

1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
2 CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

3  
4 Docket No. 490

5 The United Illuminating Company application for a  
6 Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and  
7 Public Need for the Old Town Substation Rebuild  
8 Project that entails construction, maintenance and  
9 operation of a 115/13.8-kilovolt (kV)  
10 air-insulated replacement substation facility  
11 located on the existing Old Town Substation parcel  
12 at 282 Kaechele Place and two parcels immediately  
13 north totaling approximately 3 acres that are  
14 owned by the United Illuminating Company at 312  
15 and 330 Kaechele Place, Bridgeport, Connecticut,  
16 and related transmission structure and  
17 interconnection improvements.

18  
19 VIA ZOOM AND TELECONFERENCE

20 Public Hearing held on Thursday, October 15, 2020,  
21 beginning at 2 p.m. via remote access.

22  
23  
24  
25 H e l d B e f o r e :

ROBERT SILVESTRI, Presiding Officer

Reporter: Lisa L. Warner, CSR #061

1 **A p p e a r a n c e s :**

2  
3 **Council Members:**

4 **ROBERT HANNON**

5 **Designee for Commissioner Katie Dykes**  
6 **Department of Energy and Environmental**  
7 **Protection**

8 **QUAT NGUYEN**

9 **Designee for Chairman Marissa Paslick Gillett**  
10 **Public Utilities Regulatory Authority**

11 **JOHN MORISSETTE**

12 **EDWARD EDELSON**

13  
14 **Council Staff:**

15 **MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.**

16 **Executive Director and**  
17 **Staff Attorney**

18  
19 **MICHAEL PERRONE**

20 **Siting Analyst**

21  
22 **LISA FONTAINE**

23 **Fiscal Administrative Officer**  
24  
25

1   **A p p e a r a n c e s: (Cont'd.)**

2  
3       **For The United Illuminating Company:**

4           **MURTHA CULLINA LLP**

5           **One Century Tower**

6           **265 Church Street**

7           **New Haven, Connecticut 06510-1220**

8                   **BY: BRUCE L. McDERMOTT, ESQ.**

9  
10       **For The Connecticut Light and Power Company**  
11       **d/b/a Eversource Energy:**

12           **CARMODY TORRANCE SANDAK HENNESSEY LLP**

13           **50 Leavenworth Street**

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15           **Waterbury, Connecticut 06702**

16                   **BY: MARIANNE BARBINO DUBUQUE, ESQ.**

17  
18           **EVERSOURCE ENERGY SERVICE COMPANY**

19           **107 Selden Street**

20           **Berlin, Connecticut 06037-1616**

21                   **BY: JEFFERY D. COCHRAN, ESQ.**

22  
23  
24       **\*\*All participants were present via remote access.**

1 MR. SILVESTRI: Good afternoon,  
2 everyone. I trust my audio is working the way it  
3 should. This remote public hearing is called to  
4 order this Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 2 p.m.  
5 My name is Robert Silvestri, member and presiding  
6 officer of the Connecticut Siting Council.

7 Other members of the Council are Robert  
8 Hannon, designee for Commissioner Katie Dykes of  
9 the Department of Energy and Environmental  
10 Protection. And I'd like to welcome our next  
11 member, Quat Nguyen, to the Council. Mr. Nguyen  
12 is the designee for Chair Marissa Paslick Gillett  
13 of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority.  
14 Next we have John Morissette and Edward Edelson.

15 Members of the staff are Melanie  
16 Bachman, executive director and staff attorney;  
17 Michael Perrone, siting analyst; and Lisa  
18 Fontaine, fiscal administrative officer.

19 As all are keenly aware, there is  
20 currently a statewide effort to prevent the spread  
21 of the Coronavirus. And this is why the Council  
22 is holding this remote public hearing, and we do  
23 ask for your patience. If you haven't done so  
24 already, I'll ask that everyone please mute their  
25 computer audio and/or telephone now.

1           This hearing is held pursuant to the  
2 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General  
3 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative  
4 Procedure Act upon an application from The United  
5 Illuminating Company for a Certificate of  
6 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for  
7 the Old Town Substation Rebuild Project that  
8 entails construction, maintenance and operation of  
9 a 115/13.8-kilovolt air-insulated replacement  
10 substation facility located on the existing Old  
11 Town Substation parcel at 282 Kaechele Place, in  
12 case of mispronunciation that's K-A-E-C-H-E-L-E,  
13 and two parcels immediately north totaling  
14 approximately 3 acres that are owned by the United  
15 Illuminating Company at 312 and 330 Kaechele Place  
16 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. This application was  
17 received by the Council on June 30, 2020.

18           The Council's legal notice of the date  
19 and time of this remote public hearing was  
20 published in The Connecticut Post on September 1,  
21 2020. Upon this Council's request, the applicant  
22 erected a sign near the proposed northern access  
23 drive entrance located off of Kaechele Place so as  
24 to inform the public of the name of the applicant,  
25 the type of facility, the remote public hearing

1 date, and contact information for the Council.

2 As a reminder to all, off the record  
3 communication with a member of the Council or a  
4 member of the Council's staff upon the merits of  
5 this application is prohibited by law.

6 The parties and intervenors to the  
7 proceeding are as follows: The applicant is The  
8 United Illuminating Company, its representative  
9 Bruce McDermott, Esq., from Murtha Cullina LLP.  
10 The party, The Connecticut Light and Power  
11 Company, doing business as Eversource Energy, its  
12 representative Marianne Barbino Dubuque, Esq.,  
13 from Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP.

14 We will proceed in accordance with the  
15 prepared agenda, a copy of which is available on  
16 the Council's Docket 490 webpage, along with the  
17 record of this matter, the public hearing notice,  
18 instructions for public access to this remote  
19 public hearing, and the Council's Citizens Guide  
20 to Siting Council Procedures. Interested persons  
21 may join any session of this public hearing to  
22 listen, but no public comments will be received  
23 during the 2nd p.m. evidentiary session.

24 At the end of the evidentiary session  
25 we will recess until 6:30 p.m. for the public

1 comment session. Please be advised that any  
2 person may be removed from this remote evidentiary  
3 session or the public comment session at the  
4 discretion of the Council.

5 The 6:30 p.m. public comment session is  
6 reserved for the public to make brief statements  
7 into the record. I wish to note that the  
8 applicant and party, including their  
9 representatives, witnesses and members, are not  
10 allowed to participate in the public comment  
11 session.

12 I also wish to note for those who are  
13 listening and for the benefit of your friends and  
14 neighbors who are unable to join us for the remote  
15 public comment session that you or they may send  
16 written comments to the Council within 30 days of  
17 the date hereof, either by mail or by email, and  
18 such written statements will be given the same  
19 weight as if spoken during the remote public  
20 comment session.

21 A verbatim transcript of this remote  
22 public hearing will be published on the Council's  
23 Docket No. 490 web page and deposited with the  
24 Bridgeport City Clerk's Office and the Trumbull  
25 Town Clerk's Office for the convenience of the

1 public.

2 And the Council will take a 10 to 15  
3 minute break at a convenient juncture somewhere  
4 around 3:30 p.m. this afternoon.

5 I wish to call your attention to those  
6 items shown on the hearing program that are marked  
7 as Roman numeral I-B, Items 1 through 92, that the  
8 Council has administratively noticed.

9 Does any party have an objection to the  
10 items that the Council has administratively  
11 noticed? And I'll start first with Attorney  
12 McDermott.

13 MR. McDERMOTT: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Silvestri. No objection on behalf of UI.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Attorney  
16 Dubuque.

17 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Eversource has no  
18 objection. Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

19 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you also.  
20 Accordingly, the Council hereby administratively  
21 notices these items.

22 (Council Administrative Notice Items  
23 I-B-1 through I-B-92: Received in evidence.)

24 MR. SILVESTRI: We'll now have the  
25 appearance by the applicant, the United



1 Illuminating Company. And will the applicant  
2 present their witness panel for the purposes of  
3 taking the oath, and Attorney Bachman will then  
4 administer the oath.

5 MR. McDERMOTT: Good morning -- or good  
6 afternoon, Mr. Silvestri, members of the Council.  
7 Bruce McDermott from Murtha Cullina on behalf of  
8 the United Illuminating Company. The panel for  
9 the United Illuminating Company today is Todd  
10 Berman who's the manager of environmental programs  
11 and projects. Richard Pinto, who's a senior  
12 project manager for substation projects. Ron  
13 Rossetti, who's the manager of electric capital  
14 projects. MeeNa Sazanowicz, who is in  
15 transmission line standards at the United  
16 Illuminating Company. Fred Walsh, manager of  
17 transmission planning. Jonathan Wolff, lead  
18 engineer of substation projects. Dr. William  
19 Bailey, who's a principal scientist at Exponent.  
20 And Michael Libertine, director of siting and  
21 permitting for All-Points Technology Corporation.  
22 All those individuals are on the Zoom conference  
23 and are ready to be sworn and to testify.

24 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Attorney  
25 McDermott.

1 Attorney Bachman.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Silvestri.

4 Could all the witnesses please just  
5 raise their right hand?

6 T O D D B E R M A N,  
7 R I C H A R D P I N T O,  
8 R O N A L D R O S S E T T I,  
9 M E E N A S A Z A N O W I C Z,  
10 F R A N K W A L S H,  
11 J O N A T H A N W O L F F,  
12 W I L L I A M H. B A I L E Y,  
13 M I C H A E L L I B E R T I N E,

14 called as witnesses, being first duly sworn  
15 (remotely) by Ms. Bachman, were examined and  
16 testified on their oaths as follows:

17 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Attorney  
19 Bachman.

20 Attorney McDermott, you know their  
21 voices better than I do, so I'm going to assume  
22 that everybody did swear in, as appropriate.

23 MR. McDERMOTT: That's a good  
24 assumption, Mr. Silvestri.

25 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Could you

1 please begin by verifying all exhibits by the  
2 appropriate sworn witnesses?

3 MR. McDERMOTT: Yes.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 MR. McDERMOTT: I'll ask Mr. Pinto,  
6 who's the senior project manager for this project,  
7 to verify all but the resumes of Dr. Bailey and  
8 Mr. Libertine. So with that, Mr. Pinto, did you  
9 prepare or oversee the preparation of UI Exhibit  
10 1, which is the application, and the various  
11 attachments thereto; Exhibit 2, which is UI's  
12 responses to the Council's interrogatories, dated  
13 September 25th; UI Exhibit 3, which is your  
14 affidavit regarding the posting of the sign  
15 noticing the hearing, dated September 28, 2020;  
16 and UI Exhibit Number 5, which is the public  
17 comment presentation site plan? Did you prepare  
18 or assist in the preparation of those exhibits,  
19 Mr. Pinto?

20 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes, I did.

21 MR. McDERMOTT: And do you have any  
22 changes or revisions to any of those exhibits?

23 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No, I do not.

24 MR. McDERMOTT: And do you adopt those  
25 exhibits as full exhibits in this proceeding here

1 today?

2 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes, I do.

3 MR. McDERMOTT: Thank you. And Dr.  
4 Bailey, are you with us and off mute?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. McDERMOTT: Dr. Bailey, maybe you  
7 can unmute, and I'll go on to Mr. Libertine.

