



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Lisa L. Heavner - First Selectwoman

Via Regular Mail and E-Mail (joebuda707@gmail.com)

June 26, 2017

Joe Buda
President
Simsbury Historical Society
800 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070

Dear Joe,

Nice speaking with you the other day. Many thanks for agreeing to evaluate the barns at the Deepwater Wind proposed site for any historical significance and any other areas of the project you believe are of historical significance that you think the Town should be aware of.

Deepwater Wind, LLC has informed the Town of Simsbury that they anticipate filing a Petition for Declaratory Ruling with the Connecticut Siting Council for a 25.4 megawatt solar project (Tobacco Valley Solar) located on 290 acres of property owned by Griffin Land off Hoskins and County Roads in the North end of Simsbury. That land is currently zoned for industrial and residential use.

Deepwater Wind submitted a proposal in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) jointly issued by the three states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The goal of the RFP was to increase the amount of Qualified Clean Energy delivered to New England through the construction of new facilities or upgrades to existing generators.

Deepwater Wind was notified in late 2016 that its proposal was one of the projects selected. In early 2017 it negotiated a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Eversource Energy. The entire process for this project was conducted at the state level with no Town approvals required.

Under Connecticut State law, entities, like Deepwater Wind, proposing to generate more than (1) megawatt of energy are permitted by the Connecticut Siting Council and are not subject to the local zoning and land use requirements of the Town. Accordingly, this project will not come before Simsbury boards or commissions for required approvals.

The Town will have a limited role in the process before the Siting Council with no provisions for local land use approvals. On June 12, 2017, the Board of Selectmen authorized the First Selectwoman for the Town of Simsbury to request party status before the Siting Council once the

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8:30 - 1:00 Friday

petition is filed. As part of that process, the Town will request a public hearing be held in Simsbury by the Siting Council regarding the Deepwater Wind petition.

In order to best represent the Town of Simsbury in proceedings before the Siting Council it will be helpful to have the Simsbury Historical Society's evaluation of the project. It would be of great value to the Town to understand any areas of concern or recommendations identified by the Society. If the Society believes that additional information or studies are required in order to fully evaluate the proposal and fulfill the Town's role with the Siting Council, please specifically identify what additional information or studies are necessary.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Lisa L. Heavner
First Selectwoman
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Simsbury, CT 06070
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