



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 296
Modifications to 115 kV Transmission Line between
Berlin and Rocky Hill Substations
Staff Report
December 2, 1992

On November 24, 1992, Connecticut Siting Council (Council) Chairman Mortimer A. Gelston and Stephen M. Howard of the Council staff met with John Case and Gordon Harmon of the Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) at the Rocky Hill Substation in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, to review this petition.

CL&P is proposing to place new fiber-optic shield wire on existing 115 kV transmission line structures between the Berlin and Rocky Hill Substations. For four structures immediately east of the Berlin Substation, there is a position for only one overhead shield wire, therefore the new fiber-optic shield wire would replace the existing shield wire. Along the remainder of the structures, the new fiber-optic shield wire would occupy the open position on the south side of the structures.

The proposed replacement of the 3.5 miles of fiber-optic shield wire is necessary to expand the Northeast Utilities Service Company's (NUSCO) communication network to meet requirements for the Nuclear Emergency Operations Facility in Berlin. Communications via the fiber-optic lines would also be used by NUSCO's Customer Inquiry Center and Credit and Collection Department. NUSCO's fiber-optic shield wire would have 16 fibers with a transmission capacity of 622 megabytes per second per fiber. Associated electronic equipment would be placed in existing substation buildings. The estimated cost of the proposed project, including labor and materials would be approximately \$250,000. The proposed project is scheduled to begin in January 1993 and would be completed in approximately eight weeks.

CL&P contends that pursuant to Connecticut General Statute section 16-50k(a), their proposed modifications to an existing facility would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect; therefore, no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need would be necessary. Council staff believes that the proposed modifications would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect.

Stephen M. Howard
Siting Analyst

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