8 THE WITNESS (Bailey): I'm unmuted.

9 MR. McDERMOTT: Off mute?

10 THE WITNESS (Bailey): Yes.

11 MR. McDERMOTT: Are you familiar with  
12 UI Exhibit 4b, which is your resume?

13 THE WITNESS (Bailey): Yes, I am.

14 MR. McDERMOTT: Mr. Libertine?

15 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes. Did you  
16 hear me?

17 MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, okay, I can hear  
18 you now. And do you have any changes or revisions  
19 to Exhibit 4b, Mr. Libertine?

20 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Oh, no, I do  
21 not.

22 MR. McDERMOTT: And do you adopt that  
23 here today?

24 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, I do.

25 MR. McDERMOTT: And then to you, Dr.

1 Bailey, if you're off mute, are you familiar with  
2 UI Exhibit 4a, which is a copy of your CV?

3 THE WITNESS (Bailey): Yes, I am.

4 MR. McDERMOTT: And do you have any  
5 changes or revisions to that document?

6 THE WITNESS (Bailey): No, I do not.

7 MR. McDERMOTT: And do you adopt it as  
8 a full exhibit here today?

9 THE WITNESS (Bailey): I do.

10 MR. McDERMOTT: With that, Mr.  
11 Silvestri, I'll ask that UI Exhibits 1 through 5  
12 be admitted into evidence.

13 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Attorney  
14 McDermott. Does the party object to admission of  
15 the applicant's exhibit, Attorney Dubuque?

16 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Eversource has no  
17 objection. Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you kindly. The  
19 exhibits are admitted.

20 (Applicant, United Illuminating  
21 Company's Exhibits II-B-1 through II-B-5:  
22 Received in evidence - described in index.)

23 MR. SILVESTRI: We will now begin with  
24 cross-examination of the applicants by the  
25 Council, and we'll start with Mr. Perrone.

1 MR. PERRONE: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 MR. PERRONE: My first question, could  
4 you tell us the general geographical area in  
5 Connecticut that UI serves to provide electric  
6 distribution service to?

7 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): Certainly. So  
8 UI serves approximately 320,000 customers in 17  
9 towns located in the southwest section of  
10 Connecticut.

11 MR. PERRONE: After the submittal of  
12 the municipal consultation filing, did UI receive  
13 any feedback from the City of Bridgeport, Town of  
14 Trumbull or abutting property owners?

15 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): No, we did  
16 not.

17 MR. PERRONE: Turning to page 2-1 of  
18 the application under the Land and Access  
19 Requirements, there's mention of UI acquiring an  
20 easement from the City of Bridgeport for a portion  
21 of the project. What is the status of UI  
22 acquiring an easement from Bridgeport for part of  
23 this project?

24 THE WITNESS (Pinto): UI has talked to  
25 the City of Bridgeport. In regards to the

1 easement, we've presented to the parks board  
2 committee and they are conceptually on board with  
3 our easement. We do not have a final easement  
4 yet. We are still in detailed engineering. Our  
5 expectation is to finalize the boundaries of the  
6 easement and then go back to the city with that  
7 finalization of the easement requirements, but  
8 conceptually they are on board with that, and  
9 we're in the process of drafting up easement  
10 documentation. But again, until we have more  
11 detailed engineering, the final layout and the  
12 boundaries of the easement are still being worked  
13 on.

14 MR. PERRONE: Was the Old Town  
15 Substation project noted in UI's March 2020  
16 forecast of electric loads and resources filing?

17 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Mr. Walsh.

18 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Sorry, there was  
19 a fair bit of echo. Could you repeat the  
20 question?

21 MR. PERRONE: Sure. In UI's March 2020  
22 forecast of electric loads and resources filing,  
23 was the Old Town Substation project noted in  
24 there?

25 THE WITNESS (Walsh): I would have to

1 read the report itself.

2 MR. PERRONE: That's okay, I'll move  
3 on. Referencing the response to Council  
4 Interrogatory Number 4, the existing substation  
5 has a capacity of about 85 MVA, and in response to  
6 Council Interrogatory Number 8, the forecast load  
7 out to 2030 is about 66. So is it correct to say  
8 that the proposed replacement of Old Town  
9 Substation is not due to a capacity issue?

10 THE WITNESS (Walsh): That is correct.

11 MR. PERRONE: Going back to the  
12 response to Council Interrogatory Number 4, could  
13 you explain what a weather-normalized 90/10  
14 loading is?

15 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Sure. So the  
16 weather normalizing, it's a method to account for  
17 the fact if our actual coincident peak load which  
18 occurred in reality had aligned with certain other  
19 factors such as weather which would have resulted  
20 in a higher load being seen. So it's an alignment  
21 of certain external conditions with system demand.  
22 So if the highest demand day had occurred on the  
23 hottest day of the year, for example, that would  
24 contribute to skewing more towards a 90/10 load.

25 And just to clarify a bit more, the



1 90/10 distribution, it's essentially saying that  
2 there is a 10 percent chance in any given year  
3 that that load could occur. So there is a  
4 probabilistic component to that number as well.

5 MR. PERRONE: So you took the actual  
6 loading and adjusted it to what it would have been  
7 under the 90/10 extreme weather scenario?

8 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Correct.

9 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Next going to turn  
10 to asset condition issues starting with page 1-6  
11 of the application. On the bottom of page 1-6,  
12 the last bulleted point is Bus No. 3 Enclosure  
13 Problems. It states, "Number 3 bus enclosure  
14 requires remediation to eliminate reoccurring  
15 issues associated with the buckling of the bus  
16 room floor." Could you explain more about that  
17 issue?

18 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, so the Bus  
19 No. 3, it's a bus that was put in several years  
20 ago for capacity issues. It's a separated bus  
21 from the existing control room, control house.  
22 It's a metal enclosed switchgear, if you want to  
23 call it. And the way it's set on the foundation,  
24 it's on piers rather than a flat slab. So the  
25 steer bus is kind of buckling from the weight of

1 the circuit breakers, so it becomes very difficult  
2 to rack in and rack out the circuit breakers.  
3 We've had several incidents where they misoperate  
4 it because of the shifting of the floor.

5 And also another thing to note on that  
6 is there's a -- which ties to that same existing  
7 point of failure issue -- that both the incoming  
8 feeders that feed this bus run through the same  
9 manhole to support the load off of that bus.

10 But to answer your question, the  
11 enclosure, it's an old metal building that the  
12 floor is buckling due to the age of it.

13 MR. PERRONE: And you said racking in  
14 and racking out the breakers, you mean closing and  
15 opening?

16 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No, it's part of  
17 the process of closing and opening the breakers.  
18 You actually, these are heavy breakers, and they  
19 actually roll into a cubicle inside this  
20 enclosure. There's several feeders that are fed  
21 out of there, and the circuit breakers are not  
22 typical like you find in a house. These are big  
23 heavy circuit breakers on wheels that actually  
24 roll into like a closet, if you want to call it,  
25 inside of this enclosure.

1 MR. PERRONE: Moving on to the bulleted  
2 point on the top of page 1-7, the OCB Replacement,  
3 "The substation's 115 kV OCB is obsolete and poses  
4 increased risks of failure." My question is,  
5 could you explain why it has an increased risk of  
6 failure?

7 THE WITNESS (Pinto): The OCB, it's the  
8 only oil circuit breaker that we have left on our  
9 system. We have since changed out all of our OCBs  
10 to gas circuit breakers. This particular circuit  
11 breaker, due to the age of it and availability of  
12 spare parts, it's very difficult to maintain.  
13 Even to get at it in the yard, it's a very tight  
14 configuration, and we actually cannot replace that  
15 circuit breaker with a gas circuit breaker just  
16 because of the infrastructure that's in place in  
17 the yard. It's too congested to even fit a gas  
18 circuit breaker in there.

19 MR. McDERMOTT: Mr. Perrone, it's Bruce  
20 McDermott, if I could just jump in? We do have an  
21 answer for you on your question about the forecast  
22 of loads and resources and the reference in the  
23 report to the Old Town project.

24 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Yes, Old Town is  
25 discussed on page 22.

1 MR. PERRONE: Thank you. Moving on to  
2 page 9-1 of application, the last paragraph, UI  
3 notes that an in-kind replacement on the existing  
4 site would be less cost effective than the  
5 proposed replacement site. Do you have a cost  
6 estimate on an in-kind replacement alternative?

7 THE WITNESS (Pinto): The in-kind  
8 replacement alternative, it was estimated to be  
9 approximately \$47 million. And one of the reasons  
10 for that increase is it's very difficult, number  
11 one, to try to replace and keep the lights on as  
12 you're trying to replace the equipment within the  
13 yard. So you'd have to do it systematically. And  
14 it's not even -- wasn't even determined if it's  
15 even feasible to do just because of the footprint  
16 of the existing facility. It's just almost  
17 impossible to even accommodate an in-kind type  
18 replacement.

19 MR. PERRONE: On the next page, 9-2,  
20 second paragraph, it talks about a GIS design and  
21 it says, "A GIS substation design, which would be  
22 more costly, was not considered as a preferred  
23 option." Do you have an estimate of a GIS design  
24 or a cost delta between AIS and GIS?

25 THE WITNESS (Pinto): I do not have an

1 estimate on a GIS design.

2 MR. PERRONE: That's okay. Thank you.  
3 Moving on to substation design, would any of the  
4 monopole structures require a lightning mast on  
5 top?

6 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Mr. Perrone, we  
7 could not hear you.

8 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Would any of the  
9 proposed monopole structures require a lightning  
10 mast on top? Can you hear me?

11 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Now we could.  
12 Sorry about that.

13 MR. PERRONE: Okay, I'll repeat it.  
14 Would any of the proposed monopole structures  
15 require lightning masts on top?

16 THE WITNESS (Pinto): On top of the  
17 monopole structures, no.

18 MR. PERRONE: So that would leave the  
19 monopoles as the tallest structures then; is that  
20 correct?

21 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.

22 MR. PERRONE: Okay, great. As far as  
23 the base of the substation, would it be like a  
24 crushed stone or a trap rock?

25 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, so the

1 majority of the facility would be trap rock.  
2 There is a paved area driveway that kind of loops  
3 through the property to give ingress/egress access  
4 for the mobile substation. It pretty much comes  
5 into the center of the substation and borders  
6 around and goes to the existing facility and comes  
7 out the same driveway that's there today.

8 MR. PERRONE: I understand the fence  
9 would use privacy slats. Would those slats be  
10 used all the way around?

11 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.

12 MR. PERRONE: And I understand, as  
13 proposed, it will be connected to two transmission  
14 lines, 1710 and 1722. If one of those lines were  
15 to go out of service, could the substation still  
16 operate?

17 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.

18 MR. PERRONE: And turning to the  
19 response to Council Interrogatory 18, there is the  
20 2014 letter from the ISO Reliability Committee  
21 showing an in-service date of 2017. Given the  
22 proposed in-service date, would ISO need to seek a  
23 revised determination or does this one still  
24 stand?

25 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Mr. Walsh.

