



Correne Auer, PE
United Illuminating
Manager Environmental Programs/Projects

August 30, 2023

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket No. 508- The United Illuminating Milvon to West River Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project

Dear Ms. Bachman:

As a mitigation effort to offset adverse visual impacts to resources resulting from the above-mentioned Project, The United Illuminating Company (UI) will complete historical research and fieldwork associated with the Milford Cemetery. UI coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to establish appropriate mitigation efforts, and in a letter dated January 17, 2023, SHPO states, *"The proposed mitigation, which includes historical research and fieldwork to document and record gravemarkers within the Milford Cemetery and make said research available to the public, would constitute adequate mitigation, and would resolve the adverse, indirect impact."* The January 17, 2023 SHPO correspondence is attached to this letter for reference.

On August 17, 2023, UI's consultant, Heritage Consultants, coordinated with SHPO, receiving the agency's concurrence that it was appropriate to commence the proposed mitigation efforts.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. I can be reached at (860) 202-8762 or at c.auer@uinet.com.

Best,

Correne Auer

Correne Auer, PE
Manager Environmental Programs/Projects

Attachment:
Proposed Mitigation, Visual Impacts Letter, dated January 17, 2023



January 17, 2023

Mr. David R. George
Heritage Consultants
PO Box 310249
Newington, CT 06131

Subject: Proposed Mitigation, Visual Impacts
Milvon-West River Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project
Milford, Orange, West Haven, New Haven, Connecticut
ENV-22-0382

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the alternative mitigation proposal by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage), dated September 22, 2022, following a meeting between this Office, United Illuminating, and the City of Milford on July 15, 2022 to discuss alternative mitigation for the anticipated adverse impact to historic properties, as a result of the above mentioned action. As you are aware, the proposed project includes the rebuilding of two single-circuit 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead lines along the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) corridor between the Milvon and West River substations, within the municipalities of Milford, Orange, West Haven, and New Haven, specifically moving utility lines from existing catenary structures, to new, freestanding structures. The proposed activities are under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and are subject to review by this office pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA).

As previously stated, the proposed action will visually adversely impact resources within the area of potential affect, an indirect effect. The proposed mitigation, which includes historical research and fieldwork to document and record gravemarkers within the Milford Cemetery and make said research available to the public, would constitute adequate mitigation, and would resolve the adverse, indirect impact. SHPO requests that this mitigation be a requirement of project approval, and be codified in an agreement document.

SHPO appreciates the cooperation of all interested parties in the professional management of Connecticut's cultural resources. These comments are provided in accordance with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act. For additional information, please contact Marena Wisniewski, Environmental Reviewer, at (860) 500-2357 or marena.wisniewski@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Kinney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan Kinney
State Historic Preservation Officer

State Historic Preservation Office

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5 | Hartford, CT 06103 | P: 860.500.2300 | ct.gov/historic-preservation

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