



Fairfield-Congress 115kV T-Line
Rebuild Program
11/29/2022

Municipal Consultation Filing – Westport, CT

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Project Need and Scope
3. Key Milestones and Schedule
4. CSC Process
5. Discussion and Questions

Project Scope

Overview:

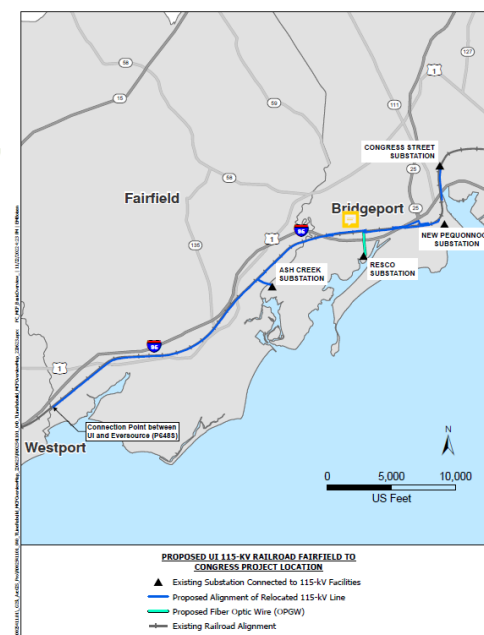
- Rebuild of UI's existing 10.11 circuit mile 115kV transmission lines onto new single and double circuit tower monopoles along the CTDOT railroad corridor
- ~4.05 circuit miles in the Town of Fairfield; ~6.06 circuit miles in the City of Bridgeport

Scope Includes:

- Removal of existing bonnets, hardware and conductor along with OPGW/shield wire from CTDOT catenary structures.
- Installation of new monopoles, hardware, conductor and OPGW
- Staking, vegetation clearing, install of erosion and sediment controls, access road and work pad construction
- Site restoration

Project Website:

- UIRailroadTLineUpgrades.com
- Outreach Hotline 888-848-3697



Town	Length of Route (linear miles)	Vegetation Clearing (acres)	Current Number of Existing Structures/Catenaries	Proposed Number of New Structures	Estimated Resource Area Impacts (acres)
Westport	0	0	0	0	0

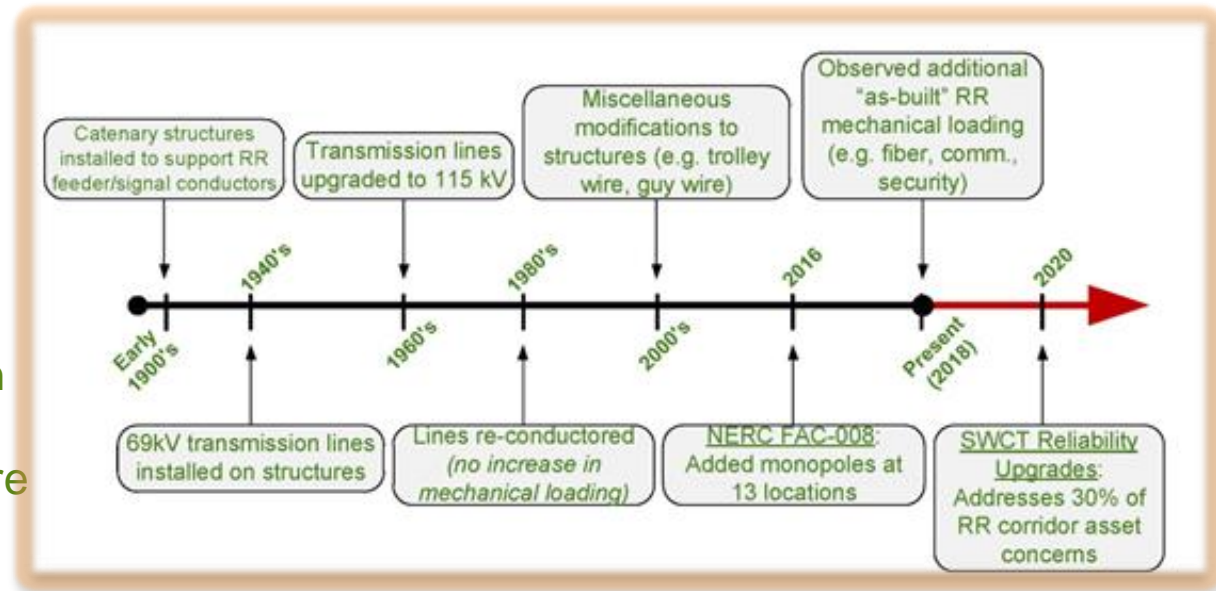
Project Scope

Project Start- Demarcation Point (UI Territory Start Point) at Sasco Creek Along Metro-North Railroad Corridor



Project Need

- UI performed a comprehensive asset condition assessment
- Existing structures have age deterioration and reliability issues with increasing loads
- Failure of the existing transmission line support structures may result in catastrophic failure of both 115kV circuits, loss of power to one or more of the five substations in this segment, and threaten safe operation of the Northeast Railroad Corridor.