1 THE WITNESS (Walsh): I apologize.  
2 Could you repeat the question?

3 MR. PERRONE: The response to Council  
4 Interrogatory 18, there's the letter from ISO New  
5 England Reliability Committee. Given that this is  
6 a 2014 letter with an in-service date of 2017, my  
7 question is would UI need to seek a revised  
8 determination or does this determination letter  
9 still stand?

10 THE WITNESS (Walsh): The determination  
11 letter still stands.

12 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Turning to the  
13 response to Council Interrogatory 13, we have the  
14 cut and fill numbers, and we have 9,300 cubic feet  
15 of cut, 8,800 of fill, so it looks like a net cut  
16 of about 500 cubic yards. What would UI do with  
17 the excess cut material?

18 THE WITNESS (Berman): My apologies.  
19 The excess cut material would be environmentally  
20 characterized, and if necessary, disposed of in  
21 accordance with law or reused in accordance with  
22 law.

23 MR. PERRONE: Would the project comply  
24 with the 2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality  
25 Manual?

1 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yes.

2 MR. PERRONE: Now I'm going to turn to  
3 the gas filled circuit breaker topic we were  
4 discussing earlier. On page 2-3 of the  
5 application it notes three 115 kV sulfur  
6 hexafluoride dead tank circuit breakers. Could UI  
7 explain the pros and cons of these gas filled  
8 circuit breakers in the proposed substation versus  
9 the oil filled breaker at the existing?

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Mr. Perrone,  
11 could you repeat that for me, please?

12 MR. PERRONE: On page 2-3 we have three  
13 115 kV sulphur hexafluoride circuit breakers.  
14 Could you explain the pros and cons of these gas  
15 filled circuit breakers versus oil filled?

16 THE WITNESS (Pinto): The oil circuit  
17 breaker technology is outdated. The new  
18 technology is SF6 breakers. It's more robust as  
19 compared to the oil, a lot less maintenance  
20 requirements for an SF6 circuit breaker as opposed  
21 to an oil circuit breaker. Typically an oil  
22 circuit breaker you would have to maintain the  
23 circuit breaker every roughly two years or so,  
24 where the maintenance requirements for an SF6  
25 breaker are prolonged, if you want to call it. I



1 don't know our exact maintenance cycle on them,  
2 but it's certainly less frequent than the oil  
3 circuit breaker is.

4 MR. PERRONE: Okay. What does "dead  
5 tank" mean because they're dead tank circuit  
6 breakers?

7 THE WITNESS (Walsh): It means that the  
8 actual frame of the breaker itself is  
9 de-energized. There are live tank circuit  
10 breakers in existence, but they tend to be very  
11 specialized.

12 MR. PERRONE: Is sulfur hexafluoride a  
13 greenhouse gas?

14 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Yes.

15 MR. PERRONE: Would there be any  
16 leakage of the SF6 over time such that you'd have  
17 to top off the charge?

18 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Typically there  
19 is no leakage from the SF6 circuit breakers. We  
20 actually monitor it. We have several levels of  
21 alarming on them. In the unforeseen event that  
22 there is a leak, you know, it is alarmed. It does  
23 respond back to our control center at different  
24 levels, so it's monitored 24/7.

25 MR. PERRONE: And lastly, if you know,

1 about how much SF6 does each breaker hold?

2 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Subject to check,  
3 I believe it's around 80 pounds, 80 psi.

4 MR. PERRONE: Thank you. That's all I  
5 have.

6 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Thank you.

7 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Perrone.  
8 I'd like to continue with  
9 cross-examination of the applicant by Mr.  
10 Morissette, please.

11 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Silvestri. Can you hear me okay? Okay. I'd like  
13 to get myself grounded, first of all, as to the  
14 location and the surroundings of the substation,  
15 and I'd like to turn to the field review visual  
16 assessment -- no, I'm sorry, the visual assessment  
17 and photo simulation done by All-Points.

18 MR. McDERMOTT: I believe that's  
19 Interrogatory Response 22 for the UI panel.

20 MR. MORISSETTE: And I think it's the  
21 seventh slide. It shows the overall substation  
22 oblique area view over Kaechele Place. Just to  
23 get my bearings, to the left of the substation  
24 entrance that's a funeral home, correct?

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That is

1 correct.

2 MR. MORISSETTE: And in front of the  
3 entrance, the building where you can sort of see  
4 the peak of the roof, what type of -- is that a  
5 residence or a commercial building?

6 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is a  
7 commercial building.

8 MR. MORISSETTE: A commercial building,  
9 businesses are within the building, okay. Did you  
10 receive any comments from either the commercial  
11 building or the funeral home?

12 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No. We actually  
13 met with the funeral home on occasions to discuss  
14 the project with them.

15 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. The entrance  
16 going into the funeral home, is that an entrance  
17 or an exit, and is it the only entrance or exit?

18 THE WITNESS (Pinto): The traffic goes  
19 in and out that driveway, but I also believe  
20 there's a driveway in the front off of Main  
21 Street.

22 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. So this is more  
23 like more or less a back entrance --

24 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Correct.

25 MR. MORISSETTE: -- to the facility?

1 So if they were to have a funeral during  
2 construction, was anything discussed about how to  
3 manage that?

4 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah. Briefly we  
5 did discuss that with the funeral director. We  
6 would work with them. You know, if they have a  
7 large event going on, we said that we would, you  
8 know, coordinate efforts to not block and work  
9 with them as far as keeping vehicles off the road.  
10 Most of our vehicles are going to be within the  
11 footprint of our property, you know, vehicles  
12 would be accessing the property early in the  
13 morning, likely well before any event that they  
14 may have. So that coordination was discussed.

15 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. Mr. Ashton  
16 would be proud that your design has cut off  
17 corners in the back of the substation. That was a  
18 pet peeve of his for many years. So well done.

19 I would like to turn to the  
20 application, page 1-6, going back to the single  
21 point of failure discussion that Mr. Perrone had  
22 earlier. I'm still not really clear as to what  
23 the single point of failure is and why the  
24 entire -- why customer load would have to be  
25 interrupted if there was a fault or something

1 occurred. Could you --

2 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes, absolutely.  
3 So within that rare bus structure, Bus No. 3, it  
4 has two feeds that come into it, one from each of  
5 the transformers, and both feeds run through the  
6 same manhole. So the single point of failure is a  
7 catastrophic failure within that manhole. So if  
8 one cable fails in that manhole, it has the  
9 potential to take out the second cable, in  
10 essence, de-energizing that bus and dropping the  
11 load off of that bus. So because both feeders run  
12 through that manhole, the same manhole, there is  
13 that potential for that, we call it, single point  
14 of failure to disrupt the load.

15 MR. MORISSETTE: Very good. Thank you,  
16 that was very helpful. I think I've got it now.

17 Okay. I would like to go substation  
18 costs. I believe the total cost of the new  
19 substation is 40 million. Could you tell me what  
20 the cost of the two transformers is of that 40  
21 million?

22 THE WITNESS (Pinto): The two  
23 transformers cost roughly, subject to check, 3  
24 million.

25 MR. MORISSETTE: 3 million apiece?

1 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No, in total.

2 MR. MORISSETTE: In total. So 37  
3 million is the rest of the stuff?

4 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Correct.

5 MR. MORISSETTE: Does that also include  
6 the cost of the Eversource structures?

7 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No, that is part  
8 of -- that's Eversource.

9 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay, that's separate.

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, that 37  
11 million is both transmission and distribution.

12 MR. MORISSETTE: Just the substation?

13 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Correct.

14 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. I'd like to go  
15 on to page 9-3 in relation to the in-kind  
16 modifications slash upgrades at the existing Old  
17 Town Substation. At the bottom of the paragraph  
18 it says, in total, the in-kind substation  
19 replacement is estimated to cost 47 million.

20 You had the discussion with Mr. Perrone  
21 about why it would cost 7 million more to do the  
22 in-kind. Could you talk a little bit more about  
23 why the 7 million would be incurred? Now, I  
24 understand the tightness of space and the  
25 reliability concerns working in the live

1 substation, but is there one component or another  
2 that's driving that 7 million?

3 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Not necessarily.  
4 The equipment costs would roughly be the same.  
5 It's more about the inefficiencies of trying to  
6 build within an energized yard, the sequence of  
7 trying to construct, the time frame that it would  
8 take would be longer to do it than build a new  
9 substation. So with, you know, the inefficiencies  
10 and the time frame and different outages that  
11 would be required, you can't do a wholesale  
12 replacement, you've got to do it in very small  
13 pieces, if it was even feasible.

14 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. So the cost of  
15 scheduling outages and getting crews in during the  
16 outages and coordinating that, having them on  
17 standby and coordinating all that effort would  
18 accumulate to a \$7 million increase; is that  
19 correct?

20 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Approximately,  
21 yes, correct.

22 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. On the bottom  
23 of that same page it says, the very end of the  
24 sentence it says, "The equipment to be replaced  
25 would focus only on the items specifically

1 identified in the March 2014 needs assessment."

2 Can you, in general terms, explain what's in the  
3 needs assessment and what is the cost associated  
4 with that?

5 THE WITNESS (Pinto): So, yeah, so the  
6 needs assessment identified several factors, you  
7 know, one being the issues with Bus No. 3, the  
8 single point of failure, the OCB, the age of the  
9 OCB, the lack of space requirements within the  
10 substation and the control house, deteriorated  
11 equipment within the yard, the disconnect  
12 switches, and the CCVTs. So that needs assessment  
13 identified those things. So it would be basically  
14 trying to piecemeal, put band-aids on those things  
15 to try to fix them rather than a complete  
16 state-of-the-art new facility.

17 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. Was there an  
18 estimate associated with that?

19 THE WITNESS (Pinto): I do not have an  
20 estimate associated with that. Those were just  
21 identified. I don't believe an estimate was put  
22 together to try to address each one of those  
23 individual items, you know, as a separate, if you  
24 want to call it separate task.

25 MR. MORISSETTE: But the transformers



1 were specifically identified in that assessment as  
2 well, I would imagine?

3 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, the age of  
4 the transformers, you know, they were put in in  
5 the sixties. They are actually, I believe, 53  
6 years old. They're well towards the end of their  
7 useful life.

8 MR. MORISSETTE: Is there any major  
9 component that was left out --

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No.

11 MR. MORISSETTE: -- of that needs  
12 assessment? So basically, the way that read, it  
13 sounded like something was left out.

14 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That needs  
15 assessment was a wholesale assessment of all the  
16 equipment within the facility, you know, the  
17 control enclosure, the control house, the  
18 transformers, you know, everything. We don't just  
19 look at a particular piece of equipment. When we  
20 do a needs assessments of a facility, we look at  
21 everything within the facility, the building, you  
22 know, everything, the fencing, I mean, all the  
23 equipment that houses and supports that  
24 substation.

25 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. So the needs

1 assessment aligns with your, or UI's list of  
2 physical conditions and equipment that needs to be  
3 replaced?

4 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Correct.

5 MR. MORISSETTE: Great. Okay. Thank  
6 you for that. I'd like to move on to the noise  
7 analysis, on page 7 of the noise analysis. I'll  
8 give you a moment to get there.

9 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Yes.

