



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

Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting
Tel: (860) 728-4527

April 19, 2018

Melanie Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-NBB-01

Dear Ms. Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-NBB-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in North Branford and Branford, Connecticut. The work includes replacing 7 existing wooden transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipality of North Branford and Branford of Eversource's submission of the Sub-Petition and sent copies of the Sub-Petition to owners of directly abutting properties (see Proof of Notice).

Enclosed please find an original and 3 copies of this filing.

Please contact me at 860-728-4527 if you have any questions regarding the enclosed Sub-Petition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathleen M. Shanley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Enclosures

Attachments:
Exhibit A: Sub-Petition
Exhibit B: Photographs and Photo Simulation
Exhibit C: Maps
Exhibit C: Abutter Letter and Proof of Notice

ATTACHMENT A
SUB-PETITION

**THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY doing business
as
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

Sub-Petition
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL – PETITION NO. 1293
TRANSMISSION FACILITY ASSET
CONDITION MAINTENANCE
IMPROVEMENTS TO COMPLY WITH THE
UPDATED NATIONAL ELECTRIC SAFETY
CODE CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

Towns: North Branford and Branford

Sub-Petition No. 1293-NBB-01

Project: 1537 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Location: 7 Transmission Structures located in North Branford and Branford, Connecticut

I. Introduction:

In accordance with Condition 1 of the March 30, 2017 ruling by the Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") (as set forth in the Council's March 31, 2017 letter) regarding Petition No. 1293, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") submits this Sub-Petition.

II. Description of Transmission Work Activities:

Eversource's 1537 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project is part of an ongoing maintenance program, which evaluates the integrity of its utility structures and implements repair, upgrade or replacement in order to ensure the safe and reliable transmission of power to its customers. Due to asset condition, many structures require replacement on a portion of the 1537 Line between Totoket Junction in North Branford and Interstate 95 in Branford, Connecticut. The 1537 line in its entirety, is a 115-kV transmission line that extends from Totoket Junction to Branford Substation in Branford, Connecticut. Of these replacements, 7 of the structures require a slight increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements.

Eversource plans to conduct transmission structure replacement work to remediate wood structure damage caused by structure age, weather, and woodpecker activity. The following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

- Replace 7 existing wood monopole structures with new weathering steel monopole structures that are slightly taller (9 feet or less) than the existing structures. The replacement structures will be installed within 15 feet of the existing structures.

III. No Substantial Adverse Environmental Effect:

Eversource respectfully submits that the proposed modifications would have no "substantial adverse environmental effect" pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-50k, based on the following factors:

- a) Work Activities would take place in areas within Eversource's property and existing right-of-way ("ROW") utilizing existing and some new temporary access roads, some of which will be improved (collectively the "Work Areas"). Eversource can access the structure locations utilizing its existing rights, but is currently working with private landowners to obtain rights to utilize existing alternative off-ROW access routes that would minimize the amount of proposed new access roads.
- b) Work Activities would result in no temporary or permanent wetland impacts. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements)*, September 2016 ("BMPs") to avoid impact to nearby wetland and watercourse resources.
- c) No vernal pools are located in proximity to the Work Activities.
- d) As a result of Eversource's review of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB"), none of the Work Areas are proposed within a NDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and therefore would not be subject to a NDDB review request. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements)*, September 2016 ("BMPs") to avoid and minimize impact to terrestrial habitats that may support rare species. Therefore, no likely adverse impact to rare species will result from activities proposed in the Work Areas.
- e) The structure replacements will not require any clearing. However, Eversource may need to undertake minor tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing within the managed ROW corridor to improve access to portions of the Work Areas.
- f) A review of previously recorded cultural resources on file with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office revealed that no National or State Register of Historic Places (NR/SR) properties/districts are located within 500 feet of the Work Areas. Based on a review of historic maps, aerial photographs and soil profiles, all 7 of the proposed work pad locations and access roads were identified to possess either no or a low potential for archaeological sensitivity. Therefore, no surveys or subsurface testing of the 1537 Line project is recommended.
- g) Increased heights of the 7 replacement structures would average approximately 8.4 feet and none will exceed 9 feet.
- h) Replacement structures would be located within 15 feet of existing structures.
- i) With the exception of existing access roads to structures 4798 and 4799 which partially traverse a 100-year flood zone, there are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas. Eversource would utilize its BMPs to minimize any impacts to the flood zones associated with these existing access roads by avoiding placing fill that would increase the elevations

of these existing road surfaces to ensure that the Branford River floodplain hydrology is not adversely affected.

