



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 22, 2023

TO: Service List, dated November 16, 2023

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director *MB*

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.

Additional comments have been received from the State Historic Preservation Office on November 22, 2023. A copy of the comments is attached for your review.

MB/MP/laf

c: Council Members

November 22, 2023

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Subject: 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.

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The State Historic Preservation Office offers the following comments meant to clarify the statements made in our previous letter of November 17, 2023.

There is mention in the letter that the comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. To date, we have not been contacted to participate in consultation under Section 106, and any reference to Section 106 was made in error.

The “additional material” referenced in the letter is information that was supplied by members of the public to SHPO. It is our understanding that this information was also submitted to the Siting Council prior to our letter. SHPO has not received any other additional material.

The recommendation for delay in approval was suggested to allow time for said material submitted by members of the public to be considered by the Council.

SHPO's opinion of the effect to historic resources has not changed. It is the opinion of this office that the project will adversely affect historic resources, as stated in our previous correspondence. We look forward to additional consultation with the project proponent to resolve the impacts.

The State Historic Preservation Office appreciates the opportunity to comment upon this project, and the Council's consideration of historic resources. For further information please contact Marena Wisniewski, Environmental Reviewer, at (860) 500-2357 or marena.wisniewski@ct.gov.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Kinney
State Historic Preservation Officer

