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LEED Green Associate

October 6, 2017

***VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS AND
ELECTRONIC MAIL***

Melanie.bachman@ct.gov
Siting.council@ct.gov

Ms. Melanie A. Bachman, Esq., Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06501

Re: Petition 1313 – DWW Solar II, LLC Petition for Declaratory Ruling that No Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Is Required for A 26.4 Megawatt AC Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Attorney Bachman:

This office represents the Town of Simsbury (“Town”). On behalf of the Town, I have enclosed a supplemental disclosure to the interrogatories propounded by DWW Solar I, LLC, specifically correspondence received from the State Historic Preservation Office concerning (1) the historic tobacco sheds located on the proposed project site and (2) a grant concerning Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s connection with the Town of Simsbury and the State of Connecticut. I have enclosed an original and fifteen copies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Jesse A. Langer

Enclosures

cc: Service List (via regular mail and electronic mail)

Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.
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Deb Alexa

From: Levine, Todd <Todd.Levine@ct.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 2:34 PM
To: lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov
Subject: Tobacco sheds in Simsbury

Dear First Selectman Heavner,

It has come to the attention of the State Historic Preservation Office that there are a number of tobacco sheds in danger of demolition because of the proposed Tobacco Valley Solar Project in Simsbury, CT. While our consultation with the owner is ongoing, it is our understanding that the five tobacco sheds in question are historic and should be retained and restored, if possible. Tobacco sheds are an iconic building type of Connecticut and a pure form-folows-function structure. Their continued existence on the Connecticut landscape help define our past, and thus define us.

SHPO staff will be onsite next week to see the barns in their context, determine integrity and to evaluate the impact of the proposed undertaking.

Thank you,

~T~

Todd Levine
Historian
Environmental Reviewer
Freedom Trail & W3R Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Dept. of Economic & Community Development
State of Connecticut
One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
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Deb Alexa

From: Levine, Todd <Todd.Levine@ct.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 2:08 PM
To: lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov
Subject: FW: NPS Civil Rights Grants Extended
Attachments: 2017 AACR Fact Sheet Extension 9.15.17.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Hi Lisa,

It was a pleasure speaking with you! Please find attached info on the grant we are applying to, which will focus on MLK and his classmates from Morehouse College, and the places they traveled to in Simsbury and statewide.

Thanks,

~T~

Todd Levine
Historian
Environmental Reviewer
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African American Civil Rights Grant Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants



The National Park Service's (NPS) FY 2017 [African American Civil Rights Grant Program](#) (AACR) will document, interpret, and preserve the sites related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights as citizens in the 20th Century. The NPS 2008 report, [Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites](#) will serve as the reference document in determining the appropriateness of proposed projects and properties. AACR Grants are funded by the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), administered by the NPS, and will fund a broad range of planning, preservation, and research projects for historic sites including: survey, inventory, documentation, interpretation, education, architectural services, historic structure reports, preservation plans, and bricks and mortar repair. Grants are awarded through a competitive process and do not require non-Federal match.

**Applications must be submitted electronically through www.grants.gov
Deadline extended due to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Now due October 8, 2017**

WHO MAY APPLY

States and Territories

Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Organizations

Local Governments.

Non-profit Organizations

Organizations not in one of these categories need to apply in partnership with an eligible recipient listed above.

WHAT IS FUNDED

Preservation: Pre-preservation and Preservation Projects – Opportunity Number P17AS00578

- Preservation projects must range from \$75,000 to \$500,000 in federal share, of which 10% may go toward pre-preservation costs such as architectural or engineering services. Grant applications that solely involve pre-preservation work must range from \$15,000 to \$50,000.
- Preservation projects fund physical preservation of a historic site to include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Projects must comply with Section 106, NEPA, and execute a preservation covenant/easement.
- Eligible costs include pre-preservation studies, architectural plans and specifications, historic structure reports, and the repair and rehabilitation of historic properties according to the [Secretary of the Interior's Treatment Standards](#) for Historic Properties.
- All applications must include a National Register Eligibility Assessment form. Properties must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places or designated a National Historic Landmark either individually or as part of a district whose significance is associated with African American Civil Rights in the 20th century. If the property is not listed for its association with African American Civil Rights in the 20th century, or not listed at all, the Eligibility Assessment form should provide information that demonstrates its association. Projects that are not listed on the National Register or are not listed in association with African American Civil Rights in the 20th Century must include a nomination or amendment to an existing nomination as part of their project.

