

Beacon Falls Energy Park, LLC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACON FALLS, CT – January 7, 2016 – At its meeting on January 7, 2016 the Connecticut Siting Council voted to approve the Beacon Falls Energy Park’s Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is Required for the Proposed Construction, Operation and Maintenance of a 63.3 megawatt fuel cell facility located in Beacon Falls, Connecticut. Pursuant to Connecticut law, the Siting Council is required to approve the project by a declaratory ruling as long as the project meets the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s (DEEP) air and water quality standards.

Today’s draft approval by the Connecticut Siting Council completes a major milestone in the permitting process. Construction is anticipated to begin later in 2016 with the project fully operational at the end of 2019.

When completed, the Beacon Falls Energy Park will be the largest fuel cell facility of its kind in the world, and the largest Class I renewable energy facility in Connecticut. The project will provide clean and reliable energy to approximately 60,000 Connecticut residents and businesses and will generate millions of dollars in tax revenue for the Town of Beacon Falls and the State of Connecticut. Further, the construction of the facility and the manufacture and maintenance of the fuel cells will provide jobs for Connecticut companies. The facility is on 10 acres of a 25 acre former gravel and sand mine owned by O&G Industries, Inc., the parent company of Beacon Falls Energy Park, LLC and the EPC contractor for the project. The fuel cells for the project will be manufactured by FuelCell Energy, Inc. (FCEL), a Connecticut based company with its manufacturing facility in Torrington, Connecticut.

Beacon Falls Energy Park, LLC approached the Town of Beacon Falls with the concept in March of 2015 at a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectman to outline in broad terms the size and scope of the project. The project developers presented again on July 7, 2015 before the Town’s Open Space and Land Use Committee which was well attended by the general public. The three and half hour meeting included over an hour of questions from the community.

The project filed its Petition for a Declaratory Ruling with the Connecticut Siting Council on August 31, 2015. The Siting Council proceedings on the project’s Petition have included a site visit and tour of the proposed development area followed by a hearing testimony provided by consultants and representatives of Beacon Falls Energy Park. On December 11th the Siting Council provided draft “findings of fact” for the project together with a non-binding “straw poll” indicating unanimous support for the development.

Beacon Falls Energy Park, LLC intends to participate in a three state RFP for renewable energy whereby Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island are jointly soliciting offers for renewable and clean energy. The project will be submitted to the RFP later this month.

For more information please contact William Corvo, Manager, Beacon Falls Energy Park LLC at 860-346-6500