

Via Federal Express and Electronic Mail (siting.council@ct.gov)

February 7, 2024

Melanie Bachman,
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket No. 516 - The United Illuminating Company (UI) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project that consists of the relocation and rebuild of its existing 115- kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines from the railroad catenary structures to new steel monopole structures and related modifications along approximately 7.3 miles of the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Metro-North Railroad corridor between Structure B648S located east of Sasco Creek in Fairfield and UI's Congress Street Substation in Bridgeport, and the rebuild of two existing 115-kV transmission lines along 0.23 mile of existing UI right-of-way to facilitate interconnection of the rebuilt 115-kV electric transmission lines at UI's existing Ash Creek, Resco, Pequonnock and Congress Street Substations traversing the municipalities of Bridgeport and Fairfield, Connecticut.

Comments on Council's Draft Findings of Fact

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On behalf of Fairfield Station Lofts, LLC (FSL), we thank the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) and its staff for all the time and effort put into this proceeding and its draft Findings of Fact. FSL supports the Council's straw poll vote to approve an alternative version of the Project that does not involve construction of the transmission line on the south side of the Metro-North Railroad right of way.

Robinson+Cole

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While it is FSL's understanding that such alternative would not impact FSL's property or require UI to obtain a permanent easement over any portion of FSL's property, FSL requests that the following Finding of Fact be added:

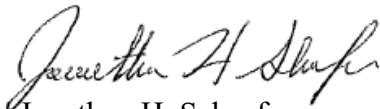
395. UI has agreed to negotiate in good faith with FSL to agree upon a permanent easement, if necessary, with terms and conditions that are appropriate and reasonable with consideration of the existing conditions and structures on the FSL property. (Tr. 6, p. 77).

In addition, should the Council approve a version of the Project that would require or involve UI obtaining a permanent easement over any portion of FSL's property, then FSL requests that the Council include the following as a condition of approval:

1. Prior to construction activities, negotiate in good faith with FSL to finalize a permanent easement with terms and conditions that are appropriate and reasonable, with special consideration of the existing conditions and structures on the FSL Property.
2. Construction of the Project as approved will not result in any direct impacts to the FSL Property or the FSL Apartments, including any obstruction of emergency vehicles responding to the FSL Property or the regular vehicular and foot traffic in and out of the FSL Property.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Jonathan H. Schaefer

Enclosed (15 copies)

Copy to (via email): Service List 11/28/23