History: History Projects – Opportunity Number P17AS00577

- History grant projects must range from \$15,000 to \$50,000 in federal share.
- Eligible costs include survey, planning, and documentation of historic sites/events, as well as the creation of interpretive and educational materials around significant sites (including oral histories).
- Projects must be associated with the African American civil rights movement of the 20th century.
- Successful applications will emphasize innovative strategies, and creative projects with measurable results, and include cross-generational engagement that promote and preserve the community's civil rights resources. Projects should involve public-private partnerships and serve as models to communities nationwide. Your project must fit one of the categories listed below. If a project overlaps more than one category, select the dominant category.
 1. Survey and Planning
 2. Research and Documentation
 3. Interpretation and Education

WHAT IS NOT FUNDED

- Construction of new buildings.
- Acquisition of collections or historic sites.

- Conservation of collections, except as part of gathering oral history documentation.
- Long-term maintenance or curatorial work beyond the grant period.
- Reconstructing historic properties (recreating all or a significant portion that no longer exists).
- Moving historic properties or work to moved historic properties that are no longer eligible for listing in the NRHP.
- Cash reserves, endowments, or revolving funds.
- Fund-raising costs.
- Work performed prior to announcement of award.
- Lobbying or advocacy activities.
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other federal programs.

SELECTION PROCESS

NPS personnel and qualified Federal employees will review all complete proposals using the criteria outlined below. Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. **Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered.** A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested after the grant process is complete. Panel recommendations will be made to the Secretary of the Interior who will select successful applicants and forward to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. NPS will apply risk assessments to projects recommended for funding. Matching funds were not required, but may be considered as part of the evaluation process.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Project descriptions must address, and applications will be rated on, each of the criteria listed below. NPS will evaluate and consider only complete applications that separately address each of the four criteria. You are required to provide a detailed narrative of these elements using the project information form.

1. **Significance:** Describe the historic resource(s) in the proposed project that played a role in the African American civil rights movement in the 20th Century. Describe the community and the historic resources affected by this project including its significance, whether listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated at the state, tribal, or local level, and the story that its continued preservation tells. Integrity of the resource should also be discussed. Discuss how your project will help identify places seminal to the story of African American civil rights. (25 points)
2. **Need/Urgency/Threat:** Describe the need, urgency, and threat the project addresses and how the activities are necessary and will mitigate that threat. (25 points)
3. **Feasibility:** List and describe all tasks and their results. Discuss your timeline (located below) and budget justification (separate document) to show that costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given timeframe (2-3 years) and with the given resources while meeting all federal requirement and guidelines. Briefly describe who will be involved in carrying out the project and their qualifications, attach resumes/CVs as applicable. Describe ability to financial manage the project. (25 points)
4. **Sustainability:** Describe the impacts of the project after completion, including long lasting effects. Describe the public-private partnerships and community engagement involved in the project and how these partnerships will sustain and continue to support the resources after the grant project is complete. (25 points)

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The grant period is generally 2 to 3 years with project start not projected until February 2018.

- Administrative costs, both direct and pursuant to a current Federally-approved Indirect Cost Rate may be no more than 25% of the total of both the grant and any non-Federal match. The National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 302902(d)) stipulates this limit. You must include your Federally-approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or a letter indicating that never having a negotiated an indirect cost rate thus using the 10% de minimis rate as specified in 2 CFR 200.
- Competitive selection of all consultants and contracting is required as stipulated in 2 CFR 200.
- Maximum hourly rates charged to this grant by personnel and consultants may not exceed 120% of the salary of a Federal Civil Service GS-15, Step 10. Current salary tables can be found on the Office of Personnel Management website: www.opm.gov.
- Budgeted travel costs must adhere to the mileage and travel rates found at www.gsa.gov.

PROCESS AND DEADLINES

The deadline for the 2017 African American Civil Rights grants is now **October 8, 2017, 11:59pm EST**, with awards anticipated by January 2018. All applications must be made through www.grants.gov, as paper applications will **NOT** be accepted. **Grants.gov registration can take up to four weeks.**