



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

Web Site: [portal.ct.gov/csc](http://portal.ct.gov/csc)

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

February 28, 2023

Timothy J. Bishop  
Director  
Fairfield Conservation Department  
Sullivan Independence Hall  
725 Old Post Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
[tbishop@fairfieldct.org](mailto:tbishop@fairfieldct.org)

RE: The United Illuminating Company – Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line  
115-kV Project

Dear Timothy Bishop:

Thank you for your correspondence dated February 21, 2023.

Although the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) has not received an application for a Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line Project, we will retain and file your written statement under the appropriate docket number, if an application is submitted to the Council.

In reaching a final decision on an application, the Council must hold a public hearing and carefully consider all of the facts contained in the evidentiary record. The evidentiary record is developed by the Council, the applicant, parties and intervenors in the proceeding, and members of the public who speak at the public hearing or submit written statements to the Council.

Please note that if the Council receives an application for this facility, you can view all of the documents related to the application on our website at [portal.ct.gov/csc](http://portal.ct.gov/csc) under the “Pending Matters” link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and agenda.

Should you have any questions regarding Council procedure, please feel free to contact me at 860-827-2951.

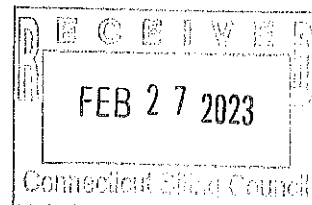
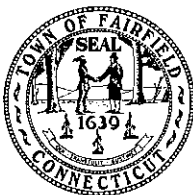
Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director/Staff Attorney

c: Council Members

MAB/laf



## Town of Fairfield

Timothy J. Bishop MS, CEP  
Director

Fairfield, Connecticut 06824  
Conservation Commission  
The Inland Wetlands Agency

Sullivan Independence Hall  
725 Old Post Road  
(203) 256-3071  
FAX (203) 256-3123

Via USPS Mail  
February 21, 2023

Ms. Melanie Bachman  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: United Illuminating - Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Project

Dear Ms. Bachman,

The Fairfield Conservation Department (the "Department") acting on behalf of the Fairfield Conservation Commission (the "Commission"), including the Inland Wetland Agency (the "Agency") is submitting this written request as it relates to the proposed project currently before the Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") for United Illuminating's ("UI") Fairfield to Congress Railroad Transmission Line 115Kv project through Fairfield.

The Town and this Department have had correspondence and multiple meetings with UI beginning in the summer of 2022, and in my opinion, UI has been and continues to be inclusive, transparent and accommodating during their planning process and design phases. The information received to date, indicates that at two privately-owned locations, construction activities will have both temporary and permanent adverse impacts on inland wetlands and Conservation Easements. Those locations are indicated on "Westwood" Sheet 4 (revised 09/28/22) and more specifically related to proposed monopole locations P708S, P713WS, P714ES, P714ES-1 and P713WS-1.

The proposed disturbances include temporary and permanent adverse impacts, more specifically ground disturbances to wetland soils and/or trimming or removal of vegetation during the access/installation of the new monopoles. At both locations, the Agency regulates the property and Conservation Easements exist that prohibit such disturbances for the purposes of protecting wetland habitat and their buffers. The proposed construction activities not only encroach on these Easements, they disturb or remove the existing vegetation. It should be noted, that in order to perform such activities on any public or private lands under a Conservation Easement, formal approval by the Town of Fairfield Conservation Commission would be required under any other circumstance.

This Department hereby requests of the Council, to condition any permits issued to UI for this project to include replacement of lost vegetation from construction-related activities, with appropriate native plant species that meet all necessary safety and height requirements for UI, while meeting the ecological and habitat functionality needs of the impacted parcel.

The Department and the Commission look forward to advancing our relationship with the UI project team and restore the aforementioned areas to existing or improved conditions following the completion of the construction.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact me with any questions you may have regarding this matter.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Bishop', written in a cursive style.

Timothy J. Bishop  
Director

cc: Hon. Brenda Kupchick – First Selectwoman  
Mr. Lukas Thomas, Chair – Conservation Commission  
File