

Connecticut Siting Council
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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
Phone: (617) 305-3525

DATE: September 1, 2009

TO: Parties & Intervenors

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director, Connecticut Siting Council
Stephen H. August, Presiding Officer, Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board

RE: **DOCKET 370** – Consolidated proceeding pursuant to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) Request for Proposal (RFP) process under C.G.S. §16a-7c. **Original application:** The Connecticut Light & Power Company application for Certificates of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Connecticut Valley Electric Transmission Reliability Projects which consist of (1) The Connecticut portion of the Greater Springfield Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Bloomfield, East Granby, and Suffield, or potentially including an alternate portion that traverses the municipalities of Suffield and Enfield, terminating at the North Bloomfield Substation; and (2) the Manchester Substation to Meekville Junction Circuit Separation Project in Manchester, Connecticut. **Competing application:** NRG Energy, Inc. application pursuant to C.G.S. §16-50l(a)(3) for consideration of a 530 MW combined cycle generating plant in Meriden, Connecticut.

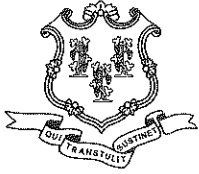
MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD DOCKET EFSB 08-2/DPU 08-105/08-106 - Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to construct and operate new overhead 345-kV transmission facilities, two new 115-kV switching stations, modification of existing switching stations & substations, and rebuilding/re-conductoring certain existing overhead transmission lines in the towns of Agawan, Chicopee and Ludlow, and the cities of Springfield and West Springfield and extending to the municipalities of East Longmeadow, Hampden, Longmeadow and Wilbraham in the alternative route.

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) and the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) will hold joint evidentiary hearings in the above-referenced dockets on Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 11:00 AM and on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 10:00 AM at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located at 1 Bright Meadow Boulevard in Enfield, Connecticut. Directions to the Crowne Plaza Hotel can be found at: <http://www.cpenfield.com/directions.htm> The hearings will comply with the Connecticut and Massachusetts Administrative Procedures Acts.

The purpose of the joint hearings is to provide parties and intervenors in both dockets an opportunity to develop the record on matters common to both states' proceedings. In response to comments received from docket participants in both proceedings, the Council and the EFSB have determined that the subject matter for the joint hearings on September 22, 2009 and September 23, 2009 shall be limited to the environmental impacts, and relative costs and reliability concerns of the Northern and Southern routes, exclusive of need. The issue of need is specifically excluded based on the amount of time already devoted to this topic in previous Docket 370 evidentiary hearings held in July and August.

The Council and the EFSB invite comments from parties and intervenors as to the potential appearance of a joint panel of both applicants, CL&P and WMECO, at the joint evidentiary hearings. These comments should be submitted on or before September 11, 2009. Additionally, parties and intervenors that intend to participate in the joint hearings and conduct cross examination should notify the Council and the EFSB on or before September 11, 2009.

Finally, please also note that the Council and the EFSB will conduct an additional joint hearing session within the CT Docket 370 scheduled evidentiary hearing dates of Wednesday, October 21, 2009 and/or Thursday, October 22, 2009, at the Central Connecticut State University Institute of Technology and Business Development in New Britain, Connecticut. At the additional joint hearing, the EFSB may participate in the cross examination of witnesses scheduled in Docket 370. Further information as to this joint hearing will be forthcoming in future correspondence.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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NOTICE OF SERVICE

I hereby affirm that a photocopy of this document was sent to each Party and Intervenor on the service list dated August 24, 2009 with method of service to each party and intervenor listed via either e-mail or hard-copy on September 2, 2009.

Dated: September 2, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Fontaine", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Fontaine
Custodian of Docket No. 370