

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SITING COUNCIL

* * * * *

CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER CO. * APRIL 19, 2012
* (7:05 p.m.)

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF *
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND *
PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONNECTICUT * PETITION NO. 424
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 *
PARTY/INTERVENOR STATUS. *
REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE. *

* * * * *

BEFORE: ROBIN STEIN, CHAIRMAN

BOARD MEMBERS: Brian Golembiewski, DEP Designee
James J. Murphy, Jr.
Dr. Barbara Currier Bell
Philip Ashton
Daniel Lynch, Jr.

STAFF MEMBERS: Linda Roberts, Executive Director
Christina Walsh, Siting Analyst
Melanie Bachman, Staff Attorney

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 . . .Verbatim proceedings of a hearing
2 before the State of Connecticut Siting Council in the
3 matter of an Application by The Connecticut Light and
4 Power Company for a Certificate of Environmental
5 Compatibility and Public Need, held at the Quinebaug
6 Valley Senior Citizens Center, 60 South Main Street,
7 Brooklyn, Connecticut, on April 19, 2012 at 7:05 p.m., at
8 which time the parties were represented as hereinbefore
9 set forth . . .

10
11
12 CHAIRMAN ROBIN STEIN: Good evening,
13 everybody. My name is Robin Stein, I'm Chairman of the
14 Connecticut Siting Council and we're here for Docket 424.
15 Before I read the formal opening statement, I'd like to
16 first welcome all of you to this second public comment
17 session on this Docket. And I want to extend our welcome
18 on behalf of our Council members and staff and I also want
19 to thank the town of Brooklyn and First Selectman Austin
20 Tanner for their hospitality.

21 Let me begin with a little bit about the
22 Siting Council. We are an executive branch agency of the
23 state of Connecticut. The scope of the Siting Council's
24 exclusive jurisdiction is to provide siting review with

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 respect to proposals to develop large-scale utility
2 infrastructure, such as power plants, substations, and
3 high-voltage transmission lines like the ones that are the
4 subject of tonight's hearing. To the extent that reliable
5 electric utility service has become part of modern life
6 our job is to ensure that such infrastructure meshes as
7 well as possible with our state's, communities.

8 The public mission of the Siting Council is
9 to act as an independent arbiter that balances the
10 statewide need for these projects at the lowest reasonable
11 cost to consumers with the need to protect the environment
12 and ecology of the state. We have before us an
13 application by the Connecticut Light and Power Company,
14 CL&P, for a high-voltage electric transmission line
15 upgrade. This is the second of three stops on our
16 listening tour related to the transmission line Docket No.
17 424.

18 Clearly, we on the Council, do not know the
19 towns as well as you do, therefore, we appreciate you
20 telling us how this proposal might affect you. And that's
21 why this listening tour, as we're calling it, is so
22 important.

23 Your comments made here are essential to
24 this important siting process. We take your remarks and

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 input seriously and weigh them heavily in our deliberative
2 process. It is on that basis that I thank you for taking
3 the time to be here this evening and to share your
4 thoughts with us. I'll now go to the formal part of the
5 opening.

6 The hearing is called to order at
7 approximately 7:05 p.m., today, April 19th, 2012 on Docket
8 424. In addition to myself, other members of the Council
9 present are Brian Golembiewski, designee from the
10 Department of Environmental Protection; Philip Ashton;
11 Daniel Lynch; Dr. Bell; Senator Murphy; members of the
12 staff also present are Linda Roberts, Executive Director;
13 Melanie Bachman, Staff Attorney; Christina Walsh, Siting
14 Analyst; Lisa Fontaine, Administrator; Gail Gregoriades,
15 Court Reporter; and Aaron DeMarest, Audio Technician.

16 This proceeding is a contested case under
17 the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act and will be
18 conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of
19 the Connecticut General Statutes and Regulations of
20 Connecticut State Agencies on an application of the
21 Connecticut Light and Power Company for a Certificate of
22 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the
23 Connecticut portion of the Interstate Reliability Project
24 that traverses the municipalities of Lebanon, Columbia,

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 Coventry, Mansfield, Chaplain, Hampton, Brooklyn, Pomfret,
2 Killingly, Putnam, Thompson, and Windham, which consists
3 of (a) new overhead 345-kV electric transmission lines and
4 associated facilities extending between CL&P's Card Street
5 Substation in Lebanon, the Lake Road Switching Station in
6 the town of Killingly, and the Connecticut/Rhode Island
7 border in Thompson; and (b) related additions to CL&P's
8 existing Card Street Substation, Lake Road Switching
9 Station, and Killingly Substation. The application was
10 received by the Council on December 23rd, 2011.

