



56 Prospect Street
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06103

July 12, 2016

Robert Stein, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

**Re: Docket 468 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy
Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for
the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: Bulk Filing 2**

Dear Chairman Stein:

In accordance with section 16-50/(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") Application Guide for an Electric and Fuel Transmission Line Facility, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") conducted a municipal consultation process with the Towns of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ("Project"). This process formally began on April 14, 2016, more than 60 days in advance of Eversource's filing to the Council of an Application for a Certificate and Public Need ("Application"). Copies of the Municipal Consultation Filing provided to these towns were previously filed with the Council on June 29, 2016.

This letter and its enclosures specifically address the requirement in this process to "provide to the Council all materials provided to the municipality and a summary of the consultations with the municipality including all recommendations issued by the municipality," no later than 15 days after submitting the Application to the Council.

Please find enclosed two copies (and an electronic copy on a DVD) of Eversource's Bulk Filing 2 containing the municipal consultation materials. An index of the documents that comprise this Bulk Filing 2 is attached. Included within these materials are slides for a number of presentations that Eversource made to municipal leaders and agencies, written correspondence, handout materials and public comments.

Sincerely,


David Coleman
Project Manager

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project Bulk Filing #2 of Municipal Documents

Municipal Consultation Process

Exhibit A

Presentation to the municipalities of Bethel, Brookfield and Danbury

March 2, 2016	Presentation to the Bethel First Selectman
March 8, 2016	Presentation to the Brookfield First Selectman (presentation includes briefing on additional SWCT Projects)
March 9, 2016	Presentation to the Mayor of Danbury

Exhibit B

Open House Information Kiosks – May 4, 2016

- Welcome/Comments
- Proposed Upgrade
 - Route Maps
 - Video
 - Project Timeline
- Route Locator
- Construction
 - Overhead Construction Steps
- Public Participation
 - Siting Process
- Materials at Open House
 - Comment Cards
 - Project Fact Sheet
 - Bill Inserts
 - Right-of-Way Guidelines

Exhibit C

Correspondence

April 14, 2016	Eversource email to Town of Bethel with letter sent to property owners and invitation to the Open Houses
April 14, 2016	Eversource email to Town of Brookfield with letter sent to property owners and invitation to the Open Houses
April 14, 2016	Eversource email to City of Danbury with letter sent to property owners and invitation to the Open Houses
April 21, 2016	Open House Ad Invitation Published in the <i>Danbury News Times</i>
April 24, 2016	Open House Ad Invitation Published in the <i>Danbury News Times</i>
April 28, 2016	Open House Ad Invitation Published in the <i>Danbury News Times</i>
May 1, 2016	Open House Ad Invitation Published in the <i>Danbury News Times</i>
May 3, 2016	Open House Written Comments from Lucas Barlow
May 9, 2016	Open House Written Comments from David Barchi & Donna Barchi-Fernandez
May 10, 2016	Open House Written Comments from Ability Beyond Disability

**Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
Bulk Filing #2 of Municipal Documents**

Exhibit A

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Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Meeting with Town of Bethel
March 2, 2016

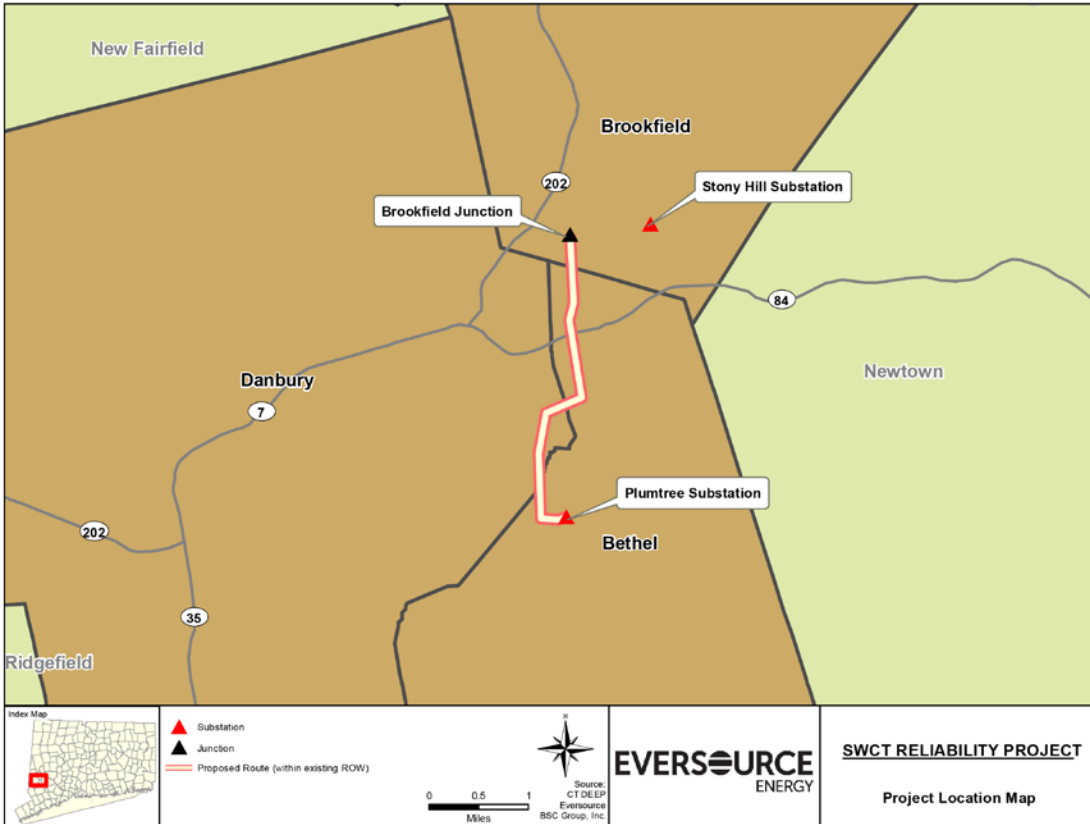
- Project Need
- Proposed Project Scope
- What We Propose to Build in Bethel
- Siting Process Overview
- Project Timeline
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Contact Information

- In June 2014, the regional grid administrator, ISO-NE, issued the results of a 10-year forecast study of the electric transmission network which delivers power to substations serving Southwest Connecticut towns, including Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield. The study found that the area transmission network had a number of issues which, under certain conditions, might undermine its ability to reliably serve the electrical demand in the area.
- Currently, the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield are served by local area substations, which, in turn, are supplied power by two electric transmission lines. In the event of a loss of power to one of these lines, resulting from a storm event, equipment failure or for other reasons, Eversource may have to shed customer load in order to prevent cascading outages.
- To correct these vulnerabilities and to support our commitment to reliably deliver energy to our customers, Eversource is proposing to build a new 115-kilovolt (kV) line.

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: Proposed Project Scope

Approx. 3.5 miles of transmission line and substation upgrades through the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield.

- Install a new 115-kV line from Plumtree Substation in Bethel, to Brookfield Junction in Brookfield.
- Modifications at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.
- All work to be done within existing Eversource right-of-way.



Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project - Plumtree Substation Upgrades

Plumtree Substation, located at 16 Walnut Hill Road, Bethel.

- Relocation of equipment
- Utilize existing access road off Walnut Hill Road
- No expansion of Substation area needed

Note: Additional upgrade work at Plumtree Substation as part of a different Project:

- Install new equipment at Plumtree Substation
- Exempt modification filing submitted to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) in February 2016
- Pending approval, construction will begin in Spring 2016





First Step:

Eversource seeks stakeholder input as part of its Municipal Consultation Process

- ▶ Eversource submits its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) to local municipal officials.
- ▶ As part of the MCF process, Eversource seeks municipal and public input. Written comments received are provided to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC).
- ▶ Eversource will host an Open House to provide officials and residents the opportunity to learn more about the proposed project.

Second Step:

Eversource files its siting Application with the CSC




- ▶ The CSC conducts a local public hearing as well as evidentiary hearings.
- ▶ The public, municipal officials and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the local public comment hearing.

Third Step:

The CSC Issues its Decision

- ▶ If approved, Eversource develops the construction plan, called Development and Management Plans (D&M). The D&M process traditionally offers additional opportunity for public input.

Next Steps - Timeline*

	1st Q 2016	2nd Q 2016	3rd Q 2016	4th Q 2016	1st Q 2017	2nd Q 2017	3rd Q 2017	...1st Q 2018	...4th Q 2018
Municipal Consultation Filing									
Application to CT Siting Council (CSC)									
CSC Review*									
CSC Decision*									
Development & Management (D&M) Plan**									
Construction**									
Project Outreach									

*Subject to Change

**Pending Approval

■ Key Stakeholders

- Property Owners/Residents
- Businesses
- Local Officials
- State Officials

■ Communications

- Briefings, Presentations
- Emails
- Door hangers
- Field meetings
- Web page (under development)

■ General Public:

- **Transmission Hotline 1-800-793-2202**
- **Email: TransmissionInfo@eversource.com**



For municipal officials:

Patty Tyrie

Project Outreach

203-949-2320

ptyrie@burnsmcd.com

For the public:

Transmission Hotline 1-800-793-2202

Email: TransmissionInfo@eversource.com

Southwest Connecticut Area Transmission Projects Overview

Meeting with Town of Brookfield

March 8, 2016

- Eversource is proposing multiple transmission upgrade projects in the Brookfield area.
- We would like to provide you with an overview of these proposed projects and discuss the timing for each one and the associated next steps.

- Southwest Connecticut Area Projects Need
- Stony Hill Substation Project
- Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
- West Brookfield Reliability Project
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Contact Information

Southwest Connecticut Area Transmission Projects Need:

- In June 2014, the regional grid administrator, ISO-NE, issued the results of a 10-year forecast study of the electric transmission network which delivers power to substations serving Southwest Connecticut towns. The study found that the area transmission network had a number of issues which, under certain conditions, might undermine its ability to reliably serve the electrical demand in the area.

- Examples of reliability issues in the Brookfield area:
 - Brookfield and other local towns are served by local area substations, which, in turn, are supplied power by two electric transmission lines. In the event of a loss of power to one of these lines, resulting from a storm event or for other reasons, Eversource may have to shed customer load in order to prevent cascading outages.
 - At both the Stony Hill Substation and the West Brookfield Substation, upgraded equipment is needed to better regulate voltage flows on the system.

- As part of our effort to correct the issues documented by ISO-NE, and to support our commitment to reliably deliver energy, Eversource will request approval from the Connecticut Siting Council for three projects that involve transmission upgrades within Brookfield.

Stony Hill Substation Project

Stony Hill Substation Project: Substation Upgrades:

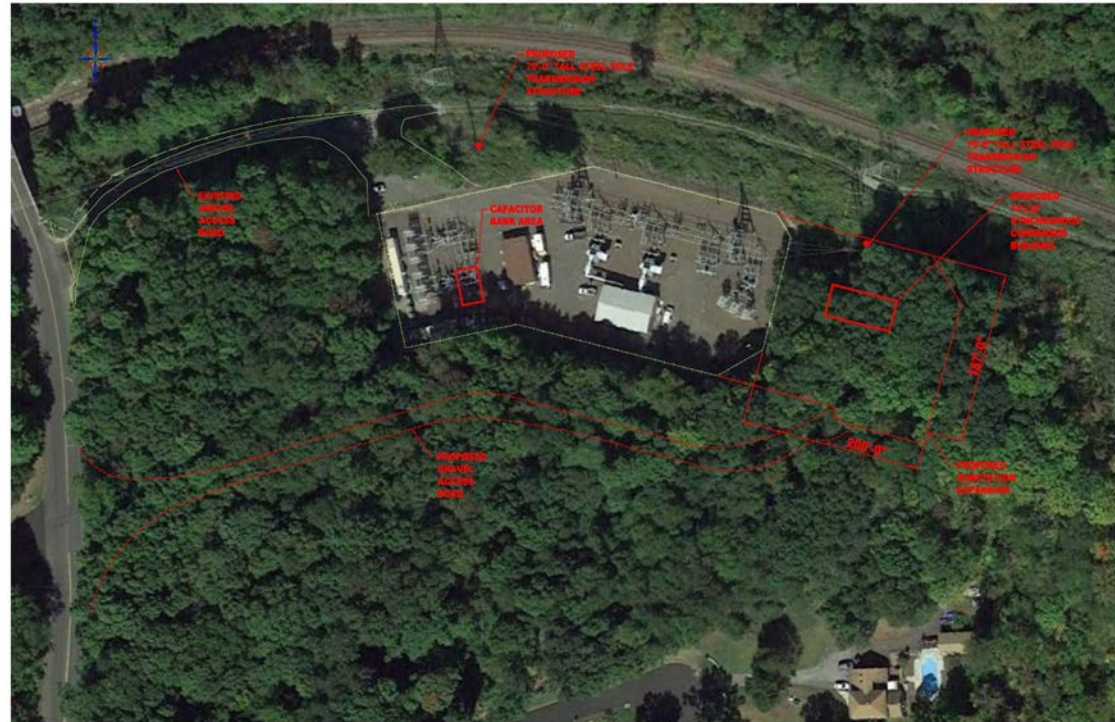
Stony Hill Substation, located at 49 Stony Hill Road, Brookfield.

Stony Hill Substation Project Scope:

- Construct new access road south of Substation on Eversource property (north of Deer Trail Drive).
- Expand fence line approx. 190 ft. by 200 ft. to the east (while remaining on Eversource property).
- Install synchronous condenser (to be enclosed).

Timeline:

- Brief Municipal Officials – March 2016
- File Petition with CT Siting Council (CSC) – March 2016
- Perform Outreach to abutters in the area
- Pending approvals, begin construction – Q1 2017
- Estimated In-Service Date – 2018

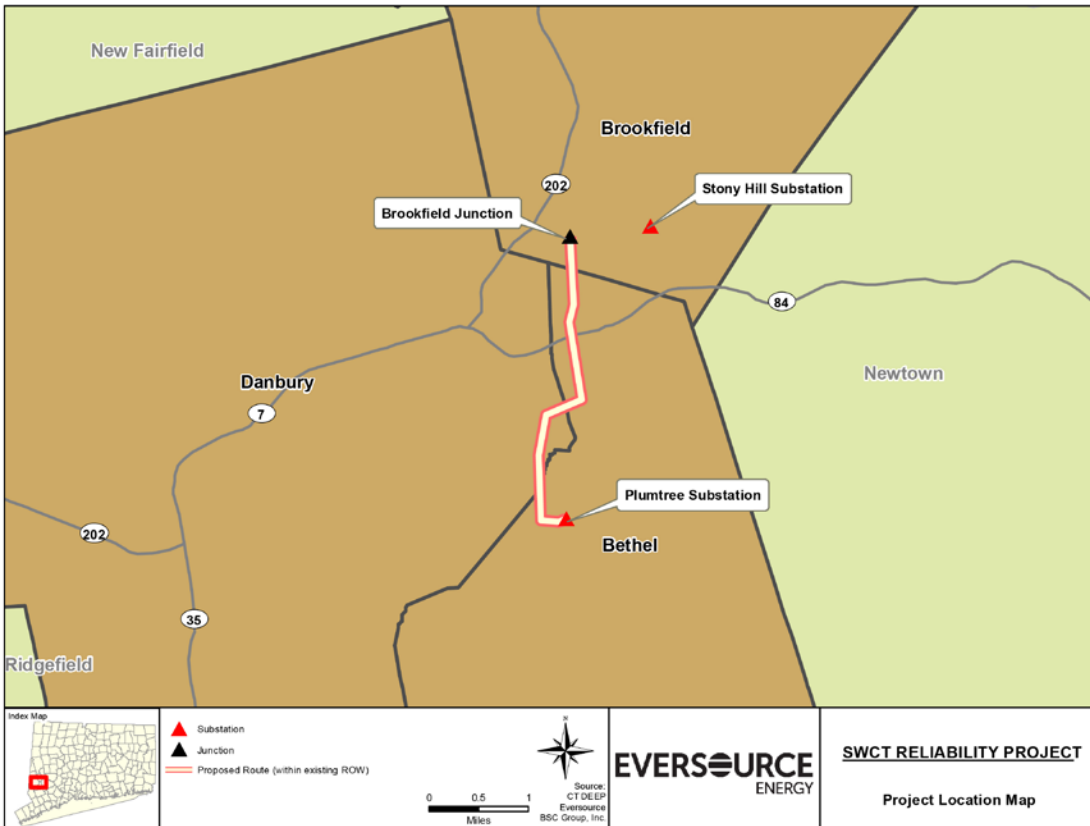


Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: Overall Project Scope

Approx. 3.5 miles of transmission line and substation upgrades through the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield.

- Install a new 115-kV line from Plumtree Substation in Bethel, to Brookfield Junction in Brookfield.
- Modifications at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.
- All work to be done within existing Eversource right-of-way.

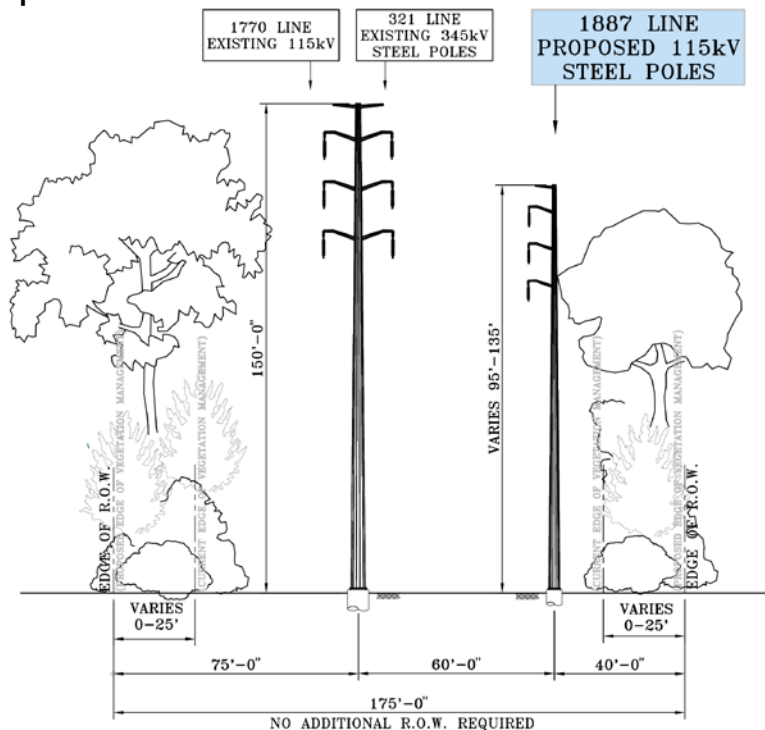


Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: What We Propose to Build in Brookfield

Overhead Line Scope - Plumtree Substation to Brookfield Junction:

Approximately 0.4 miles through Brookfield on existing Eversource right-of-way.

