

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL, DOCKET NO. 370

**Interrogatories addressed to the Connecticut Light and Power Company
by the Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA)**

Please provide answers to the following interrogatories by July 14, 2009.

1. What measures, if any, will be taken to prevent the accidental transport and introduction of invasive plant and animal species (terrestrial or aquatic) to construction sites?
2. What herbicides are typically used in managing vegetation in the transmission line rights of way, and what is known about their effects on aquatic organisms?
3. Have alternatives to herbicide been considered for areas immediately upstream of watercourses and in the vicinity of vernal pools and wetlands in the rights of way?
4. In the event that the Clean Water Restoration Act (S.787) passes the U.S. Senate, will there be a review of planned compliance with federal wetlands regulations to determine whether any aspect of compliance needs to be altered?
5. The application states that any new culverts needed will be designed and installed in accordance with CT DEP Inland Water Resources Division guidelines. Will this also be true for the replacement of any existing culverts?
6. Will culvert installation be done in consultation with CT DEP to ensure adequate fish passage?
7. Where disturbance or destruction of vernal pools or wetlands is unavoidable, will this effect be mitigated by establishment of equivalent vernal pool or wetland habitat in the same area?
8. The application acknowledges that the lower Farmington River is under study for possible designation as a National Wild and Scenic River. While that study is underway, the lower Farmington enjoys all the protections of a river that is already designated. This includes National Park Service review of any project in the proposed Wild & Scenic corridor that requires federal permits. Has there been any contact with the National Park Service (suggested contact: Jamie_Fosburgh@nps.gov) to determine the requirement and the process for review of this project, either before or after Wild and Scenic designation?
9. Has the National Park Service been consulted with respect to reducing the project's visual impact associated with the New England National Scenic Trail?

A copy of this document has been sent on July 6, 2009, to all parties and intervenors on the Service List for Docket 370.

Signed,



Eileen Fielding
Executive Director, FRWA