

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND
PUBLIC NEED FOR THE MILVON TO
WEST RIVER RAILROAD
TRANSMISSION LINE 115-KV REBUILD
PROJECT THAT TRAVERSES
PORTIONS OF MILFORD, ORANGE,
WEST HAVEN, AND NEW HAVEN,
CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 508

May 20, 2022

MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL EVIDENTIARY HEARING

The City of Milford ("City"), a party in the above-captioned proceeding, hereby requests that the Siting Council schedule an additional evidentiary hearing following the hearing currently scheduled for May 24, 2022 and amend the current schedule to permit the submission of additional testimony and interrogatories by the parties.

Three days ago, on May 17, 2022, the City received from UI responses to its two sets of interrogatories, which requests focused on alternatives that would or may have less visual impact on historic resources that the project as proposed. Without the opportunity to conduct additional discovery, the City will be severely prejudiced in its ability to fully investigate reasonable alternatives to the detriment of the City, its historic resources, and the Council's deliberative process.

Specifically, the City requests additional time to obtain additional information with respect to the following:

- In response to Milford Interrogatory 1-1, UI states that rebuilding the transmission line on existing catenary structures is "potentially prohibitive" because the

catenary structures are owned by CT DOT, not UI. The City needs additional time to investigate this claim, including whether or not DOT would object to UI rebuilding this electrical infrastructure on the existing catenary structures within a limited area between Beardsley Avenue and Gulf Street.

- Also in response to Milford Interrogatory 1-1, UI offered a “Conceptual Cost Estimate” of \$39,290,000 to rebuild on existing catenary structures. UI has not provided any information as to the underlying assumptions or cost breakdown used in generating this estimate. The City requires time to evaluate the validity of UI’s cost estimate and any underlying assumptions once this additional information is provided by UI.
- In response to Milford Interrogatory 1-2, UI states that the required height for rebuilt transmission lines on catenary structures within Downtown Milford is “unknown at this time.” UI further estimates that the existing catenary support column/bonnet configuration would increase in height by a minimum of 20’ – 25’ (for a total height of approximately 80’ – 85’). The City requests additional time to obtain specific information regarding the existing vs. proposed height of these structures in Downtown Milford in order to assess the visual impact of rebuilding the transmission line on catenary structures in this limited area.
- UI responses to Milford Interrogatories 1-2 and 1-10 suggest that additional information and investigation is required to determine whether or not rebuilding the proposed transition line on existing catenary structures for a small section within Downtown Milford would be “deemed possible.” The City requests that an additional hearing be scheduled in order to allow the feasibility of rebuilding a portion of the new line on existing catenary structures to be fully explored and evaluated by UI and the City.
- UI’s response to Milford Interrogatory 1-5 provides photo simulations from the five historic resources listed on the NRHP depicting (1) the existing condition, (2) Alternative 4, and (3) underground configuration. The City is unable to directly compare the visual impact of the potential alternative configurations to UI’s original proposal because UI has not provided photo simulations depicting their preferred configuration from the same locations/vantage point. The City requests additional time in order to request and obtain this information from UI.
- UI’s response to Milford Interrogatory 1-8 identifies, for the first time, those municipal employees that UI consulted with when “designing the Project within Milford.” The City requests time to obtain testimony from the City employees identified.
- Overall, UI’s interrogatory responses dated May 17, 2022 provide substantial additional information concerning the technical and financial implications of several alternatives for the construction of the portion of the new transmission line between Beardsley Avenue and Gulf Street (including underground configurations, lower monopole heights, and catenary rebuild options). The City

requires additional time to fully evaluate this new information, including requesting clarification and/or seeking input from relevant consultants.

- In addition, it has come to our attention that SHPO recently requested that UI provide additional information concerning potential alternative configurations, including, among other things, the potential to reuse existing catenary structures in rebuilding the new transmission line. In making this request, SHPO specifically referenced the possibility of reusing catenary structures in areas within the viewshed of the NRHP-registered resources that will be adversely impacted by the current proposal. **See SHPO Correspondence to UI Consultant David George, dated May 13, 2022, included here as Attachment A.** As noted in SHPO's letter, the purpose of their request is to "ensure that alternatives have been sufficiently explored." For the same reason, and in order to allow sufficient time for UI to provide the additional information needed, the City is requesting that an additional evidentiary hearing be scheduled.

Given the momentous impact that the project will have on the City and its historic resources under the proposed configuration, the City respectfully requests that the evidentiary hearing be kept open following the upcoming hearing on May 24, 2022 and that an additional hearing date be scheduled at such time as is convenient to the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF MILFORD

By: /s/ John W. Knuff, Esq.
John W. Knuff, Esq.
Sara A. Sharp, Esq.
Hurwitz, Sagarin, Slossberg & Knuff, LLC
147 North Broad Street
Milford, CT 06460
Telephone: (203) 877-8000
Fax: (203) 878-9800
jknuff@hssklaw.com
ssharp@hssklaw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was electronically mailed to the following service list on May 20, 2022:

Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
siting.council@ct.gov

Bruce McDermott, Esq.
Murtha Cullina LLP
One Century Tower
265 Church Street, 9th floor
New Haven, CT 06510
T: 203-772-7787
bmcdermott@murthalaw.com

/s/ John W. Knuff
JOHN W. KNUFF, ESQ.