

Petition No. 1098
United Illuminating
North Haven, Connecticut
Staff Report
May 15, 2014

On March 27, 2014, 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 new control house at the Sackett Substation located at 453 State Street in North Haven. Council member Philip Ashton and Siting Analyst Robert Mercier visited the site on April 16, 2014 to review the proposal. UI representatives Sean Crosby, Jim Yeske, and Bohdan Katreczko attended the field review. The Town of North Haven was sent a copy of the petition on March 27, 2014. The Town did not attend the field review or comment on the proposal.

UI's Sackett Substation is located in a commercial/industrial area on State Street. The substation is located on the east side of State Street and abuts a railway, city property and commercial properties. The substation, built in 1957, consists of a switchyard, two transformers, and a cinderblock control house. UI seeks to install a second control house at the substation for new transmission related protection and control systems. UI would replace the distribution related equipment within the existing control house.

The new control house would consist of a 15-foot by 96-foot prefabricated metal enclosure that would be installed adjacent to the south side of the existing control house. Two new bus ducts would be installed, one over the roof of the existing control building, and one around the east side of the existing control building. Two new underground distribution feeders from the new enclosure would connect to the existing distribution system. Site improvements also include the replacement and realignment of an existing chain link fence.

The site is within a 500-year flood zone and UI proposes to install the floor of the new enclosure above the flood line. The proposed project would have no effect on areas outside of the substation property. Two pine trees would be removed to accommodate the new fence line. The project is not expected to have any substantial adverse environmental impact. Soils excavated on-site would be properly characterized before removal and disposal.

Staff recommends approval with the condition that UI submit a Development and Management Plan depicting site fencing and landscaping details.