11 With respect to the concerns about electric
12 and magnetic fields (EMF), in accordance with Public Act
13 04-246, the Siting Council revised its "Best Management
14 Practices for the Construction of Electric Transmission
15 Lines in Connecticut." This document references the
16 latest information regarding scientific knowledge and
17 consensus on EMF health concerns; it also discusses
18 advances in transmission facility siting and design
19 techniques that can effect public exposure to EMF. This
20 document, as well as other informative EMF links, can be
21 found on the Siting Council's website.

22 As required by law, off the record
23 communication with a Council member or Council staff
24 member on the merits of this application is prohibited.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 The parties and intervenors to the proceeding are as
2 follows. The applicant, CL&P, parties are NRG, Victor
3 Civie, EquiPower, The UI Company, Richard Civie and Edward
4 Hill Bullard.

5 The hearing held tonight is solely for the
6 public to make brief oral statements into the record.
7 Specifically, this is an opportunity for citizens, who are
8 not formally participating in the process as a party or
9 intervenor, to make their views known to the Council.
10 These public statements are not subject to cross-
11 examination and submission thereof does not entitle the
12 submitter the right to cross-examine the applicant,
13 parties, or intervenors, or the Council.

14 However, if you have specific questions,
15 number one, you can state them so they're part of the
16 record. We can't at the moment answer, however, after the
17 formal proceedings are closed there are a number of
18 representatives from CL&P, I guess, in the back so they
19 can, you know, in an informal way help answer your
20 questions.

21 Since we have a number of speakers, I'd
22 like to, if possible limit your statements to three
23 minutes or less. Statements will become part of the
24 record for our deliberations. In addition, written

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 statements can be sent to the Council within 30 days of
2 the last hearing of these proceedings and they will be
3 given the same weight as spoken statements. So that
4 applies to both you and if you have neighbors and others
5 who wish to submit anything in writing, feel free to do
6 so.

7 A verbatim transcript will be made of each
8 hearing session and all hearing transcripts will be
9 deposited with the Town Clerk offices in the towns
10 previously mentioned. After all public hearings in the
11 municipality's have concluded, the Council will hold
12 hearings for the purpose of cross-examination of evidence
13 by the Council, its staff, the parties and intervenors.
14 The evidentiary portion of the hearing will begin on
15 Monday, June 4th, of this year at 11:00 a.m. at Central
16 Connecticut State University. Additional dates have been
17 scheduled and are posted on the Council's website.

18 And I'd just like to mention, this is the
19 second of two meetings. We held one last night in
20 Lebanon. There will be a third next Tuesday, April 24th,
21 again, at the same time, that will be held at the
22 Mansfield Middle School Auditorium, 205 Spring Hill Road
23 in Storrs. It'll give an opportunity for those who are
24 concerned about that area to speak.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 We have sign-up, we have a number of people
2 who have already signed up, if others wish to speak, feel
3 free to do that. And just before we start, for the
4 benefit of all of you who were in attendance at tonight's
5 hearing, the applicant has compiled a short video that
6 explains the general nature of the application. I'll now
7 ask the applicant, CL&P, to show the video now.

8 (Whereupon, a video was shown.)

9 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. I'd like to
10 start with the elected officials, Austin Tanner, the First
11 Selectman from here in Brooklyn.

12 MR. AUSTIN TANNER: I am Austin Tanner,
13 First Selectman in Brooklyn.

14 A MALE VOICE: Pardon me sir, the
15 microphone --

16 CHAIRMAN STEIN: For some reason the
17 microphone -- is there and we're also asking everybody
18 spell their last name for the purposes of having a correct
19 transcript. Thank you.

20 MR. TANNER: -- hello? Austin Tanner, T-A-
21 N-N-E-R. Tell me when you're ready. Microphone? Oh,
22 okay, sorry. The Interstate Reliability Project will
23 improve electric reliability for all of Connecticut.
24 Connecticut is least able of all the New England states to

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 import power to supplement our internal supply. Only 33
2 percent of our peak demand is able to be imported at the
3 present time. About 7.2 miles of the proposed project
4 goes through Brooklyn. It makes sense to use existing
5 right-of-way both environmentally and construction wise to
6 complete this project.

