



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

136 Main Street, Suite 401  
New Britain, Connecticut 06051  
Phone: 827-7682

Petition No. 203  
Middletown Station  
Staff Report  
March 22, 1988

Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) is requesting a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction of an aboveground, 3.2 million gallon, two-cell concrete tank, and replacement by that tank of an existing 3.2 million gallon surface impoundment known as Equalization Basin-2 (EB-2) at CL&P's Middletown Substation, Middletown, Connecticut.

Dr. William H. Smith and Dr. James G. Horsfall, members of the Siting Council and Thomas E. Fanning, Jr., staff of the Siting Council, met with Northeast Utilities (NU) representatives Thomas Arcari, Chris Bailey, Cindy Flynn, and Jack Ranney on the site of the proposed project on March 15, 1988.

The project consists of the construction of a 15-foot high, 330-foot long, and 135-foot to 51-foot tapered width, two-cell concrete tank on the western side of the developed area of the plant. It would be located between existing wastewater cooling towers and a railroad spur track, on a level and cleared parcel of land. The tank would be part of the plant's wastewater treatment facility. Wastewater is pumped from the generator boilers during maintenance operations and is detoxified and neutralized through mineral extraction and neutralization processes. This wastewater is currently treated and held in the 3.2 million gallon EB-2. Cleansed water is pumped through a monitoring system and out to the Connecticut River. The new tank is needed because the existing single-lined surface impoundment has to be replaced or double-lined, as mandated by the 1984 Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The Substation is located on the West bank of the Connecticut River south of Middletown, Connecticut. The facility is partially shielded on the west by various trees and shrubs growing along River Road and on the Connecticut River bank to the east. The new tank would be shielded on the west by the existing approximately 450-foot long by 120-foot high cooling towers. The tank would be lower in height than other existing structures in the station.

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The proposed tank would be located approximately 200 feet west of the river and 300 feet north of the existing impoundment. The area is basically flat and consists of well-drained soil, sloping slightly to the south. The area lies above the 100-year flood elevation and is not subject to either the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act or the Tidal Wetlands Act.

Preliminary test borings were performed at the proposed tank location. The tank would rest on ten-inch square, pre-cast pre-stressed concrete pilings driven to bedrock, approximately 25 feet to 40 feet deep. A gravel base would be installed prior to pile installation. Excavated materials not used for backfilling would be placed in an approved landfill area. Ties into the existing underground piping system would connect the tank to the wastewater flow system.

The Department of Environmental Protection has been informed of the proposed Middletown Station modifications.

CL&P has applied for location approval from the Middletown Planning and Zoning Commission.

CL&P states that the proposed project does not constitute a modification as defined in CGS Sec. 16-50i(d) and CGS Sec. 16-50k(a) because the 3.2 million gallon tank substitution for a similar-sized surface impoundment would not constitute a significant modification or alteration in the general physical characteristics of the Middletown Station. The facility's primary business is the generation of electricity and not disposal, treatment, or recovery of hazardous waste.

The review team recommends that CL&P use haybales or other erosion control devices to minimize erosion from water runoff during construction. The review team also requests CL&P submit to the Council, when available, copies of preliminary engineering approvals from the DEP, and location approval from the Middletown Planning and Zoning Commission.

Construction would be according to the submitted plans and would commence in May, 1988 and be completed by November, 1988.

Thomas E. Fanning, Jr.  
Siting Analyst

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