- Three new steel monopole structures proposed to be installed.
- The configuration below is the typical configuration for the majority of the proposed Project route.
- In Brookfield, the proposed new structures will be between 70-98 feet tall.



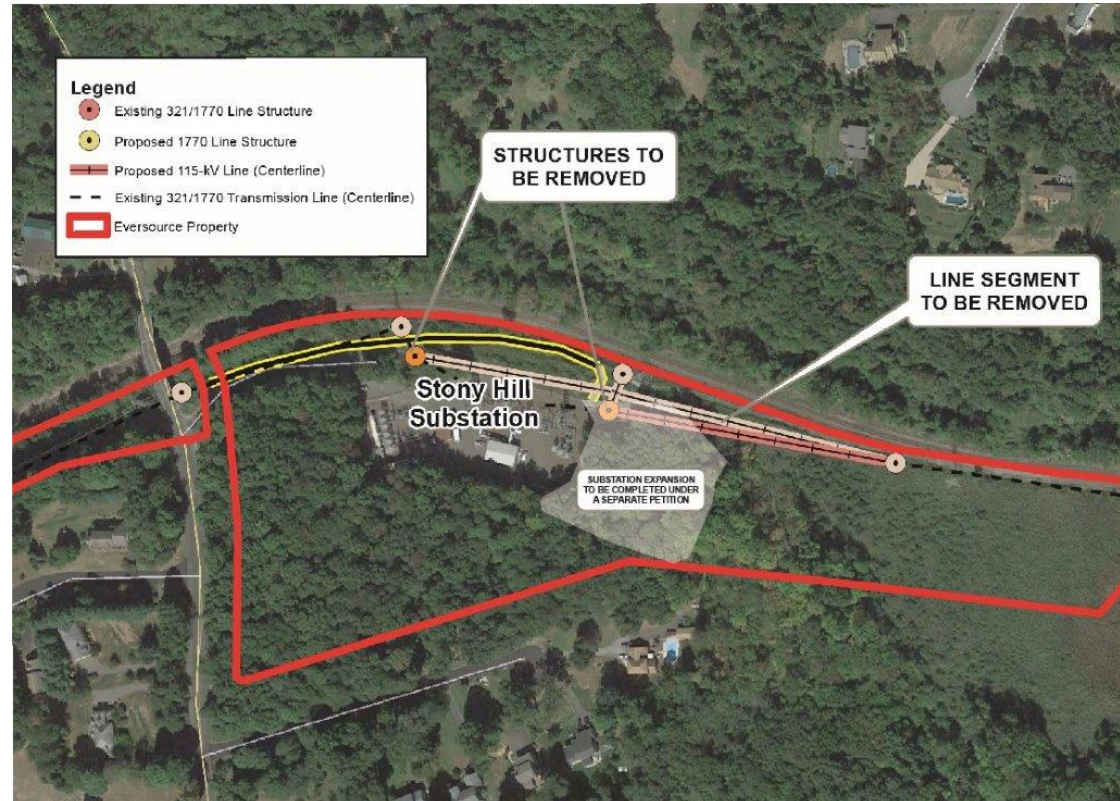
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
PLUMTREE SUBSTATION TO BROOKFIELD JUNCTION
IN THE TOWNS OF BETHEL, DANBURY, AND BROOKFIELD
(PRELIMINARY DESIGN, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: Substation Upgrades

Stony Hill Substation, located at 49 Stony Hill Road, Brookfield.

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

- Relocate existing equipment at the Substation
- Replace two existing structures at the site





First Step:

Eversource seeks stakeholder input as part of its Municipal Consultation Process

- ▶ Eversource submits its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) to local municipal officials.
- ▶ As part of the MCF process, Eversource seeks municipal and public input. Written comments received are provided to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC).
- ▶ Eversource will host an Open House to provide officials and residents the opportunity to learn more about the proposed project.

Second Step:

Eversource files its siting application with the CSC




- ▶ The CSC conducts a local public hearing as well as evidentiary hearings.
- ▶ The public, municipal officials and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the local public comment hearing.

Third Step:

The CSC Issues its Decision

- ▶ If approved, Eversource develops construction plans, called Development and Management Plans (D&M). The D&M process traditionally offers additional opportunity for public input.

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project: Next Steps - Timeline

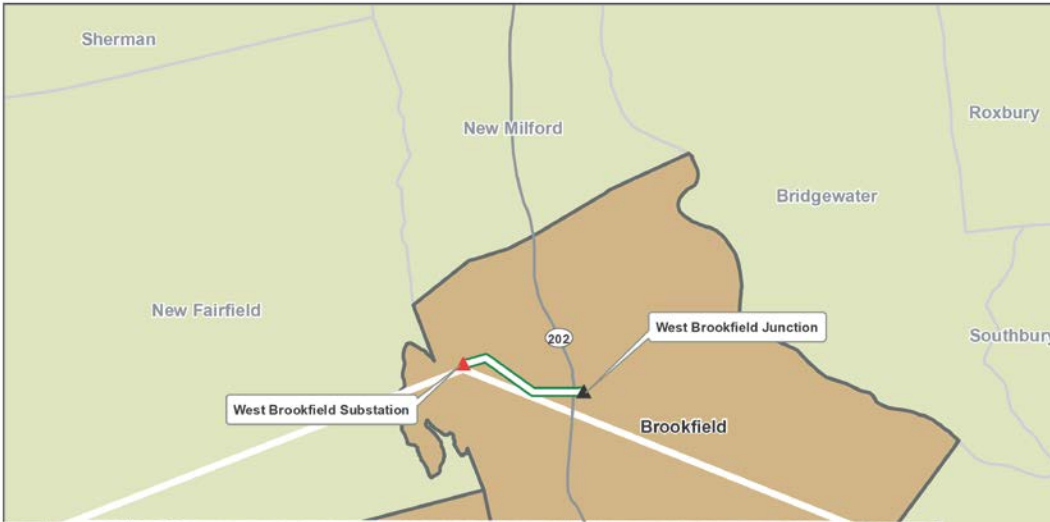
	1st Q 2016	2nd Q 2016	3rd Q 2016	4th Q 2016	1st Q 2017	2nd Q 2017	3rd Q 2017	...1st Q 2018	...4th Q 2018
Municipal Consultation Filing									
Application to CT Siting Council (CSC)									
CSC Review*									
CSC Decision*									
Development & Management (D&M) Plan**									
Construction**									
Project Outreach									

*Subject to Change

**Pending Approval

West Brookfield Reliability Project

West Brookfield Reliability Project: What We Propose to Build



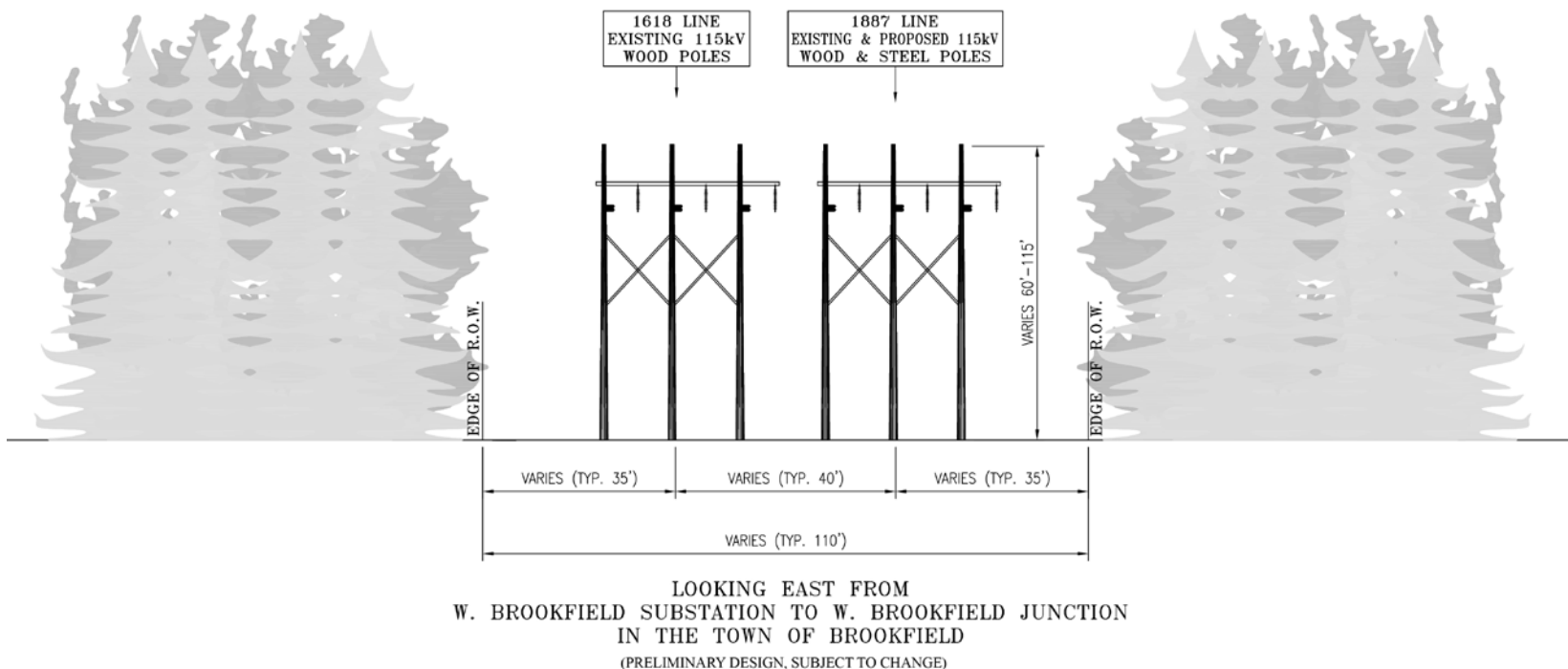
Approx. 1.4 miles from West Brookfield Substation (Prange Rd) to West Brookfield Junction (Pocono Rd), all in the Town of Brookfield.

- Replace 115-kV line (reconductor) along existing transmission line.
- Replace two existing structures.
- Install new equipment and expand the fence line approx. 100 ft. x 100ft. to the south and east at the West Brookfield Substation (while remaining on Eversource property).



Overhead Line Scope

- Replace 115-kV line with new line on existing structures along 1.4 miles in the Town of Brookfield.
- This work will also require the replacement of two structures. The height of one of the new structures will be the same, while the other will increase due to topography constraints and clearance requirements.
- Remove vegetation and incompatible species as necessary for safe construction.



West Brookfield Reliability Project: Timeline*

- **Brief Municipal Officials – March 2016**
- **File Petition with CT Siting Council (CSC) – May 2016**
- **Perform Outreach to abutters along the route**
- **Pending approvals, begin construction – Q3 2017**
- **Complete construction – Q4 2017**
- **Complete restoration – Q2 2018**

*Subject to change

■ Key Stakeholders

- Property Owners/Residents
- Businesses
- Local Officials
- State Officials

■ Communications

- Briefings, Presentations
- Emails
- Door hangers
- Field meetings
- Web page (for SWCTRP only)

■ General Public:

- **Transmission Hotline 1-800-793-2202**
- **Email: TransmissionInfo@eversource.com**



For municipal officials:

Patty Tyrie

Project Outreach

203-949-2320

ptyrie@burnsmcd.com

For the public:

Transmission Hotline 1-800-793-2202

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Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

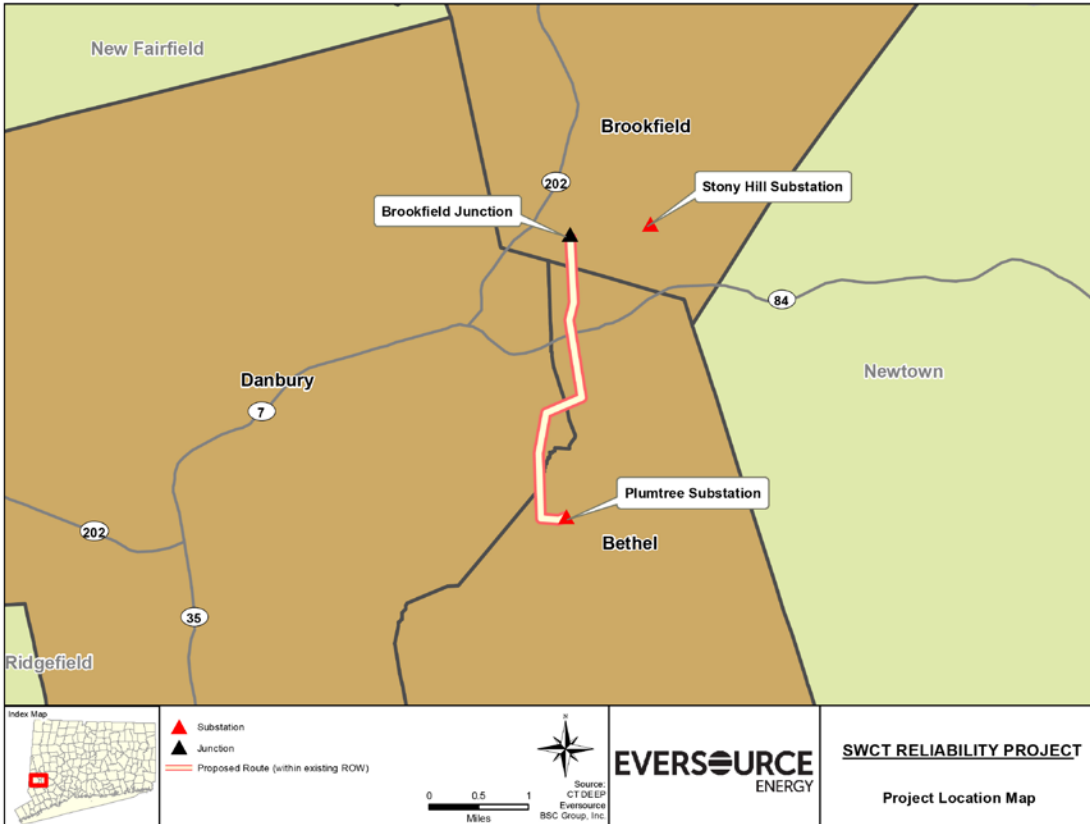
Meeting with City of Danbury
March 9, 2016

- Project Need
- Overall Project Scope
- What We Propose to Build
- Siting Process Overview
- Project Timeline
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Contact Information

- In June 2014, the regional grid administrator, ISO-NE, issued the results of a 10-year forecast study of the electric transmission network which delivers power to substations serving Southwest Connecticut towns, including Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield. The study found that the area transmission network had a number of issues which, under certain conditions, might undermine its ability to reliably serve the electrical demand in the area.
- Currently, the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield are served by local area substations, which, in turn, are supplied power by two electric transmission lines. In the event of a loss of power to one of these lines, resulting from a storm event, equipment failure or for other reasons; Eversource may have to shed customer load in order to prevent cascading outages.
- To correct these vulnerabilities and to support our commitment to reliably deliver energy to our customers, Eversource is proposing to build a new 115-kilovolt (kV) line.

Approx. 3.5 miles of transmission line and substation upgrades through the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield.

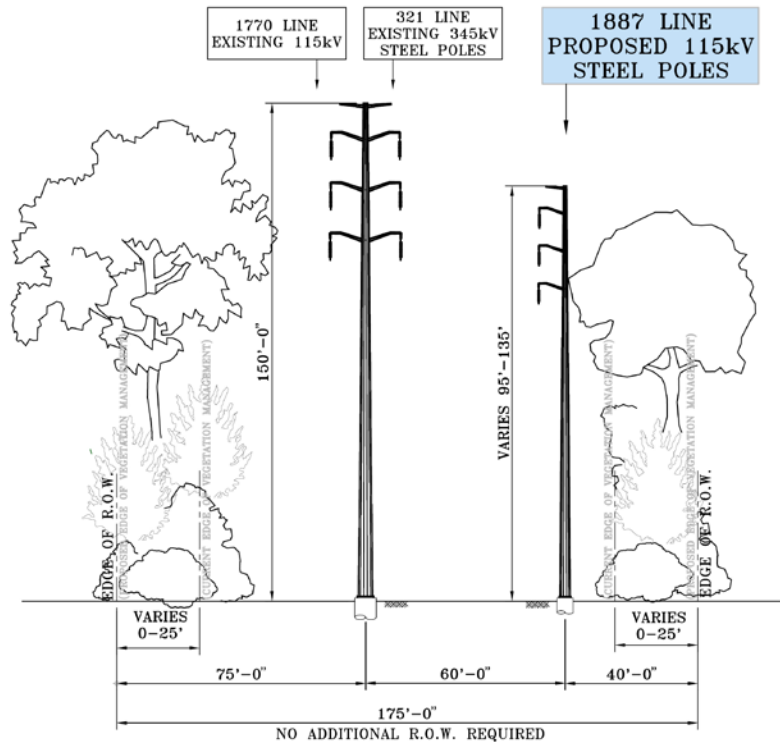
- Install a new 115-kV line from Plumtree Substation in Bethel, to Brookfield Junction in Brookfield.
- Modifications at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.
- All work to be done within existing Eversource right-of-way.



Overhead Line Scope - Plumtree Substation to Brookfield Junction:

Approximately 0.9 miles through Danbury on existing Eversource right-of-way.

- Six new steel monopole structures proposed to be installed.
- The configuration below is the typical configuration for the majority of the proposed Project route.
- In Danbury, the proposed new structures will be between 95-103 feet tall.



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
PLUMTREE SUBSTATION TO BROOKFIELD JUNCTION
IN THE TOWNS OF BETHEL, DANBURY, AND BROOKFIELD
(PRELIMINARY DESIGN, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)



First Step:

Eversource seeks stakeholder input as part of its Municipal Consultation Process

- ▶ Eversource submits its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) to local municipal officials.
- ▶ As part of the MCF process, Eversource seeks municipal and public input. Written comments received are provided to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC).
- ▶ Eversource will host an Open House to provide officials and residents the opportunity to learn more about the proposed project.

Second Step:

Eversource files its siting application with the CSC




- ▶ The CSC conducts a local public hearing as well as evidentiary hearings.
- ▶ The public, municipal officials and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the local public comment hearing.

Third Step:

The CSC Issues its Decision

- ▶ If approved, Eversource develops construction plans, called Development and Management Plans (D&M). The D&M process traditionally offers additional opportunity for public input.

