

Petition No. 1061
The Connecticut Light and Power Company
Staff Report
May 30, 2013

On April 19, 2013, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition (Petition) from The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required to replace an existing electric transmission line structure located near the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Station Place in Stamford.

This Petition was field reviewed by Council member Dr. Barbara Bell and Michael Perrone of the Council staff on May 10, 2013. The following individuals also attended the field review: Christopher Soderman, P.E., Senior Engineer – Transmission Line Engineering, CL&P; John Morissette, Manager – Transmission Siting; Branden Reid, Transmission Line Management, CL&P; and William Buckley Jr., PE., Engineering and Project Management, Litchfield Consulting & Management Services, LLC.

Specifically, CL&P seeks to remove one existing double-circuit steel monopole structure (#1234) on the circuit numbers 1440/1750 115-kV transmission line. The proposed removal is to allow HP Gateway Land I, LLC to develop the property with a new parking garage. The structure would be replaced with two single-circuit 115-kV monopole structures approximately 262 feet to the northeast.

The new structure location results in an angle with uneven conductor tensions on both circuits. Thus, CL&P's engineers have determined that two separate single-circuit structures would be better than an uneven loading on one structure with two circuits. Therefore, two independent single-circuit monopole structures would be used instead of one new double-circuit structure.

The existing structure to be removed is approximately 90 feet tall. The two proposed structures would be approximately 115 feet tall. This increase in height is necessary to accommodate the existing conductor height. The existing conductors increase in height and attach to an existing 150-foot structure to the east.

The project would not compromise CL&P's existing right-of-way. HP Gateway Land I, LLC would be responsible for the cost of CL&P's petition and specified portions of the costs associated with the project itself.

The site and surrounding area is commercial in nature. No trees would be removed. No wetlands would be impacted. The proposed structure removal and replacement is not located within the 100-year flood plain. The Natural Diversity Database did not identify any state-listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species in the vicinity of the project. The nearest home is located on Washington Boulevard, nearly 600 feet to the south of the project. The visual impact is not expected to be significant given that it is a commercial area, and the existing structure to the east is significantly taller at 150 feet. If approved, CL&P's project would begin during June 2013 and would be completed by Spring 2014.



The existing structure 90-foot #1234 to be removed and replaced is the closest structure in this top photo.



The existing 150-foot structure to the east is shown above.



The proposed 115-foot structures locations are marked with stakes in the ground.



The site is currently being developed to include a parking garage. To the north are the railroad tracks.