Petition No. 1031

United Illuminating

North Haven, Connecticut

Staff Report

July 19, 2012

On June 25, 2012, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from The United Illuminating Company (UI) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for a Fence Replacement Project at its North Haven Substation. Council member Dr. Bell and Siting Analyst David Martin visited the site on July 18, 2012 to review the proposal. Bo Katreczko and Yan Lachowicz represented UI at the field review.

UI’s North Haven Substation is located at 485 Washington Avenue (Route 5) in North Haven. The existing chain link fence around the substation is 14 feet high with three strands of barbed wire at the top. The fence is rusting and leaning in toward the substation in several locations. UI proposes to replace the entire fence to bring it into compliance with existing North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and its own company standards. The replacement fence would be eight feet high with barbed wire at the top. The new fence would have a one-inch mesh—the existing fence has a two-inch mesh—to discourage climbing. As part of the fence replacement project, UI will also install additional ground cable inside the substation to upgrade its existing grounding system and bring it into compliance with NERC standards.

The North Haven Substation is surrounded by commercial and industrial uses. It is bounded on the west by an Amtrak rail line.

The proposed fence replacement project is not expected to have any substantial adverse environmental impacts.