Next Steps - Timeline

	1st Q 2016	2nd Q 2016	3rd Q 2016	4th Q 2016	1st Q 2017	2nd Q 2017	3rd Q 2017	...1st Q 2018	...4th Q 2018
Municipal Consultation Filing									
Application to CT Siting Council (CSC)									
CSC Review*									
CSC Decision*									
Development & Management (D&M) Plan**									
Construction**									
Project Outreach									

*Subject to Change

**Pending Approval

- Key Stakeholders
 - Property Owners/Residents
 - Businesses
 - Local Officials
 - State Officials

- Communications
 - Briefings, Presentations
 - Emails
 - Door hangers
 - Field meetings
 - Web page (under development)

- General Public:
 - **Transmission Hotline 1-800-793-2202**
 - **Email: TransmissionInfo@eversource.com**



For municipal officials:

Patty Tyrie

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203-949-2320

ptyrie@burnsmcd.com

For the public:

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**Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
Bulk Filing #2 of Municipal Documents**

Exhibit B

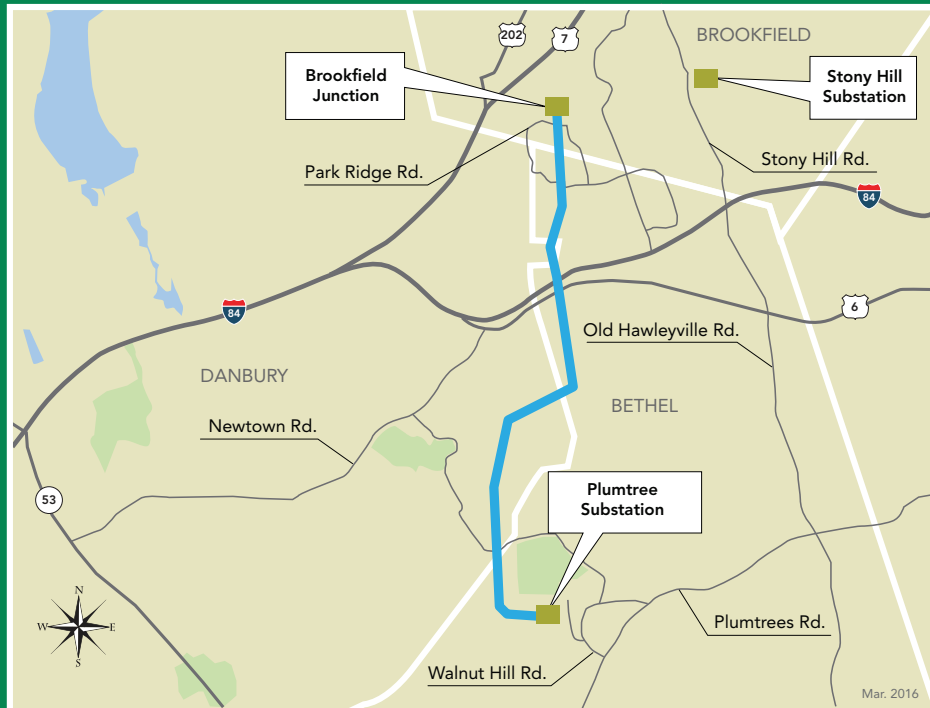
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Open House

EVERSOURCE
ENERGY


You are invited!

Learn about a proposed transmission system upgrade in your area.



Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project Proposed Project Route Map

LEGEND

 Proposed overhead line route
(approx. 3.4 miles) within existing right-of-way

Regional Open House Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Drop in between 6 - 8 p.m.

Bethel Municipal Center
General Purpose Room
1 School Street
Bethel, CT 06801

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Proposed Project Route Map



LEGEND

 Proposed overhead line route (approx. 3.4 miles) within existing right-of-way

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project Timeline*

	..1 th Q 2016	2 nd Q 2016	3 rd Q 2016	4 th Q 2016	1 st Q 2017	2 nd Q 2017	3 rd Q 2017	4 th Q 2017	1 st Q 2018	...4 th Q 2018
Discussions with Towns										
Municipal Consultation Filing										
Application to the CT Siting Council (CSC)										
CSC Review*										
CSC Decision*										
Development & Management (D&M) Plan - Development and Approval **										
Construction**										
Project Outreach										

*Subject to Change
**Pending Approval

Project In-Service: By the end of 2018

Typical Overhead Construction

1. Right Of Way Clearing



2. Work Area Prep



3. Structure Foundation Installation



4. New Structure Installation



5. Wire Stringing



6. Restoration



Siting Process



First Step:

Eversource seeks stakeholder input as part of its Municipal Consultation Process

- ▶ Eversource submits its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) to local municipal officials.
- ▶ As part of the MCF process, Eversource seeks municipal and public input.
- ▶ Written comments received are provided to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC).
- ▶ Eversource will host a regional Open House to provide the communities an opportunity to learn more about the proposed project.

Second Step:

Eversource files its siting application with the CSC

- ▶ The CSC conducts a local public hearing and evidentiary hearing(s).
- ▶ The public, municipal officials and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the local public comment hearing.

Third Step:

The CSC Issues its Decision

- ▶ If approved, Eversource develops the construction plan, called the Development and Management Plan (D&M). The D&M process traditionally offers additional opportunity for municipal input.

**Please provide your
comments on the Southwest
Connecticut Reliability Project.**

**Your comments will be shared
with the Connecticut Siting
Council and your town officials.**

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF)

Public Review Comment Card

Questions?

800-793-2202

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com

eversource.com

EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ?

Open House (5/4/16)

Other _____

Public Library

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project.

Your Comments:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource, using the supplied business reply envelopes. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officials. Thank you.

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Meeting Electric System Needs in Southwest Connecticut

Project Need:

As part of its ongoing commitment to deliver reliable energy and superior service to its customers, Eversource is proposing to construct a new 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line and make related substation upgrades in the southwest Connecticut area. These improvements are necessary to reliably serve the electrical demand in the area, and will strengthen the electrical system so that our customers have reliable power to meet their energy needs, both today and in the future.

Project Description:

The proposed new line would extend 3.4 miles, crossing through the towns of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield, Connecticut. The line would be located entirely within Eversource's existing transmission line right-of-way from Plumtree Substation (near Walnut Hill Road in Bethel) to Brookfield Junction (near Park Ridge Road in Brookfield). In addition, we would make related modifications to the Plumtree Substation in Bethel and the Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.

Project Siting/Permitting:

This Project requires a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (known as the Application) from the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC). Eversource will file the Application for the Project with the CSC in the second quarter of 2016. The public and all interested parties will have the opportunity to participate in the siting process through the CSC-sponsored public hearing process (hearing date[s] to be determined by the CSC).

Additionally, this Project requires environmental permits from local, state and federal agencies, including the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Community Outreach:

Eversource continues to work with local officials on the proposed Project and respond to any questions or concerns. A regional Open House is being held in May 2016 to introduce the proposed Project to the local communities, provide an opportunity for residents to speak one-on-one with Project representatives, and seek public comment on our proposal. All written comments received at the Open House will be shared with the CSC as part of our Application, and provided to town officials.

Throughout the entire process, Eversource will continue to communicate with elected and appointed officials, residents, businesses and other stakeholders to provide updates on Project milestones and respond to any questions or concerns in a timely manner.

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

Anticipated Project Schedule*

Municipal Consultation Filing	April 14, 2016
Regional Open House	May 4, 2016
Application filing with the CSC	Second Quarter 2016
CSC Public Hearings	To Be Determined (Set by the CSC)
CSC Decision	Third Quarter 2017
Pending CSC Approval, submit Development & Management Plan (construction plan) for approval	Third Quarter 2017
Start of Construction	First Quarter 2018
Estimated In-Service Date	By the end of 2018

***Subject to change**

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project Proposed Project Route Map



Visit our website eversource.com, call 1-800-793-2202, or email us at TransmissionInfo@eversource.com to learn more.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE

Eversource Plans Improvements to Electric System to Maintain System Reliability

So that customers will have reliable electric power to meet their energy needs, we are continuing our efforts to improve Connecticut's electric system in the Fairfield County towns of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield.

These proposed transmission system improvements, known as the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project, are required to bring the electric supply system in southwest Connecticut into compliance with national and regional reliability standards. This notice provides a summary of our plan, as currently proposed.

Project Summary

To provide reliable, cost-effective and environmentally sound improvements to the regional electric transmission system, Eversource proposes to construct a new 3.4-mile 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line between its Plumtree Substation in Bethel (Walnut Hill Road) and Brookfield Junction in Brookfield (Park Ridge Road).

We also plan to make modifications at the Plumtree Substation to interconnect the transmission line. At Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield (Stony Hill Road), modifications will be made to the interconnection of an existing transmission line.

The new overhead line will be located entirely within Eversource's existing transmission line rights-of-way.

Eversource plans to submit an application to the Connecticut Siting Council (Siting Council) within the next 60 days, seeking a "Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need" for this project. If approved by the Siting Council, construction is projected to begin in the first quarter of 2018. The new transmission line and related substation improvements are proposed to be completed and in service by the end of 2018.

Technical Description

The structure types under consideration for the overhead 115-kV transmission line are steel monopoles with heights ranging between 95 to 135 feet. Four three-pole horizontal structures approximately 30 to 40 feet in height are proposed to be placed to the west of Plumtree Substation.

Eversource's application will provide additional siting and technical details, including information on how the specific design of the line impacts magnetic field levels and measures to minimize magnetic fields. The proposed new lines will meet the requirements of the Siting Council's "Best Management Practices for Electric and Magnetic Fields," as amended.

Project siting and magnetic field information, including calculated magnetic field levels, will be included in the application. A link to the application will be available on the project's website at eversource.com, and on the Siting Council's website at www.ct.gov/csc. Paper copies will be available at libraries in the towns along the project route. Additional information about the project can be obtained by calling 1-800-793-2202 or by emailing TransmissionInfo@eversource.com. Additional information on electric and magnetic fields may be obtained by calling 1-800-793-2202 or contacting the Connecticut Department of Public Health at 860-509-7740.

Proposed Route Under Consideration

The proposed line route for the new 115-kV transmission line will extend approximately 3.4 miles on existing rights-of-way, between Plumtree Substation and Brookfield Junction in the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield.

The proposed line route exits the Plumtree Substation and extends approximately 3.4 miles in a northerly direction along existing rights-of-way, crossing Plumtrees Road, Payne Road, Interstate 84, Berkshire Boulevard, and Park Lawn Drive before ending at the Brookfield Junction, which is off Park Ridge Road.

Project Location Map

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project



The map above depicts the proposed route of the overhead transmission line in Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield.



Additional Information

For more information regarding the project, please contact:

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
Project Outreach
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141

1-800-793-2202
TransmissionInfo@eversource.com

This notice is provided pursuant to §16-50(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

AVISO DE PROPUESTA DE CONSTRUCCIÓN DE UNA LÍNEA DE TRANSMISIÓN ELÉCTRICA DE ALTA TENSIÓN

Eversource Planea Mejoras en el Sistema Eléctrico Para Mantener la Fiabilidad del Sistema

Para que los clientes cuenten con un sistema eléctrico confiable que cubra sus necesidades energéticas, continuamos con nuestros esfuerzos para mejorar el sistema eléctrico de Connecticut en las ciudades de Bethel, Danbury y Brookfield del condado de Fairfield.

Estas propuestas de mejoras en el sistema de transmisión, conocidas como el Proyecto de Fiabilidad de Southwest Connecticut, son necesarias para que el sistema de suministro eléctrico del sudoeste de Connecticut cumpla con las normas de fiabilidad regionales y nacionales. Este documento contiene un resumen de nuestro plan, según la propuesta actual.

Resumen del Proyecto

Para ofrecer mejoras confiables, rentables y seguras para el medioambiente en el sistema de transmisión eléctrica regional, Eversource propone construir una nueva línea de transmisión eléctrica aérea regional de 115 kilovoltios (kV) a lo largo de 5.47 km (3.4 millas) entre su subestación Plumtree ubicada en Bethel (Walnut Hill Road) y Brookfield Junction en Brookfield (Park Ridge Road).

También planeamos realizar modificaciones en la subestación Plumtree para interconectar la línea de transmisión. En la subestación Stony Hill de Brookfield (Stony Hill Road), se realizarán modificaciones en la interconexión de una línea de transmisión existente.

La nueva línea aérea estará ubicada por completo dentro de la servidumbre de paso de la línea de transmisión existente de Eversource.

Eversource planea presentar una solicitud al Consejo de Emplazamiento de Connecticut dentro de los próximos 60 días para obtener un "Certificado de Compatibilidad Ambiental y Necesidad Pública" para este proyecto. Si es aprobado por el Consejo de Emplazamiento, la construcción está pautada para comenzar el primer trimestre de 2018. La nueva línea de transmisión y las mejoras en la subestación relacionada están planeadas para finalizarse y entrar en funcionamiento a fines de 2018.

Descripción Técnica

Los tipos de estructuras evaluados para la línea de transmisión aérea de 115-kV son de monopostes de acero con alturas que varían entre los 29 y 41 metros (95-135 pies). Se propone colocar cuatro estructuras horizontales de tres postes de aproximadamente 9 a 12 metros de altura (30-40 pies) al oeste de la subestación Plumtree.

La solicitud de Eversource incluirá otros detalles técnicos y de emplazamiento, tales como datos sobre cómo el diseño específico de la línea afectará los niveles y medidas de campos magnéticos para minimizar los campos magnéticos. Las líneas nuevas propuestas cumplirán con los requisitos del Consejo de Emplazamiento respecto de las "Buenas Prácticas de Manejo de Campos Magnéticos y Eléctricos," según lo enmendado.

La solicitud contendrá información sobre el emplazamiento del proyecto y el campo magnético, que incluirá los niveles calculados de los campos magnéticos. Podrá encontrarse un enlace de la solicitud en el sitio web del proyecto en eversource.com, y en el sitio web del Consejo de Emplazamiento en www.ct.gov/csc. También podrán obtenerse copias en papel en las bibliotecas de las ciudades por las que pasa el proyecto. Puede obtenerse más información sobre el proyecto llamando al 1-800-793-2202, o enviando un correo electrónico a TransmissionInfo@eversource.com. Respecto a información sobre campos magnéticos y eléctricos, puede llamar al 1-800-793-2202 o comunicarse con el Departamento de Salud Pública de Connecticut al 860-509-7740.

Trayecto Propuesto en Consideración

El trayecto propuesto para la nueva línea de transmisión de 115-kV abarcará aproximadamente 5.47 km (3.4 millas) en la servidumbre de paso existente, entre la subestación Plumtree y Brookfield Junction en las ciudades de Bethel, Danbury y Brookfield.

El trayecto propuesto para la línea parte de la subestación Plumtree y se extiende aproximadamente 5.47 km (3.4 millas) en dirección norte a lo largo de la servidumbre de paso existente; cruza Plumtrees Road, Payne Road, la ruta interestatal 84, Berkshire Boulevard y Park Lawn Drive antes de finalizar en Brookfield Junction, pasando Park Ridge Road.

Mapa de Ubicación del Proyecto

Proyecto de Fiabilidad de Southwest Connecticut



LEYENDA



Trayecto propuesto para la línea aérea (aprox. 5.47 km) dentro de la servidumbre de paso existente

El mapa de arriba muestra el trayecto propuesto de la nueva línea de transmisión aérea en Bethel, Danbury y Brookfield.

Información Adicional

Datos de contacto para obtener más información sobre el proyecto:

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
Project Outreach
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141

1-800-793-2202
TransmissionInfo@eversource.com

Esta notificación se proporciona conforme a §16-50I(b) de los Estatutos Generales de Connecticut.

Herbicide Use on Transmission Rights-of-Way

The vegetation management program for Eversource is focused on controlling vegetation within transmission rights-of-way to support the safe and reliable operation of the electric transmission system. Maintenance work under the program includes the use of federally approved, state-registered herbicides by state-licensed applicators in a carefully prescribed and targeted way specifically to control undesirable vegetation.

Eversource is a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program," which is committed to the proper management of right-of-way vegetation programs and to reducing risks with pesticide applications.

Eversource's vegetation management strategies have been recognized by state agencies and the EPA, which in 2003 named the company as the first electric utility to receive its Champion Award under the "Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program."

Maintenance

The safe and reliable operation of our electric transmission system requires Eversource to control and remove certain plant species from power line rights-of-way. To do this, Eversource uses herbicides as part of its ongoing maintenance programs.

Vegetation maintenance on rights-of-way is typically conducted once every four years, when targeted vegetation usually attains heights that require control.

Eversource adheres to all local, state and federal regulations pertaining to the use of herbicides for rights-of-way vegetation control. This may include the preparation and submission of a detailed vegetation

management plan, which is reviewed and approved by the respective state authority and followed by Eversource and its contractors. These regulations require maintaining specific distances around public and private wells, water supply areas, wetlands and sanding water where herbicide use is restricted or limited.

Eversource employs state certified and licensed contractors for herbicide applications. These contractors must undergo regular recertification testing and training covering many aspects of vegetation control including laws and regulations, safety with respect to the use of the materials, application methods/techniques and environmental concerns.

A low-volume, low-pressure application method is employed when herbicides are used, and application is made to the individual stems of the targeted plants. Eversource vegetation management experts select the herbicides to be used on power line rights-of-way. Both the products and the application methods are environmentally sound and provide the optimum level of control of targeted plant species, while protecting and preserving the natural habitats on the rights-of-way.

All herbicides currently selected for use by Eversource are registered and approved for utility brush control purposes by the U.S. EPA, as well as the Departments of Environmental Protection or Agricultural Resources in Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively. The products have also been reviewed by veterinarians who have determined that, when used in accordance with label directions and by certified applicators, the selected herbicides pose no adverse health threat to wildlife or pets.

continued >

Property owners and occupants of dwellings adjacent to rights-of-way are notified in advance of any scheduled right-of-way maintenance that includes herbicide applications. In addition, Eversource notifies municipal officials in our service territories annually about work planned for the upcoming year.

Construction

Eversource strives to maintain the vegetation within transmission rights-of-way in the most environmentally sensitive, community friendly and economical way possible.

During construction clearing, herbicides are not used. Clearing is handled in stages to accommodate specific construction activities and with the ultimate aim of establishing a stable low-growing grass, shrubland and wildflower community that will provide the greatest potential for wildlife habitat, as well as the safe and reliable operation of the electric system.



For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

Managing Access to Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission line rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. In the management of these rights-of-way, our priorities are public safety and maintaining the integrity of transmission system property and equipment, while respecting the rights of private property owners who have utility easements on their property. To support this effort, we will install entry barriers as requested by property owners in targeted access road locations to help deter unauthorized vehicle access to the utility rights-of-way.

The majority of the rights-of-way used for the Eversource electric transmission system were established through the purchase of easement rights by Eversource from owners of the underlying property. While we have rights to operate and maintain the electric transmission system through these easements, the underlying property is still owned by private parties. Their rights to use the property continue, subject to our easement rights.

Where transmission rights-of-way cross public roads and private property and are readily accessible to the public, Eversource will work with property owners to determine if entry barriers will help deter unauthorized access.