10 MR. MORISSETTE: On page 7 under 4.2,  
11 Noise Model Inputs, it indicates that the two  
12 transformers to be installed with the rebuild  
13 project were modeled at a height of 12 feet and  
14 having acoustic pressure of 65 dBA for a maximum  
15 MVA rating.

16 My question is, is that assuming that  
17 it's operating at max both, both transformers,  
18 which is highly unlikely, would be operating at  
19 maximum, and the cooling fans are on?

20 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Hey, John. That  
21 essentially means with these transformers that  
22 you're looking at both, like you said, the fans  
23 running and the pumps running. So in that  
24 situation, like you said, that's when the  
25 transformer is running at top level, your fan is

1 running and your pump is running at the same time.

2 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay, good. All  
3 right. So then it goes on to say that the  
4 acoustic pressure level corresponds with an  
5 A-weighted sound power level of 86.1 dBA. Can  
6 someone explain what A-weighted sound pressure  
7 level, what that means?

8 THE WITNESS (Berman): Can you restate  
9 that question once again, John?

10 MR. MORISSETTE: Sure.

11 THE WITNESS (Berman): The volume needs  
12 to be a little louder at our end.

13 MR. MORISSETTE: Sure. In that same  
14 paragraph, the second sentence, it goes on to say  
15 following the methods of IEEE Standard, bla, bla,  
16 bla, this acoustic pressure level corresponds to  
17 an A-weighted sound pressure level of 86.1 dBA.

18 THE WITNESS (Berman): Sorry, Mr.  
19 Morissette, can you -- I didn't catch the first  
20 part of the question.

21 MR. MORISSETTE: Can somebody explain  
22 the A-weighted sound pressure level of 86.1 dBA?

23 THE WITNESS (Berman): I will have to  
24 go back and look at that, and we'll address that  
25 shortly.

1 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay, that would be  
2 great. Let me continue on. Moving to page 8,  
3 Table 5, it basically says that you take the 65  
4 dBA rating of the transformers with the fans and  
5 the pumps on and predicted -- these are the  
6 predicted noise levels at each of the measurement  
7 points or identified locations, I should say.

8 So ST-3 has got your highest reading of  
9 44, and that's at the residence house on Kaechele  
10 Place. So based on this, the transformers  
11 themselves meet the applicable sound level limits.  
12 So I just want to make sure that I'm reviewing  
13 this noise study correctly.

14 And then the analysis goes on to  
15 overlay ambient noise levels both day and night.  
16 So essentially to make a long story short, what  
17 happens is, is that the ambient noise levels  
18 supersede what any kind of noise levels are going  
19 to be at the property lines and at the areas  
20 identified, but they are going to be, the overall  
21 sound levels are going to be greater than,  
22 specifically for ST-4, is going to be greater than  
23 the nighttime noise limits. Now, is the way I'm  
24 looking at this correct?

25 THE WITNESS (Berman): Well, in some

1 respects yes. I'm not sure you have -- you know,  
2 we see the highest potential noise impacts not at  
3 ST-4 but rather at ST-3 or potentially near the  
4 residence adjacent to ST-1. And when I do that,  
5 I'm referring to, you know, I'm using Appendix F,  
6 the sound study.

7 And I believe the second part of your  
8 question was would they -- could you restate the  
9 second part of the question?

10 MR. MORISSETTE: Well, the observation  
11 is, is that they would see, if I'm looking at  
12 Table 7, ST-4 is seeing nighttime levels greater  
13 than the allowable night one.

14 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yeah, I'm not --  
15 we'll have to -- what page in the application are  
16 you looking at? I'm looking at the appendix right  
17 now. If you could point me to the page.

18 MR. MORISSETTE: It's page 9, page 9,  
19 Table 7.

20 (Pause.)

21 MR. MORISSETTE: It's actually Table 6  
22 and 7, ST-4, the nighttime total sound limits are  
23 above the allowable nighttime limits.

24 THE WITNESS (Berman): So you're  
25 looking at Table 7, ST-4, nighttime total sound

1 level 58?

2 MR. MORISSETTE: Correct. It is higher  
3 than the allowable of 51.

4 THE WITNESS (Berman): It seems that is  
5 correct.

6 MR. MORISSETTE: Right. And the reason  
7 that -- this is where I get tripped up. And every  
8 time I look through these noise analyses my hair  
9 hurts. So the reason why that meets the noise  
10 ordinances is because the 33 is at the location  
11 because of the transformer, but when you add in  
12 the ambient noise level of 58, and you add them  
13 together, that because the 33 is not greater than  
14 5 dBA of the peak, then that's allowed, that meets  
15 the noise standard?

16 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yes, that is  
17 correct.

18 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. All right. So,  
19 moving on from that confusing discussion, has  
20 there been any discussion about any type of noise  
21 mitigation if in chance after the fact that the  
22 actual noise levels at the residence and the  
23 locations identified are actually higher than  
24 predicted?

25 THE WITNESS (Berman): At this time we

1 have not had those discussions.

2 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. Would UI be  
3 amenable to doing after-the-fact noise  
4 measurements to ensure that --

5 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yeah, I feel  
6 quite confident the answer to that is yes.

7 MR. MORISSETTE: And you're comfortable  
8 with the 33 being -- well, at that particular  
9 location as being what you think you're going  
10 to -- what the noise levels are going to be at  
11 that particular location?

12 THE WITNESS (Berman): Well, that  
13 location is a little difficult to tease out  
14 because background noise is so high there from  
15 Main Street. I would want to take some thought to  
16 see how we would tease out background from the  
17 noise, if applicable, from the transformers.

18 MR. MORISSETTE: All right. So the  
19 bottom line is that the background noise is  
20 overpowering the transformer noises by almost  
21 double?

22 THE WITNESS (Berman): That is correct.

23 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay.

24 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Hey, John, if you  
25 don't mind, I'll add a quick note to this. So

1 given the table that's provided, you can see that  
2 the two transformers we have today are both  
3 approaching 68 decibels at its highest rating of  
4 60 kVA -- or 60 MVA, sorry. The new Avangrid  
5 standard, the standard that we're following for  
6 these new transformers, is actually going to be a  
7 tad less than what's existing. So looking at  
8 Avangrid's transformer standards, the acoustic  
9 pressure level for a maximum MVA transformer is 65  
10 dB. So what we'd be installing tomorrow is  
11 actually going to be quieter than what we have  
12 today just by default.

13 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay, great. Those  
14 are all the questions I have. Thank you very  
15 much, everyone.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Morissette. Before we continue, Mr. Berman, I  
18 wanted to go back to what Mr. Morissette had posed  
19 to you to see if we could clear it up about the  
20 A-weighted sound level. My understanding is that  
21 when you use an A-weighted sound level, it kind of  
22 translates to the relative loudness to the human  
23 ear; would that be correct?

24 THE WITNESS (Berman): So would that be  
25 correct? It is a kind of an oversimplification,



1 but yes it is basically correct.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you. Mr.  
3 Morissette, I don't know if that helped answer  
4 your question or not.

5 MR. MORISSETTE: Yes, I'm good. Thank  
6 you.

7 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay, thank you.

8 I'd like to move on now and continue  
9 cross-examination of the applicant by Mr. Hannon,  
10 please.

11 MR. HANNON: Can you hear me all right?

12 MR. SILVESTRI: I can, yes.

13 MR. HANNON: Okay. I just wanted to  
14 make sure because I have lost audio before.

15 On the application on page 1-10 I've  
16 got two very basic questions, so if somebody could  
17 provide some answers to this, it would be  
18 appreciated. The middle of the page, it starts  
19 off the second full paragraph, "After the new Old  
20 Town Substation is placed in service, the point of  
21 change in ownership...", what does a point of  
22 change in ownership mean?

23 THE WITNESS (Walsh): It would be the  
24 point where the line switches ownership between  
25 Eversource and UI.

1 MR. HANNON: And then following that up  
2 with the second part of that paragraph,  
3 "Eversource will own the monopoles, insulators,  
4 conductor loop, and hardware attached to the  
5 monopoles. UI will own the monopoles, conductor,  
6 and associated equipment located within the  
7 substation fence." This may be a very simplistic  
8 question, but who owns the wires? I'm assuming  
9 Eversource.

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): So the wires  
11 heading into the station from the monopoles will  
12 be owned by UI. So on the east side the wires  
13 coming in from the Eversource monopole UI would  
14 own. We would own the conductors going through  
15 the substation. We would own the conductors  
16 heading out to the west to the next Eversource  
17 owned monopole.

18 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.

19 THE WITNESS (Pinto): You're welcome.

20 MR. HANNON: And actually, Mr. Pinto,  
21 you're also my next question. This is based on  
22 Interrogatory Number 6. In reading the response,  
23 I'm fine with what you say, but it's just sort of  
24 a general question. On page 2 of the Eversource  
25 prefile testimony it talks about how Eversource is

1 participating in Docket 490 solely to allow the  
2 Siting Council to consider not only the project  
3 proposed by UI, but also the facilities and  
4 upgrades to Eversource's transmission system that  
5 are required for the project. Now, is some of  
6 that done in order to try and help support the  
7 position that the split is going to be 75 percent  
8 New England and 25 percent Connecticut in terms of  
9 the ratepayer base?

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): I guess I'm  
11 having -- Eversource is participating because they  
12 own four structures that are within the Eversource  
13 right-of-way which are going to be rerouted into  
14 the new facility.

15 MR. HANNON: Okay. I was just  
16 wondering if that helps support your position in  
17 terms of how the fees would be split between  
18 regional and Connecticut. That's all.

19 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, that's a  
20 regional calculation, you know, from the ISO. The  
21 supported portion of the project, you know, would  
22 be regionalized through all of New England, and  
23 the local costs would be borne by UI ratepayers.

24 MR. HANNON: Thank you. My next  
25 question is for Mr. Walsh. Interrogatory Number

1 9, it talks about the potential need for a third  
2 transformer realized at some time off in the  
3 future. But given how technology changes over  
4 time, if you had to put the third unit in there,  
5 how certain are you that you've got enough space  
6 to be able to put that new transformer in?

7 THE WITNESS (Walsh): We have layout  
8 diagrams that do show that that transformer fits,  
9 so I'd say there's a high degree of certainty that  
10 the transformer would fit within the yard.

11 MR. HANNON: Is that based on current  
12 size of transformers? I mean, because if things  
13 change, I just want to make sure there's adequate  
14 room in case maybe things get a little bit bigger  
15 in the future and you had to add one. I just want  
16 to make sure there's room to put it in. Is that  
17 how this is being planned?

18 THE WITNESS (Walsh): So the diagrams  
19 we have would assume that the transformer is the  
20 same size as the two units going in. If there was  
21 a concern for transformers dramatically increasing  
22 in size, I think Jonathan might be the more  
23 appropriate person to ask.

24 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Mr. Hannon, just  
25 to answer your question. As we go through

1 detailed engineering, we have asked our detail  
2 engineer to keep these things into account while  
3 we are going through design. So if you look at  
4 the drawings that we supplied, you'll see that  
5 there's quite a bit of space in between the two  
6 transformers. The space will allow us to install  
7 a foundation with ample space in between the  
8 transformers for future buildout.