7 No new land or easements will be necessary
8 in the proposed route through Brooklyn. No one likes to
9 see more structures on our landscape, but we must make
10 compromises to assure the future availability of
11 electricity service. I feel this project is necessary to
12 benefit all residents of southern New England with
13 uninterrupted electrical service.

14 Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island
15 use 80 percent of the total New England power. It is
16 essential that we have transmission ability to move power
17 when needed. The proposed configuration seems to be the
18 best solution over the other alternatives. The
19 flexibility of this project provides us the ability to
20 transfer power where needed and when needed. It is
21 essential to our future needs.

22 As First Selectman of Brooklyn I fully
23 support the project proposed. Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Now, Mr.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 Rivers, I believe, the first Selectman from Pomfret.

2 MR. JIM RIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
3 and members of the Council. My name is Jim Rivers, R-I-V-
4 E-R-S, I am the First Selectman in the town of Pomfret. I
5 am now on my fourth term and have seen this project for
6 about four years now with a substantial amount of
7 information coming from the applicant, almost to an
8 annoyance at times, boxes and crates of things being
9 delivered to the office. But that's very good because we
10 got a good look at this project.

11 I have received a lot of feedback over the
12 years from citizens in Pomfret and the feedback on the
13 primary location of the existing right-of-way is very
14 minimal. I get very little feedback, there are very few
15 homes along that current easement now, it passes through
16 200 acres of town property. The alternative, the overhead
17 alternative from Brooklyn is another matter. And
18 honestly, if my citizens thought there was actually a
19 chance that something that ridiculous would occur, I would
20 fill this room up this evening and most of them do not
21 believe that we would do such a thing, or the Siting
22 Council would do such a thing, so they're not here
23 tonight. But I'm here to tell you that that would be
24 horrific for us. There's a lot of forestry there and

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 farmland that would be impacted by that overhead
2 alternative and I can tell you that we would not be very
3 happy in Pomfret.

4 The existing easement also passes through
5 much open space and will require much less clearing than
6 the overhead alternative through Brooklyn. I have no
7 other comments, only that please, my first preference
8 would be that we don't do this project at all, we don't
9 want to put any more power lines up if we can avoid it,
10 but if it has to happen that it happen on the existing
11 easement and not go overhead as described in the Brooklyn
12 overhead alternative. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Richard Place?

14 MR. RICHARD PLACE: Good evening. My name
15 is Richard Place, P-L-A-C-E, I'm Mayor of Putnam. And I
16 want to speak positively on the project as well.

17 As the Mayor of Putnam, I want to state my
18 support for the Interstate Reliability Project as proposed
19 by CL&P in its application to the CSC. The Interstate
20 Reliability Project will correct regional reliability
21 problems associated with power flow constraints in
22 southern New England. The proposed use of the existing
23 rights-of-way in the overhead lines for these new
24 facilities makes sense for both an environmental and a

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 construction standpoint. And it is least disruptive to
2 the community.

3 The Interstate Project will add
4 significantly to the assessed value of the transmission
5 facilities in Putnam. You know, depending on when it's
6 actually built, the preliminary estimates are that in the
7 first year of service property tax revenues could increase
8 by approximately \$170,000. The project is also -- will
9 also provide new jobs to Connecticut residents. During
10 the peak construction years alone, it is estimated that
11 the Interstate Reliability Project will generate over 500
12 jobs here in Connecticut and I think that's a blessing all
13 on its own.

14 CL&P has been very good in keeping us --
15 keeping the town of Putnam informed. They've been out to
16 speak with me several times and I'm happy with the
17 results, I'm happy with what I've heard and our
18 residential areas in changing the utilities there so
19 they're less invasive to the people that live in that
20 area. That's one of the things that I really was
21 concerned about that I brought up initially.

22 The need for reliable transmission service,
23 additional tax revenues for our communities, and new local
24 jobs is important now. We support Connecticut Light and

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 Power's application to construct the Interstate
2 Reliability Project. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Are there any
4 other public officials that would like to speak? If not,
5 we'll go to the sign-up list. The first one is Linda
6 Walden?

7 MS. LINDA WALDEN: I'm Linda Walden,
8 Planning Director for the town of Killingly, and that's W-
9 A-L-D-E-N, and I'm speaking this evening on behalf of the
10 Killingly Planning and Zoning Commission. We may be a
11 little late with our submittals, but we appreciate the
12 referral to the Commission.

