



Connecticut Siting Council Denies Eversource Energy's Proposed \$140 Million Greenwich Project

Wednesday, July 06, 2016

In a [Decision and Order](#) dated May 12, 2016 in [Docket No. 461](#), the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) denied without prejudice Eversource Energy's (Eversource) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115-kilovolt (kV) bulk substation located at 290 Railroad Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut, and two 115-kV underground transmission circuits extending approximately 2.3 miles between the proposed substation and the existing Cos Cob Substation in Greenwich, and related substation improvements (Project). The Council found that Eversource had not adequately demonstrated the public need for the Project. The Council further cited possible environmental and public safety concerns with the Project and its construction. For instance, the Council was troubled with the environmental aspects, as well as the public disturbances, of any route going through Bruce Park in Greenwich.

While the Council recognized that there is a need to improve the electric network in Greenwich, it found that Eversource did not prove that the Project is necessary for the reliability of the power supply of Connecticut. Moreover, the Council found that the estimated cost of almost all of the proposed routes were too high for Connecticut ratepayers to bear for a localized issue. The estimated cost of Eversource's Preferred Route was \$140 million. Although the Council denied Eversource's application, it implored both Eversource and Greenwich to work together to develop a reasonable solution that is acceptable to both parties as well as cost effective for Connecticut ratepayers.

The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) was an active Party to this docket. OCC's [Brief](#), filed on April 11, 2016, advocated that the Council should reject Eversource's application, given that it had not proven a public need for the \$140 million Project, among other things.



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