



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 26, 2016

Windham Solar LLC
c/o Ecos Energy LLC
ATTN: Steve Broyer
222 South 9th Street
Suite 1600
Minneapolis, MN 55402

RE: **PETITION NO. 1221** - Windham Solar 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 two 1.0 Megawatt and one 1.5 Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating facilities located at 91 Plainfield Pike Road, Plainfield, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Broyer:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than June 15, 2016. 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.

Yours very truly,

Melanie A. Bachman
Acting Executive Director

MB/MP/lm

c: Council Members

Michael Melone, Windham Solar LLC, c/o Allco Renewable Energy Limited

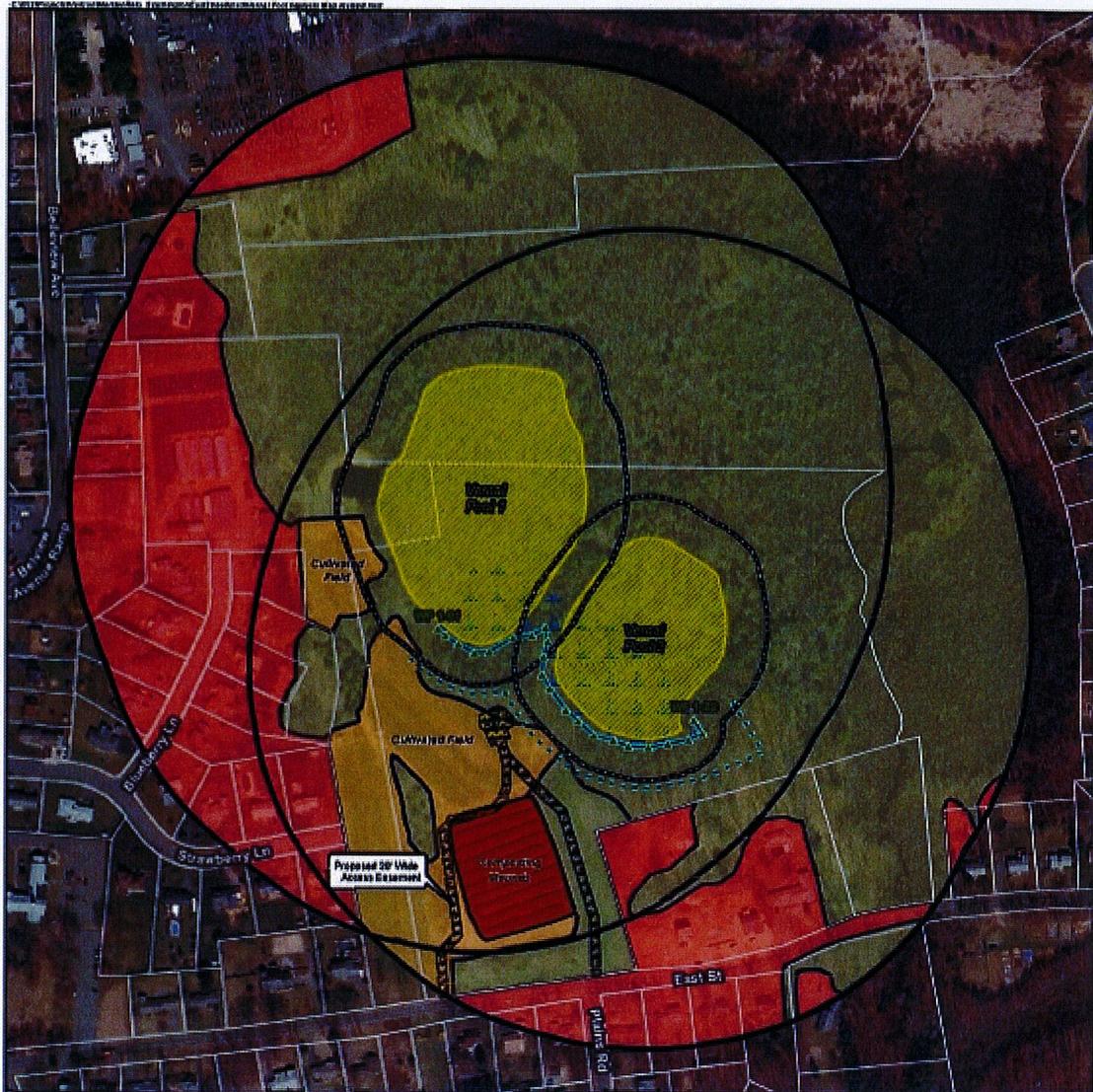
Attachment: Sample Vernal Pool Drawing from Docket No. 455