Areas disturbed by the Work would be promptly stabilized in order to minimize the potential for soil erosion and the flow of sediments into the nearby Branford River.

- j) No change in noise levels would result from installation of the new structures and the line would continue to comply with the State of Connecticut noise regulations.
- k) Any changes in electric and magnetic field levels outside of the ROW would be negligible.

IV. Mitigation:

Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as follows:

- Erosion and sediment controls ("E&S") will be employed and maintained, as needed, throughout the execution of the Work Activities in accordance with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control and the BMPs.
- Eversource's contractor would perform construction sequencing such that any earth materials are exposed for a minimum of time before they are covered, seeded, or otherwise stabilized to prevent erosion.
- During construction, when necessary, anti-tracking mats would be installed at construction entrances onto public roads to prevent tracking of soil onto local streets.
- Potential impacts to the Branford River 100-year flood zone would be avoided with adherence to the BMPs and by not increasing the elevations of existing access roads.
- Upon completion of the Work Activities, all disturbed/exposed areas would be stabilized and revegetated. After the establishment of permanent ground cover, Eversource's contractor would remove the temporary E&S controls and remove/dispose of any accumulated sediments and debris from areas where such measures were used.

V. Access:

Some new access roads will be constructed to facilitate access to structures within the ROW and existing access roads may be hardened and temporarily widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles. Temporary construction matting would be used in maintained lawn upland areas.

Eversource would access the Work Areas by entering its ROW from existing access points on public roads as follows:

- Williams Road for structure 4783A
- Totoket Road for structures 4783 and 4784 (off-ROW access from an alternative location on Hilltop Drive would be used if rights are obtained)
- Mountain Top Drive for structure 4785

- Laurel Hill Road for structure 4788
- Mill Plain Road for structure 4798 (off-ROW access from an alternative location on Mill Plain Road would be used if rights are obtained)
- Interstate 95 South for structure 4799 (off-ROW access from an alternative location on Main Street (State Route 1) would be used if rights are obtained)

By:



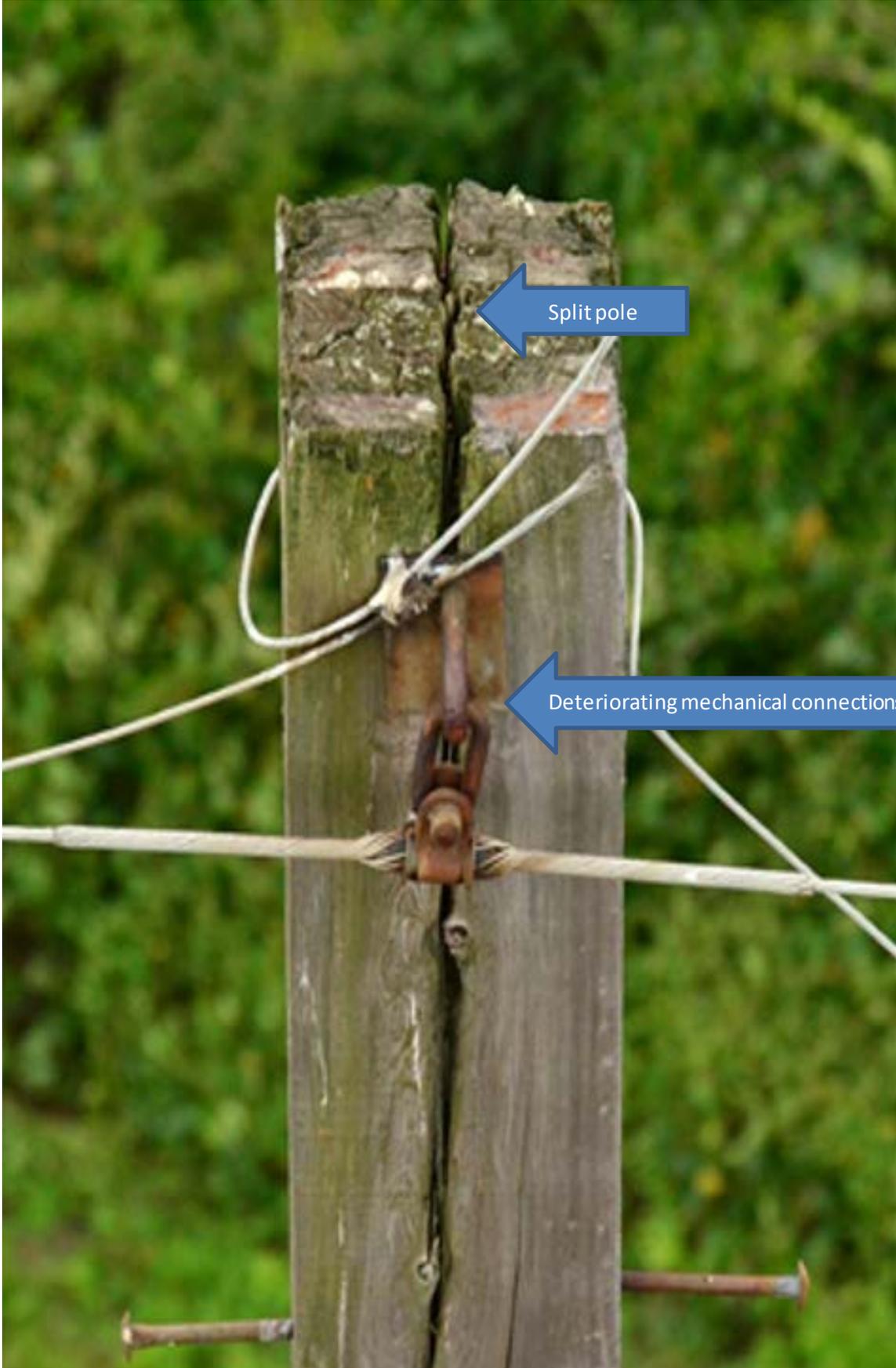
Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager - Transmission Siting

