



**UI Lines Project**

January 11, 2023

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**Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line  
115-kV Rebuild Project:  
Town of Fairfield Public Informational Meeting**

# AGENDA

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1. Introductions
2. UI in the Community
3. UI Comprehensive Railroad Transmission Line Rebuild Program
4. Project Need and Scope
5. Environmental Sensitivities
6. Project Schedule
7. Connecticut Siting Council Process
8. Format for this meeting: Table Stations
9. Thank you

# INTRODUCTIONS

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## UI Team: Table- Style Public Info Meeting

- Shawn Crosbie, Unit Manager of UI T-Line Projects
- Hallie Rimkunas, Project Manager
- Matt Scully, Construction Manager
- MeeNa Sazanowicz, Principal Transmission Engineer
- Matt Parkhurst, Westwood Lead Engineer
- Leslie Downey, Public Outreach
- Correne Auer, Environmental Permitting & Compliance
- Florencia Bugatti, Environmental Permitting & Compliance
- Annette Potasz, Land Management
- Jason Vincent, Land Management
- Ani Chaghatzbanian, UI Fairfield Account Manager
- Roy Young, UI Key Account Manager



# UI IN THE COMMUNITY

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- UI has served the region since 1899, with territory that includes 17 municipalities in southern Fairfield and New Haven counties, including Fairfield and Bridgeport
- 342,194 UI customers across 17 municipalities
- 24,632 Fairfield customers
- Supporting our local communities:
  - Town of Fairfield
  - Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County
  - United Way of Coastal Fairfield County
  - Junior Achievement of Fairfield County
  - Puerto Rican Parade of Fairfield County
  - Women's Business Development Council
  - The Workplace— Mid Fairfield County Dress for Success



# UI COMPREHENSIVE RAILROAD TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROGRAM

## Rebuild 115kV Transmission Lines from New Haven to Fairfield, CT

- The CT DOT-owned railroad corridor is the 2nd busiest commuter rail corridor in the US
- UI 115-kV lines within the railroad corridor extend approximately 25 miles from the Fairfield-Westport border to the West River Substation in New Haven
- The railroad catenary structures date to 1912-1914 and UI's infrastructure on top of the catenary structures was installed between the 1940s and early 1990s.
- Upgrades allow for thermal capacity upgrades and to align with current NERC clearance standards to mitigate outages
- Building resiliency now and for the future

## Completed Projects:

- ✓ Milvon to Devon-Tie, Milford (2016)
- ✓ FAC-008 NERC Alert, Stratford, Milford, West Haven (2016)
- ✓ Housatonic River Crossing, Stratford (2018)
- ✓ Baird to Congress, Stratford & Bridgeport (2018)
- ✓ HRX to Baird, Stratford (2021)

