



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051
Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950
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www.ct.gov/csc

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 19, 2019

Joseph Hamel
Project Manager Development
NextEra Energy Resources
700 Universe Boulevard, A1A/JB
Juno Beach, FL 33408

RE: **PETITION NO. 1234** – DG Connecticut Solar, LLC declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 2.8 Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating facility located at Becton, Dickinson & Company, 7 Grace Way, North Canaan, Connecticut. Request to Amend.

Dear Mr. Hamel:

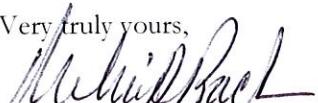
At a public meeting held on July 18, 2019, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and approved the request to amend the above referenced project, dated June 17, 2019 to include the installation of additional solar panels totaling about 0.52 MW AC on the central and northeastern portion of the roof of the Becton, Dickinson & Company building.

All work is to be implemented as specified in the request submitted on June 17, 2019, and additional information dated July 3, 2019, and is subject to the following condition:

1. Approval of any minor project changes be delegated to Council staff.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction.

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

Very truly yours,

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

Enclosure: Staff Report dated July 18, 2019

MAB/MP/lm

c: The Honorable Charles P. Perotti, First Selectman, Town of North Canaan
Richelle Hodza, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of North Canaan
The Honorable Henry Todd, First Selectman, Town of Canaan
Thomas Scott, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Canaan
Bradley J. Parsons, P.E., All-Points Technology Corp., P.C.



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Petition No. 1234 – Amendment

DG Connecticut Solar, LLC and DG Northeast Portfolio 2020, LLC
Becton Dickinson & Co.

7 Grace Way, North Canaan, CT

Staff Report

July 18, 2019

On June 15, 2016, SolarCity Corporation (SolarCity) submitted a petition to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for the construction, operation and maintenance of a 2.05 MW alternating current (AC) solar photovoltaic generating facility at Becton, Dickinson & Company (BDC) located at 7 Grace Way, North Canaan, Connecticut. The solar facility included two ground-mounted arrays (totaling 1.2 MW AC) to be located in the southeastern and southwestern portions of the BDC property; and one rooftop solar facility totaling about 0.336 MW AC. On July 21, 2016, the Council issued a Declaratory Ruling to SolarCity for the construction, maintenance and operation of this solar facility in Petition No. 1234.

On August 26, 2016, SolarCity submitted its Development and Management Plan (D&M Plan) for the project. On September 30, 2016, the Council approved the D&M Plan. On or about November 21, 2017, the Council received a request to transfer the ownership from SolarCity to DG Connecticut Solar, LLC and to modify the approved D&M Plan by removing the southeastern ground-mounted solar array, reducing the number of solar panels for the southwestern solar array, increasing the project clearing area for the southwestern array to minimize shading, and revising the erosion and sediment control plans due to the time of year of construction. On December 4, 2017, the Council approved the transfer of ownership and modifications to the approved D&M Plan.

Construction commenced on the project on or about January 9, 2018. The project was completed/commissioned on or about April 2018. The final total AC MW of the project is 1.98 MW, which consists of 1.5 MW for the southwestern ground-mounted array and 0.48 MW for the rooftop array on the western portion of the BDC building.

After consultation with BDC, DG Northeast Portfolio 2020, LLC (a subsidiary NextEra Energy Resources) proposes to add a Phase II solar array on the rooftop of the BDC building. On June 17, 2019, DG Connecticut Solar, LLC and DG Northeast Portfolio 2020, LLC (collectively, “DG”) submitted an amendment to the declaratory ruling in Petition No. 1234.

On or about June 12, 2019, DG notified the Town of North Canaan and the Town of Canaan officials, state officials and agencies, and abutting property owners of the proposed amendment. No comments have been received to date.

The Council issued interrogatories to DG on June 25, 2019. On July 5, 2019, DG submitted responses to the interrogatories including its updated layout.

Specifically, DG proposes to install approximately 1,602 additional solar panels at 435 Watts DC each for a total of about 0.697 MW DC or 0.520 MW AC on the central and northeastern portion of the BDC building. The proposed solar panels would be fixed, facing the south and utilizing a landscape orientation. The solar racking system would be anchored to the roof using cement ballast blocks. A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the building can support the proposed solar array.

This additional array would connect to the building's electrical system. Six inverters would be mounted to a strut rack directly adjacent to or on the side of the building at ground level. All of the energy generated by this additional array would be purchased by BDC. The only time that energy would be exported to the grid would be if the generation from solar facility exceeds the building's consumption such as during holidays when the load of the building is significantly reduced. Eversource has been consulted and is finalizing their system impact study.

The maximum height from the top of the roof to the top of the solar panels would be approximately one foot, which is the same as the existing solar array. Thus, visual impacts would not be expected to significantly increase as a result of the proposed amendment.