9 MR. HANNON: No, that's fine. I mean,  
10 that's kind of the answer I was expecting. I just  
11 wanted to make sure.

12 Mr. Berman, you're up. How are you  
13 doing, Todd? Interrogatory Number 13, I do have  
14 some questions. I know Mr. Perrone had started  
15 down that road, but I do have some follow-up  
16 questions. Has any soil analysis been done on the  
17 sight, seeing as how there is an existing  
18 substation there? I'm just curious if any testing  
19 has been done with soils.

20 THE WITNESS (Berman): We have not done  
21 comprehensive testing on the existing substation  
22 site. We have done a full Phase 1 on the off-site  
23 areas but not on the existing station.

24 MR. HANNON: So at what point in time  
25 would you anticipate doing a detailed analysis of

1 the soils on the existing site?

2 THE WITNESS (Berman): Really we could  
3 advance that at almost any time. I think we'd be  
4 comfortable doing that in the spring of 2021.

5 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you. And  
6 then just sort of following up. I know that  
7 there's a bunch of cut and fill material that  
8 you're bringing in, but can you give me an idea of  
9 the types of materials associated with the fill,  
10 is that more crushed stone for the base of the  
11 area, that type of thing?

12 THE WITNESS (Berman): It will probably  
13 be specific in different areas, right? So some of  
14 the fill will be specific to the geotechnical  
15 needs that it's serving in terms of foundation  
16 bases. Other parts of the fill might be optimized  
17 for drainage. In all cases any imported material  
18 is going to go through a sort of pretty rigorous  
19 precertification process by UI.

20 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then just sort  
21 of following up on that, you've got the cut and  
22 fill numbers. But has any number been associated  
23 with the cut and fill associated with the  
24 dismantling of the existing station, or does the  
25 9,300 and 8,800 cubic yards just deal with the

1 construction of the new substation?

2 THE WITNESS (Berman): It is the  
3 latter.

4 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then based on  
5 site conditions, do you have issues with ledge on  
6 the site? I'm assuming there's some testing  
7 that's been done in that respect. And then just  
8 to follow up on that while I'm going in that  
9 direction is, if there is ledge on site, do you  
10 need to blast, or are you also able to bring in  
11 some type of equipment to maybe crush stone on  
12 site?

13 THE WITNESS (Berman): The answer is  
14 geotechnical testing is underway. There is stone  
15 that may be ledge exposed. We've actually had  
16 this discussion and would certainly prefer to  
17 avoid blasting at almost all cost in favor of  
18 alternative techniques.

19 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you. My next  
20 question is going back to Mr. Pinto. I'm assuming  
21 I'm reading the maps correctly, and it looks as  
22 though on this roadway that's identified around  
23 the site that there are some splice vaults that  
24 are located within the roadway. But, in  
25 particular, I'm trying to look to see if I've got

1 a north arrow map on here, and I'm not seeing one,  
2 so I will say more towards the bottom of the page  
3 on the roadway it appears as though there are like  
4 three splice vaults that maybe look like houses  
5 instead of just a rectangular box.

6 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That's correct.

7 MR. HANNON: My question on that is,  
8 does anything special have to be done with the  
9 splice vaults for construction purposes? And the  
10 reason I'm asking is because you've designed the  
11 roadway to be able to bring in portable  
12 transformers, and I'm assuming that those things  
13 are not light. So I'm just trying to make sure  
14 that what's being proposed with the splice vaults  
15 is going to handle the weight of any equipment  
16 that's coming in, especially the mobile  
17 transformers.

18 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.  
19 The splice terms would be H-20 rated which would  
20 suffice for distribution of the weight of the  
21 mobile substation if it needed to be brought in.

22 MR. HANNON: Okay. So all that's been  
23 taken into account, we don't have to worry about  
24 that?

25 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Right. In



1 detailed engineering we will go through that  
2 analysis, but anything that we put in the roadways  
3 is always H-20 rated.

4 MR. HANNON: Thank you. The next set  
5 set of questions I have I'm not sure who they may  
6 fall on, but I have a feeling it's going to be Mr.  
7 Berman. And it's not anything that's that  
8 critical at this point in time, but I'm just  
9 trying to get some information because I don't see  
10 any grading plans that had been provided with this  
11 application. The only thing that I'm seeing is  
12 there's one map that shows topography; is that  
13 correct?

14 THE WITNESS (Berman): That is correct.  
15 The full grading plan would be provided in the  
16 D&M.

17 MR. HANNON: Okay. So can you give me  
18 an idea of what the final base elevation of the  
19 proposed facility might be?

20 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yeah,  
21 absolutely. So the plan is to match the existing  
22 grade.

23 MR. HANNON: Okay. Because I noticed  
24 you've got some relatively high spots there too  
25 that would have to come down. So with some of the

1 work that needs to be done there, will any of the  
2 proposed ground work potentially have an impact on  
3 either Wetland A or Wetland B? Because you may  
4 end up creating some different drainage patterns,  
5 and I'm just curious as to what, maybe not a  
6 direct but an indirect impact could be on Wetland  
7 A and B.

8 THE WITNESS (Berman): Right. So to  
9 the degree there might be temporary construction  
10 impacts on Wetland A, that's the one to the north  
11 of the site, it's our intention and will be a  
12 driving philosophy as we go into more advanced  
13 design to make sure that to the degree possible  
14 there's no permanent impacts into the wetlands.

15 Now, to the degree it would change  
16 drainage patterns, yeah, it is likely there will  
17 be some change in the drainage pattern in the  
18 receiving Wetland A, not so much at Wetland B.  
19 But with respect to Wetland A, it's really  
20 characterized now by the sheet flow from the  
21 adjacent parking lot. We'll be designing the  
22 station to use stormwater retention best  
23 management practices as best we can.

24 As you may know, there is a little bit  
25 of nuance right now with the Connecticut DEP

1 construction stormwater permit more specifically  
2 as to what constitutes an impervious surface, but  
3 we will only have -- the only truly impervious  
4 surface at the yard will be, I guess, the roofs of  
5 the structures and the one roadway that bends  
6 through it. The rest of the yard is going to stay  
7 pervious.

8 MR. HANNON: Okay. How do you propose  
9 to handle on-site drainage? I mean, you've got a  
10 roadway there. Is that going to be a storm  
11 drainage system in the road like with the  
12 buildings, is there a way to maybe take the roof  
13 rain, run a leader down and actually infiltrate  
14 that into the ground? I'm just looking for a --

15 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yeah.

16 MR. HANNON: -- general idea how you're  
17 dealing with site drainage.

18 THE WITNESS (Berman): So the answer to  
19 your question, Mr. Hannon, is yes, absolutely, it  
20 would be our intention to, even the impervious  
21 surfaces we would try, to the degree possible, to  
22 infiltrate into the yard.

23 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you. The  
24 roadway that's shown on the map, is that existing  
25 or to be constructed?

1 THE WITNESS (Berman): To be  
2 constructed.

3 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then I'm also  
4 assuming that because there are no grading plans,  
5 I also didn't see any erosion sedimentation  
6 control plans, but that would also be submitted as  
7 part of a grading plan at a D&M phase, if this is  
8 approved, correct?

9 THE WITNESS (Berman): Absolutely. And  
10 furthermore, the construction would be under  
11 whatever the next generation of the general permit  
12 for construction activities is.

13 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then I've got  
14 one final question. Are there any 100 year or 500  
15 year floodplain elevations even close to the site,  
16 or are you far enough away where it's not an  
17 issue?

18 THE WITNESS (Berman): It's not been  
19 flagged as an issue.

20 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then the final  
21 comment that I have or question I have is there's  
22 an October 18, 2019 letter from the Department of  
23 Energy and Environmental Protection regarding the  
24 Natural Diversity Data Base, and it talks about  
25 recommended protection strategies for turtles.

1                   And then in looking at the Fuss &  
2 O'Neill submittal under 3.3.1, Rare Species and  
3 Critical Habitats, the last sentence on that  
4 section prior to 3.3.2, which is the northern  
5 long-eared bat, it says, "These management  
6 practices can be addressed in the final design and  
7 bidding process." I'm asking you if they're going  
8 to be addressed in the final plan.

9                   THE WITNESS (Berman): Mr. Hannon, the  
10 answer to that is unequivocally yes. We know that  
11 there are 13 conditions with respect to the  
12 eastern box turtle. We've both reviewed them  
13 internally, and honestly we've put them into  
14 practice in other places as well. They will  
15 unequivocally be part of our construction  
16 planning.

17                   MR. HANNON: Thank you. That's it on  
18 my questions.

19                   MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Hannon.  
20 I'd like to continue with  
21 cross-examination of the applicant by Mr. Nguyen.  
22 And again, Mr. Nguyen, welcome to the Council.

23                   MR. NGUYEN: Thank you very much. I  
24 don't have any questions. Thank you.

25                   MR. SILVESTRI: Very good. Thank you.

1 I'd like to continue with Mr. Edelson,  
2 please. Mr. Edelson, you still with us?

3 MR. EDELSON: Yeah, I forgot to unmute.  
4 I apologize.

5 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you.

6 MR. EDELSON: I just started talking  
7 louder. I thought that would work.

8 So a little bit of context for me.  
9 Approximately how many substations does UI have  
10 responsibility for in Connecticut? I guess that  
11 would go to Mr. Pinto. I'm not really sure.

12 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Go ahead, Ron.

13 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): It's 28 bulk  
14 substations.

15 MR. EDELSON: I'm sorry, there was a  
16 little static there. Can you repeat that?

17 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): Certainly.  
18 It's 28 bulk substations.

19 MR. EDELSON: Okay. And of those, how  
20 many are in a similar situation as far as their  
21 life span to this one where they are coming to the  
22 end of their useful engineering life?

23 THE WITNESS (Pinto): This is the  
24 oldest or one of the oldest. All the other ones  
25 don't have the issues associated with the

1 congested yard, the cost proximity to, you know,  
2 the other electrical devices within the yard, and  
3 just the constraints around this Old Town  
4 Substation. All the other ones are, they may be  
5 in the same age time frame, but they do not have  
6 the conditions that reside here, you know, aging  
7 infrastructure.

8 MR. EDELSON: Okay. And thank you for  
9 that background. Turning to Interrogatory Number  
10 7, which refers to a question about the, what do  
11 we say, the LEED environmental design. And I'm  
12 kind of curious. You said it was not something  
13 that you were trying to achieve with this, if I  
14 understood your answer. And I'm just curious why  
15 you did not want to have it designated or achieve  
16 a designation of Leadership in Energy and  
17 Environmental Design.

18 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): I can answer  
19 that question. It's something that's not part of  
20 our corporate philosophy at this time. As  
21 mentioned in the interrogatory, we do embrace the  
22 concepts of LEED certification. We've actually  
23 built office buildings that are LEED certified.  
24 And we also look at things like the LED lighting  
25 and high efficiency HVAC and things of that

1 nature. It's just that as part of the LEED  
2 certification process you have to acquire so many  
3 points, and we do not believe at this time that we  
4 would acquire enough points to get to the lowest  
5 LEED certification.

6 MR. EDELSON: So is it fair to say this  
7 is not a cost issue for you, this is more of a, it  
8 almost sounds like a bureaucratic step that you're  
9 just not interested in taking at this point.