Where appropriate, we will offer to purchase and install entry barriers to help deter unauthorized vehicle access. Typically, the entry barrier is a gate.

Access gates located on private property are usually secured by dual locks, one of which is controlled by the utility company and the other by the owner of the property. Alternatively, a single company-issued combination lock may be used.

During periods of transmission line construction, Eversource or an authorized Eversource contractor may require an opening in an existing fence to gain access to the construction area. With the owner's permission, the company will install a gate in that opening to prevent unauthorized entry and, if needed, restrict the exit of livestock.

An agreement for the installation of the access gate will be provided to private property owners who request to have a gate installed. Gates will be permanently installed unless the property owner requests that the gate be removed after construction. The agreement will outline the ownership, company and landowner access, and maintenance of the gate. For gates being removed, the company will restore the area to a condition substantially the same as that which existed prior to construction, as long as each party is allowed to maintain authorized access.



For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

Permitted and Non-Permitted Use on Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages thousands of miles of transmission and distribution line rights-of-way throughout its service territories in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Making sure that these rights-of-way are free of obstructions is vital to public and employee safety, and ensures a reliable electric system for everyone. That's why inspecting and protecting these rights-of-way is a critical part of what we do.

Transmission and Distribution Rights-of-Way

A right-of-way is the corridor of land that Eversource uses to access, construct, operate, and maintain electric and other utility facilities. Rights-of-way typically contain wood or metal structures with high-voltage electric lines. The majority of the rights-of-way used for our electric system were established through the purchase of easement rights by Eversource from owners of the underlying property. While Eversource has rights to operate and maintain the electric system through these easements, the underlying property is still owned by private parties. Their rights to use the property continue, subject to Eversource's easement rights. Government requirements mandate that safe distances be maintained from power lines to prevent contact accidents and ensure electric system reliability. As a result, some uses of property within the right-of-way are not permitted.

Uses that affect right-of-way access or safety (Non-Permitted Use)

Non-permitted uses by a landowner of property in the rights-of-way can create hazards that may not be obvious, but which could result in power outages or tragedy. Non-permitted use is any use of the property within the rights-of-way that restricts Eversource's ability to construct, maintain and operate power lines and electrical facilities. Common examples include: buildings, swimming pools, fuel tanks, sheds, fences, decks, and flag poles. Also included are underground items such as septic systems, utilities, drainage systems, wells, sprinkler or irrigation systems and invisible fencing for pets.

Permitted Use Application

We want to work with landowners to evaluate any proposed use of the easement area to make sure it is safe and does not interfere with system reliability. By submitting a "Permitted

Use Application," landowners can ensure that any planned use of the rights-of-way on their property adheres to mandated government standards and Eversource's guidelines. A Permitted Use Application Package is available from Eversource and provides details on what information should be provided in the application. To request a package from Eversource, please contact: Manager of T&D ROW's and Surveying, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037.

Eversource will review the proposed use to see that it does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities.

The evaluation process is a careful evaluation of proposed changes to the rights-of-way and requires a minimum of 60 days. The length of the evaluation period depends on the complexity, accuracy and completeness of the application. Eversource will look to see that the proposed use does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities. During the evaluation, Eversource may request revisions to the application and additional information or documents. The results of the evaluation will determine if the intended use is permitted. If approved, Eversource will provide the terms and conditions associated with the approval. Alternatively, if denied, Eversource will provide the reasons for the denial.

For More Information:

Connecticut and Massachusetts
ROWInquiry@eversource.com

New Hampshire
NHROWInquiry@eversource.com

EVERSOURCE

Transmission Lines and Property Values

A recent study, focused on the Connecticut and Massachusetts real estate markets, investigates the effects of high-voltage transmission lines on residential property values.

Updating 25 Years of Study

Opposition to new high-voltage transmission lines commonly stems from the belief that these power lines will have a negative effect on property values. This has led to extensive research and publication in the professional literature over the past 25 years. The general conclusion of these studies is that in about half of the cases no property value effects are found. In addition, when property value effects are found, they tend to be small (6% or less) and dissipate rapidly as distance from the transmission line increases.

However, the more reliable among these studies are dated, and none of the studies has focused on areas close to, or within, the Eversource service territory. Given the expected expansion of Eversource's high-voltage transmission grid, the company commissioned a new study of transmission lines and their effects on property values in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The Authors

The study was conducted by James Chalmers, Ph.D., an economist and real estate appraiser, and Frank Voorvaart, Ph.D., an economist and vice president of The Analysis Group. Both are highly experienced in real estate valuation methodologies.

The report, titled High-Voltage Transmission Lines: Proximity, Visibility and Encumbrance Effects, was featured in the summer 2009 issue of *The Appraisal Journal* and was extensively peer reviewed prior to its publication. The Journal is a publication of the Appraisal Institute.

Key Research Methods

The study was conducted between April and October 2008. A combination of field inspections, reviews of aerial photography, and reviews of maps of the existing electric transmission grid were used to select nine areas for the study. These were subsequently grouped into four study areas. Within these four areas, more than 1,200 home sales occurring over the period 1998-2007 were identified and analyzed.

Local appraisers were retained to assist in the collection and verification of field data obtained for the sale properties. A multiple regression model was used to evaluate the data. Over the past 25 years, multiple regression analysis increasingly has been recognized as the most reliable technique for investigations such as this. Multiple regression is the least subjective analytical approach and also provides explicit measures of reliability, which help determine what weight to give the results.

Research Results

- > There was no evidence of systematic effects on residential real estate values due to visibility or proximity of high-voltage transmission lines in any of the four areas studied.
- > A transmission easement does appear to have a consistent, though small, negative effect on real estate values independent of visibility or proximity of the transmission lines.
- > The hypothesis that higher-value properties are more vulnerable to devaluation was not supported by the data.
- > There was no evidence to suggest real estate values are more vulnerable to transmission line effects in a down market, although the authors cautioned that the number of sales observations in a down market was small.

For More Information

A complete copy of *The Appraisal Journal* article, with its full discussion of study methodology, may be obtained by e-mailing or calling:

ROWInquiry@eversource.com

800-793-2202





Transmission Rights-of-Way Restoration

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission line rights-of-way (ROW) in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. During line maintenance and construction activities within these ROWs, we will make reasonable efforts to avoid or minimize disturbances to a landowner's property including damage to trees, shrubs, lawns, and gardens, as well as non-vegetation items such as walls and fences. However, despite such efforts during these activities, some damage to private property may be unavoidable. If this occurs, we will restore property to its pre-construction condition in a manner that is compatible with our operations and maintenance activities. This will take place as soon as is reasonably possible following construction completion.

Restoring Vegetation Areas

When construction or maintenance is complete, disturbed ROW areas will be restored. Erosion controls will also be removed, although some may need to remain until the area is stabilized or until removal is directed by a regulating authority. In previously unlandscaped areas, native shrubs and ground cover will be allowed to grow. In areas that were previously covered with grass, we will restore the area to its pre-construction condition with topsoil and seed. In some areas where visual impacts are greatest, we will replant trees and shrubs with vegetation that is compatible with the future operation and maintenance of its transmission lines according to our guideline entitled, "Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way" and as required by state law and/or regulatory directive.

Restoring Access Roads and Work Areas

Construction and maintenance vehicles must be able to safely access each structure location. In the early stages of a new line's construction, gravel roads approximately 15 to 20 feet wide may be built to support the movement of large equipment and materials. Level gravel work areas ("crane pads") are also needed to stabilize equipment.

When construction is complete, access roads may remain for future maintenance of the transmission facilities within the ROW. Most crane pad areas will be removed and the area will be rehabilitated with topsoil and reseeded. Temporary erosion controls, such as hay bales and silt fences, may need to remain in some areas to prevent soil erosion until the grass or other vegetation regenerates.

Addressing Damage to Property or Other Losses

Eversource will attempt to minimize property damage or other losses that may occur as a result of construction and maintenance activities. If a landowner believes that transmission system work has caused property damage or other losses, the owner should contact his or her Eversource project representative, account executive or customer service representative by calling 800-286-2000 in Connecticut, 800-662-7764 in New Hampshire, 877-659-6326 in western Massachusetts and 800-592-2000 in eastern Massachusetts. Eversource will investigate the claim, and the landowner will be advised as soon as practicable concerning the response to the claim.



For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com



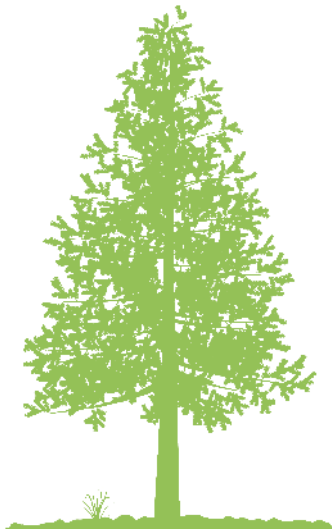
Tree and Shrub Planting Guide

For Transmission Rights-of-Way



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Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Building and maintaining a safe, reliable transmission system that has a minimal impact on the environment is one of our key goals. That's why we use best management practices when maintaining vegetation in these rights-of-way.

As a property owner, we know that you take great pride and enjoyment in your home. However, some plant species may not be compatible with the construction, operation and maintenance of our transmission system.

Federal, regional and electric industry standards require minimum safety clearances to ensure that vegetation does not come into contact with high-voltage overhead transmission lines. If the vegetation located in the transmission right-of-way is not compatible with the safe operation of the system, it can result in widespread electric power outages or unsafe conditions for electric system workers and the public.

This booklet is designed to assist in the selection of the correct shrub and tree types that are acceptable to plant within or along a transmission right-of-way. Please remember that this information is only a guide; any vegetation located within, or near, the right-of-way is placed at your own risk. During emergencies it may be necessary to remove plantings that meet these guidelines so that we can access the transmission system and make repairs.

Note: Eversource is providing the information in this document for informational purposes only. Because the survival of vegetation is affected by a variety of different circumstances and because we cannot predict how particular vegetation will react to different types of electrical equipment, we cannot promise, warranty or guarantee that following each of the suggestions in this document will yield a particular outcome or guarantee the growth and survival of vegetation.

Overhead Transmission Lines: Planting Guidelines

In general, when planting is proposed within Eversource's transmission rights-of-way, low-growing plants such as shrubs, grasses, forbs (wildflowers), ferns and certain low-growing tree species are allowed, with minor restrictions.

To allow for inspection and maintenance of the transmission facilities, new plantings should not be placed where they will obstruct existing access roads or be within 10 feet of a structure or supporting wires.

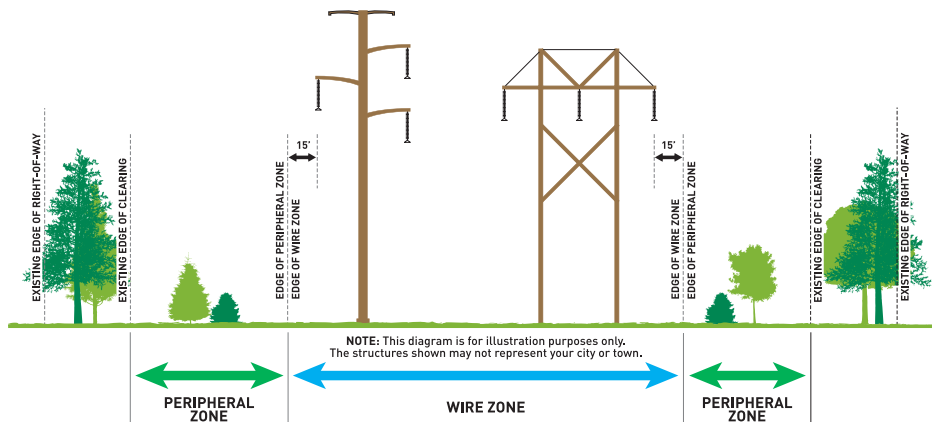
The potential mature height of the tree species will dictate whether or not a tree may be planted within the right-of-way. Generally, trees with mature heights in excess of 30 feet may not be planted anywhere within the right-of-way. Lower-growing tree species, with mature heights less than 25 feet, may be planted only within the Peripheral Zones (*see the diagram on page 6*), which are the areas beyond the outermost line conductors where the heights of vegetation are less of an issue.

Only plant species with mature heights of 15 feet or less are acceptable within the Wire Zone. Low-growing shrubs, forbs, ferns and grasses may be planted in any zone. Note that each property is unique and plantings may need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

When purchasing trees or shrubs to plant on a transmission line right-of-way over your property, please review the description that comes with the plant or check with a knowledgeable person at the store for plant growth characteristics. Also, vegetation management specialists from Eversource are available to answer questions regarding planting within the right-of-way.

The Wire and Peripheral Zones

When evaluating whether or not a plant is suitable for the location, please refer to the diagram below. The “Wire Zone” (in blue) is the area under the transmission wires. The “Peripheral Zone” (in green) is the area between the outer edge of the Wire Zone and the edge of the clearing. (Note: In some cases, the edge of the clearing may also be the edge of the right-of-way.) Plantings inside and outside of the Peripheral Zones may need to be removed if they are considered to be hazardous and could become an issue for system reliability or safety.



The following is a partial list of tree species with lower mature heights that may be allowed within Peripheral Zone areas. Some of these species are pictured later in this Tree and Shrub Planting Guide:

- American Holly – *Ilex opaca*
- American Smoketree – *Cotinus*
- Arborvitae – *spp. Thuja*
- Chinkapin Oak – *Quercus muehlenbergii*
- Crabapple – *spp. Malus*
- Devil’s Walking Stick – *Aralia spinosa*
- Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa*
- Flowering Dogwood – *Cornus florida*
- Flowering Cherry – *Prunus serrulata* (Kwanzan)
- Flowering Plum – *Prunus cerasifera*
- Hawthorne – *Crataegus*
- Hophornbeam – *Ostrya*
- Northern White Cedar – *Chamaecyparis*
- Red Cedar – *Juniperus*
- Serviceberry – *Amelanchier*

Note: Locating the trees identified in the list on the previous page within the right-of-way must be approved by Eversource in advance of any planting to ensure that the tree will not impact the overhead lines.

The list primarily represents trees native to the northeastern U.S. There are other very popular ornamental trees available that could also be used for landscaping. The rule of thumb for trees is that if the mature height is over 30 feet then the trees cannot be placed within the right-of-way. If the mature height is 30 feet or less, the trees may be planted only in the Peripheral Zones.

The following is a partial list of native tree species that should be avoided:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Ash – <i>spp. Fraxinus</i> | Horsechestnut |
| Aspen – <i>spp. Populus</i> | Kentucky Coffeetree |
| Beech | Maple – <i>spp. Acer</i> |
| Birch – <i>spp. Carya</i> | Oak – <i>spp. Quercus</i> |
| Blackgum | Pine – <i>spp. Pinus</i> |
| Cherry – <i>spp. Prunus</i> | Poplar |
| Cottonwood | Sassafras |
| Elm | Sourwood |
| Fir – <i>spp. Abies</i> (possible side zone) | Spruce – <i>spp. Picea</i> (possible side zone) |
| Hackberry | Sycamore |
| Hickory | Tupelo |
| Honeylocust | Willow – <i>spp. Salix</i> |

Invasive Plants

The sale of most invasive plants is usually not allowed. Such species should not be used in transmission rights-of-way.

Following is a partial list of native invasive plants and tree species that should be avoided within the right-of-way:

- Autumn Olive – *Elaeagnus umbellata*
- Buckthorn – *Rhamnus*
- Burning Bush – *Euonymus alatus*
- Honeysuckle – *Lonicera*
- Japanese Barberry – *Berberis thunbergii*
- Norway Maple – *Acer platanoides*
- Russian Olive – *Elaeagnus angustifolia*
- Tree of Heaven – *Ailanthus altissima*

Underground Transmission Rights-of-Way: Planting Guidelines

1. Within **new easements** (private properties), the agreements with landowners state that **no** trees or shrubs may be planted within permanent easement areas. This means that Eversource will not replace any trees or shrubs from areas that will, at some point, house vaults or duct banks. These disturbed areas (over vaults and duct banks) will be restored with paving or reseeded with a mix native to the area.
2. Trees and shrubs removed from **state and town/city rights-of-way** during construction will be replaced with similar types and sizes of general nursery stock. However, replacement trees will not exceed 12 feet in height and replacement shrubs will not exceed a three-gallon pot. In addition, replacement trees may not be planted within 15 feet of an installed vault or within 10 feet of an installed duct bank.

General Plant Care



Planting and follow-up care are essential to the success of your newly planted trees and shrubs. Proper planting involves digging the appropriate-sized hole, removing the burlap or plastic container around the roots, and planting at the proper height. The proper height is simply providing soil to the same level the plant had when it came from the nursery. Mulch is important to help retain moisture in the soil and keep weeds out, but do not pile the mulch around the stem.

A deep watering at least once a week is recommended through the first summer. A deep watering gets all the way down to the bottom roots. This may take as much as five gallons on some of the larger plants. A light watering that wets the top inch or two will feed only the surface roots. The lower roots will probably die and the remaining live roots will be close to the surface, making them susceptible to drought. If possible, avoid watering at night, and avoid watering the plant's foliage.

Once the plant is established, fertilize before new growth begins in spring. This will enable the plant to gather nutrients essential for leaf, root and flower production. Prune off any dead, dying, diseased or damaged wood.

Shrubs



Andromeda, *Pieris japonica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf

Height: Approximately 4'-10'

Width: Approximately 6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Various

Flower Color: Various

Flower Season: Various

Exposure: Shade to partial shade

Soil: Slightly acid



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Andromeda available.

Andromedas are evergreen shrubs that grow to various size heights and widths.

Care Information: Prune after flowering to keep bushy. Clip off old flower heads after flowers fade in spring. This allows new flower buds to develop for the following year. Not a favorite deer food.

Arborvitae, *Thuja spp.*

Zone: Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen conifer

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Most often green

Flower Color: n/a

Flower Season: n/a

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Arborvitae, with some native to the region. Arborvitae are evergreen shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths.

Care Information: This tree is not drought-tolerant; water well during hot summers and mulch generously to retain moisture. Pruning is rarely required. Shear for formal appearance. Many varieties are often eaten by deer.

Blueberry, Highbush, *Vaccinium spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-12'

Width: Approximately 4'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green foliage which turns scarlet in the fall/ blue-black berries

Flower Color: White to pink

Flower Season: May

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Moist, acidic, and infertile



Description: Plant more than one variety to assure adequate cross-pollination for fruiting. Prune in early spring to remove thin growth and old wood before buds start to swell. Native to region.

Care Information: New plantings should be fertilized, and due to their need for high moisture content, they should be surrounded with mulch and watered.

