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March 21, 2024

Representative Joseph J. Solomon, Jr. Chair, House Committee on Corporations Rhode Island State House Providence, RI 02908

Re: The Nature Conservancy Supports H 7431 on Solar Siting

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is in full support of House Bill 7431 to make the proposed changes to the solar siting laws passed last year in Rhode Island. We are grateful to the House of Representatives for their leadership on this critical issue.

In 2023, TNC was an active part of the coalition who worked to pass the legislation (House Bill 5853) that would increase solar capacity in the state while protecting core forests. We remain steadfast in our support for this mission. The proposed bill H 7431 does not change the structure or the meaning of the current law, but instead provides amendments to language that allow for the bill to be enforced as it was intended.

The Nature Conservancy is happy to answer questions or be a thought partner moving forward on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Angela Tuoni

Climate Programs Manager

The Nature Conservancy in Rhode Island

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