10 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): It's something  
11 that we would try to employ as best as we can  
12 during our detailed design some of these  
13 principles, but like I said, it's not part of our  
14 corporate philosophy at this time for an AIS type  
15 of substation to inquire, especially an unmanned  
16 substation, to try to meet LEED certification for  
17 this particular substation.

18 MR. EDELSON: Now, in terms of the  
19 technology that you're going to put here relative  
20 to the existing station, are there energy  
21 efficiency gains that you will achieve, in other  
22 words, the difference between what comes into the  
23 existing versus the new substation, more energy,  
24 more electricity will go out because there are  
25 less losses, are there any benefits along those



1 lines?

2 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): So the power  
3 transformers are more efficient than the ones that  
4 they are going to replace. Like I mentioned, the  
5 LED lighting is definitely more efficient than  
6 what we have there today. We have our new control  
7 enclosure will certainly be better insulated than  
8 what we have there today. So of course it's going  
9 to be more efficient than what we have there  
10 today. It's just that it probably will not make  
11 it to LEED certification status.

12 MR. EDELSON: And I'm just wondering if  
13 that would be something you -- is that something  
14 you have calculated or could calculate? In other  
15 words, when we look at environmental benefits for  
16 many projects, or environmental impacts, we  
17 usually are looking at trying to avoid impact.  
18 Here it looks to me that you have a benefit in  
19 terms of energy efficiency and whatever that's  
20 going to substitute for it that you haven't made  
21 us aware of. Is that something that you could  
22 make us aware of in a metric or in a quantifiable  
23 manner?

24 THE WITNESS (Rossetti): So we looked  
25 at it very quickly to see if we could gain the

1 points. We didn't do an in-depth analysis, if you  
2 will. We can certainly take another look at that,  
3 and that could actually be part of the D&M plan.  
4 But as of now, as part of the interrogatory  
5 response, we said that it would not be LEED  
6 certified.

7 MR. EDELSON: Okay. I would appreciate  
8 that in the D&M as a way to understand the benefit  
9 of making an upgrade like this.

10 MR. SILVESTRI: Provided that the  
11 project gets approved.

12 MR. EDELSON: Thank you. I always can  
13 count on Mr. Silvestri to make the appropriate  
14 caveat. I kind of get the horse before the cart  
15 there.

16 Just for my benefit, on the visuals,  
17 Interrogatory 22, the site review, I think it's on  
18 photo 26, it caught my eye that there was a police  
19 car there, but yet when I understood the location  
20 of the photograph, it didn't seem to me that there  
21 was a road or anything back there where a police  
22 car would be. And I'm just trying to still get a  
23 sense of where -- and I do appreciate the response  
24 to Interrogatory 22 because it was very helpful to  
25 have all of those pictures to get a sense of what

1 a site visit would have been like. But is that --  
2 I'm just trying to verify that that picture isn't  
3 sort of out of position.

4 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, that police  
5 car actually it appears to be in the parking lot  
6 of the funeral home, the rear parking lot of the  
7 funeral home.

8 MR. EDELSON: So it seems to me that  
9 the, what did you call it, the cardinal, the icon  
10 there should have been a little further to the  
11 west. Is that a reasonable assessment by me in  
12 terms of trying to figure it out?

13 THE WITNESS (Pinto): No, that's  
14 actually -- that is the rear parking lot where the  
15 crosshatch is on the picture in the middle. It's  
16 showing that the four photos, the one to the top  
17 left is looking to the north. That actually faces  
18 the rear parking lot of the funeral home.

19 MR. EDELSON: And the police car was  
20 just parked there at the very, kind of that edge  
21 of the parking lot?

22 THE WITNESS (Pinto): It appears to be,  
23 yes.

24 MR. EDELSON: Well, I'm going to leave  
25 the police issue aside for now because it's not

1 really relevant, but I just wanted to make sure I  
2 understood where that photograph was.

3 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes.

4 MR. EDELSON: And it just flagged for  
5 me in the executive summary on page 5, and it was  
6 talking about sort of wetland impacts, and you use  
7 the word "permanent" there and said there would be  
8 no permanent fill of the wetlands, which sort of  
9 left the question are you expecting temporary  
10 damage to the wetlands? The wording there sort of  
11 left that open.

12 THE WITNESS (Berman): Mr. Edelson, so  
13 you have got that basically correct. We view  
14 impacts to wetlands in both a temporary and a  
15 permanent context. That's traditionally the way  
16 most of our permits are submitted. And we do not  
17 anticipate at this time any permanent impacts to  
18 the wetlands. To the degree that there are  
19 temporary impacts during construction, we fully --  
20 I mean, this is standard ops for us -- would be  
21 doing a restoration pursuant to a plan to the  
22 degree that there are any temporary impacts.

23 MR. EDELSON: Okay. That's all the  
24 questions I have, Mr. Silvestri. Thank you.

25 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Edelson.

1 I have a few follow-ups in no particular order.  
2 But, Mr. Pinto, I wanted to go back to your  
3 discussion with Mr. Perrone regarding Bus No. 3  
4 and wanted to make sure I heard correctly. You  
5 were talking about an enclosure, and I believe it  
6 was metal, m-e-t-a-l; is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: All right, that's one  
9 off my list. Then going back to the discussion on  
10 SF6, the first question for you, is there a  
11 specialized procedure for handling SF6?

12 THE WITNESS (Berman): So there are  
13 lots of specialized procedures for handling SF6.  
14 It's an oxygen displacer, so it has some physical  
15 hazards with the handling. But more importantly,  
16 you know, recovery from equipment before it's  
17 serviced when the SF6 is removed, you know, we're  
18 constantly measuring the amounts going in and out,  
19 kind of mass balancing to make sure there's no  
20 leaks. So in answer to your question, there are  
21 numerous special procedures associated with the  
22 handling of SF6.

23 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Let me ask  
24 one more follow-up on that. In addition to leak  
25 detection for SF6, is there anything added to the

1 equipment to give you any other indication as to  
2 what might be going on or any warning hazards?

3 THE WITNESS (Berman): I think the  
4 fundamental of our leak detection system is the  
5 SCADA system. So if pressure changes inside the  
6 vessel, a system warning is triggered, and that's  
7 the kind of -- that's the fundamental control  
8 procedure I guess I would say.

9 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you.  
10 Staying with SF6, has UI investigated any  
11 alternatives to SF6?

12 THE WITNESS (Berman): Do you want me  
13 to take that, Rich?

14 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes.

15 THE WITNESS (Berman): I think UI is  
16 always looking for alternatives to SF6. It  
17 obviously has incredibly good characteristics in  
18 this application, but we also know and acknowledge  
19 that it's potent greenhouse gas, and I would say  
20 it's fair to conclude that UI and the Avangrid  
21 companies are consistently searching for  
22 alternatives for SF6.

23 MR. SILVESTRI: Well, specifically  
24 would vacuum work here instead of SF6?

25 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Vacuum breakers

1 tend to not be used at voltage classes this high.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: They're usually used at  
3 smaller or lower voltage?

4 THE WITNESS (Walsh): Correct.

5 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Then I ran  
6 across something called "g cubed." It might be  
7 put out by -- well, I won't mention who it's put  
8 out by. But are you familiar with a product that  
9 is used to replace SF6 called g cubed?

10 THE WITNESS (Pinto): I am not.

11 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. I'll leave that  
12 one then. Then the last question I have on SF6,  
13 my understanding is the California Air Resources  
14 Board, or what they like to call themselves, CARB,  
15 is looking to phase out SF6 in certain  
16 applications by 2025. Do you know if there's any  
17 movement coming towards Connecticut that would  
18 phase out SF6?

19 THE WITNESS (Berman): So I am not  
20 aware of any pending regulatory or statutory  
21 initiative to limit SF6.

22 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Then one or  
23 two questions on the transformers. The new  
24 transformers, how much oil would be in there?

25 THE WITNESS (Pinto): We'll check that

1 number, Mr. Silvestri. I believe we have that.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: And secondary  
3 containment would be designed for 110 percent,  
4 would that also be correct?

5 THE WITNESS (Pinto): That is correct.

6 MR. SILVESTRI: And explain to me how  
7 rainwater would be removed from secondary  
8 containment.

9 THE WITNESS (Berman): So we have a  
10 very good system for this. The secondary  
11 containment has pumps that if they sense any  
12 oil -- well, the core of your question is  
13 rainwater is pumped out of those secondary  
14 containment vessels; however, those pumps are  
15 equipped with oil sensing shut-offs.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: Now, the pumping would  
17 be automatic, or would somebody have to be on site  
18 to do so?

19 THE WITNESS (Berman): It's automatic.

20 MR. SILVESTRI: An automatic shut-off  
21 so it would sense oil and stop pumping. Would  
22 that then send an alarm to wherever to let you  
23 know that there's a problem?

24 THE WITNESS (Berman): You know, I will  
25 have to get back to you on that, Mr. Silvestri.



1 MR. SILVESTRI: Well, last question on  
2 that one. Do you need a permit to discharge that  
3 water?

4 THE WITNESS (Berman): You mean to  
5 discharge from the secondary containment into the  
6 yard?

7 MR. SILVESTRI: Well, yeah, the pump is  
8 going to pump the water somewhere.

9 THE WITNESS (Berman): Right. So the  
10 answer is no we have not sought a specific permit.  
11 Obviously, the whole site is subject to stormwater  
12 compliance standards. That said, we do not seek a  
13 specific permit for the pumping out of the  
14 secondary containment vessels.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. I heard your  
16 response with some echo. Let me just see if I  
17 could clarify. So whatever you're pumping out, it  
18 would be under a general stormwater permit; would  
19 that be the case?

20 THE WITNESS (Berman): Correct.

21 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you. A  
22 couple follow-ups I have on interrogatories. The  
23 first one I have, Mr. Pinto, this is number 6,  
24 Interrogatory Number 6 where you have the costs.  
25 Does the current estimated project cost of \$39.1

1 million include decommissioning costs for the  
2 existing substation?

3 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yeah, it does  
4 include to some extent the decommissioning cost of  
5 the existing station. Some of the work that we do  
6 for decommissioning is actually part of the  
7 project, to make room for the project. There is a  
8 small portion of the new facility that comes onto  
9 the existing parcel, if you want to call it, but  
10 then the remainder of that stuff is just getting  
11 rid of the existing equipment that's there, the  
12 control building, the Bus No. 3, and removal of  
13 the equipment. The foundations, you know, there  
14 would be a couple at grade at that level. So  
15 there's very minimal decommissioning costs  
16 associated with that.

17 MR. McDERMOTT: Mr. Silvestri, Bruce  
18 McDermott. Sorry to interrupt. But Mr. Wolff can  
19 provide you with the question you had about the  
20 amount of oil in the transformers at this time, if  
21 you'd like.

22 MR. SILVESTRI: Just before we go  
23 there, I'm not totally clear on Mr. Pinto's  
24 answer.

25 MR. McDERMOTT: Okay. I apologize.

1 MR. SILVESTRI: Not a problem. And I  
2 appreciate you going back to the oil, but give me  
3 a minute.

4 MR. SILVESTRI: Mr. Pinto, I wasn't  
5 quite sure if that was a yes or a no, if the 39.1  
6 includes the decommissioning.