Chokeberry, *Aronia spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 3'-5'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to scarlet in fall/berries red to black (cultivar dependent)

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Early spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Tolerates many soil types



Description: Upward, spreading, multi-stemmed shrub, has berries and fall color.

Care Information: Planting in a bright sunny area will result in significant flowering.

Deutzia, Slender, *Deutzia gracilis*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-4'

Width: Approximately 3'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves with little fall color/ no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Tolerates many soil types; prefers moist soil



Description: There are over 60 variations of the Deutzia, with the most common being the Slender Deutzia.

Care Information: Planting in a bright sunny area will result in significant flowering.

Dogwood (shrub), *Cornus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Dogwood. Dogwoods are deciduous shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: Do not overwater; rarely needs pruning.

Elderberry, *Sambucus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-12'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green leaf changing to yellow in fall/purple-black berry clusters

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Well-drained, loamy or sandy



Description: This fast-growing, versatile shrub has attractive foliage and white flower clusters that give way to tart black berries in late summer/early fall. Beneficial for wildlife.

Care Information: Watering through the first growing season after planting encourages rapid root growth.

Enkianthus, Redvein, *Enkianthus campanulatus*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 4'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to red in fall/ small capsule turns brown in fall

Flower Color: Yellow/white with reddish marks

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to shade

Soil: Acidic, moist, cool; avoid dry open exposures



Description: Easy-to-grow, unique upright shrub with horizontal branching attractive in winter. Nice fall color. Usually not preferred by deer.

Care Information: Moderate pruning is required to develop the plant into its desired form, and to maintain its shape.

Forsythia, *Forsythia spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Flower Color: Varies

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Well-drained



Description: Forsythias are a hearty shrub that come in multiple varieties. They can grow in irregular shapes or upright. There is an arching variety as well. Branches touching the ground will most likely result in a new plant.

Care Information: Flowers form on previous year's growth. Prune immediately after flowering.

Fragrant Sumac, *Rhus aromatica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-6'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

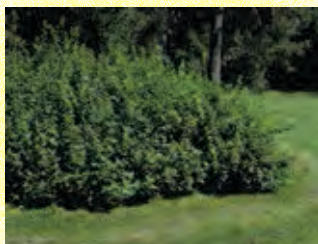
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to orange in fall; bright red

Flower Color: Yellowish

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Well-drained soil, infertile



Description: After flowering in spring, Sumac's dark green foliage appears. It turns orange to reddish-purple in autumn, contrasting with bright red fruit. This is an excellent shrub for planting on borders or in front of taller shrubs.

Care Information: No major pest problems.

Holly (inkberry), *Ilex glabra*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen

Height: Approximately 4'-8'

Width: Approximately 4'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Various/typically black berries

Flower Color: White, male flowers in clusters and female flowers solitary

Flower Season: Early summer

Exposure: Sun to partial shade

Soil: Rich, slightly acidic



Description: The genus *Ilex* contains versatile plants that can be grown as small- to large-size shrubs. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: Likes moist soil conditions, and may need some pruning to maintain fullness.

Holly (winterberry), *Ilex spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
(specie & cultivar dependent)

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Various, most often red berries

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Various

Exposure: Sun to partial shade

Soil: Rich, slightly acidic



Description: The genus *Ilex* contains versatile plants that can be grown as small- to large-size shrubs. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: It is important to plant both male (do not produce berries) and female (produce berries) shrubs within approximately 40 feet of one another for adequate pollination if a self-pollinating variety (such as Nellie Stevens) is not planted.

Hydrangea, *Hydrangea* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Acidic, moist, and well-drained



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Hydrangea. Hydrangeas are deciduous plants that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar, with some native to the region.

Care Information: Too much shade will result in a lack of flowers. Soil pH can determine the color of the flowers of some species; acidic soil will produce a more blue flower while alkaline soil will produce a more pink flower.

Leucothoe, *Leucothoe* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf

Height: Approximately 2'-6'

Width: Approximately 2'-6'

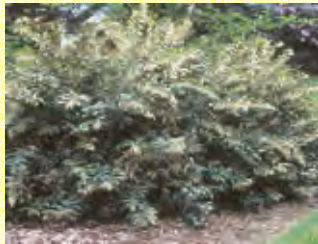
Foliage/Fruit Color: Shiny green to bronze/no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: May

Exposure: Partial shade to shade

Soil: Moist, cool, acidic



Description: This arching shrub has long, lance-shaped leaves on slender stems. The shrub appears to weep with the weight of the leaves.

Care Information: Ideal in shade; keep away from direct wind. If planting in sun, be sure to keep the soil moist.

Lilac, *Syringa* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Tree, shrub; deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained



Description: These fragrant trees and shrubs are popular with gardeners all over. They thrive in areas with cold winters and produce beautiful flowers, depending on the variety.

Care Information: Be aware when pruning as new flowers typically grow on older branches. Once established, lilacs require little care, and are generally disease-, pest- and deer-resistant.

Mock Orange, *Philadelphus coronarius*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
(specie and cultivar dependent)

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 8'-10'

Width: Approximately 4'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Does not prefer wet soil conditions



Description: This shrub gives off an orange-like scent when in bloom in the late spring. There are many varieties of this plant.

Care Information: Minimal care is needed once established. Gradually remove older stems to keep the plant vigorous.

Mountain Laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf

Height: Approximately 6'-12'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Glossy dark green, no fall color/brown seed capsule

Flower Color: Cultivar dependent

Flower Season: Early June

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Cool, well-drained, acidic



Description: There are many species and cultivars. Kalmia are evergreen shrubs that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the specie and cultivar. This native shrub is the state flower of Connecticut.

Care Information: Kalmia rarely need to be pruned, although pinching off the seed heads after blooming promotes better flowering for the next season.

New Jersey Tea, *Ceanothus americanus*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 3'-4'

Width: Approximately 3'-5'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves/clusters of small black fruit form in July and August

Flower Color: White fragrant flowers

Flower Season: Late spring to early summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Light, well-drained soil



Description: Tough, adaptable, compact shrub useful for dry infertile soils. Tolerates rocky conditions.

Care Information: Minimal, once established.

Ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

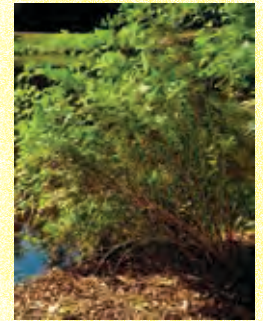
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to yellow-bronze in the fall/reddish

Flower Color: White with a pink tint

Flower Season: Late spring to early summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained soil



Description: This hearty shrub gets its unusual name from the many "layers" of bark the plant has when it molts. Birds and butterflies are attracted to this shrub, which comes in many varieties.

Care Information: Adaptable to many soil conditions and easy to care for.

Northern Bayberry, *Myrica pensylvanica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub; semi-evergreen to deciduous

Height: Approximately 5'-6'

Width: Approximately 5'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/powder blue berries

Flower Color: Males – yellow-green catkins; Females – white

Flower Season: Early spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Tolerates a wide range of soils, except for high pH



Description: This native hearty shrub is adaptable to almost any environment. The leaves are fragrant when crushed. The waxy blue berries are used to make bayberry-scented candles and are attractive to birds.

Care Information: Adaptable to many soil conditions and easy to care for.

Rhododendron, *Rhododendron* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Sandy, loamy; only deciduous tolerates moist soil



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Rhododendron, with some native to the region. Rhododendrons are evergreen or deciduous shrubs that grow to various heights and spread. Flower color varies based on species and cultivar.

Care Information: Very little trimming and pruning is required. Winters can be harsh to these plants; winter protection is recommended in open exposures.

Rose, Japanese, *Kerria japonica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 3'-6'

Width: Approximately 5'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow/
no significant fruit

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Sun to shade

Soil: Well drained, moist, loamy, medium fertility



Description: This fast-growing deciduous shrub forms mounds of green stems that are attractive even in winter. In spring, the mounds are covered with small yellow flowers on a background of green oval shaped leaves.

Care Information: Once established, prune out some of the older branches to maintain the shape.

Smokebush, Common, *Cotinus coggygria*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, tree; deciduous

Height: Approximately 12'-15'

Width: Approximately 12'-15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Prefers full sun, tolerant to partial shade

Soil: All soils but wet



Description: This large rounded shrub is grown for its "smoke-like" floral effect and brilliant autumn color. Once established, the upright branches spread out, and the plant becomes somewhat drought tolerant.

Care Information: Once established, older specimens can be limbed to create small attractive trees.

Spicebush, Common, *Lindera benzoin*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 8'-12'

Width: Approximately 6'-8'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow in fall/
red berries on female plants

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: Early spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained soil



Description: This native plant is a broad multi-stemmed shrub that is covered with fragrant yellow flowers in the spring. The aromatic leaves turn yellow in the fall. Birds are attracted to the small red fruits.

Care Information: This shrub can usually tolerate full shade. Fall color is best in sunny areas.

Spirea, *Spirea spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-10'

Width: Approximately 2'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained soil



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Spirea available. Spireas are tough deciduous plants. Distinguished by their size, bloom color and season of bloom, Spireas typically have small leaves and fine, twiggy branches. Once established, they are somewhat drought tolerant.

Care Information: Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Feed with a general purpose fertilizer before new growth begins in spring.

Summersweet, *Clethra alnifolia*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-6'

Width: Approximately 6'

Foliage / Fruit Color: Deep green, changing to yellow-green to golden-brown in the fall/ brown capsule

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Mid to late summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, acidic



Description: Fast-growing, low- to medium-size shrub with vertical branches producing 3-5 spires of tiny fragrant flowers in mid to late summer. Deep green leaves grow approximately 2-4 inches long that turn clear yellow-green to golden-brown in the fall. Tolerates coastal climates and is native to the region.

Care Information: Soil should be kept moist but not saturated; usually very little pruning needed.

Swamp Azalea, *Rhododendron viscosum*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 8'-10'

Width: Approximately 6'-8'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to brown/ no significant fruit

Flower Color: Various

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Sun to partial shade

Soil: Moist



Description: Also known as a Clammy Azalea, this native plant grows best in soggy areas but can tolerate some drought. The large white flowers give off a clove-like scent that attracts butterflies.

Care Information: They thrive best with organic material in the soil. Pile leaves and pine needles around the root base. Take care of the shallow roots.

Sweetfern, *Comptonia peregrina*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-4'

Width: Approximately 4'-8'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to brown/ no significant fruit

Flower Color: Yellow-green

Flower Season: Early spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Sandy, acidic



Description: This native plant is easily grown, features simple narrow green leaves, and generally spreads twice as long as it is high. The leaves are pleasantly fragrant when crushed.

Care Information: This is a tolerant plant and can adapt to almost any situation, but it does not transplant well.

Viburnum, *Viburnum* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 4'-12'

Width: Approximately 4'-12'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Various

Flower Color: Various

Flower Season: Various

Exposure: Sun to partial shade

Soil: Well-drained soil



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Viburnums that are native to the region and suit a wide range of soil conditions. Viburnums are deciduous and bloom times vary based on the species and cultivar. Most Viburnums have outstanding fall foliage.

Care Information: Occasional pruning is helpful in rejuvenation and shaping.

Virginia Sweetspire, *Itea virginica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 3'-6'

Width: Approximately 3'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to intense red in fall

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Adaptable to most soils



Description: This plant typically will have a greater width than height. The Virginia Sweetspire will hold on to its leaves, resulting in a contrasting deep red against the white snow in winter.

Care Information: Minimal care is usually needed once the plant is established.

Weigela, *Weigela* spp.

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-9'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

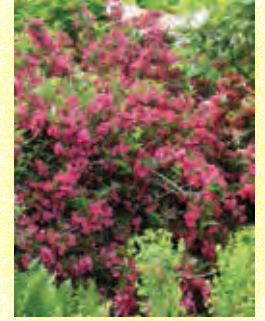
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies/no significant fruit

Flower Color: White, pink, red

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Well-drained



Description: This gracefully arching shrub attracts hummingbirds with its blooms in dense clusters. There are many varieties of the Weigela.

Care Information: This plant is usually easy to care for once it becomes established.

Witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, tree; deciduous

Height: Approximately 15'

Width: Approximately 8'-15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow in fall/small capsule

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: October and November after foliage drops

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained



Description: Vigorous, flowering shrub/small tree with upright to spreading loosely branched habit. Prune after flowering to shape and contain growth. Plant for a fragrant accent border as specimen, or in informal areas. A unique feature of this plant is that it flowers in late winter or fall rather than the spring. Some species of this plant are native to the region.

Care Information: Pruning is necessary only to remove deadwood, and should be carried out after flowering. Honey fungus and coral spot may affect this plant.

Trees



Crabapple, *Malus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only
(specie and cultivar dependent)

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Moist, well-drained

Description: A decent shade tree; can be used for screenings. It is tolerant of almost any soil and can withstand drought conditions. The fruits attract many different forms of wildlife.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.



Dogwood (tree), *Cornus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
(specie and cultivar dependent)

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Dogwood. Dogwoods are deciduous shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar with some native to the region.

Care Information: Do not overwater; trees rarely need pruning.



Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 15'-25'

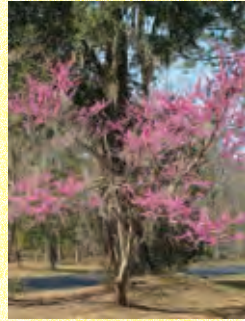
Foliage/Fruit Color: Bright green leaves that turn yellow-green in fall/2-3" seed pods that turn green to brown

Flower Color: Pinkish

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Almost any, except wet soils



Description: Birds enjoy the shelter and seeds that the tree produces. This tree is native to the region.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun to partial shade and in well-drained soil. Once established, this tree can become drought tolerant; avoid open exposures.

Epaullette Tree, *Pterostyrax hispida*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 10'-15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green, finely toothed oval-shaped leaves that turn yellow or yellow-green in fall/no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Well-drained, moist, acidic soils



Description: Bees enjoy the large drooping flowers this tree produces. The fragrance usually changes during flowering. Left undisturbed, the tree will usually form a teardrop shape.

Care Information: Once the tree has established itself, minimal care is typically needed.

Flowering Cherry, *Prunus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, fertile, and well-drained



Description: Many cherry trees have beautiful double-pink flowers and a vase-shape that rounds as it matures. This tree is popular for street buffer plantings, and some are native to the region.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Flowering Pear, *Pyrus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Usually spring

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Flowering Pear. They are deciduous and grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color is usually white.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Flowering Plum, *Prunus spp.*

- Zone:** Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, shrub; deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to partial sun
Soil: Well-drained



Description: There are many species and cultivars of Flowering Plum, with some native to the region. Flowering Plum plants are deciduous and grow to various size heights and widths. Flowers vary in color based on the species and cultivar. The foliage color is usually maroon.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Magnolia, *Magnolia spp.*

- Zone:** Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Late spring to mid-summer
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Slightly acidic; keep clear of wet areas



Description: There are many variations of the Magnolia – some native to the region – most with beautiful flowers in the spring. The flowers attract many forms of wildlife including birds and butterflies.

Care Information: In dry spells, be sure to water thoroughly.

Hophornbeam, American, *Ostrya virginiana*

- Zone:** Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Approximately 30'
Width: Approximately 20'-40'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green foliage, turning yellow in fall/small green pod
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Fall
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained, and slightly acid



Description: Also known as Ironwood, this typically slow-growing, graceful tree adds 10-15' in height in about 15 years. Single or multiple trunks often become twisted and knobby. Tree has a pyramidal branching form when young; matures with oval to rounded form. Native to the region.

Care Information: Very intolerant of salt. Tolerates drought well, along with sun or shade and urban conditions.

Seven Sons Flower, *Heptacodium miconioides*.

- Zone:** Peripheral
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Approximately 15'-20'
Width: Approximately 10'-15'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/reddish-purple fruits
Flower Color: White with green sepals that change from green to burgundy
Flower Season: Late summer
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained, and fertile



Description: A large multi-stemmed shrub that can be trained into a single trunk. The flowers occur in clusters of seven (hence the name). In winter, the bark exfoliates to reveal a dark brown inner bark.

Care Information: No serious insect or disease problems.

Shadblow, Serviceberry, *Amelanchier spp.*

Zone: Peripheral

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 15'-20'

Width: Approximately 10'-20'

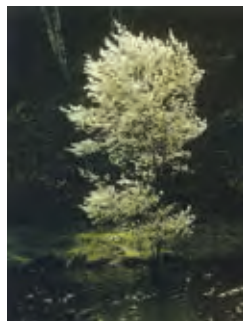
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to red, orange, yellow in fall/blue-black fruits

Flower Color: Typically white

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Partial sun

Soil: Moist, well-drained, and acidic



Description: Fruit usually attracts many birds as it matures.

Care Information: Do not overwater; rarely needs pruning.

Singleseed Hawthorne, *Crataegus monogyna*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 20'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves that turn red in fall; red fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Early summer

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Drought tolerant



Description: Hawthornes are a hearty tree that are often used in maritime areas because they can stand up to strong winds. With proper pruning they can be maintained as shrubs. Produces a fruit that is attractive to birds. Caution, there are thorns along the stems.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Staghorn Sumac, *Rhus typhina*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 15'

Width: Approximately 15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to orange in fall/bright red

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Well-drained soil, infertile



Description: After flowering in spring, Sumac's dark green foliage appears and turns orange to reddish-purple in autumn, contrasting their bright red fruit.

Care Information: No major pest problems.

Weeping White Pine, *Pinus strobus 'Pendula'*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, evergreen conifer

Height: Approximately 15'-20'

Width: Approximately 6'-8'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green needles/brown cone

Flower Color: n/a

Flower Season: n/a

Exposure: Partial sun to full sun

Soil: Tolerates many soil types



Description: The weeping form of the eastern White Pine comes from the drooping branches that will usually touch the ground. Tree is native to the region, with soft needles that provide shelter for wildlife, especially in winter.

Care Information: In dry spells, be sure to water thoroughly.



P.O. Box 270, Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270
TransmissionVM@Eversource.com

Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages nearly 2,300 miles of transmission rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Building and maintaining a safe, reliable transmission system that has a minimal impact on the environment is one of our key goals. That's why we use best management practices when clearing and maintaining vegetation in these rights-of-way.

As a property owner, you take great pride and enjoyment in your home. However, some plant species may not be compatible with the construction, operation and maintenance of Eversource's transmission system.

Federal, regional and electric industry standards require minimum safety clearances to ensure that vegetation doesn't come into contact with high-voltage overhead transmission lines. If the vegetation located in the transmission rights-of-way is not compatible with the safe operation of the system, it can result in widespread electric power outages or unsafe conditions for electric system workers and the public.