Petition No. 1221
Interrogatories
Set Two
May 26, 2016

39. Did Windham Solar, LLC (WS) secure an access easement to the east from the auto body property in order to avoid constructing new access from Route 14A?
40. Was WS able to secure access to the north for the North Project? Would the access drive be gravel? Please provide the most up to date Overall Site Plan Drawing taking into account any revisions that have been made to the number and locations of solar panels proposed, megawatts proposed, access proposed including but not limited to the North Project if applicable, etc. If the project is approved, would WS file the North Project, the South Project, and the East Project (and associated access and equipment) as one Development and Management Plan filing for Council review and approval and seek to go forward with the entire project? Explain.
41. Indicate on the most up to date Overall Site Plan approximately where the brook is located that currently isolates the North Project from access to the east.
42. Does the Wetland Report dated April 27, 2016 take into account the most up to date Overall Site Plan and North Project access road? Provide any associated wetland protective measures, if recommended.
43. If WS secured access to the North Project, provide a wetland report for the north property if wetlands exist on that site. Include a Klemens and Calhoun 2002 Vernal Pool analysis if vernal pools exist. Provide a diagram to scale with the vernal pool analysis showing the shape and locations of the vernal pools on the subject property and the property to the north for the North Project (if applicable) and include the 100-foot vernal pool envelopes (VPE) and the 100-foot to 750-foot critical terrestrial habitat (CTH) along with the proposed project. Compare the existing percent development areas of the VPEs and CTHs to the post-construction percent development areas of the VPEs and CTHs. Attached please find the Docket No. 455 sample diagram.
44. If WS secured access to the North Project, include the tree clearing areas on the revised site plan. Update the carbon debt analysis with the additional tree clearing areas that may be associated with new access to the North Project.
45. Provide a response from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) regarding Natural Diversity Database species in the vicinity of the project. How would WS implement DEEP's recommendations to protect such species, if applicable?

46. Referencing the response to questions 22 of the first set of interrogatories, provide the status of the wildlife biologist review of the site with respect to federally-listed species, including but not limited to the northern long-eared bat, piping plover, sandplain gerardia, and small whorled pogonia. Provide a copy of the biologist's report including the presence and/or suitable habitat at the site for federally-listed species, and any recommended protective measures for such species.
47. Provide a final stormwater management report for the most up to date Overall Site Plan, consistent with the *2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual* and stamped by a Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut.
48. Provide the determination letter from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and indicate how SHPO's recommendations, if applicable, could be implemented.
49. Provide the final erosion and sedimentation control (E&S controls) plan for the most up to date Overall Site Plan consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*.
50. Provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Category I Form and also note the total area of direct wetland impacts associated with the project.
51. What is the status of the Eversource System Impact Study? To WS' knowledge, can the local electrical distribution system support the 3.5 MW AC solar output of the project, assuming that the North, South and East Projects are going forward?
52. Clarify whether utilities would be run underground or overhead from the inverter/transformer area until close to Route 14A and then run overhead on three new poles to connect to existing distribution on Route 14A? Would an all overhead utility plan be advantageous to reduce wetland impacts and prevent an underground conduit from being exposed to excessive water? Could the poles be strategically placed to minimize wetland impacts? Indicate the final utility route and underground versus overhead on the most up to date Overall Site Plan.
53. Has WS evaluated the cost differential between 2-inch chain link mesh and a smaller size (e.g. less than two-inch mesh)? What size mesh would be used for the 7-foot tall chain link fence? Would WS still have individual fencing around the North Project, South Project, and East Project, respectively?
54. Please provide the revised total amounts of cut and fill for the project (as previously requested in an interrogatory) if it would materially change.
55. Does the proposed host property contain any Connecticut Prime and Important Farmland Soils? If so, what acreage of Prime and Important Farmland Soils would the solar panels and associated equipment be located on?
56. Has the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture purchased any development rights for the proposed site as part of the State Program for the Preservation of Agricultural Land?

Vernal Pool Drawing Map Sample from Docket No. 455



Proposed Vernal Pool 1 - Total 169,767 Critical Terrestrial Habitat Area: 137.08 acres		Proposed Vernal Pool 2 - Total 197,397 Critical Terrestrial Habitat Area: 188.80 acres		Proposed Limits of Grading: 0.49 acres (2.27, 11.9 ac. @)	
Existing Critical Terrestrial Habitat Areas:					
Developed	134.57 acres	36.32%	Developed	117.45 acres	28.70%
Undeveloped	243.11 acres	63.75%	Undeveloped	243.35 acres	71.30%
Proposed Critical Terrestrial Habitat Areas:					
Developed	124.80 acres	36.38%	Developed	117.48 acres	28.73%
Undeveloped	243.98 acres	63.62%	Undeveloped	243.32 acres	71.27%
Critical Terrestrial Habitat Impact Areas:					
Developed	10.43 acres	93%	Developed	10.43 acres	93%
Undeveloped	10.03 acres (1,301 sq ft)	7%	Undeveloped	10.03 acres (1,301 sq ft)	7%
No Impact to 100' Vernal Pool Envelope to other Vernal Pools 1 or 2					

- Legend**
- ⊙ Proposed Stealth Structure Pine Tree
 - ▭ Proposed Facility Layout
 - ▨ Proposed Limits of Grading
 - ▲ Wetland Flag
 - Wetland Area
 - Delineated Wetland Boundary
 - 100' Wetland / Vernal Pool Buffer
 - Vernal Pool
 - ▭ 100' Vernal Pool Envelope
 - ▭ 100-750' Critical Terrestrial Habitat Area
 - Approximate Parcel Boundary (CTDEEP)
 - Undeveloped
 - Developed
 - Composting Mounds
 - Cultivated Field

Vernal Pool Analysis Map

verizon wireless
 Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility
 Southington East Street a/k/a Meriden Rd
 99 East Street
 Southington, Connecticut

Base Map Source: A112 Aerial Photograph (CTDEEP)
 Map Date: December 2014

