



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 8, 2016

James R. Morrissey, Esq.
Attorney
UIL Holdings Corporation
157 Church Street
P.O. Box 1564
New Haven, CT 06506-0901

RE: **PETITION NO. 1199** - The United Illuminating Company, petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, operation and maintenance of a 2.8 Megawatt AC Fuel Cell to be located at Amity Regional High School, 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Morrissey:

At a public meeting held on January 7, 2016, 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:

- Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed within three years from the date of the mailing of the Council's decision, this decision shall be void, and the facility owner/operator shall dismantle the facility and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The facility owner/operator shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable;
- Any request for extension of the time period to fully construct the facility shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this decision and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, if applicable, and the Town of Woodbridge;
- Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed;
- 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/transferor 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; and

- 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 November 10, 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
Chairman

RS/CH/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated January 7, 2016

- c: The Honorable Ellen Scalettar, First Selectman, Town of Woodbridge
Terry Gilbertson, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Woodbridge
Jeffrey M. Kaufman, Chm, Planning and Zoning Comm., Town of Woodbridge
Thomas Judge, Senior Project Manager, UI



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

Petition No. 1199

The United Illuminating Company Amity Regional High School, Woodbridge

Staff Report

January 7, 2016

On November 10, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from the United Illuminating Company (UI) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 2.8 megawatt (MW) AC fuel cell facility directly behind Amity Regional High School (Amity) in Woodbridge. Council member Larry Levesque and Council staff Fred Cunliffe and Cymon Holzschuh visited the site on December 3, 2015 to review the proposal. The Honorable Ellen Scalettar, First Selectman of Woodbridge, as well as Terry Gilbertson and Tony Genovese, Town of Woodbridge officials, also attended the field review. Thomas Judge and James Morrissey, Esq., UI representatives, and Jim Saisa, an Amity representative, attended the field review on behalf of the petitioner.

UI's fuel cell facility would consist of one FuelCell Energy DFC3000 power plant. The power plant would be installed within a fenced compound that would be approximately 63 feet by 64 feet 8 inches, and would reach a total height of approximately 31.75 feet. The compound would be located in an approximate 0.12 acre area at Amity Regional High School, in an area adjacent to the school that currently houses abandoned HVAC equipment and other miscellaneous equipment for the grounds. As part of this project, UI will relocate or remove that existing equipment at the direction of Amity.

The power plant would have black start capability and be connected to UI's existing overhead distribution circuit-pole located approximately 25 feet northwest of the proposed plant. The power plant would be fueled by natural gas. Amity's natural gas meter is located adjacent to the proposed plant at the rear of the school.

Water is required for operation of the plant and will be acquired from an on-site water line from the regional water authority. The plant will discharge approximately 6500 gallons per day of wastewater (generally ambient temperature) to the regional waste water system. Remaining water will be released as steam.

Air pollutants produced during operation are below the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) applicable limits, as shown in the table below – thus, no air permit is required.

Comparison of Petitioner's Woodbridge Fuel Cell Facility with RCSA Criteria ¹		
Pollutant	Woodbridge Fuel Cell Facility (lbs/MWh)	Emissions standards (lbs/MWh)
NO _x	0.02	0.15
PM ₁₀	0.01	0.03
CO	0.1	1
CO ₂	520-680	1,650
CO ₂	With waste heat recovery 980	1,650

¹ Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 22a-174-42(b)(3)(C); 22a-174-42(d)(2)(B)(ii) & Table 42-2



Public Act 11-80, An Act Concerning the Establishment of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Planning for Connecticut's Energy Future (The Act) permits electric distribution companies to build, own and operate generation using Class I renewable energy sources. Fuel cells are categorized as a renewable energy source. The Act further authorizes electric distribution companies to manage a portfolio of up to 10 MW. This proposed 2.8 MW project will complete UI's ownership together with a 2.8 MW fuel cell in New Haven (Petition No. 1113), 2.2 MW AC solar photovoltaic facility and a 2.8 MW AC Fuel Cell facility in Bridgeport (Council Petition 1104). The cumulative total of all projects is 10.6 MW of capacity.