This handout is designed to assist in the selection of the correct shrub and tree types that are acceptable to plant within or along a transmission right-of-way. Please remember that this information is only a guide; any vegetation located within, or along the immediate edge of the right-of-way is planted at your own risk. During emergencies it may be necessary to remove plantings that meet these guidelines so that Eversource can access the transmission system and make repairs.

There are numerous shrub and tree species that are acceptable for planting within the "Wire and Peripheral Zones" (see diagram on reverse page) of a transmission right-of-way. In general, low-growing shrubs, grasses, forbs (wildflowers), ferns and certain low-growing tree species are allowed within the established right-of-way, with minor restrictions. To allow for inspection and maintenance of the transmission facilities, new plantings should not be placed where they will obstruct existing access roads or be within 10 feet of a structure or supporting wires.

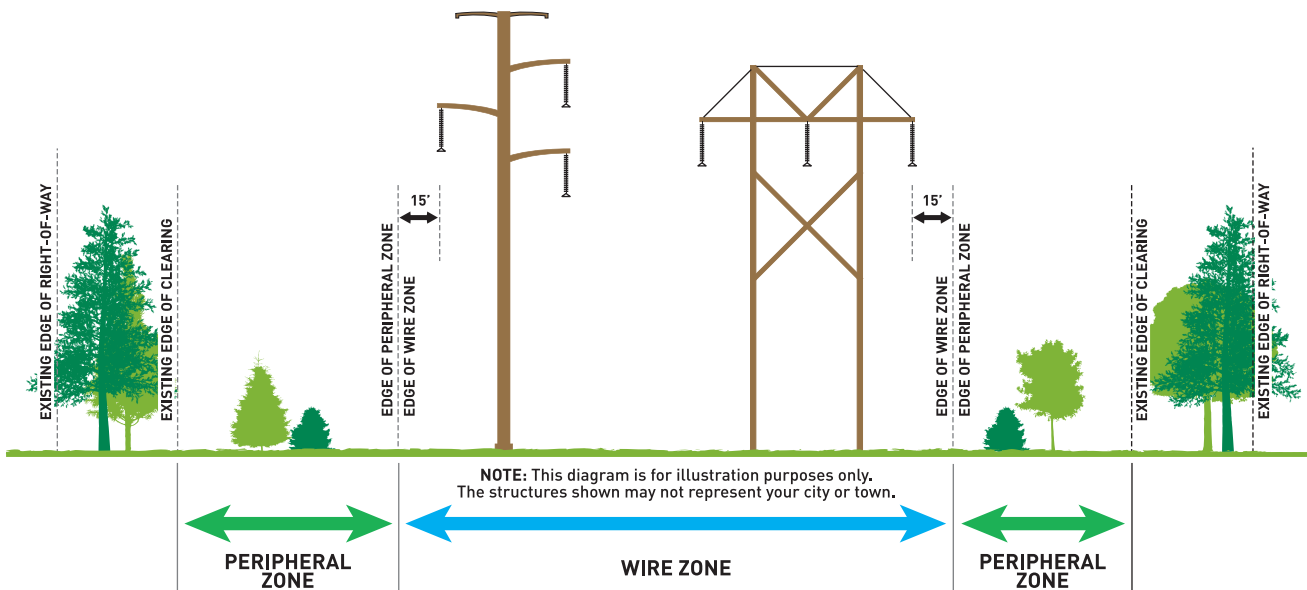
The potential mature height of the tree species will dictate whether or not a tree may be planted within the right-of-way. Generally, trees with mature heights in excess of 25 feet may not be planted anywhere within the right-of-way. Lower-growing tree species, with mature heights less than 25 feet, may be planted only within the Peripheral Zones, which are the areas beyond the outermost conductors where the heights of vegetation are less of an issue. Only plant species with mature heights of 8 feet or less are acceptable within the Wire Zone; low-growing shrubs, forbs, ferns and grasses may be planted in any zone. Note that each property is unique, and plantings may need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

When purchasing trees to plant on a transmission line right-of-way over your property, please review the description that comes with the plant or check with a knowledgeable person at the store for plant growth characteristics. Also, vegetation management specialists from Eversource are available to answer questions regarding planting within the right-of-way.

continued >

The Wire and Peripheral Zones

When evaluating whether or not a plant is suitable for the location, please refer to the diagram below. The “Wire Zone” (in blue) is the area under the transmission wires. The “Peripheral Zone” (in green) is the area between the outer edge of the Wire Zone and the edge of the clearing. (Note: In some cases, the edge of the clearing may also be the edge of the right-of-way.) Plantings inside and outside of the Peripheral Zones may need to be removed if they are considered to be hazardous and could become an issue for system reliability or safety.



EVERSOURCE

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

**Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
Bulk Filing #2 of Municipal Documents**

Exhibit C

Note: This page is intentionally left blank

From: [Tyrie, Patrice](#)
To: [Matt Knickerbocker \(firstselectman@bethel-ct.gov\)](#)
Cc: [charles.burnham@eversource.com](#); [Dave Coleman \(david.coleman@eversource.com\)](#)
Subject: Notification of the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for Eversource's SWCT Reliability Project
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016 10:19:22 AM
Attachments: [Final SWCT MCF OpHo letter 4-12-16.pdf](#)
[FINAL SWCTRP Open House Invite 4-12 9am.pdf](#)

Good Morning Matt,

As a follow-up to our conversation earlier this week, I wanted to give you an update on the proposed Transmission project, called the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project. As a reminder, the Project includes the construction of a new 3.4 mile 115-kV overhead transmission line in existing Eversource rights-of-way in the towns of Brookfield, Danbury and Bethel, and substation improvements at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield. The Project is designed to reliably serve electric demand in the area and bring the southwest Connecticut electric supply in compliance with enhanced national and regional reliability standards.

As part of the Siting process, Eversource is submitting its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) with town officials in the three affected towns today. A delivery should be arriving at your office shortly. The MCF provides information on Project need, site selection process, maps, analyses of alternative sites/routes, schedule, and environmental effects of the proposed Project. A new Project web page is also being launched today that will include the MCF, and copies of the MCF will be delivered to the local libraries in each town for public review.

In support of the MCF process, we have a regional public open house scheduled for May 4, 2016, at the Bethel Community Center. The open house is designed to give local residents, business owners and other stakeholders an opportunity to learn more about the proposed Project, ask questions of subject matter experts, and provide comments. All written comments received from affected communities during the MCF review process will be included in our Application to be filed with the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC). The Application filing is scheduled for Q3 2016.

Attached is the letter we are mailing to abutters today regarding the filing of the MCF, which introduces the Project and provides information on the upcoming regional Open House. We will also be mailing a postcard invitation to the open house to residents who live in the vicinity of the proposed Project. I attached a copy of that invitation for your records as well.

As always, please feel free to contact me at any time with questions on the Project.

Regards,
Patty

Patrice Tyrrie

Project Outreach - Eversource

☎ 203-949-2320 \ 📠 860-218-7523

From: [Tyrie, Patrice](#)
To: [Steve Dunn](#); [Ginny Giovanniello](#)
Cc: [Dave Coleman \(david.coleman@eversource.com\)](#); [charles.burnham@eversource.com](#)
Subject: Notification of the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for Eversource's SWCT Reliability Project
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016 10:16:35 AM
Attachments: [Final SWCT MCF OpHo letter 4-12-16.pdf](#)
[FINAL SWCTRP Open House Invite 4-12 9am.pdf](#)

Good Morning,

As a follow-up from my e-mail last week, I wanted to give you an update on the proposed Transmission project, called the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project. As a reminder, the Project includes the construction of a new 3.4 mile 115-kV overhead transmission line in existing Eversource rights-of-way in the towns of Brookfield, Danbury and Bethel, and substation improvements at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield. The Project is designed to reliably serve electric demand in the area and bring the southwest Connecticut electric supply in compliance with enhanced national and regional reliability standards.

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As always, please feel free to contact me at any time with questions on the Project. I will let you know when I have updated timing available for the filing of the petition for the Stony Hill Substation Project and West Brookfield Reliability Project as well.

Regards,
Patty

Patrice Tyrie
Project Outreach - Eversource

o 203-949-2320 \ M 860-218-7523

From: [Tyrie, Patrice](#)
To: S.Nocera@danbury-ct.gov; D.Esposito@danbury-ct.gov; ra.palanzo@danbury-ct.gov
Cc: [Dave Coleman \(david.coleman@eversource.com\)](mailto:Dave.Coleman@eversource.com); charles.burnham@eversource.com
Subject: Notification of the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for Eversource's SWCT Reliability Project
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016 10:18:04 AM
Attachments: [Final SWCT MCF OpHo letter 4-12-16.pdf](#)
[FINAL SWCTRP Open House Invite 4-12 9am.pdf](#)

Good Morning,

As a follow-up from my e-mail last week, I wanted to give you an update on the proposed Transmission project, called the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project. As a reminder, the Project includes the construction of a new 3.4 mile 115-kV overhead transmission line in existing Eversource rights-of-way in the towns of Brookfield, Danbury and Bethel, and substation improvements at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield. The Project is designed to reliably serve electric demand in the area and bring the southwest Connecticut electric supply in compliance with enhanced national and regional reliability standards.

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Regards,
Patty

Patrice Tyrrie

Project Outreach - Eversource

☎ 203-949-2320 \ 📠 860-218-7523

April 14, 2016

Dear Neighbor:

As part of its everyday effort to deliver reliable energy and superior service to its customers, Eversource is proposing electric system upgrades in your area. The upgrade, called the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ("Project"), includes the construction of a new 3.4-mile 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line in an existing Eversource transmission right-of-way in the towns of Brookfield, Danbury and Bethel. The Project also proposes related substation improvements at Plumtree Substation in Bethel and Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield. This Project is designed to bring the southwest Connecticut electric supply system into compliance with enhanced national and regional reliability standards.

Eversource plans to submit an Application to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) in June 2016, seeking a "Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need" for this Project. Since your property is located near the proposed Project, we wanted to keep you informed about the Project and notify you of the planned Application filing.

Sharing project information and soliciting feedback from the public and municipal leaders is an important part of the Project's approval process. Pursuant to Connecticut state statutes, a proposed electric transmission line project, such as the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project, requires the applicant to file a Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) in each affected municipality, prior to filing the Application with the CSC. The MCF provides information concerning the public need, site selection process, maps, analyses of alternate sites/routes, schedule and environmental effects of the proposed Project.

The MCF for this Project was submitted to the towns of Brookfield, Danbury and Bethel on April 14, 2016. Copies of the MCF can be viewed at your local library or on Eversource's website at www.Eversource.com. (From the homepage, click the "About" tab and then the "Major Projects and Infrastructure" tab for access to the Project web page.) All written input received from affected communities during the MCF review process will be included with Eversource's Application filed with the CSC.

As part of the MCF process, Eversource will be hosting a regional open house to give local residents and business owners an opportunity to learn more about the Project, ask questions of subject matter experts from Eversource, and provide comments on the proposed Project. We encourage your attendance. The regional open house is scheduled for:

May 4, 2016
Drop in between 6 and 8 p.m.
Bethel Municipal Center
General Purpose Room
1 School Street
Bethel, CT 06801

If the Project is approved by the CSC and other required permits are secured, Eversource anticipates construction would commence in mid-2017 and be completed in late-2018. This schedule is approximate and subject to change.

Keeping the lines of communication open is an important part of our work in your community. Thank you in advance for your cooperation as we work to better serve you. If you have questions about the proposed Project, please call the Eversource Transmission Information Line at 1-800-793-2202, or send an email to TransmissionInfo@eversource.com.



107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

Sincerely,

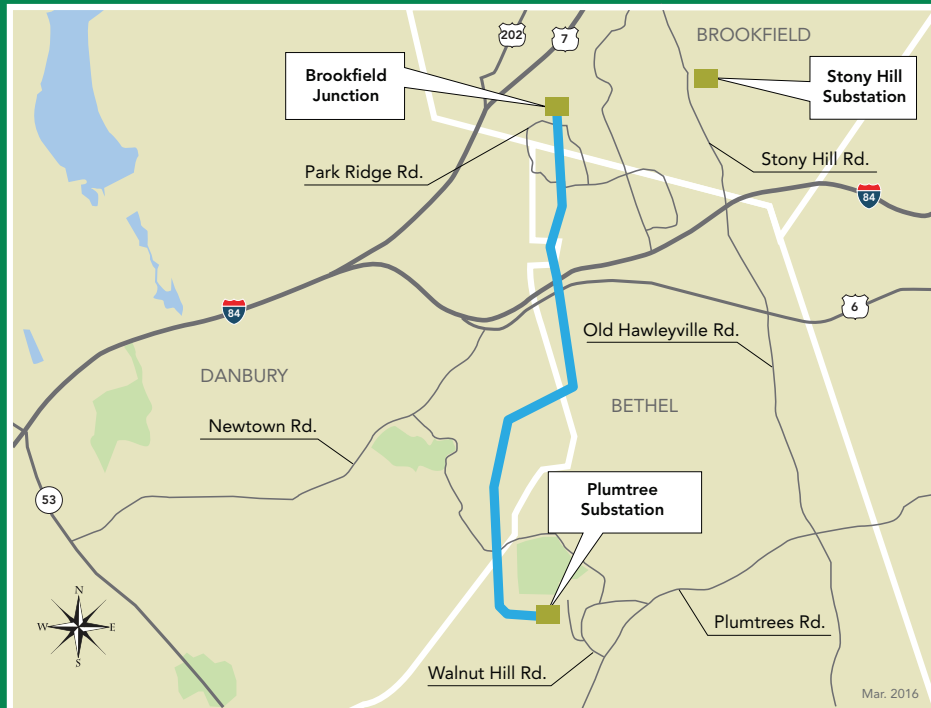
David Coleman

David L. Coleman
Transmission Project Management
Eversource Energy

Open House

You are invited!

Learn about a proposed transmission system upgrade in your area.



Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project Proposed Project Route Map

LEGEND

- Proposed overhead line route (approx. 3.4 miles) within existing right-of-way

Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

You are invited to join us as we share information about a proposed transmission system upgrade, the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project, at an Open House for local residents. These infrastructure improvements will strengthen the electrical system and ensure customers have reliable power to meet their energy needs, both today and in the future.

The new overhead line will be approximately 3.4 miles long, crossing through the towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield, Conn. The line would be located entirely within Eversource's existing transmission line right-of-way from Plumtree Substation (near Walnut Hill Road in Bethel) to Brookfield Junction (near Park Ridge Road in Brookfield). In addition, we would make modifications to the Plumtree Substation in Bethel and the Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.

Please come to our regional **Open House**, where you'll learn what this project will mean for the Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield areas. Project team members will be available to provide information and answer your questions.

Wednesday
May 4, 2016

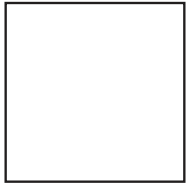
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For more information, please visit www.eversource.com,
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Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270



FROM THE FRONT PAGE/NEWS

CONNECTICUT PRIMARIES

Q Poll: State is Trump's and Clinton's to lose

By Neil Vigdor and Jim Shay

The bandwagon of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump is showing no signs of slowing down in Connecticut.

Fresh off convincing victories in New York, the two presidential frontrunners are prohibitive favorites to win next Tuesday's Democratic and Republican primaries in the Constitution State.

A new Quinnipiac University Poll staked Trump to a 20-point lead over Ohio Gov. John Kasich in the state's GOP contest and Clinton to a 9-point lead over progressive rival Bernie Sanders on the Democratic side.

"The poll is good news for Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton," said its director, Douglas Schwartz, at the

Capitol Wednesday.

All but one of the five White House contenders are expected to visit Connecticut before the primary, with Clinton scheduled to appear Thursday in Hartford with family members of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victims to highlight her record on gun control.

On Thursday night, former President Bill Clinton will schmooze with donors to his wife's campaign at a private reception at the Westport mansion of hedge fund manager and Milwaukee Bucks co-owner Marc Lasry, who is neighbors with movie mogul and Clinton donor Harvey Weinstein.

The first presidential poll in six months in the state by Hamden-based Quinnipiac showed Hillary Clinton with a huge lead over Sanders



Clinton

Trump

among two key constituencies for the former secretary of state: black voters and women.

"Democrats are looking for somebody with experience in politics, and she scores really well on that," Schwartz said. "Clinton is preferred among voters who cite the economy as their top issue. She is also preferred among those who say health care is their top issue and foreign policy."

Sanders' strength is young voters in the 18- to 34-year-old age segment, which broke 73 to 26 percent for the Democratic socialist

senator from Vermont.

Sanders might make his Connecticut debut Sunday in New Haven, which is where the Clintons first met as Yale Law students.

"I have so many people asking me and emailing me over the last couple of days, 'Is he coming?'" said Audrey Blondin, a Democratic State Central Committee member and Sanders organizer from Litchfield.

Sanders has been under fire from Clinton for his support of a 2005 law that gives gunmakers immunity from wrongful death lawsuits, such as one filed by families of the Newtown shooting victims. On Wednesday, Clinton's campaign released a new television ad featuring the daughter of slain Sandy Hook Elementary School Principal Dawn Hochsprung to highlight Clinton's record on gun

control.

Clinton's strategy did not bear itself out in the latest poll, however.

"We asked people a list of what they considered the most-important issue to their vote and only a few percent cited gun policy on the Democratic side, so too few to really look at," Schwartz said.

Likely Republican primary voters gave Trump 48 percent, with 28 percent for Kasich and 19 percent for Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Trump is slated to return to Connecticut on Saturday, Hearst Connecticut Media has learned. The real estate mogul, looking to grab all 28 of Connecticut's GOP delegates, held a rally on Friday night in Hartford.

Kasich is scheduled to hold a town hall Friday in Glastonbury after attending a similar event two weeks

ago at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. Last month, he fundraised in Greenwich.

The poll found among Connecticut likely Republican primary voters, Trump gets 51 percent of men, with 27 percent for Kasich and 18 percent for Cruz. Women go 45 percent for Trump, 30 percent for Kasich and 20 percent for Cruz.

Schwartz said unlike other states, there is only a small gender gap for Trump in Connecticut.

"(Trump) is winning among both men and women," Schwartz said. "I'm sure the name recognition and celebrity helps to some extent. He does very well among those Republicans who are not satisfied with their financial condition."

Staff writer Ken Dixon contributed to this report.

DMV

From page A1

resolved and will notify you when it is back up and running."

Marge Gallo, Danbury's Democratic Registrar of Voters, said she noticed only a few glitches with the online registration system, including some cards coming in without signatures. The system also registered someone who wasn't 18 by attaching the father's birthdate to the son's name.

She said online registration has been relatively smooth, but can take a while to process: 45 seconds to a minute to download the necessary information. The Danbury office received more than 120 online regis-

trations over the weekend and had another 43 when they opened Wednesday morning.