7 THE WITNESS (Pinto): Yes, it does.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Okay. I'm  
9 ready for the answer on the oil.

10 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Mr. Silvestri,  
11 based upon the documents that we got from the  
12 transformer manufacturer, there is going to be  
13 29,000 liters or 7,670 gallons of oil in this  
14 transformer.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Per transformer?

16 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Per transformer.

17 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Thank you  
18 very much. Mr. Walsh, going to Interrogatory  
19 Number 9, and you mentioned the weather normalized  
20 loading, and what you have for a ten-year load  
21 forecast, the load is projected to be  
22 approximately 66 MVA by 2030. My question to you,  
23 does the load forecast include potential for  
24 growth in the electric vehicle sector,  
25 specifically electric commuter buses that are

1 coming into the Bridgeport area, or cars, either  
2 commercial or residential?

3 THE WITNESS (Walsh): I myself am not  
4 familiar with how the load forecasts are done  
5 internally. It's done by a different group. But  
6 we can certainly give you that information.

7 MR. SILVESTRI: I'm not sure how  
8 forecasts go these days and looking at how you  
9 project. I was just curious if they did include  
10 electric vehicles at this point.

11 THE WITNESS (Walsh): I'm not aware of  
12 them particularly including electric vehicles as a  
13 subset. I do know there are a number of inputs,  
14 but I can't speak to the specifics.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you. And  
16 I might have one more. No, that's all the  
17 follow-up questions that I have. But just before  
18 we change gears, because questions and answers can  
19 spawn other additional questions, I'd like to go  
20 back to our Council members and staff to see if  
21 they have any follow-ups, and I'd like to start  
22 with Mr. Perrone who also had some comments on the  
23 noise part. Mr. Perrone.

24 MR. PERRONE: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.  
25 Yes, I do have some follow-up.

1           Going back to the noise report, so is  
2 it correct to say that the basic noise limit is  
3 61/51, 61 slash 51?

4           THE WITNESS (Berman): When you say  
5 "61/51," you mean the daytime nighttime?

6           MR. PERRONE: Yes.

7           THE WITNESS (Berman): Yes.

8           MR. PERRONE: Then turning to page 8,  
9 there's a section in italics near the bottom of  
10 the page where it mentions in the high background  
11 areas you can go up to 5. So essentially does  
12 that mean that for ST-4 with the ambient of 64/58  
13 we can raise them both by 5 and basically go to  
14 69/63 at that one location?

15           THE WITNESS (Berman): Well, you know,  
16 yes, but that's a citation from the Connecticut  
17 noise regulations, but I think your conclusion is  
18 correct.

19           MR. PERRONE: Okay. And lastly just a  
20 couple unrelated questions. Mr. Pinto, I had  
21 asked you about the amount of SF6. I think you  
22 had given a rough number of 80 pounds. I wasn't  
23 sure if you had said 80 pounds weight or 80 psi  
24 pressure.

25           THE WITNESS (Pinto): 80 psi pressure.

1 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And last  
2 follow-up. Mr. Berman, you were talking about  
3 wetland impacts, permanent versus temporary.  
4 Would the E&S controls mitigate temporary impacts?

5 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yes.

6 MR. PERRONE: Thank you. That's all I  
7 have.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Perrone.  
9 Mr. Morissette, any follow-up  
10 questions?

11 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Silvestri. Yes, I have one follow-up question.  
13 It's concerning lighting. How will lighting be  
14 handled at the facility? I know that substations  
15 have had problems in the past. Will they be on  
16 all the time or manually turned off and on, or  
17 what's the plan?

18 THE WITNESS (Wolff): Mr. Morissette,  
19 at each site at UI it may be a little different  
20 depending on the substation, but generally  
21 speaking, we have our general task lighting that's  
22 only turned on during maintenance or switching  
23 operations. In addition to that, we have,  
24 generally speaking, some sort of entry light.  
25 Some of those entry lights might be photo

1 controlled or photocell controlled so at nighttime  
2 they'll turn on, but generally those are  
3 directional like at a front door or something  
4 along those lines.

5 So at this site we're currently  
6 anticipating task lighting as normal, entry  
7 lighting as normal, but of course we're able to  
8 work with neighbors when necessary. But then in  
9 addition to that, our security we also require  
10 some sort of lighting. So we're going to be  
11 working closely with our security department as  
12 well as the people in the direct vicinity when it  
13 comes to the security lighting.

14 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. Very  
15 helpful. Just to follow up on that, so are you  
16 planning on installing security cameras at this  
17 facility as well?

18 THE WITNESS (Wolff): That is correct.  
19 We'll have security cameras facing the fence  
20 lines, correct.

21 MR. MORISSETTE: Great. Thank you.

22 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
23 Morissette.

24 Mr. Hannon, any follow-ups?

25 MR. HANNON: Just one follow-up. I'd

1 like to get a clarification of what you envision  
2 as temporary impacts to Wetland A.

3 THE WITNESS (Berman): Right. So with  
4 respect to temporary impacts from Wetland A, we  
5 are fairly sure that the proximity of the base of  
6 a retaining wall will fall fairly close to the  
7 wetland boundary, so not inside the wetland  
8 boundary but close. During the construction of  
9 that, we may need to put matting down to have  
10 heavy equipment that would be on the outside of  
11 that retaining wall. So it would be basically  
12 pretty traditional wetland matting, you know,  
13 using the most minimal techniques possible, but  
14 then the matting gets pulled out and the  
15 restoration gets done.

16 MR. HANNON: And then just following up  
17 on that, the retaining wall is what kind of  
18 construction, concrete?

19 THE WITNESS (Berman): Yeah, I believe  
20 the plan at this time would be concrete  
21 construction.

22 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you. I have  
23 no further questions.

24 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Hannon.  
25 Mr. Nguyen, any follow-up questions?



1 MR. NGUYEN: I have no follow-up  
2 questions, Mr. Silvestri. Thank you.

3 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Nguyen.

4 Mr. Edelson, any follow-ups?

5 MR. EDELSON: No follow-up. Thank you.

6 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. I did  
7 forget one question, so I'll pose it now.

8 Mr. Berman, is an SPCC required for the amount of  
9 oil that will be on site with these new  
10 transformers?

11 THE WITNESS (Berman): Well, I didn't  
12 hear John's answer, but I can say confidently that  
13 if we trip over the SPCC standard, yes, we will  
14 have an SPCC plan. And I can add to that that  
15 almost all our stations do, so I can say with a  
16 high degree of confidence this one will have one  
17 too.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: Very good. Thank you.  
19 At this time, I actually overshot the 3:30 mark,  
20 but why don't we take a 15 minute break to stretch  
21 our legs or whatever and see if we could come back  
22 at 3:55 and resume. And at that time I'd like to  
23 resume with continued cross-examination of the  
24 applicant by Eversource Energy. So we'll see you  
25 folks in about 15 minutes. Thank you.

1 (Whereupon, a recess was taken from  
2 3:38 p.m. until 3:55 p.m.)

3 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay, ladies and  
4 gentlemen, I have 3:55. Just before we begin, I  
5 want to make sure we do have our court reporter  
6 back on. Lisa, are you with us?

7 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, I am. Thank  
8 you.

9 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you very much.  
10 And Attorney McDermott, are you with us  
11 as well?

12 MR. McDERMOTT: I am here. Thank you.

13 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. And I do  
14 see Attorney Dubuque. And I'd like to continue  
15 with cross-examination of the applicant by  
16 Eversource Energy and Attorney Dubuque.

17 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Eversource does  
18 not have any questions for the UI panel. Thank  
19 you, Mr. Silvestri.

20 MR. SILVESTRI: Very good. Thank you  
21 very much.

22 All right. Turning now on our agenda,  
23 we'll have the appearance by the party, Eversource  
24 Energy. And will the party present their witness  
25 panel for the purposes of taking the oath, and

1 then I'll ask Attorney Bachman to administer the  
2 oath. Attorney Dubuque.

3 MR. McDERMOTT: Mr. Silvestri, if I  
4 could take the agenda away from you for one  
5 second, if I could have an opportunity to ask one  
6 redirect question of the UI panel?

7 MR. SILVESTRI: Oh, we don't do  
8 redirect, Attorney McDermott. So I'm going to  
9 continue on though. Thank you.

10 MR. McDERMOTT: I'm sorry. You don't  
11 do redirect?

12 MR. SILVESTRI: That is correct.

13 MR. McDERMOTT: Okay.

14 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Attorney  
15 Dubuque.

16 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Silvestri. As you know, I'm counsel for  
18 Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business  
19 as Eversource Energy. And with me today is  
20 Attorney Jeffery Cochran, senior counsel of the  
21 Eversource legal department.

22 And I would just like the Eversource  
23 panel members to briefly introduce themselves by  
24 stating their name and title. So first we have  
25 Eversource's lead witness, Mr. Soderman.

1 MR. SODERMAN: Hello, my name is  
2 Christopher Soderman. I'm director of  
3 transmission line engineering for Eversource  
4 Energy Service Company.

5 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Also, we have  
6 Mr. Patel who will assist Mr. Soderman.

7 MR. PATEL: Hello, my name is Shodhan  
8 Patel, project manager, transmission projects,  
9 employed by Eversource Energy Service Company.

10 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Mr. Silvestri,  
11 our witnesses are ready to be sworn in.

12 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Attorney  
13 Bachman, would you administer the oath?

14 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.  
15 Can you just please raise your right hand?

16 C H R I S T O P H E R P A U L S O D E R M A N ,  
17 S H O D H A N P A T E L ,

18 called as witnesses, being first duly sworn  
19 (remotely) by Ms. Bachman, were examined and  
20 testified on their oaths as follows:

21 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you.

22 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. And  
23 Attorney Dubuque, could you please begin by  
24 verifying all the exhibits by the appropriate  
25 sworn witnesses, please?

1 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Yes. Thank you.  
2 We have two exhibits we would like admitted into  
3 evidence.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: And I would like  
6 to start with Exhibit 1, Eversource's motion for  
7 party status, dated September 22, 2020. And I'll  
8 ask Mr. Soderman, are you familiar with the  
9 information in Exhibit 1?

10 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I am.

11 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Are there any  
12 corrections, clarifications or additions relating  
13 to Exhibit 1?

14 THE WITNESS (Soderman): No.

15 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: To the best of  
16 your knowledge as to Exhibit 1, is the information  
17 in this exhibit true and accurate, and do you  
18 adopt this material as an exhibit?

19 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I do.

20 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Thank you. I'd  
21 like to continue with Exhibit 2, Eversource's  
22 direct testimony of Christopher Paul Soderman and  
23 Shodhan Patel concerning Eversource's transmission  
24 interconnection facilities for the Old Town  
25 Substation Rebuild Project, dated October 8, 2020.

1           And I'll ask both Mr. Soderman and  
2 Mr. Patel, did you prepare or oversee the  
3 preparation of Exhibit 2 with your respective  
4 resumes?

5           THE WITNESS (Soderman): I did.

6           THE WITNESS (Patel): Yes, I did.

7           MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Are there any  
8 corrections, clarifications or additions relating  
9 to Exhibit 2?