A Supplemental Submission from UI was received December 18, 2015. The submission states that the 2.8 MW capacity fuel cell planned for installation would be manually reduced to an output of 2.2 MW to comply with UI's allowable ownership of 10 MW, and could have its output increased at a later date if the 10 MW ownership were expanded or if another UI facility were to go offline for an extended period of time. The submission also provided detailed information regarding UI's handling, transport, and disposal of spent desulfurized material, and demonstrated compliance with all applicable regulations.

Public Act 12-148, An Act Enhancing Emergency Preparedness and Response, established a micro-grid grant and loan pilot program to support local distributed energy generation for critical facilities. Woodbridge was one of the initial awardees for funding; however, the town could not realize the micro-grid with available funding. UI saw an opportunity to support DEEP's micro-grid initiative. This will further the goal of Woodbridge to build a micro-grid. Amity Regional High School can capture the waste heat produced by the fuel cell, and the micro-grid will consist of infrastructure to connect seven critical town facilities to the fuel cell, including the Woodbridge Public Works, Town Hall, Police Station, Senior Center, Library, New Fire Station, Old Fire station, and the High School.

Amity Regional High School is located in an area zoned as Residential A; however, the school sits on a twenty-five acre parcel and holds a general commercial appearance. UI will construct the fuel cell approximately 500 feet from the nearest abutter, the property boundary is lined by dense vegetation. As such, the potential visual impacts associated with the project are expected to be minimal. The production of noise from the fuel cell is comparable to the noise produced by the existing HVAC equipment. UI intends to surround the fuel cell facilities with an eight-foot tall block wall, as requested by Amity, to minimize visual and noise impacts.

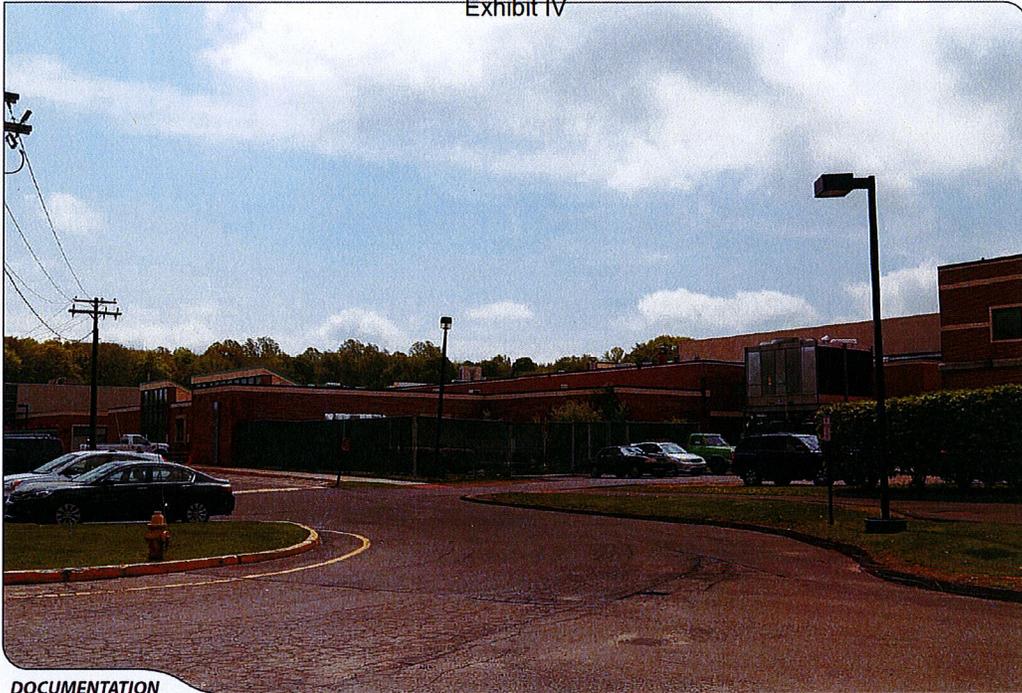
According to a DEEP Natural Diversity Database determination, one species in the area is of special concern, an eastern ribbon snake was identified as being present. UI worked with DEEP to develop a best management practices document for use during construction activities related to this species, which consists of minimizing construction activity during the breeding season from late summer to early fall, immediate removal of sediment and erosion controls following construction completion, minimizing disturbance and acidity around wetlands or riparian areas, and maintaining good housekeeping to keep rodents clear of the work area. During the field review, UI expressed commitment to using biodegradable erosion and sedimentation controls as a protective measure for the eastern ribbon snake. UI also restated its commitment to construct during the inactive season for the eastern ribbon snake.

