
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5916

AN ACT REQUIRING SOLAR DEVELOPERS TO PROVIDE FARMLAND RESTORATION BONDS FOR BOTH PETITION AND APPLICATION PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE SITING COUNCIL.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits the Connecticut Siting Council from approving by declaratory ruling a two-megawatt or more solar photovoltaic facility on prime farmland or forestland unless the project applicant provides a decommissioning bond (e.g., a bond to cover the costs of decommissioning the facility and restoring the land).

Existing law already prohibits the council from issuing a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need approving a two-megawatt or more solar photovoltaic facility on prime farmland or forestland unless the project applicant provides a decommissioning bond.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 33 Nay 0 (03/14/2025)