



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## POWER FACILITY EVALUATION COUNCIL

STATE OFFICE BUILDING HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

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Petition No. 36

June 23, 1981

Ms. Bates and Mr. Wood met Dorian Hill of NUSCO at the Conrail Cos Cob Generating Station for a final review of Petition No. 36. The project, described in NU's letter to the Council of April 1, 1977, entailed reconstructing and reconductoring approximately 2,600 feet of a CL&P Stamford to Cos Cob transmission line in order to support growing loads in the area. Additionally, the project was said to enhance the reuse potential of the site if and when the power plant was removed.

The project is completed as described in the original petition with the following exception: structure #4, an existing lattice steel tower was not removed, but remains as an additional angle structure performing the function planned for structure #9, which consequently was not erected. This change was approved by the Council, as requested by NU's letter of December 21, 1979. Structures #4 and #8 are considered temporary until underground circuits are constructed from Cos Cob Substation westward to a proposed new substation. This work has been postponed from the 1980 completion date planned at the time of the petition.

The impact of this construction has been negligible as the site is heavily developed with electrical and rail facilities, many of which are undergoing reconstruction, repair, or dismantling. Any esthetic improvement is marginal at best, although the potential for enhanced reuse remains. The new tower site at the river's west bank did not require any land disturbance or filling of significance as the site is a former coal storage area. Erosion directly into the river from the remnant coal piles is evident at this spot, but apparently is not related to the NU construction project. Reconstruction of the east bank tower required no new filling or land disturbance as the existing tower was modified (shortened) in place.

The project appears not to have had any substantial adverse environmental effect incremental to the esthetic, land, air, and water pollution already resulting from the facilities extant at this site.

The river crossing structures have been lowered, but any overall esthetic improvement has been minimized by existing facilities and by the retention of the steel lattice structure (#4) at the south end of the site. According to Mr. Hill, this structure may still be removed in the future if the underground circuits are installed.

The need for the project was apparently not as imminent as originally considered, but according to Mr. Hill this improvement project has been timely for the company.

Final approval is recommended, although the Council should consider specifying that removal of the temporary structures, when and if possible, is desirable and would require no further Council consideration.

Christopher S. Wood  
Executive Director