"A lot are coming in," Gallo said.

Despite warning customers Wednesday to avoid its branches and renew their licenses at AAA offices, DMV officials characterized the latest computer outages and voter processing delays as unrelated.

The agency has been plagued by a spate of software glitches related to a computer system upgrade and customer service complaints, culminating with the January resignation of its commissioner, former Bridgeport state Sen. Andres Ayala. The scope of the problem, DMV officials said, has been limited to

motor vehicle registrations, not driver's license information.

At the Danbury DMV office, however, things seemed to be running smoothly Wednesday afternoon.

Barbara Barreto, of Danbury, who visits the DMV up to four times a week on behalf of a car dealership, said Wednesday's wait was not unusually long.

"Yesterday, with the problems, we were here an extra two hours," Barreto said. "Today isn't that bad."

Merrill spokesman Patrick Gallahue said state election officials are troubleshooting the online registration problems, but the law does not allow for Thursday's online registration deadline to be extended.

"There were some issues with the validation, where the system was down (Tuesday) evening," Gallahue said. "We're working with the state's (information technology) team to identify where the issue was."

On Monday, 1,421 new voter registrations were processed by the state's online system, followed by 2,586 on Tuesday, according to Gallahue.

When an online registration form is submitted, that voter's name is added to a list maintained by state and local election officials.

"We have had a couple of instances where the DMV system appears to be down," said Fred DeCaro III, Greenwich's Republican registrar and Fairfield County chairman of the

Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut.

Speaking as an individual and not for the group, DeCaro called for improved guidance from state election officials on what to do when there's a breakdown in the verification process.

"I think that the process is so opaque for your average registrar that we have no idea where the fault lies, but we certainly have ideas of how it can be improved," DeCaro said.

One troubling shortcoming of the online system, DeCaro said, is that a person can put down a different voting address in a different town than the one that appears on his or her driver's license.

"We would never figure it out until after the election,

if at all," DeCaro said.

In Bridgeport, the city's GOP registrar, Linda Grace, said she resorted to stuffing envelopes and filling out paperwork in between running down the list of new voters because of a computer system lag.

"(Tuesday) was pretty frustrating," Grace said. "I don't know if it had anything to do with the hookup to the DMV or not. I know they've certainly had their issues over there."

Grace said the delays, which subsided Wednesday, could be due to the volume of new voter registrations.

"The last week, it's been pretty heavy," she said.

Staff writer Katrina Koerting contributed to this report.

Get plugged in.

Learn about proposed transmission system upgrades in your area.

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General Purpose Room
1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801

For more information about this proposed project, please visit www.eversource.com, email TransmissionInfo@eversource.com, or call 800-793-2202.

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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

ANSWERS

From page A1

this project that the street-scape will be done.”

The project already has been delayed several times, but the developers said they expect to close on financing for two buildings in July. The town, however, has yet to start work on its plan to re-vamp the neighborhood with new streetlights, sidewalks, turn lanes and street parking that the state requires be completed before Brookfield Village can open its doors.

The latest delay stems from a plan pushed recently by First Selectman Steve Dunn to bury the existing above-ground utility lines, which was not part of the original streetscape plan.

Before that plan can move ahead, officials need a detailed cost estimate from Eversource, which isn't expected for about three months.

Once the price is known, the utility plan will be put to referendum. If approved, the town would seek bids on the project.

“We're going to do this as quickly as we can,” Dunn said at the selectmen's meeting. “The electric might delay the town's building of the road somewhat, but I don't think that would stop us from building the sidewalks and all the amenities.”

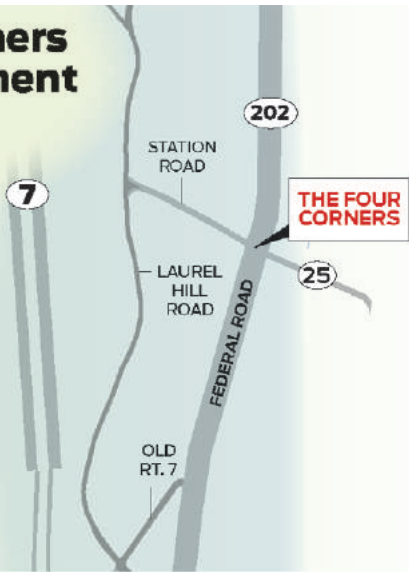
Alan Rothman, project manager for Brookfield Village, fears that delays could leave the street torn up when the buildings are ready to be rented, possibly in September 2017.

“We don't want to spend this money and have this setup where basically the street is being broken up when we finish our project, or even after that,”

Four Corners development in peril?

Developers say they might abandon the cornerstone Brookfield Village residential/retail project if the town doesn't finalize utility plans soon.

BROOKFIELD



Daryn Rowley / Staff graphic

Rothman said Wednesday. “It's hard to rent retail space if you have chaos in the street.”

Dunn said the two sides will meet this week to try to get on the same page, but added delays are typical in projects like this.

“Almost every project gets delayed for one reason or another,” Dunn said. “We're more than willing to work with them.”

But it remains unclear whether the fall 2017 deadline can be met.

Greg Dembowski, who is managing the street-scape project for the town, recently told the Board of Finance his most optimistic timeline has work being completed in November 2017 — two months after Brookfield Village opens.

“We're doing everything we can, but to do it all next summer?” Dembowski said. “That's going to be a stretch.”

Rothman said if the work isn't done by winter 2017, the new buildings would likely remain vacant for several months and cost the developers thousands of dollars.

“We are looking for a

guarantee from the town about delivering the street-scape somewhere around the time we complete the buildings,” Rothman said. “We can play with it a month or two, but once we get into the winter, you can't finish the road, and it's more difficult to rent.”

Dembowski said before the underground utilities were added to the project's scope, officials had hoped work would begin this summer. But he said the project has stalled for three months while the utility issue is resolved.

Although it would be more cost-effective to bury the lines at the same time as the other work, he said, the town might also consider a two-phase approach that would lay the groundwork for the lines first and install them later.

“Ideally, we would do the underground utility and sidewalks at the same time,” Dembowski said. “But if for whatever reasons the utility work can't be done in time for Brookfield Village to proceed, we may break the construction down in phases.”

awolff@newstimes.com;
203-731-3333; @awolffster

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SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
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NEWTOWN HARDWARE
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VILLAGE HARDWARE
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NEWS



Julio Cortez / Associated Press

Construction continues on the Tappan Zee Bridge, as seen from Nyack, N.Y.

TRANSPORTATION

N.Y.-bound drivers beware

Traffic headaches expected as 3 lanes on Tappan Zee Bridge to close this weekend

By Ken Valenti

Local motorists who plan to drive west into Westchester County or beyond this upcoming weekend should hit the road in the late afternoon or brace for severe delays. Three of the Tappan Zee Bridge's west-bound lanes will be closed overnights and mornings as part of the \$4 billion bridge replacement project.

One lane bound for Rockland and points west will remain open during the closures, the New York State Thruway Authority said. The lanes are scheduled to close from 9 p.m. Friday to 2 p.m. Saturday, then from 9 p.m. Saturday until 2 p.m. Sunday.

Traffic headaches are expected to be at their worst on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

"It's going to be a tough one," said Alec Slatky, spokesman for AAA Northeast. "The work needs to be done, but it's going to be a rough ride for sure."

The Thruway Authority is spreading the word about the work throughout the tri-state region, as far into Connecticut as Hartford, to give motorists who use the bridge a chance to find alternate routes or travel at

different times if possible. They're also giving warning to those who normally use other bridges across the Hudson, including the Bear Mountain Bridge often used by people in northern Fairfield County, that they'll have lots of company and may have unexpected delays of their own.

The lanes must be closed because roadway plates will be lifted to make room for driving piles directly under the existing bridge where the new span will approach land, the authority said. The work is part of a revised construction schedule developed to minimize noise, water quality impacts, and traffic disruption in the future, the agency said.

"The new plan allows this work to take place at the least-traveled times of the week to minimize traffic impacts, and enables it to occur with current construction activities, eliminating the need for additional work in the future," said authority spokesman Khurram Saeed.

Consisting of two spans, the New NY Bridge, as the authority refers to the Tappan Zee Bridge replacement, is scheduled to open in 2018. While the Tappan Zee Bridge was ailing five decades after it first spanned the Hudson River in the late 1950s, the new bridge is designed to last more than a century without requiring major structural work.

The eastbound lanes won't be affected by the piling project. If rain delays the work, it will be pushed back until the following Friday and Saturday.

STATE

Esty: More federal funds for drinking water protection

ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Rep. Elizabeth Esty, D-Conn., is urging federal officials to provide more financial resources to help states protect public drinking water.

Esty said in a letter released Wednesday that Connecticut's Department of Public Health needs more money to support tech-

nical staff in its drinking water division, where staffing has been reduced from 50 to 38 employees.

She also supports the agency's request for more funding to pay for the state's certified operator program. There's one person who certifies operators of 2,500 water systems in Connecticut.

Esty called for the federal financial assistance after a recent Associated Press analysis determined dozens of water systems across the state exceeded federal lead levels at least once since January 2013.

The Democrat says "immediate action" is needed to ensure access to safe drinking water.

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The **Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project** is a new 3.4-mile overhead transmission line that would be constructed on existing rights-of-way between our Plumtree Substation (near Walnut Hill Road in Bethel, CT) and Brookfield Junction (near Park Ridge Road in Brookfield, CT), passing through Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield. Eversource would also make improvements to the Plumtree Substation, and to the Stony Hill Substation in Brookfield.

Keeping the lines of communication open is an important part of our work in the community. The regional open house is designed to give residents an opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions, and provide comments.

Open House:

Wednesday, May 4, 2016
Drop in between 6-8 p.m.
Bethel Municipal Center
General Purpose Room
1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801

For more information about this proposed project, please visit www.eversource.com, email TransmissionInfo@eversource.com, or call 800-793-2202.

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NEWS

RIDGEFIELD

BBQ teams go whole hog for state title

By Alex Wolff

RIDGEFIELD — The pungent aroma of smoked beef, pork and chicken permeated the air around the Lounsbury House on Main Street Saturday as more than 40 teams readied their fare for the third annual Ridgefield Gone Country BBQ Festival.

The event, which is also the Connecticut BBQ Championship and a qualifying competition for the national contest, was a chance for residents to enjoy some traditional American cuisine and for expert smokers and grillmasters to show off their stuff.

“This is a very tough competition,” said Cliff Heindinger, a member of the Ridgefield Rotary Club, which sponsored the event. “There are two world championship teams here. At least three teams have cookbooks out and some have appeared on Food Network.”

Heindinger, who is also a competitive barbecue chef, said the event has steadily grown since it began in 2014 and that it is one of the biggest fundraisers for the Rotary Club and Lounsbury House.

Those who attended the festival could also visit booths from businesses and nonprofit organizations, enjoy kids’ rides or test their rodeo skills on a mechanical bull. And there was, of course, plenty of barbecue to try.

Chris Sexton, a part owner of Hoodoo Brown



Alex Wolff / Hearst Connecticut Media

Ridgefield residents gathered on the grounds of the Lounsbury House on Main Street for the third annual Ridgefield BBQ Festival on Saturday.

BBQ in Ridgefield, was selling brisket and pulled pork. He said the event was a perfect fit to promote his restaurant on Route 7.

“We love Ridgefield and we love the Rotary Club,” Sexton said. “Any way we can give back to the community, especially when giving back to the community is about bringing barbecue, because that’s what we do.”

Hoodoo Brown also took the opportunity to jump into the campaign season, marking its spot on the festival grounds with a “Make Barbecue Great Again” sign playing off the campaign slogan of presidential hopeful Donald Trump.

“It’s the summer of 2016, the big election is coming up and we’re here to make barbecue great again,” Sexton said.

Resident Sarah Bland-

ford said she came to give her friend, who was visiting from New Zealand, a taste of classic American food.

“We wanted to give them some good old American BBQ,” Blandford said.

The festival, which is scheduled to continue Sunday, was also part of the Spring Stroll, in which many businesses set up on Main Street sidewalks offering sales and other promotions for residents.

Todd Cody said that while he enjoys many of the events held downtown, the BBQ Festival was among his favorites.

“It’s definitely unique,” Cody said. “The downtown festivals they hold seasonally are all fantastic, but this is the one that got me out.”

awolff@newstimes.com; 203-731-3333; @awolffster

Get plugged in.

Learn about proposed transmission system upgrades in your area.

You are invited to join Eversource at a regional open house in or near your neighborhood to learn more about proposed improvements to the electric transmission system that will bolster reliability for our customers.

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Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ?

Open House (5/4/16)

Other Burns & McDonnell at Hous3

Public Library

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project.

Your Comments:

As a homeowner directly effected by the project, I have a substantial list of concerns:

~~1. My property is adjacent to the proposed clearing site where the new lines will run. In the past it was a concern, but the lines were not noticeable when the leaves were on the trees. With clearing 100 additional feet of trees, the wires will now be much more noticeable and will knock down the resale value of my home.~~

I would request to have a visual barrier of my choosing (large, mature, non-leaf trees) along my property line once the project has been completed.

~~2. There are a lot of children along our street, including 2 of my own. Trucks coming up and down the street will be a danger to our young children riding bikes and on the street.~~

~~3. There is an existing gravel trail that leads to the current towers. The addition of another access path is not required.~~

~~4. If loud, dusty work occurs during the warmer months I will be required to shut my windows and use the air conditioner. Extra money I will have to spend, ironically to Eversource.~~

~~5. Noise, dust, trucks could scare children and keep them up during naps and at bedtime.~~

~~6. Work outside that is loud will not allow us to enjoy our yard and outdoor space. Who will spend the extra money for us to take our kids to venues away from our home?~~

First Name: Lucas

Last Name: Barlow

Street Address: 22 Hearthstone Drive

Town: Bethel

State: CT Zip: 06801

Email Address: ljrb710@gmail.com

Phone: 203-460-0689

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource using the supplied business reply envelopes. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officials. Thank you.

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ?

Open House (5/4/16) Other _____

Public Library

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project.

Your Comments:

Ability Beyond feels comfortable knowing that when the actual construction time gets closer, that Eversource and it's selected contractor (s), will work together to ensure that minimal disruption of service to our agencies day to day buisness. Ability Beyond serves individuals with various types of disabilities that require unincumbered access to our facility. Having construction work to minimize disruption during high volume traffic times and also allowing for handicap access to our facility is imperative. After buisness hours and weekends construction will minimize disruption of services as well as increase construction productivity.

First Name: David Last Name: Slater c/o Ability Beyond

Street Address: 4 Berkshire Blvd.

Town: Bethel State: CT Zip: 06801

Email Address: David.Slater@abilitybeyond.org Phone: 203 826-3058

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource, using the supplied business reply envelopes. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officials. Thank you.

Eversource
Attn: Transmission Outreach
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06101-9902

May 9, 2016

RE: Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project

To whom it may concern:

Recently, we were informed of the proposed Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project, and are writing to voice our concerns. Our property; 29 Birch Drive, Bethel, CT, is going to be directly impacted by this proposal. After attending the open house on May 4, 2016 we are optimistic that Eversource will acknowledge our concerns and continue to work with our best interests in mind; as well as public health and safety.

After reviewing the maps, we feel that the vegetation clearing proposed for our property is excessive and unreasonable. The current easement that covers our property is approximately 1/3 of our land, which is highly populated with vegetation. Our trees, located outside of the easement, are also in danger. They are large and could pose a threat to the new proposed lines. In turn, Eversource will try to eliminate any vegetation posing a threat to the new power lines. This will practically eliminate all of the trees in our back yard. This situation can easily be avoided if Eversource revises their plans and goes to the west of the current tower.

It would be in our residential area's best interest to suggest that the proposed transmission towers and lines be moved to the west side of the existing towers for its duration in the Berkshire Corporate Park. For this section, it seems to be the best logically and environmentally as there would be minimal vegetation clearing. The new tower, near our property, is projected to be 60 feet east of the current tower, however; there is still enough room within the current ROW (Right of Way) on the west side of the existing tower to build the proposed new structure. The easement goes 75 feet to the west of the current tower.

There are 7 towers within view from the lower portion of our property. According to the current proposal of installing new towers to the east of the current towers, an unnecessary amount of trees and vegetation will be cut down. It will make a huge environmental impact. Part of our property, that Eversource is proposing to cross, is wetlands and a breeding bird habitat. By choosing to move the line to the west, our wetlands and bird habitat will not be affected.

We are concerned about decreased property value, increased noise and the lack of privacy we will endure if approved. We will be paying taxes on land that is not usable and resale value will go down. The current vegetation that is there now buffers the noise of trucks and activity within the Berkshire Corporate Park. Without the vegetation, our privacy is compromised. If this project is approved, our residence will suffer with all of these consequences.

According to Eversource, the location of the new proposed tower will be located uphill from the existing tower, projecting the tower to appear taller than it really is. The current tower is 150 feet tall, while the new towers are ranging from 95ft-135ft tall. We strongly feel that the transmission route for this project is not reasonably necessary and is being proposed out of the convenience of the current ROW without considering interest of the Public and environmentally sensitive areas.

Furthermore, we were unaware of the easement as it was not disclosed to us when we purchased the property. After extensive research, the Town of Bethel does not have an easement map on record from CL&P. It appears that CL&P did not file it with the town as expected. We would like to request a legible copy of the CL&P easement dated October 1976 Property of Joseph Delmonte.

Please be aware, there is an unknown pipeline on the ground that runs parallel to the existing power lines; through the Berkshire Corporate Park and the duration of our yard.

We are extremely concerned with the misleading information located on the Eversource.com website. Here are a few examples:

Eversource states:“Have comparatively minor effects on wetlands and watercourses. No wetlands or watercourses would be affected by the Stony Hill Substation modifications. Although 11 of the proposed 28 new 115-kV structures must unavoidably be located in wetlands (due to the extent of the wetland complex that extends across the southern portion of the ROW), the new structures will involve less than 0.03 acre of permanent fill in wetlands. Approximately 5 acres of wetlands will be temporarily affected during Project construction”

*** How is this minor when almost half of the poles will disrupt wetlands?**

Eversource states: “Convert approximately 9.5 acres of forested habitat (6.0 acres of forested upland and 3.5 acres of forested wetland) into upland or wetland shrub communities.”

***Converting 9.5 acres of forested habitat seems excessive over an area of 3.4 miles long.**

Eversource states: “Overhead and Underground Transmission Line and Route Alternatives. After a new 115-kV circuit between Plumtree Substation and Brookfield Junction was selected as the preferred transmission system solution, Eversource identified and evaluated potential routes and configurations for the new line. As part of this process, Eversource evaluated both overhead and underground transmission line designs, with potential alignments along or adjacent to various existing ROWs, as well as alignments along entirely new ROWs. All of the route alternatives were evaluated against standard Eversource criteria and objectives for overhead and underground transmission lines. The Proposed Route within Eversource’s existing ROW, using an overhead transmission line design, was determined to be the preferred alternative. This alternative does not require the acquisition of any additional property or ROW, represents the lowest cost solution, and would avoid or minimize environmental and social impacts to the extent practical.”