Resiliency

“material positive impact on energy system reliability and resiliency”

CTDEEP comment letter on Milvon to West River Project



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April 21, 2022

Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

RE: 115-kV Transmission Line Rebuild
United Illuminating
Milford, Orange, West Haven and New Haven
Docket No. 508

Dear Members of the Connecticut Siting Council:

Staff of this department have reviewed the above-referenced application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need and have visited a portion of the project corridor. Based on these efforts, the following comments are offered to the Council for your consideration in this proceeding.

United Illuminating proposes to rebuild the subject 9.5-mile portions of two 115-kV transmission lines by removing the lines from their current location above the Metro-North Railroad's New Haven Line where they are supported on bonnets above the railroad's catenary structures to a new location along the northern side of the railroad corridor where the lines would be supported on 158 new monopole structures. The affected portion of the two transmission lines runs from the Milvon Substation in Milford to the West River Substation approximately one-tenth of a mile east of the West River in New Haven. The intent of the project is to improve the reliability and resiliency of the transmission system by removing the lines off of the 100+ year old catenary support structures to the more substantial monopoles.

Department staff note that modern monopoles will likely have a material positive impact on energy system reliability and resiliency over the century-old catenary structures. Of course, it would be important to ensure that United Illuminating has coordinated with staff at Metro-North to confirm that the new 115-kV lines are located a sufficient distance from the railroad tracks that there is no AC system electromagnetic interference with railroad signals or operation. Finally, ISO-NE, which manages the regional electric grid, has done a study which suggests that 115-kV transmission lines may need upgrading in the next twenty years. UI should be encouraged to ensure that their new lines are sufficient to meet the anticipated future needs.

Description of the Project Corridor

The proposed rebuilt transmission line will be located almost exclusively on the north side of the rail corridor where 145 of the 158 new structures will be erected. Thirteen monopoles will be added to the south side of the rail corridor and will support only a single circuit. As part of the review of the application, the project corridor was visited on April 12, beginning at Milvon

Project Schedule

Estimated Key Milestones:

	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
Due Diligence (Survey, GeoTech, Environmental)	Ongoing	On Target
CSC-Municipal Consultation Filing	Oct 20, 2022	On Target
70% Design Stage	Q1 2023	On Target
CSC Application	Q1 2023	On Target
Construction Start Date	Q1 2025	On Target
In-Service Date	Q2 2028	On Target

CSC Pre-Application Process

Municipal Consultation

- Background information on the proposed project and technical reports concerning the public need, the site selection process and the environmental effects of the proposed project will be provided to the Mayor or Selectperson of the Municipality in the Project area, or within 2500 feet of the project area. This filing is referred to as the Municipal Consultation Filing or MCF.
- The Town/City may conduct public hearings and meetings as necessary for it to advise UI of its recommendations concerning the proposed project.
- After the MCF has been provided to the Town/ City, UI will hold a virtual open house for customers to learn more about the project and how it might impact them.
- Within 60 days of receipt of the MCF, The Town/City is to give any recommendations/ comments it may have about the project to UI.

CSC Application Process

Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need

- The application to the Siting Council will contain information on topics such as the project's technical specifications, explanation of why the proposed project is needed, and all applicable environmental assessments, among others.
- At the time the application is filed with the Siting Council, copies will also be provided to the Mayor or Selectperson of the Municipality and various municipal agencies (e.g., zoning and planning commission). Copies will also be sent to various state agencies.
- After the project application is filed, the Siting Council will review the application and issue interrogatories and hold public hearings on the application. In addition to evidentiary hearings, the CSC will hold at least one public hearing during which the public and municipal officials will be provided time to make statements about the project.

CSC Application Process, cont.

- The Council must render a decision on the project no later than 12 months from receipt of the application.
- As part of the application, UI will pay a fee to be deposited in a Municipal Participation Account to defray expenses incurred by each municipality that participates in the application proceeding as a party.

For more information on the Siting Council visit @ <https://portal.ct.gov/CSC>

Discussion and Questions
