



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 184
Northeast Utilities
Southington, Connecticut
June 19, 1987

On May 13, 1987, Owen L. Clark and Fred J. Doocy of the Siting Council and Robert K. Erling of the Council staff met Lucian Gehami and Thomas Hoffmann of Northeast Utilities (NU) for a field review of the Canal Street Substation in Southington. NU is petitioning the Council for a determination that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for proposed modifications to an existing 115-kV transmission line and additions to this substation.

The proposed substation work consists of the addition of a 115-kV transformer and two 23-kV feeder positions. The proposed transmission line modification consists of a new loop into the substation from an existing 115-kV line transmission which is adjacent to the substation but not connected to it at the present time. This would require the installation of two new, steel pole, H-frame structures which are 30 to 40 feet in height and one new double circuit, three-pole wood structure, 65 to 75 feet in height. The three new structures would be within the existing transmission line right-of-way, and there would be no intermediate structures between the new structures and the substation.

According to NU, the proposed work is required to meet projected load requirements in the area. As a result of this work, the fenceline of the substation would be extended by about 160 feet, and a number of trees removed. Mr. Gehami stated that NU would leave a buffer of trees between the new fenceline boundary and the nearest portion of the I-84 entrance ramp. If necessary, the company would be willing to plant additional trees for screening.

None of the proposed work or access roads would cross areas designated as inland wetlands. The area around the substation and adjacent right-of-way is zoned for industrial use. All of the work would take place in the right-of-way or on land owned by NU.

NU plans to plant hemlocks for screening along the Canal Street side of the substation. These would help reduce any increase in noise levels due to the addition of the transformer. The sound level at the property line on Canal Street would be less than 42 dbA. Noise levels of 50 dbA or below are generally described as "quiet."

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The oil to be used in the transformer, circuit breaker, and reclosers would have a PCB concentration of less than 50 ppm, and would thus be classified as non-PCB, as designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No television or radio interference is expected to occur from this project.

Construction is expected to begin in September 1987. A completion date of August 1988 is anticipated.

Robert K. Erling
Siting Analyst

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