

Beacon Falls Energy Park, LLC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACON FALLS, CT – DECEMBER 14, 2015 - At its meeting on December 10, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council issued its Draft Findings of Fact on Beacon Falls Energy Park’s petition for a declaratory ruling for the construction of a 63.3 MW fuel cell facility in Beacon Falls, Connecticut. The Siting Council is expected to issue its decision on the project’s petition in early 2016. When completed it 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 60,000 Connecticut residents and businesses. 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.

In its draft findings of fact the Council noted Beacon Falls Energy Park received favorable feedback from town officials regarding the construction of a renewable energy facility in the town. The project developers have engaged with the Town of Beacon Falls and its residents through presentations at two public meetings with the Town’s Board of Selectman and the Beacon Falls Open Space and Land Use Committee. Additionally, the project developers made presentations with the Greater Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Earlier in December members of Connecticut’s Congressional Delegation including Senators Blumenthal and Murphy along with Representatives Larson, DeLauro, and Esty filed a joint letter in support of the Beacon Falls Energy Park with the Connecticut Siting Council. The letter stated, **“This project, when completed, will bring extraordinary benefits to the community and region through its clean energy generation, economic development of a former industrial site and manufacture and use of Connecticut-based fuel cell technology.”** The project site is on 10 acres of a 25acre 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., a Connecticut based company with its manufacturing facility in Torrington, Connecticut.

Fuel cell technology is classified as a Class I renewable energy source in Connecticut and the delegation letter made specific mention of the substantial energy it would provide to Connecticut residents “while making significant contributions towards Connecticut renewable energy goals.” In the letter they went on to state that “[t]he Beacon Falls Energy Park project is an extraordinary opportunity to expand the use of clean energy on a large scale, giving Connecticut residents a strong example of alternative energy sources to meet current and future energy demands.”

The Beacon Falls Energy Park would begin construction in May 2016. Constructed in phases, the project is expected to be commercially operational by the end of 2019. The project would generate millions of dollars in property tax revenue for the Town of Beacon Falls and pay millions of dollars in sales and income taxes to the State of Connecticut.

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