

Dumaine, Julia

From: Diane Hoffman <hoffmandiane30@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 8:08 AM
To: DEEP OPPD
Subject: RE: STEPS

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6/22/21

Greetings,

Thank you very much for holding the meeting on June 16th regarding steps for siting of solar in Connecticut. I am writing in support of comments that were made at the meeting.

I thought the comments were very good, especially the following:

- 1 I appreciated the comments made by Jamie Smith of Lone Star Energy in support of solar canopies. that definitely sounds like an important avenue to investigate and pursue in the siting of solar facilities
2. I believe the comments made by John Hudak of the Regional Water Authority were critically important and I agree that DEEP should expand its concern for core forest to include all forest lands because they have public watersheds and are critical to a clean, safe water supply. Hamden recently experienced a solar developer who petitioned to put a solar facility in a forest that had water sheds I believe it was thanks to Mr. Hudak's testimony that their petition was denied
3. I also was interested in the comments made by Debra Mosher Dunn, a town planner, stating that she felt that the town planners should be more involved in Solar Development. I think that makes sense because towns are required to update their Plan of Conservation and Development every 10 years and it's important that that document be forward-leaning and respected and utilized in fights to enforce environmental actions taken by a local community to protect their environment.
4. I also appreciate the comments by Charles Vidic speaking on his own behalf. He pointed out the need to put energy conservation into the objectives of our energy policy and that we are only looking at the supply side and not the demand side. If energy conservation was seriously marketed, I believe demand would go down significantly. If we point to the weather, people will come to deeply understand that climate change and it's devastating impact is real and they will recognize the impact of their use of fossil fuel vehicle and appliances.
5. Christine O'Neill environmental planner pointed out the importance of adding scaling up energy storage as an objective. I think she was exactly right!
6. Joan Nichols, Executive Director Connecticut Farm Bureau Association urged us to please put solar on non-productive land. She said we need to dis-incentivize putting solar on Prime agricultural land. I agree if the solar impacts that land negatively.

I appreciate your open process and look forward to participating in the future.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Thank you and sincerely,

Diane Hoffman
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