The State Historic Preservation Office stated "this proposed project will cause no adverse effects" to the Woodbridge Green Historic district and no further review is requested. The Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) provided comments received December 16, 2015 stating that the current plan is expected not to be inimical to any programs.

UI has discussed its project with Amity Regional School District and Town of Woodbridge officials, who have expressed support for the project. All abutting property owners were notified by UI, and no comments have been received from any of them.

UI's fuel cell plant will help the company meet the state's renewable energy requirements. It will generate much fewer air pollutants compared to electricity generated by the burning of fossil fuels. UI contends the location of the fuel cell plant and its operations are not expected to have any substantial adverse environmental impacts.

Exhibit IV



DOCUMENTATION

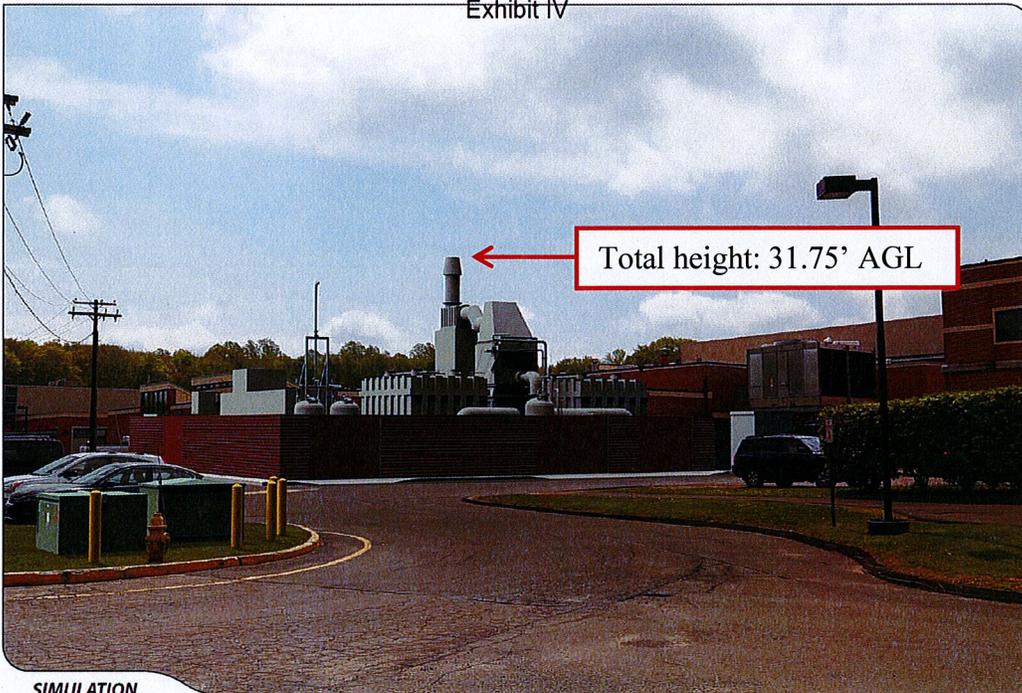
PHOTO
4

LOCATION
HOST PROPERTY

ORIENTATION
SOUTHEAST



Exhibit IV



SIMULATION

PHOTO
4

LOCATION
HOST PROPERTY

ORIENTATION
SOUTHEAST