ATTACHMENT B
PHOTOGRAPHS AND
PHOTO SIMULATION

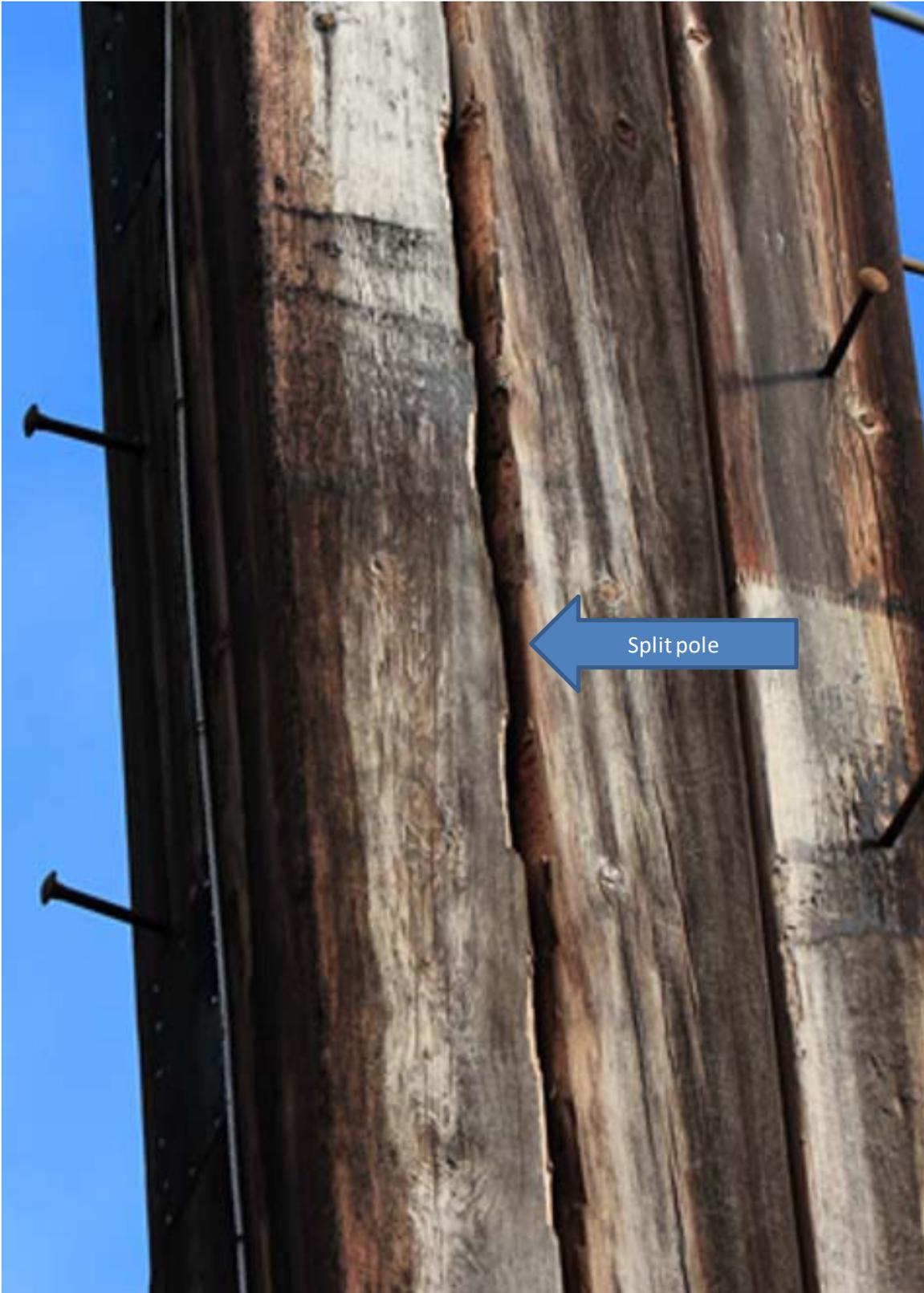
Structure #4783



Structure #4785



Structure #4788



Structure #4799





EXISTING

1537 LINE
STRUCTURE 4798

LOCATION

MILL PLAIN ROAD - BRANFORD, CT

ORIENTATION

SOUTHEAST





PROPOSED

1537 LINE
STRUCTURE 4798

LOCATION

MILL PLAIN ROAD - BRANFORD, CT

ORIENTATION

SOUTHEAST



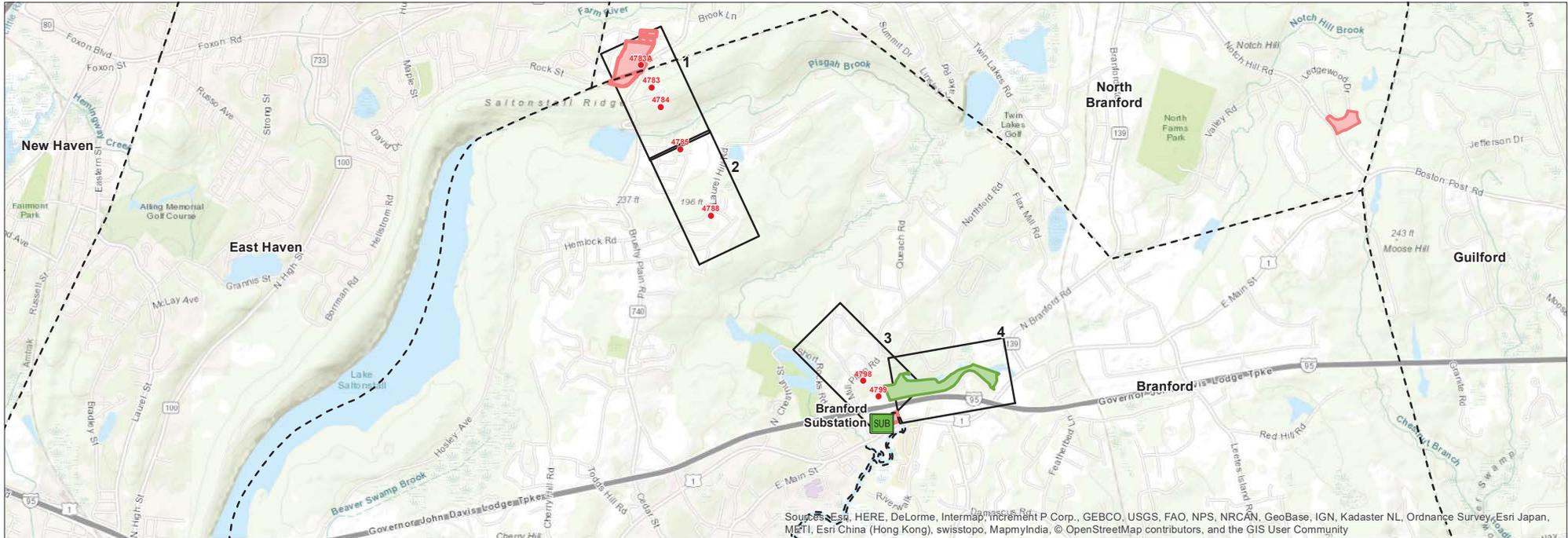
ATTACHMENT C

MAPS

1537 Line Structure Replacement Project

North Branford and Branford, CT
Sub-Petition Map Set

Date: April 06, 2018



Source: HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, Incorp P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Legend

- Proposed Structure
- Junction
- SUB Substation
- Map Sheet
- State-Owned Property
- Eversource Owned Property



PREPARED FOR:



107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

INDEX OF FIGURES

Title Sheet / Index Map
Abutter Table & Map Sheets

PREPARED BY:



3 Saddlebrook Drive
Killingly, CT 06419

Map Sheet 1
1537 Line Structure Replacement
Branford Substation to Totoket Junction
Abutters List

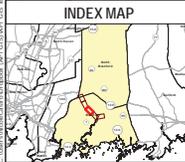
<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1300	12 TOTOKET ROAD	NORTH BRANFORD	CT	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)
1305	17 FAIRVIEW DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	JOHN J HAMILTON
1309	38-42 HILLTOP DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	MARK E FULLER & SUZANNE KILBRIDE
1313	39 HILLTOP DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	BRUNO CENICCOLA
1315	35 HILLTOP DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	DONALD B & SUZANNE K GRANT JR
1316	397 BRUSHY PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	TOWN OF BRANFORD

Map Sheet 2
1537 Line Structure Replacement
Branford Substation to Totoket Junction
Abutters List

