



# 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](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 20, 2017

Jesse A. Langer, Esq.  
Robert M. DeCrescenzo, Esq.  
Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.  
One Century Tower  
265 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

RE: **PETITION NO. 1313** - DWW Solar II, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 26.4 megawatt AC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility on approximately 289 acres comprised of 5 separate and abutting privately-owned parcels located generally west of Hopmeadow Street (US 202/CT 10), north and south of Hoskins Road, and north and east of County Road and associated electrical interconnection to Eversource Energy's North Simsbury Substation west of Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Langer and Attorney DeCrescenzo:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than October 3, 2017. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available.

Please forward an original and 15 copies to this office, as well as a copy via electronic mail. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan, the Council is requesting that all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Copies of your responses shall be provided to all parties and intervenors listed on the service list, which can be found on the Council's pending matters website.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Yours very truly,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

c: Parties and Intervenors

MB/RM/laf



# 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](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

### Petition No. 1313

### Interrogatories to Town of Simsbury

#### Set One

September 19, 2017

1. When were the following residential developments that abut the site permitted:

- a. Munnisunk Drive area
- b. Knollwood Circle area
- c. Litchfield Drive/Berkshire Way
- d. Saxton Brook Drive
- e. Dorset Crossing
- f. Flintlock Ridge

Were any of these developments on agricultural lands or within core forest?

What is the permitted buffer zone from the residential areas to adjacent wetlands and watercourses?

2. Have any of the five project parcels been previously approved for any form of development (i.e., subdivision, recreation, commercial, etc.) by any local land use board? If yes, please provide general description of what the town has approved.
3. Are the areas surrounding the project site served by a municipal/regional water supply system or are there private wells? If there are public water supply sources, please identify such areas.
4. Reference the Town's Interrogatories to the Petitioner, Set 1, Q. 6. Please describe the historic characteristics of the surrounding neighborhood. Are 10-foot vinyl fences allowed in residential zones? With exception to the Hoskins Road area, does the Town find a 10-foot high vinyl fence that serves as visual mitigation from neighborhoods objectionable? If landscaping is planted in current agricultural areas that would serve as buffers, would the landscaping serve to restrict land available for model pollinator habitat or prevent potential future agricultural use of these areas?
5. In the Town's land use process, how does the Town mitigate the visual impact of commercial and residential development from abutting properties? Is such screening intended to render such development not visible?
6. Referencing the Town's Pre-filed Testimony dated September 1, 2017, pp. 4-6, Town's Position, Section 3.
  - a. Is the historic home at 85 Hoskins Road listed as a historic or noteworthy building in the Town's draft Plan of Conservation and Development?
  - b. Has the Town required other property owners/developers to create varied natural screening with berms to "enhance authenticity"? Please provide examples.
  - c. Would the creation of berms along the project frontage on Hoskins Road conflict with the DOAg's desire to disturb the least amount of agricultural land as possible?
  - d. Has the Town attempted to purchase the "south of Hoskins Road" property for preservation purposes?
  - e. Are the 3 barns in the north field area visible from any public roadways? Given the location of these barns, describe how they can contribute to "sense of place" values.
  - f. Is the Town satisfied that the Petitioner has listened to community concerns and attempted to redesign of the project to address these concerns prior to the project's submission to the Council? What are the remaining, specific areas the Town believes have an inadequate buffer to neighboring residences and the public?

7. Referencing the Office of Community Development comments. How can the Town preserve its agrarian legacy if the Town desires a road through agricultural lands (middle solar field) from Wolcott Avenue to the Hoskins/County Road intersection? Is this planning consistent with residential or commercial development? Would such a road be contrary to “sense of place” and character places?
8. Referencing Conservation Commission comments, point #8. Are the “distinct drainage paths” currently leading to site erosion and sedimentation into adjacent waterways?
9. How is the 100 Hoskins Road property affected by the proposal? Is this property listed as a historic or noteworthy building in the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development? Is this property across from the Squadron Line School parcel? Describe the existing road side vegetation and fencing across from this property.
10. Is Hoskins Road abutting the project site a Town-designated scenic roadway? If so, when was the designation made?
11. Page 124 of the Town’s Draft Plan of Conservation and Development presents a depiction of the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development. Using the Legend, please indicate what designation the project parcels are identified as and include a definition of the designations.
12. Please provide a map depicting open space parcels abutting the project site. Indicate the size of each open space parcel and how the Town obtained each parcel (i.e., purchase, transfer as a result of subdivision approval, etc.)
13. Does the Town have a mechanism in place to accept ownership of land and restrict its use for conservation purposes, but at the same time allow agricultural activities?
14. Please list all of the public and department meetings the Town held to discuss/consider the project.