safety Recommendations of the Thomas Commission.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Very truly yours,

*Robert Stein* <sup>MAB</sup>

Robert Stein  
Chairman

RS/MP/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated April 30, 2015

- c: The Honorable Ronald K. McDaniel, Mayor, Town of Montville
- Marcia Vlaun, Town Planner, Town of Montville
- Amy Shanahan, Bloom Energy



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### Petition No. 1147

### Bloom Energy Corporation

### Montville, Connecticut

### Staff Report

April 30, 2015

On March 10, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Bloom Energy Corporation (Bloom), as an agent for Home Depot USA, Inc., for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the installation of a 200-kilowatt (kW) fuel cell facility at the Home Depot store at 1932 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Montville, Connecticut.

The Home Depot store is located on a 22.5-acre parcel zoned as Commercial-2 (C2). Land uses immediately south and east of the property are commercial and retail uses also within the C2 zone. Properties north and west of the Home Depot property are residential. The nearest structure to the proposed fuel cell is a retail strip mall that is approximately 225 feet to the south. The nearest residential property is approximately 390 feet to the west on Pollys Lane.

Bloom proposes to install the fuel cell within a paved drive aisle behind the Home Depot building.

The facility would be a 200-kW Bloom solid oxide fuel cell customer-side distributed resources project. The overall dimensions of the fuel cell would be approximately 32 feet 8 inches long, 8 feet 7 inches wide, and 6 feet 9 inches high. The facility would be interconnected to the existing switchgear inside the electrical room near the northwest corner of the Home Depot building. The facility would be fueled by natural gas supplied by Yankee Gas Company via a new gas meter assembly adjacent to the existing meter. A gas shut-off valve would also be provided. The new gas service line would branch off of the existing Yankee Gas Company line within the paved drive aisle area.

Visual impact from the proposed project would be minimal due to intervening vegetation between the fuel cell and the homes located approximately 390 feet to the west along Pollys Lane. The Home Depot property is higher in elevation than the homes to the north on Podurgiel Lane and the fuel cell would not likely be visible from these homes. The fuel cell facility would comply with all applicable Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) air and water quality standards. The facility would meet DEEP noise regulations without the need for sound remediation.

The facility would be remotely monitored by Bloom using software and hardware safety circuits that can detect abnormalities in operation. The fuel cell facility is designed in accordance with American National Standards Institute and Canadian Standards Association (ANSI/CSA) America FC 1-2004 for stationary fuel cell power systems and includes extensive safety control systems, including both automatic and manual shutdown mechanisms that comply with pertinent engineering standards.

The Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), in its Final Decision in Docket No. 12-02-09, determined that Bloom's Energy Server qualifies as a Class I renewable energy source as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-1(a)(26)(A).

Bloom's engineering consultant discussed the proposed project with Montville's Assistant Planner/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Tom Sanders, in February 2015. Mr. Sanders requested that the facility maintain a 50-foot setback from the property line. The proposed fuel cell location complies with the setback. Bloom mailed notification of the project to abutting property owners, Town of Montville officials, and required state agencies on March 6, 2015. On March 16, 2015, Bloom provided notice to State Representative Kevin Ryan and the property owner of 2040 Route 32, which were both left off of the original notification mailing. The Council has not received any comments.

The proposed installation of the fuel cell is not expected to have any substantial adverse environmental impacts. It would reduce the emission of air pollutants that contribute to smog, acid rain, and global climate change. It would also contribute to the state's use of renewable energy.

Aerial view of Home Depot property.

