

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

December 13, 2013

John R. Morissette
Project Manager - Siting
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

RE: **DOCKET NO. 424** - The Connecticut Light & Power Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Connecticut portion of the Interstate Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Lebanon, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, Chaplin, Hampton, Brooklyn, Pomfret, Killingly, Putnam, Thompson, and Windham, which consists of (a) new overhead 345-kV electric transmission lines and associated facilities extending between CL&P's Card Street Substation in the Town of Lebanon, Lake Road Switching Station in the Town of Killingly, and the Connecticut/Rhode Island border in the Town of Thompson; and (b) related additions at CL&P's existing Card Street Substation, Lake Road Switching Station, and Killingly Substation. Request for Temporary Suspension of Environmental Inspections.

Dear Mr. Morissette:

At a public meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on December 12, 2013, the Council considered and approved the request dated December 4, 2013 for the temporary suspension of BSC Group independent environmental inspections pending the receipt of the Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and commencement of construction activities.

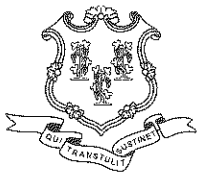
Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Robert Stein
Chairman

RS/CMW/laf

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated December 12, 2013



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Docket No. 424

The Connecticut Light and Power Company

Request for Temporary Suspension of Independent Environmental Inspections

Staff Report

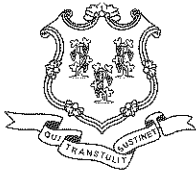
December 12, 2013

On December 4, 2013, The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) submitted a letter to the Connecticut Siting Council requesting the temporary suspension of BSC Group's Independent Environmental Inspections pending receipt of the Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Construction activities began at Card Street Substation during a planned outage in November, which consisted of the installation of temporary bus work. The installation was completed and the affected areas have been restored and stabilized with gravel. CL&P will not perform any further construction activities at Card Street Substation, nor will it initiate construction along the transmission line rights-of-way or any modifications to Lake Road Switching Station or Killingly Substation until the USACE issues the Section 404 permit. The permit is expected in March 2014.

Beginning in mid-December, material shipments will arrive for storage a laydown yards previously approved by the Council. The laydown areas will only be used for material storage until the Section 404 permit is issued.

CL&P proposes to suspend all of BSC Group's Independent Environmental Inspections for this project, including for laydown areas, until the Section 404 permit is issued and construction activities commence.



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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 October 4, 2012, with method of service to each party and intervenor listed via e-mail and U.S. mail on December 13, 2013.

Dated: December 13, 2013

Lisa Fontaine
Custodian of Docket No. 424

Robert E. Carberry, Project Manager
NEEWS Siting and Permitting
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Andrew W. Lord, Esq.
Murtha Cullina LLP
alord@murthalaaw.com

Raymond G. Long
NRG Energy, Inc.
Ray.Long@nrgenergy.com

Victor Civic
160 Beech Mt. Road
Mansfield, CT 06250

Jim Ginnetti
EquiPower Resources Corp.
100 Constitution Plaza, 10th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

John J. Prete
The United Illuminating Company
157 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06506-0901

Victoria Hackett
Staff Attorney III
Office of Consumer Counsel
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Adam N. Rabinowitz, Board Chair
Mount Hope Montessori School
adam@rabinowitzfamily.com

Jane P. Seidl, Senior Counsel
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Elizabeth Quirk-Hendry
NRG Energy, Inc.
Elizabeth.Quirk-Hendry@nrgenergy.com

Jonathan Gordon
NRG Energy, Inc.
Jonathan.Gordon@nrgenergy.com

Richard Civic
43 Main Street
East Haven, CT 06512

David W. Bogan, Esq.
Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
dbogan@rc.com
kbaldwin@rc.com

Edward Hill Bullard
42 Shuba Lane
Chaplin, CT 06235

Eric Knapp, Esq.
Branse, Willis & Knapp, LLC
148 Eastern Boulevard, Suite 301
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Anthony M. Macleod, Esq.
Kevin Flynn, Esq.
ISO New England, Inc.
amacleod@wbamct.com
kflynn@iso-nc.com

Anthony M. Fitzgerald, Esq.
Carmody & Torrance LLP
195 Church Street
P.O. Box 1950
New Haven, CT 06509-1950

Judith E. Lagano
NRG Energy, Inc.
Judith.Lagano@nrgenergy.com

Peter Fuller
NRG Energy, Inc.
Peter.Fuller@nrgenergy.com

Donna Poresky
Senior Vice President and
General Counsel
EquiPower Resources Corp.
100 Constitution Plaza, 10th Fl.
Hartford, CT 06103

Bruce L. McDermott, Esq.
UIL Holdings Corporation
Bruce.mcdermott@uinet.com

Elin Swanson Katz
Consumer Counsel
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Keith R. Ainsworth, Esq.
Evans Feldman & Ainsworth,
L.L.C.
krainsworth@snet.net





**Connecticut
Light & Power**

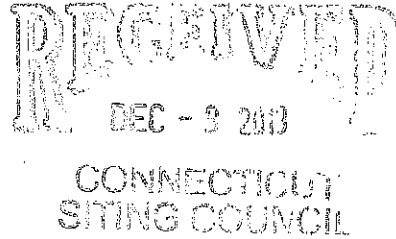
A Northeast Utilities Company

107 Selden Street, Berlin CT 06037

Northeast Utilities Service Company
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270
(860) 665-5000

December 4, 2013

Mr. Robert Stein, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051



RE: Docket No. 424: Interstate Reliability Project
Request for Temporary Suspension of BSC Group Independent Environmental Inspections Pending Receipt of the Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Dear Chairman Stein:

As an initial step in the construction of the Interstate Reliability Project (Project), during a planned outage on November 26, 2013, The Connecticut Light and Power Company's (CL&P's) contractor, ES Boulos, successfully installed temporary bus work at Card Street Substation. This work was all completed within the station fence and the affected areas have been restored and stabilized with gravel.

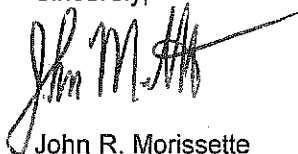
However, until the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issues a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit for the Project, CL&P will not perform any further construction activities at Card Street Substation and will not initiate construction along the transmission line rights-of-way or any modifications to Lake Road Switching Station or Killingly Substation. Currently, CL&P anticipates that the USACE will issue the Section 404 permit in March 2014.

Commencing in mid-December, shipments of Project materials are scheduled to arrive for storage at the laydown yards approved by the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on October 31, 2013. The use of these material storage sites is the only activity planned prior to the issuance of the Section 404 permit. There will be no construction activity conducted at the material laydown areas.

Because no Project construction will be performed in the upcoming months, CL&P respectfully requests that the Council suspend, including for laydown areas, its independent environmental inspections (performed weekly by the BSC Group¹) until the Section 404 permit is issued and construction activities commence.

Should you or other Council members have any questions regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail or telephone.

Sincerely,



John R. Morissette

¹ The independent environmental inspections are performed pursuant to Condition 8 of the Council's Docket No. 424 Decision and Order and the Project Development and Management Plan, Volume 1, Section 6.1. On September 20, 2013, the Council approved the BSC Group as the Independent Environmental Inspector for the Project.