***This doesn’t seem minimal or practical for my area.**

Necessary? The existing right of way was created for the existing line. It does not give the utility the unilateral right to put whatever additional lines they want. They are proposing that they be allowed to use the existing easement for the new line. We are extremely concerned about this project and question if it is entirely necessary. We feel that Eversource should most definitely explore other options and at minimal come up with an alternate plan. The need for the project still bears the burden of proof for the electrical demand in the area, as we become more electrically efficient, the demand is less. We disagree that this “Project” is Environmentally Compatible or that there is public need. They have not proved that it is needed. I suppose it could be considered preventative maintenance, but none of the determining factors have occurred; thermal overload or low voltage. Ten years ago, a 115kV line was added to the current towers. Now, Eversource is proposing an additional 115kV line with structures placed parallel to the current ones. Since this is only a 10 year forecast, what will be the next proposal in 10 years?

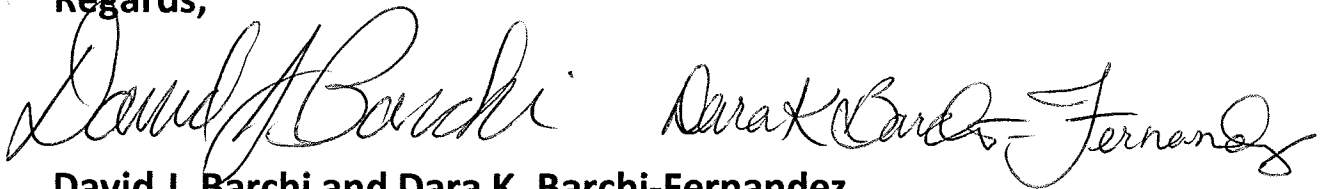
The maps provided in this proposal are outdated and not accurate of current land conditions. After review and as part of the Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) process, the public need was not clearly explained, site selection process was minimized and analyses of alternate sites/routes or environmental effects were not explored.

This "Project" is expected to take up to two years to complete once construction is started. The air quality during construction is a concern as well as deep drilling for foundations that would require use of industrial lubricants made from polluting toxins. This is a huge concern for us because we use our land agriculturally and it would jeopardize the welfare of our livestock.

Once constructed, we are very concerned for ourselves and the citizens along the route, who will be subject to health concerns related to ElectroMagnetic Fields (either directly from the EMF's or from pollutants that may be attracted to EMF fields). There will be substantial changes in the EMF levels with structures and lines coming closer to our house. It is possible that EMF's are carcinogenic to humans. Transmission lines fully loaded do put off EMF 24 hours a day and depending on the proximity of our house from the line it is most definitely a reason for concern. Is Eversource really concerned about public health and safety?

It is disappointing to know on a \$24.4 million dollar project; claimed to be cost effective, lacks figures for other options and because it is possible to construct within the current ROW, the other options were dismissed. We are requesting that Eversource reconsider their options and our suggestions. Please take a closer look at our property and the impact it will have on our lives. We look forward to having our concerns considerately addressed.

Regards,



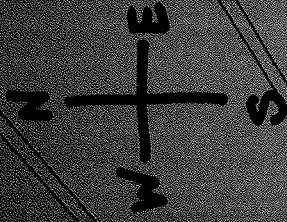
David J. Barchi and Dara K. Barchi-Fernandez

29 Birch Drive

Bethel, CT 06801

(203)748-1248

Berkshire Corporate Park
view looking North



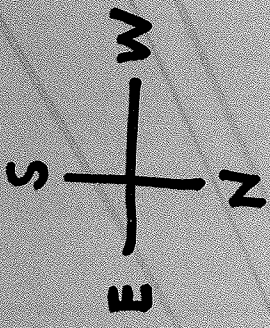
room for
new towers
west side →

room for tower
west side of current one →

← Park Lawn Dr. →

← Research Dr. →

Berkshire Corporate Park View looking South



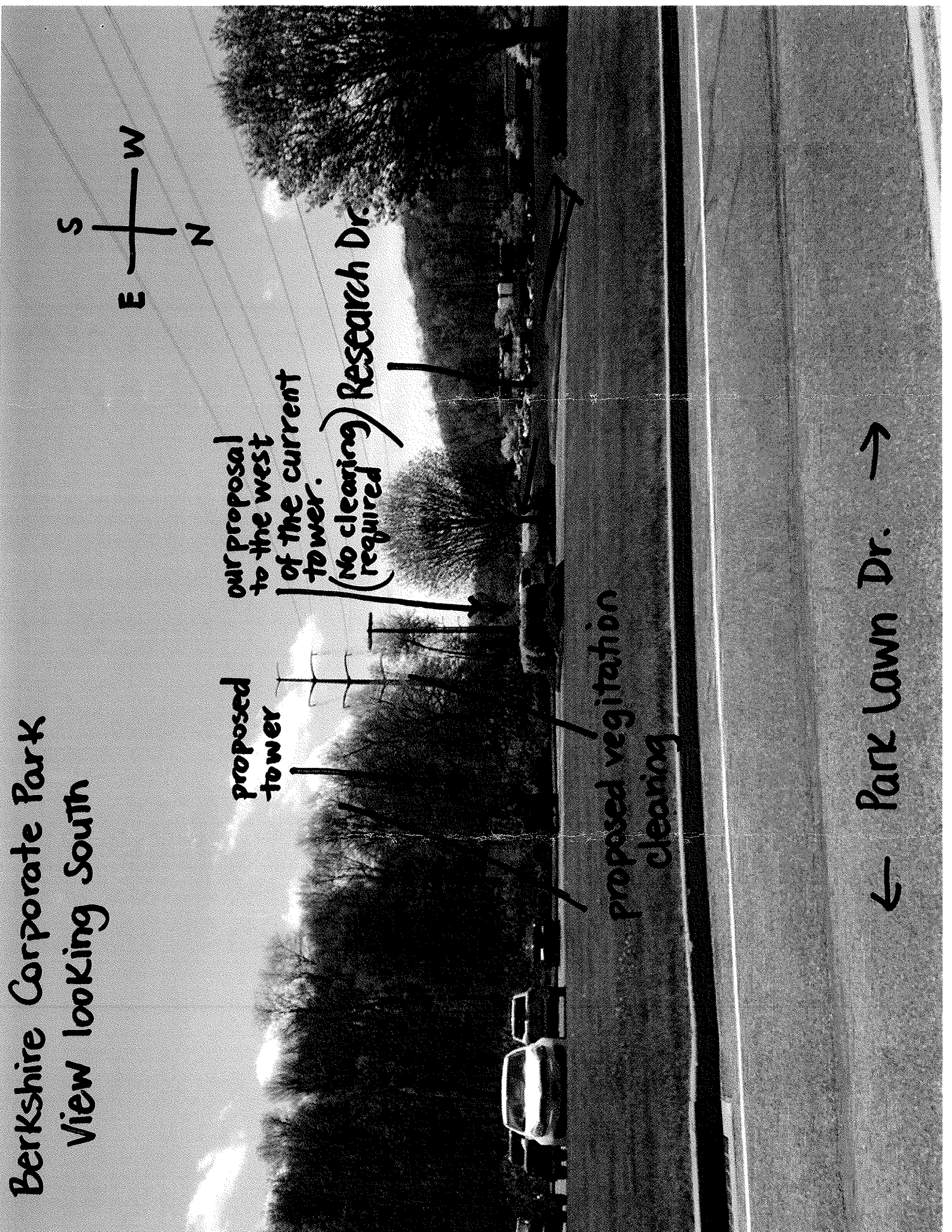
proposed tower

our proposal to the west of the current tower.

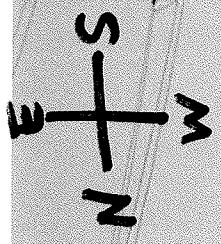
(No clearing required) Research Dr.

proposed vegetation clearing

← Park Lawn Dr. →



Berkshire Corporate Park
view East

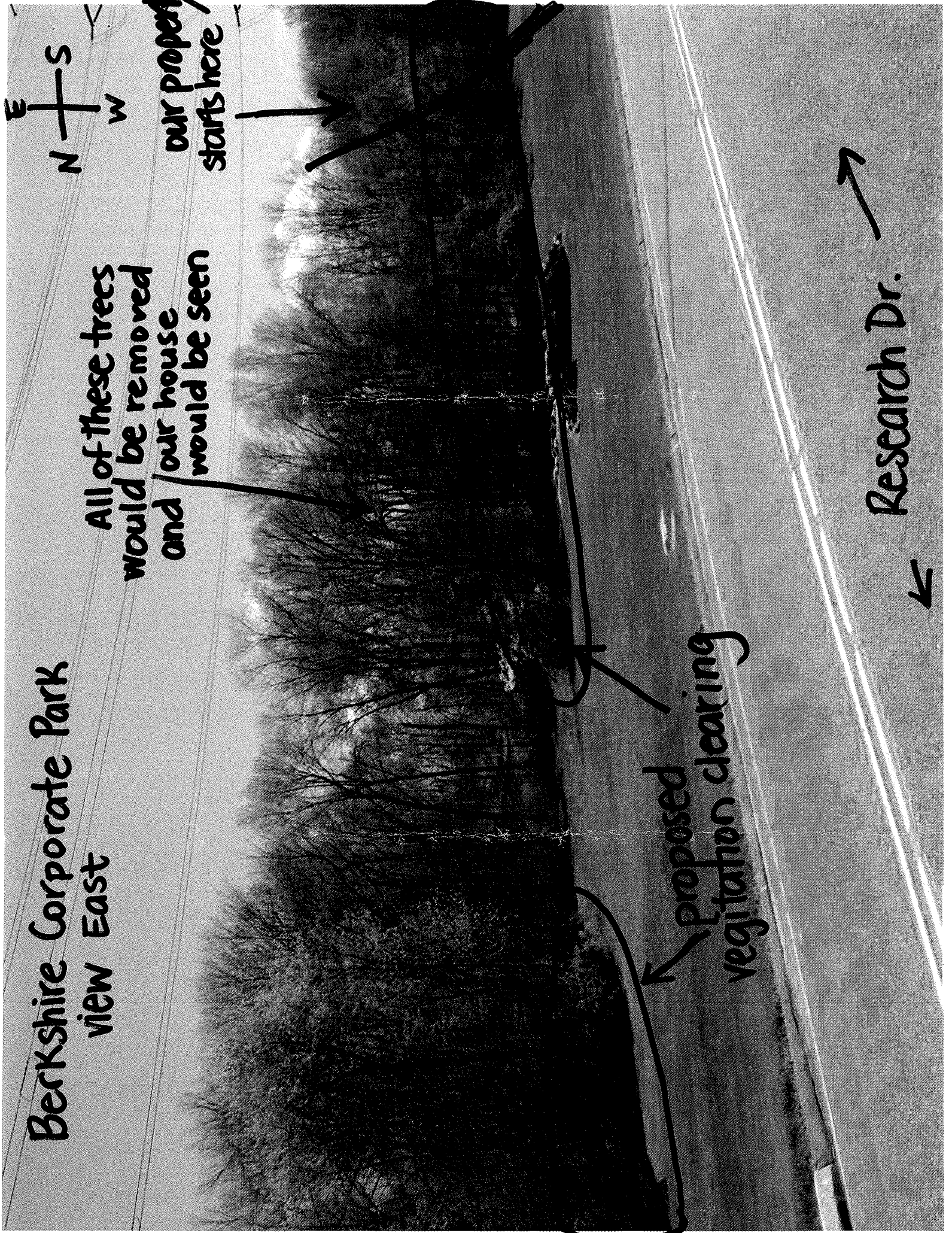


All of these trees
would be removed
and our house
would be seen

our property
starts here

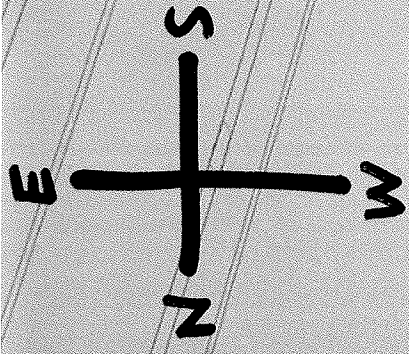
proposed
vegetation clearing

Research Dr. →



Berkshire

Corporate Park
view looking East



Eversource
proposed
tower

29 Birch Dr.
our house

current
tower

our trees

* our proposal

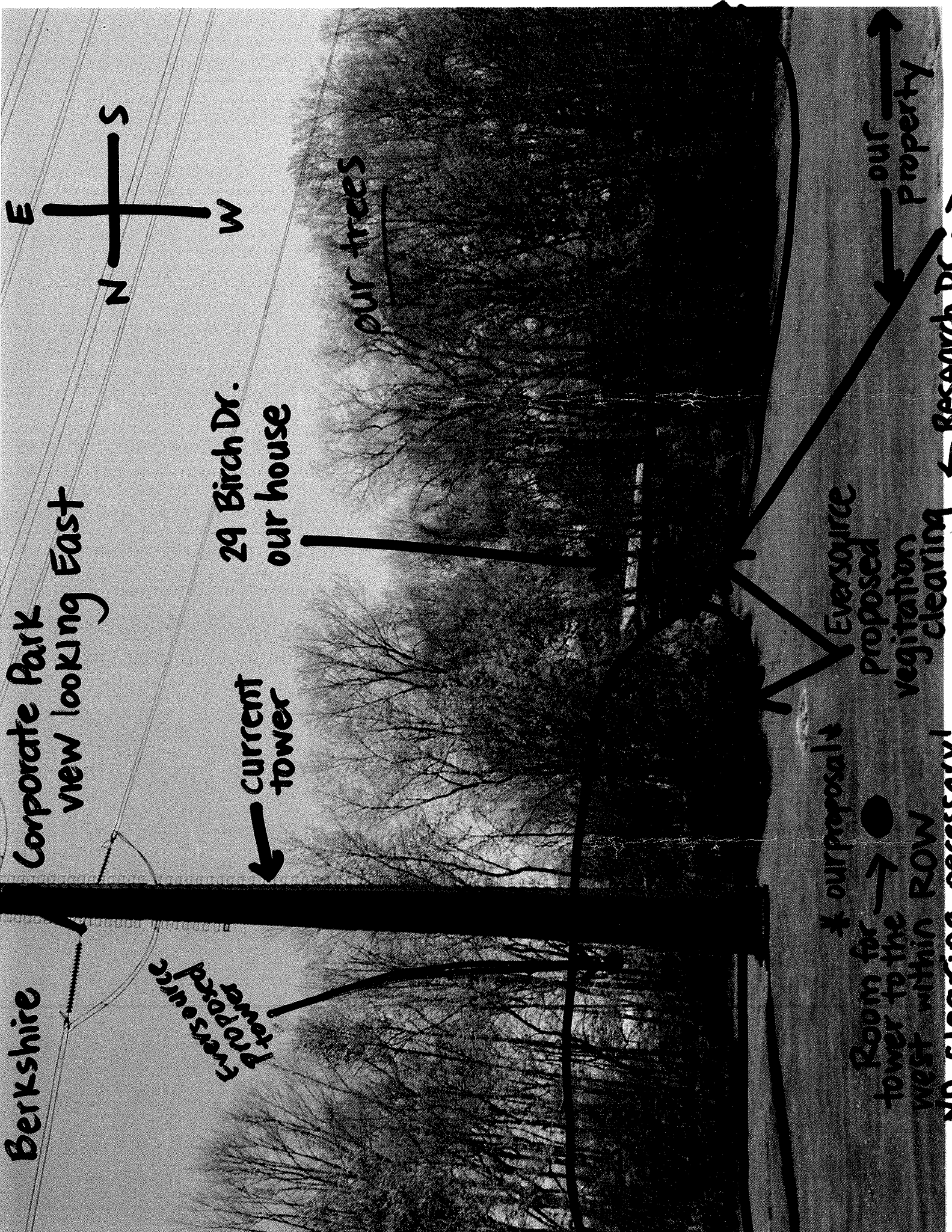
Room for
tower to the
west within ROW

Eversource
proposed
vegetation
clearing

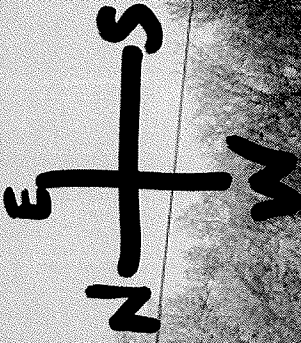
our
Property

NO clearing necessary!

Research Dr.



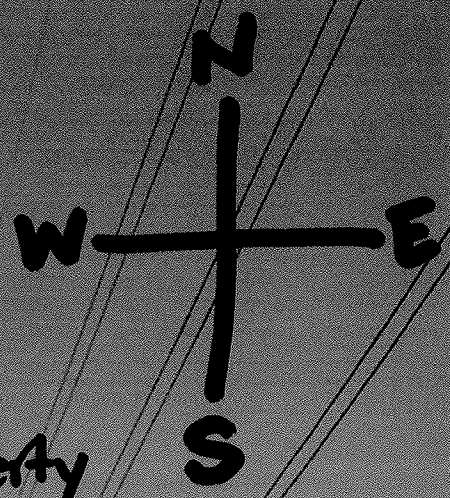
Our Property - 29 Birch Dr.
view looking East from Research Dr.



Eversource proposed clearing

← Research Dr. →

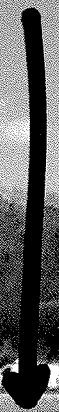
Berkshire Corporate Park view looking North



Tower
closest to
our
property



Research Dr.



Room for
new tower
on west side

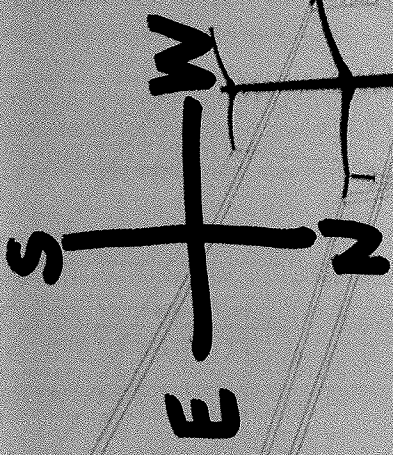


← Berkshire Blvd. →



Berkshire Corporate Park

view looking South



← Berkshire Blvd →

← Research Dr.

room for
Tower to the
WEST