<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1320	28 VICTOR HILL DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	LOUIS T DONOFRIO
1321	8 MOUNTAIN TOP DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	HAROLD G RODING & S EDELTRAUD
1334	83 LAUREL HILL ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	TOWN OF BRANFORD
1335	PINEVIEW DRIVE	BRANFORD	CT	PINEVIEW CONDOMINIUMS (72 UNITS)
1336	2 ROLLING HILL ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	LUIGI ANTHONY CENICCOLA

Map Sheet 3
1537 Line Structure Replacement
Branford Substation to Totoket Junction
Abutters List

<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1360	85 MILL PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	KURT M SCHWANFELDER
1361	65 MILL PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	KURT M SCHWANFELDER
1362	49 MILL PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	HAZEL WARD & MELINDA EDWARDS TIC
1363	EAST MAIN ST REAR	BRANFORD	CT	STATE OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF FISHERIES & GAME
1364	49 MILL PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	HAZEL H WARD



- Legend**
- Existing Structure
 - Existing Structure to be removed
 - Proposed Replacement Structure
 - Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)
 - 5' Contour Line
 - 1' Contour Line
 - Guard Rail
 - Railroad
 - Work Pad
 - Existing Access
 - Existing to be Improved
 - Proposed Alternate Access (where new rights will be obtained)
 - Proposed Access
 - Perennial Watercourse
 - Intermittent Watercourse
 - Ordinary High Water Mark
 - Watercourse (not delineated: CTDEEP)
 - Culvert (contingent)
 - Wetland Boundary
 - Wetland Area
 - Temporary Construction Matting
 - Natural Diversity Database Area (Dec 2017)
 - Critical Habitat (2009)
 - 100-Year Flood Zone
 - Floodway
 - Parcel Boundary
 - State-Owned Land
 - Eversource-Owned Property
 - Municipal Boundary
 - Public Water Supply Watershed
 - Map Sheet Matchline

