



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

October 6, 2023

TO: Service List, dated October 3, 2023

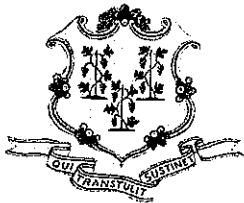
FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director *NAB*

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 have been received from The Connecticut Department of Transportation on October 6, 2023. A copy of the comments is attached for your review.

MB/MP/lm

c: Council Members



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
 NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546



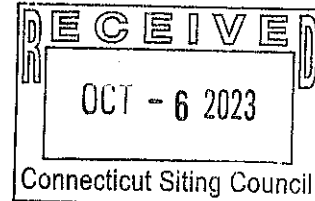
**Office of the
 Commissioner**

An Equal Opportunity Employer

September 27, 2023

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

ORIGINAL



DOCKET NO. 516 – The United Illuminating Company (UI) (Applicant) 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.

Dear Attorney Bachman:

Pursuant to the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s (Department) letter dated August 16, 2023, the Department wishes to make the following additional statement regarding underground facilities in the railroad right-of-way (ROW).

While Docket 516 did not consider and submit an “all underground configuration”, the Department would not support such option. The Department has previously testified that no longitudinal underground utility occupations are permitted within the ROW. Only transverse underground crossings are allowed. The railroad dates back to the mid-1800’s and CBYD is not applicable and requires hand digging down to at least 4 feet at every excavation point adding time, cost and impact to railroad operations. There are numerous facilities within the ROW (both railroad and private) which would interfere with, or potentially be damaged by an underground transmission line installation. Furthermore, as mentioned above, our service growth demands that we preserve as much of the ROW for our expansion needs.

Sincerely,

Garrett T. Eucalitto
 Commissioner

cc: Correne Auer (c.auer@uinet.com)

TJS/tjs

bcc: Comr. Eucalitto - Dep. Comr. Kitsis – Dep. Comr. King
Lora Rae Anderson
Elizabeth Keyes
Kafi Rouse
Benjamin Limmer
Public Transportation Files
Richard T. Jankovich – Eric Bergeron – Yure Kuljis
Craig Bordiere – Theo Smigelski
James Triplett
Jay Young – Brice Collins – John Vitale
New Haven Files