



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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March 10, 2015

Bruce L. McDermott
UIL Holdings Corporation
157 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06506

RE: **PETITION NO. 1104** – The United Illuminating Company declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a 2.2 MW AC solar photovoltaic facility and a 2.8 MW AC Fuel Cell facility on approximately 22 acres of the former Seaside Landfill located at 350 Waldemere Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney McDermott:


At a public meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on March 5, 2015, the Council considered and approved the fuel cell portion of the Development and Management (D&M) Plan submitted for this project on February 5, 2015.

This approval applies only to the D&M Plan submitted on February 5, 2015. Requests for any changes to the D&M Plan shall be approved by Council staff in accordance RCSA §16-50j-62(b). Furthermore, the Petitioner is responsible for reporting requirements pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 16-50j-62.

Please be advised that changes and deviations from this plan are enforceable under the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50u. Enclosed is a copy of the staff report on this D&M Plan, dated March 5, 2015.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Very truly yours,


Philip T. Ashton
Acting Chairman

PTA/RM/cm

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated March 5, 2015

c: Parties and Intervenors
The Honorable Bill Finch, Mayor, City of Bridgeport
David Kooris, Planning Director, City of Bridgeport

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STAFF REPORT – Fuel Cell Component

On November 12, 2014, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued a Declaratory Ruling to The United Illuminating Company (UI) that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 2.2 megawatt (MW) AC solar photovoltaic facility and a 2.8 MW AC Fuel Cell facility located at 350 Waldemere Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. As required in the Council's Decision and Order, UI submitted a Development and Management (D&M) Plan for this project on February 5, 2015. Copies were provided to all Parties and Intervenors and the City of Bridgeport. No comments were received.

The D&M Plan details the construction and installation of the solar photovoltaic facility and fuel cell facility on a portion of the former City-owned Seaside Landfill. Upon review of the D&M Plan, staff has developed questions specific to the solar field area with responses due on March 9, 2015. Since there were no staff questions related to the fuel cell portion of the project, UI has requested review and approval of the fuel cell component of the project so that site work can begin as soon as possible.

The fuel cell site is located on a 2.1-acre parcel northeast of the City's mulch processing area and used for the storage of miscellaneous City equipment. The fuel cell site consists of an approximate 290-foot by 80-foot lease area south of Cedar Creek Drive, a road that extends west from Barnum Dyke to the mulch processing area. The fuel cell project area is mostly paved and contains several construction office trailers. A row of trees is located between the storage area and Barnum Dyke.

Site preparation will include the relocation of City equipment out of the fuel cell pad area, the removal of vegetation along Barnum Dyke, the removal of existing asphalt and site grading. Clearing will be performed using a combination of chain saws, hand labor and mechanized equipment.

In accordance with Condition 1(d) of the Council's Decision and Order, UI will use structural process gravel to raise the ground elevation of the fuel cell area from 10 feet to 15 feet above mean sea level. Modular block retaining walls will be installed in three separate areas where a 2:1 slope transition from the proposed final grade to the existing grade cannot be accomplished within the work area. Excavation into the filled area will occur as necessary to install foundations and trenches.

UI will deploy erosion and sedimentation controls consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* around the perimeter of the construction area. Silt sacks will be installed within catch basins surrounding the construction area.

Once site preparation is completed, UI will install one Fuel Cell Energy DFC3000 fuel cell power unit on a concrete pad in the western portion of the project area. The DFC3000 power unit consists of two molten carbonate fuel cell modules, a water treatment skid and two inverters. The power unit is approximately 70 feet long by 44 feet wide by 13 feet high with an exhaust stack extending to 24 feet in height. The fuel cell transformers will feature a leak containment system.