10          THE WITNESS (Soderman): I believe  
11 Mr. Patel has a correction to make.

12          THE WITNESS (Patel): There is one  
13 correction on page 9 of the direct testimony  
14 document. The second line of the paragraph reads,  
15 "Eversource's desire to obtain off right-of-way  
16 access across the town's property on Scovill  
17 Street." The street reference is incorrect. It  
18 should have been "Kaechele Place."

19          MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Thank you. To  
20 the best of your knowledge, is the information in  
21 Exhibit 2 with the correction that Mr. Patel just  
22 noted true and accurate, and do you adopt the  
23 written testimony and your respective resumes in  
24 Exhibit 2 as your sworn testimony?

25          THE WITNESS (Patel): Yes.

1 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I do.

2 MS. BARBINO DUBUQUE: Thank you. Mr.  
3 Silvestri, I respectfully request that the Council  
4 admit into evidence Exhibits 1 and 2 as full  
5 exhibits.

6 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Attorney  
7 McDermott, do you object to the admission of  
8 Eversource Energy's exhibit with the correction so  
9 noted?

10 MR. McDERMOTT: No objection. Thank  
11 you, Mr. Silvestri.

12 MR. SILVESTRI: Very good. Thank you.  
13 The exhibits are admitted.

14 (Party, Eversource Energy, Exhibits  
15 III-B-1 and III-B-2: Received in evidence -  
16 described in index.)

17 MR. SILVESTRI: We will now begin with  
18 cross-examination of Eversource by the Council,  
19 and I'd like to start with Mr. Perrone, please.

20 MR. PERRONE: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION

22 MR. PERRONE: Referencing pages 8 and 9  
23 of the prefile testimony dated October 8th, other  
24 than discussions regarding the permanent access  
25 agreement, did UI receive any feedback from the

1 City of Bridgeport regarding its proposed portion  
2 of the project?

3 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I assume you  
4 mean "Eversource," Mr. Perrone?

5 MR. PERRONE: Yes.

6 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Mr. Patel can  
7 answer that question.

8 THE WITNESS (Patel): Mr. Perrone,  
9 Eversource is engaged in ongoing discussion with  
10 officials of the City of Bridgeport, and we have  
11 agreed on the steps required to obtain the  
12 easement right, but thus far we have not received  
13 any feedback from UI at this point.

14 MR. PERRONE: But was there any  
15 additional feedback from the city outside of the  
16 discussions on the access agreement?

17 THE WITNESS (Patel): Can you repeat  
18 the question again?

19 MR. PERRONE: Did you receive any  
20 feedback from the city other than discussions  
21 related to the access agreement?

22 THE WITNESS (Patel): No, we have not.

23 MR. PERRONE: Would Eversource's  
24 portion of the project comply with the 2002  
25 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and



1 Sediment Control?

2 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Yes.

3 MR. PERRONE: Would it also comply with  
4 Eversource BMPs?

5 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Yes.

6 MR. PERRONE: And my last question:  
7 What, if any, wildlife protection measures would  
8 Eversource employ for its portion of the project?

9 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Depending on  
10 what species were identified, Eversource would  
11 take advantage of appropriate measures including  
12 time of year construction and so on and so forth.

13 MR. PERRONE: Thank you. That's all I  
14 have.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Perrone.  
16 I'd like to continue cross-examination  
17 of Eversource by Mr. Morissette, please.

18 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you, Mr.  
19 Silvestri.

20 Good afternoon, Mr. Soderman and  
21 Mr. Patel.

22 THE WITNESS (Patel): Good afternoon.

23 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Good  
24 afternoon.

25 MR. MORISSETTE: Could you give me an

1 estimated cost of your portion of the project?

2 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Eversource's  
3 cost will be approximately \$3 million.

4 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. Concerning  
5 the bypass of the 1714 line, do you have any  
6 comments about the bypass, or does Eversource  
7 agree with the bypassing of the line at this time?

8 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Eversource has  
9 no objections. Currently the 1714 doesn't  
10 actually electrically connect to the substation,  
11 so very little change is actually happening.

12 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. Do you  
13 have any concerns with the substation at all?

14 THE WITNESS (Soderman): We do not.

15 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. And one  
16 final question. Do you plan on filing a petition  
17 for your work associated with this project or  
18 somehow obtain approval through this application?

19 THE WITNESS (Soderman): We were  
20 intending to gain approval in conjunction with  
21 this application to do our work.

22 MR. MORISSETTE: Hopefully that will be  
23 the case. Thank you. That's all the questions I  
24 have.

25 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.

1 Morissette.

2 I'd like to turn now to Mr. Hannon for  
3 continued cross-examination, please.

4 MR. HANNON: I have two questions. On  
5 the bottom of page 2 it talks about upgrades to  
6 Eversource's transmission system. Just curious,  
7 what kind of benefits will this project yield to  
8 Eversource?

9 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I'm sorry,  
10 what was that question there?

11 MR. HANNON: At the bottom of page 2 it  
12 talks about this proposed project by UI will also  
13 provide Eversource with some upgrades to its  
14 transmission system. I'm just trying to figure  
15 out if you could specify some of those benefits  
16 associated with the upgrades.

17 THE WITNESS (Soderman): So there are  
18 two primary benefits, the first being the  
19 installation of new --

20 MR. SILVESTRI: I'm going to interject  
21 for a second. Sometimes we get feedback, which is  
22 what's happening right now. It could be feedback  
23 going through Mr. Hannon's computer. So I think  
24 he has it muted, and you could probably answer the  
25 question now without a problem. Sorry to

1 interject, but just trying to take care of that  
2 issue. Please continue.

3 THE WITNESS (Soderman): I appreciate  
4 that. Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

5 The benefit will be twofold: Number  
6 one, we'll be able to replace aging lattice tower  
7 structures in the vicinity of the Old Town  
8 Substation, and we will also be able to upgrade  
9 our protection systems at the remote ends of the  
10 transmission lines.

11 MR. HANNON: Thank you. My second  
12 question deals with a comment on page 5, and it  
13 talks about the existing foundations would be  
14 removed to a depth slightly below final grade.  
15 This is with the two lattice structures. So would  
16 the concrete be removed slightly below grade and  
17 then any fill over it, or would it just be left  
18 with the concrete a little bit lower than the  
19 surrounding ground?

20 THE WITNESS (Soderman): We would break  
21 the concrete just below grade, and then we would  
22 cover it with a topsoil or trap rock similar to  
23 where it is, right? So if it's inside the UI  
24 substation, we would cover it with trap rock. To  
25 the east where the transmission line would be in

1 native soil we would put some topsoil over it.

2 MR. HANNON: Thank you. That's all I  
3 have.

4 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Hannon.  
5 I'd like to continue cross-examination  
6 at this time with Mr. Nguyen, please.

7 MR. NGUYEN: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.  
8 Just a quick follow-up regarding the \$3 million  
9 project that Eversource just spoke about. What  
10 would be the allocation cost for that in terms of  
11 regionalized or localized, how many percent would  
12 go into the distribution portion?

13 THE WITNESS (Soderman): Eversource  
14 expects to regionalize the entire cost of this  
15 project.

16 MR. NGUYEN: Okay. Thank you very  
17 much. That's all I have, Mr. Silvestri.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Nguyen.  
19 I'd like to continue now with Mr.  
20 Edelson for cross-examination.

21 MR. EDELSON: No questions, Mr.  
22 Silvestri. Thank you.

23 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Edelson.  
24 And I too have no further questions to ask.

25 So I'd like to continue with

1 cross-examination of Eversource by the applicant  
2 and Attorney McDermott, please.

3 MR. McDERMOTT: No questions. Thank  
4 you, Mr. Silvestri.

5 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. Okay, the  
6 Council will recess until 6:30 p.m., at which time  
7 we will commence the public comment session of  
8 this remote public hearing. So we'll see you back  
9 here at 6:30. Thank you.

10 (Whereupon, the witnesses were excused,  
11 and the hearing adjourned at 4:08 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REMOTE HEARING

2  
3 I hereby certify that the foregoing 86 pages  
4 are a complete and accurate computer-aided  
5 transcription of my original stenotype notes taken  
6 of the PUBLIC HEARING HELD BY REMOTE ACCESS IN RE:  
7 DOCKET NO. 490, The United Illuminating Company  
8 application for a Certificate of Environmental  
9 Compatibility and Public Need for the Old Town  
10 Substation Rebuild Project that entails  
11 construction, maintenance and operation of a  
12 115/13.8-kilovolt (kV) air-insulated replacement  
13 substation facility located on the existing Old  
14 Town Substation parcel at 282 Kaechele Place and  
15 two parcels immediately north totaling  
16 approximately 3 acres that are owned by the United  
17 Illuminating Company at 312 and 330 Kaechele  
18 Place, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and related  
19 transmission structure and interconnection  
20 improvements, which was held before ROBERT  
21 SILVESTRI, PRESIDING OFFICER, on October 15, 2020.  
22  
23  
24  
25

*Lisa Warner*

-----  
Lisa L. Warner, CSR 061  
Court Reporter  
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I N D E X

UI WITNESSES: SWORN PAGE 10

TODD BERMAN  
RICHARD PINTO  
RONALD ROSSETTI  
MEENA SAZANOWICZ  
FRANK WALSH  
JONATHAN WOLFF  
WILLIAM H. BAILEY  
MICHAEL LIBERTINE

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CHRISTOPHER PAUL SODERMAN  
SHODHAN PATEL

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APPLICANT UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY'S EXHIBITS  
(Received in Evidence.)

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION PAGE

II-B-1 Application for a Certificate of 13  
Environmental Compatibility and Public  
Need filed by The United Illuminating  
Company, received June 30, 2020, and  
attachments and bulk file exhibits  
including:  
a. City of Bridgeport Zoning &  
Subdivision Regulations  
b. City of Bridgeport zoning map.  
c. City of Bridgeport Inland  
Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations  
d. Connecticut Inland Wetlands  
soils map



1 I n d e x (Cont'd.)

EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
	e. City of Bridgeport Master Plan of Conservation and Development	
	f. Municipal consultation filings:	
	Appendix A - maps and drawings	
	Appendix B - agency correspondence	
	Appendix C - Ecological Assessment Report	
	Appendix D - Preliminary visual assessment and photo-simulations	
	Appendix E - Cultural Resources Report	
	Appendix F - Environmental Noise Assessment	

II-B-2	Applicant's responses to Council interrogatories, Set One, dated September 25, 2020.	13
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II-B-3	Applicant's affidavit of Richard Pinto regarding sign posting, dated September 28, 2020.	13
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II-B-4	Applicant's witness resumes:	13
	a. William H. Bailey, Ph.D., Exponent	
	b. Michael Libertine, LEP, All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C.	

II-B-5	Applicant's public comment presentation site plan, received October 8, 2020.	13
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18 PARTY, EVERSOURCE EXHIBITS  
(Received in evidence.)

EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
III-B-1	Eversource Motion for Party Status, dated September 22, 2020.	79
III-B-2	Eversource prefiled testimony of Christopher Paul Soderman and Shodhan Patel, dated October 8, 2020.	79

25 \*\*All exhibits were retained by the Council.