



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 24, 2023

Laura Lawlor  
President  
Sasquanaug Association for Southport Improvement, Inc.  
P.O. Box 471  
Southport, CT 06890  
[sasquanaug@gmail.com](mailto:sasquanaug@gmail.com)

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.

Dear Laura Lawlor:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your recent correspondence concerning Docket No. 516.

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

Please note that you can view documents related to this proceeding 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.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter. Your letter will be entered in the public comment file related to this matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

MAB/MP/laf

c: Council Members

**From:** Sasquanaug Association <sasquanaug@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 8:06 AM  
**To:** CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>  
**Cc:** laura.lawlor@aol.com; jdchang.va@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition / Concern about UI Proposal - Docket #516

Good afternoon -

My name is Laura Lawlor and I am the president of the [Sasquanaug Association](#), a preservation organization in Southport, CT. Our organization has been working to improve our town and represent its interests since 1887. Our current board consists of a broad swath of community members and we continue the work in hopes that we both honor the historic attributes of our town, while also understanding it is important to represent the needs of our current community. That is why we are very concerned about United Illuminating's application as part of Docket #516.

We believe that it will have adverse impacts on our community. While our work can focus on changes to the make-up of our village (and we are concerned about the changes to the site-line that UI's proposal will cause in our historic district and beyond), one of our main concerns is that in order to build such large structures, members of the town along the Metro North line will lose property due to an easement. Residents from Fairfield into Bridgeport will lose ~19.25 acres of their land. This sets a very concerning precedent for others to follow and we oppose the proposal as it stands.

We are not proposing that nothing be done. We agree with Representative Leeper that the Siting Council reassess the analysis for burying the lines. With both an influx of federal dollars due to the infrastructure bill + increased concerns of category 3 and potentially category 4 hurricanes, using this as an opportunity to begin undergrounding our power grid is, in our opinion, the best option. We know members of the community agree and hope you will take their consideration into account.

Please reach out with any questions and we hope you will deny the application.

Best,  
Laura Lawlor  
President