Map Notes:
 Not for Construction. Parcel and ROW boundaries, and Structure Locations are approximate (not survey).
 Repairs to existing access roads within wetlands with permanent fills are exempt discharges under 223.49(a)(2) provided that the limit of fill does not exceed the footprint of the existing fill through wetlands areas. Maintenance repairs do not include modifications that change the character, scope, and size of the original fill design.
 Temporary impacts associated with construction exist in previously disturbed wetland and upland areas either within vernal pool (VP) depressions or management area (MA) of VP's edges are eligible under the Army Corps of Engineers' 17 General Permit for a Self-Insulating Riparian Activity.
 Base Map Source: 2016 Google Imagery

EVERSOURCE ENERGY					
Transmission Line Maintenance 1537 Line Structure Replacement Branford Substation to Totoket Junction					
Branford, CT					
Map Sheet 3 of 4					
Date: April, 2018					
NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHK	APP

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) - Project 1537 Line Structure Replacement - Branford, CT - Map Sheet 3 of 4

Map Sheet 4
1537 Line Structure Replacement
Branford Substation to Totoket Junction
Abutters List

<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1362	49 MILL PLAIN ROAD	BRANFORD	CT	HAZEL WARD & MELINDA EDWARDS TIC
1363	EAST MAIN ST REAR	BRANFORD	CT	STATE OF CONNECTICUT BD OF FISHERIES & GAME

ATTACHMENT D
ABUTTER LETTER AND
PROOF OF NOTICE

April 19, 2018

Dear Neighbor,

As part of our everyday effort to deliver reliable energy to our customers and communities, we're planning work in your area to replace electric transmission structures. Maintaining the infrastructure that supports the electric lines is one of the ways Eversource ensures the safe, secure transmission of electricity throughout the region.

You're receiving this letter and a copy of the Sub-Petition because the proposed work would be taking place within the right of way on or near your property along the 1537 Transmission Line in Branford or North Branford. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-NBB-01 this week to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for its review and Approval.

About This Electric System Improvement: What You Can Expect

First, we want you to know that this work will not interrupt electric service to your property.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace and slightly increase the height of existing wood structures. The new weathering steel structures will increase in height by 9 feet or less, depending on the location. Project work may also include site grading, mowing/vegetation removal, adding gravel to the access road, and setting timber mats. When this project is completed, crews will stabilize or restore areas that were disturbed by the work.

We are proposing to do the work within the existing rights of way on or near your property. The new structures will provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

Connecticut Siting Council Process and Timing

With this letter, Eversource is providing notice to you of its proposed work activity, as described in the enclosed Sub-Petition. If you have any comments or concerns about the project, please send them to the CSC at the following address within 30 days of the date of this letter: Melanie Bachman, Acting Executive Director; Connecticut Siting Council; Ten Franklin Square; New Britain, CT 06051. You may also email siting.council@ct.gov. If you choose to send comments to the CSC, please reference Sub-Petition No. 1293-NBB-01 in your correspondence.

Our Commitment to You

We are committed to being a good neighbor and doing our work with respect for you and your property. If you would like more information about this work, please call 1-800793-2202 or send an email to TransmissionInfo@eversource.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Rice

Christopher Rice
Project Manager
Eversource Energy

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)
) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

In accordance with Condition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") March 31, 2017 declaratory ruling on Petition No. 1293, I hereby certify that on April 19, 2018, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-NBB-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipality listed below and 15 abutters. The notice of the proposed maintenance activities states that comments or concerns regarding the maintenance activities described in the Sub-Petition should be submitted to the Council within 30 days of the date of such notice.

Municipal Officials:

Town of Branford
James B. Cosgrove, First Selectman
Branford Town Hall
1019 Main Street
Branford, CT 06405

Town of North Branford
Michael T. Paulhus, Town Manager
North Branford Town Hall
909 Foxon Road
North Branford, CT 06471



James L. Smith
Project Siting Specialist

On this the 19 day of April, 2018, before me, the undersigned representative, personally appeared, James L. Smith, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Notary Public
My Commission expires:

