

COMMENTS FROM RIVERS ALLIANCE OF CONNECTICUT
RE: CANDLEWOOD SOLAR LLC STORMWATER PLAN
APPLICATION 2018-16062
FOR BUREAU OF MATERIALS MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
January 16, 2019
DEEP.StormwaterStaff@ct.gov



Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is the statewide, non-profit coalition of river organizations, individuals, and businesses formed to protect and enhance Connecticut's waters by promoting sound water policies, uniting and strengthening the state's many river groups, and educating the public about the importance of water stewardship.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We write in support of the comments and questions from the Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust.

In 2010-2011, Rivers Alliance supported the integration of state energy programs with the then Department of Environmental Protection to create DEEP. We also support rapid development of solar power. Clean energy leads to cleaner waters.

Unfortunately this project is sited in a highly sensitive environmental area, and the stormwater plan poses clear risks to the state's waters and obligate species. We are familiar with the work and credentials of Paul Elconin at Weantinoge, and rely on his technical analysis. We have been asked many times before to comment on this project, and are glad now to have the benefit of science-based observations that coincide with the concerns of so many in the community and, actually, around the state. This would be an ideal situation in which to bring both energy policy and environmental protection into the permitting process. Both should be joined at the very outset of such projects or the nearest opportunity thereafter.

Thank you for your consideration,

Margaret Miner, Executive Director
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut rivers@riversalliance.org
7 West St., POB 1797 Litchfield CT 06759 860361-9349