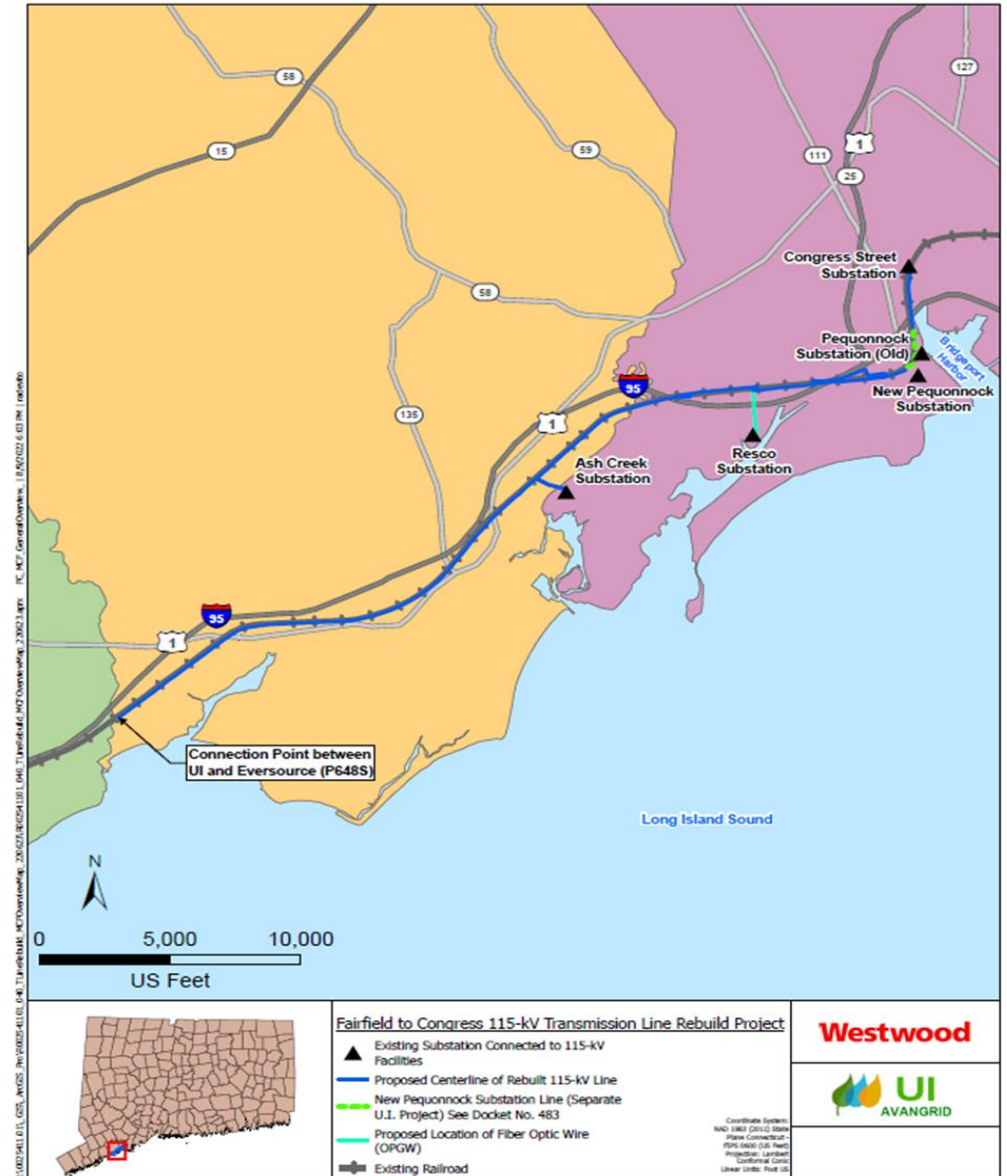


<http://www.uirailroadtlineupgrades.com>

Outreach Hotline 888-848-3697

# 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 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.
- Increase the reliability and resiliency of the energy grid



# PROJECT SCOPE

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## Overview:

- Improve energy resiliency of the energy grid by building new 115kV transmission lines to be installed on new single and double circuit tower monopoles along the CTDOT railroad corridor
- Upgrade 7.3 linear miles of 115kV transmission lines along or near the CT DOT railroad right-of-way and 0.23 mile along the UI ROW to Ash Creek Substation
- 4.7 miles in the Town of Fairfield; 2.6 miles City of Bridgeport
- Anticipated work hours during construction will be primarily from 7 am to 7pm. However, UI does anticipate that certain activities requiring work scope to be performed 24 hours a day and nighttime construction shifts for certain work on Metro-North Railroad

## Scope Includes:

- Vegetation Clearing and Erosion and Sediment Controls
- Development of Access Road and Work Pads
- Drilling of Foundations
- Installation of Monopoles
- Hanging Hardware and Conductor
- Removal of Old Infrastructure (Bonnets)
- Restoration

# Environmental Sensitivities

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- Inland and Tidal Watercourses
- Inland and Tidal Wetlands
- Vernal Pools
- Vegetation Clearing
- Floodplains
- Protected Species





# PROJECT SCHEDULE

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Estimated Key Milestones:

	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
CSC Application Submission	Q1 2023
Construction Start Date	Q1 2025
In-Service Date	Q2 2028
Restoration	Q4 2029

# CSC APPLICATION PROCESS

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**Connecticut Siting Council (CSC)** – State agency founded in 1972 with responsibility for balancing the need for adequate and reliable public utility services at the lowest reasonable cost to consumers with the need to protect the environment and ecology of the state along with assessing scenic, historic, and recreational values. Regulatory oversight of telecom, CATV, generation, transmission and substation projects. More information can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/CSC>

## **Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF)**

- The goal of the MCF process is to allow for municipal input that can be considered by UI in preparation of the CSC application.
- Applicant can meet with municipality if requested
- The Fairfield-Congress Project submitted the MCF to the Town of Fairfield; Town of Westport and City of Bridgeport on October 20, 2022

## **CSC Application:**

- The CSC Application will reflect the results of UI's detailed engineering and environmental analyses, factoring in input from the municipalities and will include discussions concerning the impact of the project on the natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety, scenic, historic and recreational values, air and water purity and wildlife and will include supporting technical reports, and detailed mapping.
- Public Information and Notice: The applicant will (1) provide notice to customers around facilities, (2) can conduct a public information or open house and (3) submit application to the CSC along with affected community and environmental groups, trail organizations, historic preservation groups, water companies, etc.
- Application Proceedings: once filed, the CSC will review, issue interrogatories to the applicant and a hearing will take place providing testimony of company representatives and subject matter experts and a public comment session will be held
- UI anticipates filing its application in March of 2023

# Thank you!

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1. Join Us @ Our Project Table Stations to Learn More!

1. Energy Land Management/ Real Estate

2. Environmental

3. Engineering

4. General (Outreach, Construction)



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Outreach, 180 Marsh Hill Road, Orange, CT 06477

Please Join Us for a Public  
Informational Meeting



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# Fairfield to Congress Street Substation 115kV Railroad Transmission Line Rebuild Project

**WHO:** The United Illuminating Company

**WHERE:** Margaret Morton Government Center, 999 Broad Street, Bridgeport, 1st floor rooms A & B

**WHEN:** January 31, 2023, 6:30-8:00 p.m. (Inclement weather date – February 2)

The United Illuminating Company (UI) is proposing to remove UI's existing 115-kV lines and infrastructure from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) railroad catenary structures that span the Metro North (MNR) tracks in both Fairfield and Bridgeport. Along approximately 7.3 miles of the MNR tracks, the 115-kV lines will be removed from about 100 catenary structures and rebuilt on single or double circuit monopoles, which will be located within or near the CT DOT-owned railroad corridor. In Fairfield, the new monopoles will be located south of the MNR tracks; in Bridgeport, the new monopoles will be positioned north or south of the tracks, depending on location relative to the existing built environment or alignment into UI facilities. The Project will also provide an upgrade to connections at four UI substations, all located in Bridgeport. These transmission line upgrades will help maintain system reliability, promote climate resiliency, preserve safety within and adjacent to the transmission lines and provide technological enhancements to legacy system equipment.

The Public Informational Meeting will be held on January 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margaret Morton Government Center, 999 Broad Street, Bridgeport, 1st floor conference rooms A & B. The Public and all interested parties are invited to attend to ask questions or comment on the proposed Project. Please join us to learn more about the Project.

For more information about the Project, you can also visit the Project website: [UIRailroadTLineUpgrades.com](http://UIRailroadTLineUpgrades.com)

23-5123

*Paid for by UI Customers*

**YOU'RE INVITED, PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING**