



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 8, 2019

Lee D. Hoffman, Esq.  
Pullman & Comley, LLC  
90 State House Square  
Hartford, CT 06103-3702

RE: **PETITION NO. 1339** – Wallingford Renewable Energy LLC declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 19.99 MW AC ground-mounted solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located on approximately 158 acres of 3 contiguous parcels consisting of the former Wallingford Landfill and 2 parcels owned by the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority west of Pent Road and associated electrical interconnection to Wallingford Electric Division's Wallingford Substation in Wallingford, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Hoffman:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than March 21, 2019. 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.

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.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

MB/MP

c: Joe Jordan, Wallingford Renewable Energy LLC  
Council Members

**Petition No. 1339**  
**Development and Management Plan**  
**Interrogatories to Wallingford Renewable Energy LLC**  
**Set One**

1. Referencing the cover letter of Wallingford Renewable Energy, LLC's (WRE) Development and Management Plan (D&M Plan), WRE notes that, “[C]opies of this submittal have been made to all parties on the Petition’s service list.” Did this include the Towns of Wallingford, Hamden and North Haven? If no, please submit a copy to those that did not receive a copy.
2. Referencing page 3 of WRE’s D&M Plan, WRE notes that, “[I]the solar field would include a total of approximately 56,000 solar photovoltaic panels at 390 Watts DC each on fixed rack systems oriented to the south, for a total of about 21.8 MW DC.” Please respond to the following.
  - a) Referencing Tab 1, Sheet PV00 of the D&M Plan, is it correct to say that WRE has updated its configuration to include approximately 45,812 solar panels of 400 Watts each? If yes, provide a specifications sheet for the 400 Watt solar panel per the “final solar panel design” required as part of Condition No. 1(a) of the Council’s Declaratory ruling.
  - b) Is it also correct say that, on Sheet PV00, under System Specifications, “18,8324.8 KW DC” was intended to be “18,832.48 KW DC?”
  - c) Why did WRE reduce its capacity from about 19.99 MW AC (as originally proposed) to 16.70 MW AC? Generally, in which areas are the reductions in solar panel footprint located?
  - d) Is this proposed power reduction permissible under the Small Scale RFP and/or the Power Purchase Agreements?
3. Condition No. 1(a) of the Council’s Declaratory Ruling requires the “electrical interconnection.” Sheet PV-40 refers to Electrical Interconnection Equipment Plans A through C and refers to Sheet PV-41 and PV-42. Provide a copy of Sheet PV-41 through PV-45. How many new wood poles would be installed to accommodate the interconnections (e.g. 150)? Approximately how tall would such poles be above grade? Referencing Sheet PV-40, does “medium voltage” refer to approximately 13.8-kilovolts for this project or a different line voltage?
4. Referencing page 5 of the Council’s Staff Report (attached to the Declaratory Ruling), has a system impact study been performed? If yes, provide the status. Would any modifications need to be performed at Wallingford Substation? If yes, would that part of a future filing?
5. Referencing Sheet C-117 and page 3 of D&M Plan, would the proposed gap under the fence be typically four to five inches, with six inches (for wildlife) near wetland areas? Explain. Referencing page 3 of the D&M Plan, identify which solar arrays would feature perimeter fencing with a six inch (minimum) wildlife gap? Sheets C-107 to C-110 refer to a fence detail sheet C-116. Provide a copy of Sheet C-116.
6. Referencing page 6 of the D&M Plan, WRE notes that, “The final seed mixture for this project includes a mix of Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Ryegrass and Fine Fescue.” WRE listed a table of seven specific varietals that would be included in the seed mix. Identify which of the varietals are considered Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Ryegrass and Fine Fescue. Identify which of the varietals that are considered pollinator species.

7. Referencing the Vernal Pool Survey Report (VPSR) dated June 14, 2018 and in light of the updated solar panel configuration (e.g. changes to Array PD1 on the east side), would Table 1 (on page 16) and Table 2 (on page 17) of the VPSR be materially affected? If yes, provide updates to those tables.
8. Identify the vernal pool protective measures per Condition 1c. of the Council's Declaratory Ruling. Page 18 of the VPSR ends with the conclusion that, “[I]t is our opinion that the obligate vernal pool amphibian population at the Study Area and the 10 confirmed breeding habitats will be conserved post-development.” Would this conclusion be affected by the revised solar panel configuration? Explain.
9. Would WRE comply with the final bat and turtle protection measures specified in the DEEP Natural Diversity Database letter dated March 9, 2018? If so, have these measures been incorporated into the site plan? Provide detail.
10. Reference page 7 of the D&M Plan, provide the status of the DEEP General Permit. If approved, provide a copy of the General Permit.