

September 4, 2015

*Via Federal Express*

Melanie Bachman  
Acting Executive Director  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

**Re: Petition No. 1178 – Petition of Fusion Solar Center, LLC for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is Required for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of a 20 MWac Solar Photovoltaic Project in Potash Road in Sprague, Connecticut**

Dear Ms. Bachman:

Enclosed please find an original and fifteen (15) copies of Fusion Solar Center LLC's responses to Siting Council questions dated August 28, 2015 regarding the above-referenced petition. An electronic copy of these responses was forwarded to the Siting Council by e-mail earlier this afternoon.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

Attachment

Copy to:

Ben Combs (via electronic mail)  
Dave Rooney (via electronic mail)

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:	:	
	:	
PETITION OF FUSION SOLAR CENTER,	:	PETITION NO. 1178
LLC FOR A DECLARATORY RULING	:	
THAT A CERTIFICATE OF	:	
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND	:	
PUBLIC NEED IS NOT REQUIRED FOR	:	
THE CONSTRUCTION OPERATION AND	:	
MAINTENANCE OF A 20 MWac SOLAR	:	
PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT ON POTASH	:	SEPTEMBER 4, 2015
ROAD IN SPRAGUE, CONNECTICUT	:	

**RESPONSES OF FUSION SOLAR CENTER, LLC  
TO CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL QUESTIONS**

On August 28, 2015, following the scheduled site visit, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) issued questions to Fusion Solar Center, LLC (“Fusion” or the “Petitioner”) relating to the above-captioned Petition. Below are Fusion’s responses.

Question No. 1

Provide the carbon debt payback period.

Response

The Fusion Solar Center is designed to generate approximately 38,000,000 kWh of clean, renewable electricity annually. This level of generation equates to roughly 27,200 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions being avoided annually. Development of the project will require the removal of nearly 134 acres of forest to accommodate the project, which equates to a loss of carbon sequestration by the impacted forest of 163.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually. The annual net carbon impact of the project will equate to 26,036.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide

avoided, with the carbon debt payback period occurring in the first three days of full energy production at roughly 74 metric tons of carbon dioxide avoided per day.

Question No. 2

Is the Petitioner amenable to planting trees along Potash Hill Rd. to reduce the visual impact to residents? Clarify which portion of the subject property frontage along Potash Hill Rd. would have tree plantings.

Response

Yes, the Petitioner is amenable to planting shrubs and/or trees (no taller than 8-10 feet in height at maturity) along Potash Hill Road to provide a suitable visual screen of the project area. This visual screen will be designed to establish the visual buffer while not negatively impacting the efficiency or output of the project. As noted in the site plan renderings submitted with the Petition (*See Exhibit A and Exhibit G of the Petition*), the Petitioner envisions plantings extending from the southern end of the Rainville property along Potash Hill Road and extending north and west to the residence at 111 Potash Hill Road. The Petitioner would envision extending the plantings to the west behind the residence at 111 Potash Hill Road to a point adjacent to existing tree line. The existing natural vegetative screening in the westerly portion of the project area will provide substantial natural screening to the west of 111 Potash Hill Road. The figure below highlights the planting locations, as represented in Exhibit C to the Petition.



Question No. 3

Would the Petitioner be amenable to utilizing stone materials from the stone wall removals to provide additional aesthetic screening along Potash Hill Rd.?

Response

Fusion notes that there already currently exists a stone wall on the Rainville property along Potash Hill Rd that is concealed by overgrown brush and foliage. Fusion would be

amenable to clearing significant portions of the overgrown brush and foliage along the existing stone wall and enhancing the stone wall, as economically viable, with materials removed from other locations on the property. See the figure below for location of the existing stone wall to be enhanced.