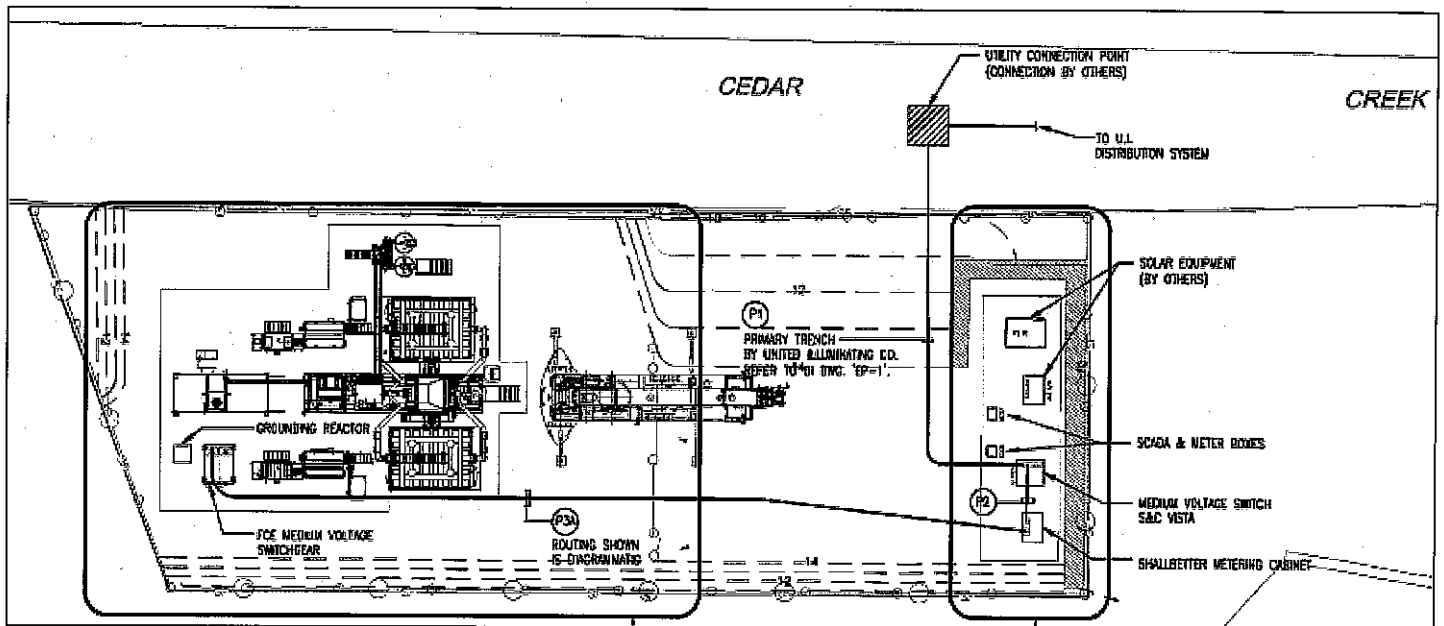
The fuel cell facility will be connected to an existing natural gas main on Barnum Dyke. New water supply and sanitary lines servicing the fuel cell facility will be installed from existing service on Barnum Dyke.

Electrical interconnection equipment mounted on a concrete pad will be installed in the eastern portion of the project area. The pad will be designed to support interconnection equipment for both the solar and fuel cell portions of the project. A new electrical duct bank will be installed along Cedar Creek Drive and Barnum Dyke to existing service at Atlantic Avenue.

UI will enclose the fuel cell project area with a ten-foot high chain link fence installed at the base of the raised fuel cell area. For security purposes, the fence will feature one inch mesh and will be topped with barbed wire. A second fence with a connecting gate will be installed within the project area separating the fuel cell area from the electrical interconnection area. Two rolling gates will be installed facing Cedar Creek Drive allowing vehicular access to the fuel cell facility.

Typical construction hours are between 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Advance notice of construction will be provided to the Council, City and abutting property owners. Once the site is operational, UI will provide a final report to the Council listing any modifications to the D&M Plan as a result of infield conditions. The D&M Plan contains a fuel cell decommissioning plan.

Council staff recommends approval of the fuel cell portion of the D&M Plan with the condition that approval of requested significant changes to the approved D&M Plan be delegated to Council staff in accordance with Section 16-50j-62(b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. In accordance with that section, if advance written notice is impractical, the Petitioner shall provide verbal notice of the changes and shall submit written specifications to the Council within 48 hours after the verbal notice.



Fuel cell project site layout.