As a rooftop array, the proposed amendment would not impact wetlands, vernal pools, State-listed species, prime farmland soils, or core forest. No impacts to historic resources would be expected. No changes to stormwater impacts would be expected.

Conclusion

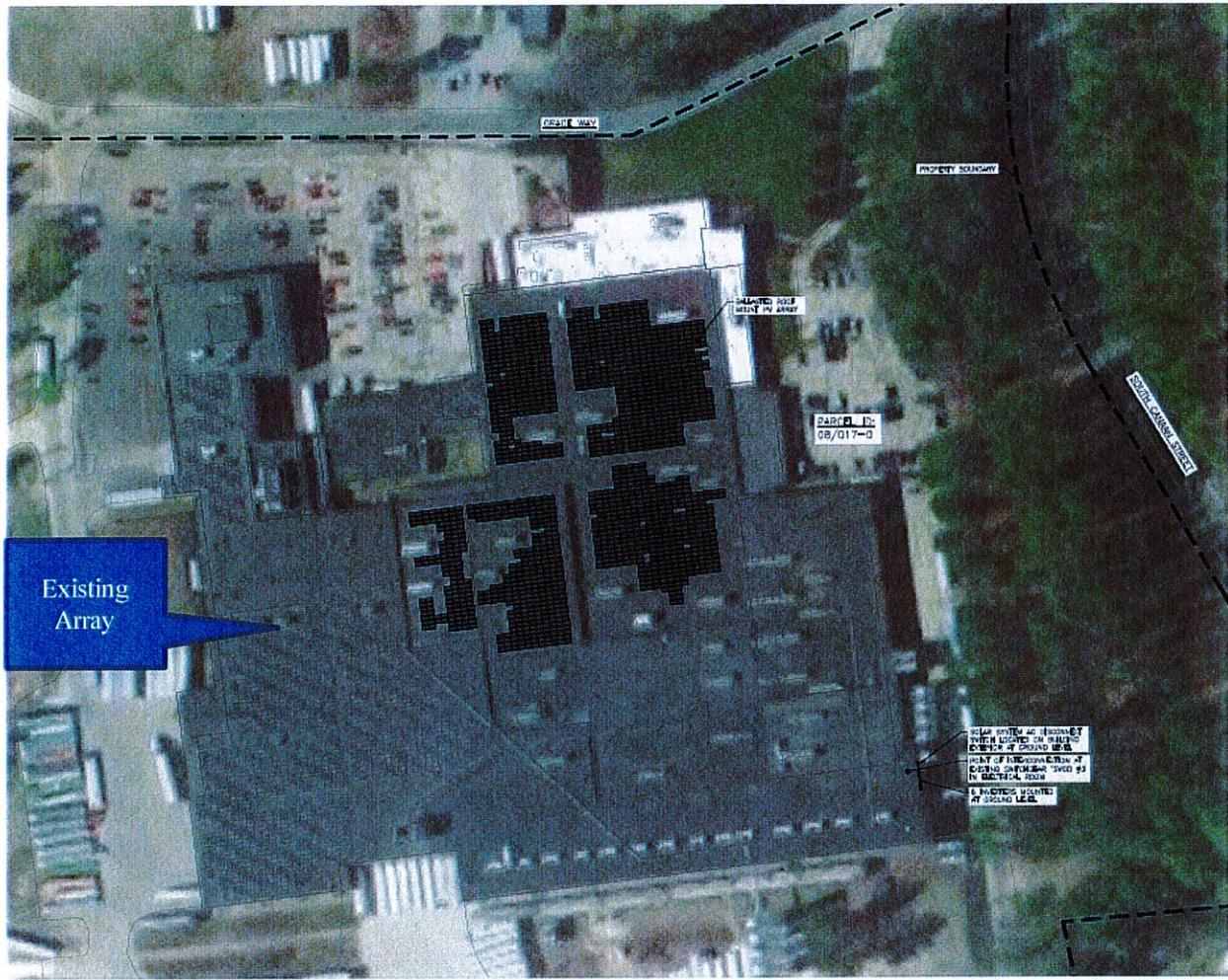
The proposed amendment is part of a customer-side distributed resource with a capacity of not more than sixty-five megawatts, meets air and water quality standards of the DEEP, and would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect. The proposed amendment will not produce air emissions, will not utilize water to produce electricity, was designed to minimize environmental impacts, and furthers the State's energy policy by developing and utilizing renewable energy resources and distributed energy resources.

Recommendation

Staff recommends inclusion of the following condition:

1. Approval of any minor project changes be delegated to Council Staff.

Proposed Site Layout



1 SITE PLAN
MAP SCALE 1" = 10'-0"

SITE PLAN