13 The Killingly Planning and Zoning
14 Commission discussed the proposal at its January 17th,
15 2012 regular meeting and voted that the following comments
16 be brought to the Council's attention for your
17 consideration. And I'll try to be brief. I have a
18 handout that I handed in.

19 Number one and number two pertain to the
20 request for consideration use of best management practices
21 addressing EMF in the vicinity of Killingly residences as
22 appropriate. The discussions centered on the fact that we
23 feel that all residents should be protected to the best
24 extent possible, not just in highly densely residential

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 areas. We do have some residences along the western
2 portion of the existing power line.

3 The third comment -- also they talked about
4 the priority funding for the residential areas as
5 appropriate, again, to address EMFs and the best
6 management practices. And number three, we deal on a
7 daily basis in the Planning Department and the Planning
8 and Zoning Commission with construction and the next set
9 of comments is addressed towards the development and
10 management plan. We understand that that comes after your
11 approval, but that's usually where the nuts and bolts are
12 and the devil is in the details. We have had experience
13 with larger projects coming into town and one of the big
14 items -- these are minor issues, but they are substantial
15 to the town staff on a daily basis, if there is any excess
16 fill, for example, from the project and contractors and
17 subcontractors want to dispose of it they usually find
18 willing residents to take it and we just ask that comments
19 are included in the development and management plan that
20 local land-use permits are required for that fill to be
21 placed on properties.

22 We request a copy of the development and
23 management plan be provided to the Planning Department
24 once it's completed. We would request the requirement for

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 a pre-construction meeting with the town staff prior to
2 actual construction. Construction staging areas, we would
3 ask that they be identified as part of the development and
4 management plan with consultation with town staff and be
5 located in commercially and industrially zoned areas to
6 avoid residential areas as much as possible.

7 The local land-use permits for the excess
8 project fill, I just mentioned, and we would ask for
9 temporary versus permanent construction access roads to
10 the right-of-way and that the temporary roads be restored
11 once the project is completed. And finally, we would ask
12 for notification to the Planning Department when work is
13 scheduled near vernal pools, wetlands, and state protected
14 species habitat, as two species were identified in the
15 right-of-way in Killingly.

16 And we appreciate the amount of work that's
17 associated with this application and the needs of the
18 Council to balance economic growth, electric reliability
19 and the needs of the residents and the environment. And
20 we thank you for your consideration, and this opportunity.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. The next
23 person I believe is Charlene Cutler.

24 MS. CHARLENE CUTLER: I'm Charlene Cutler,

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 C-U-T-L-E-R. I am the Executive Director and CEO of the
2 Last Green Valley, Inc. Our nonprofit is the management
3 entity for the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
4 National Heritage corridor. It's a by-state National
5 Heritage corridor, but the bulk of our towns, 75 percent
6 of them, are here in northeastern Connecticut, a total of
7 26. Each of the towns described in this project are
8 located within the National Heritage corridor.

9 We are not here this evening to support or
10 oppose the project, that's not our policy, but we have
11 been pleasantly surprised at the extensive outreach and
12 communication that we've received from CL&P about this
13 project. We've perhaps not had the boxes that Mr. Rivers
14 had come in our office, but we have met with folks from
15 CL&P several times over the past four years, and been able
16 to not only understand the project, but ask questions,
17 mention some concerns that we have, particularly regarding
18 natural resources and recreational assets and access to
19 those areas. And we really appreciate the extent of the
20 communication.

21 That having been said, we would also urge
22 CL&P to continue that communication through the project.
23 I think it will make it an easier fit for all of us.
24 Thank you.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Is its Delpha
2 Very?

3 MS. DELPHA VERY: Hi. Good evening.
4 Usually they always get the first name wrong and the last
5 name right. Very, V, as in Victor, E-R-Y. I also have
6 testimony from my counterpart in Killingly. Would you
7 like me to just give that for the record, or to read it in
8 the record?

9 CHAIRMAN STEIN: If you want to just give
10 it in writing, if you have it in writing, and it will --
11 everything will be made part of the record.

12 MS. VERY: Thank you. As Economic and
13 Community Development Director for the town of Putnam I am
14 pleased to provide testimony in full support of the
15 Interstate Reliability Project. The Putnam business
16 district is primarily located along the Interstate 395
17 corridor having the amenities of public water and sewer
18 services as well as natural gas lines within the special
19 services district and are Putnam industrial Park. We
20 possess important advantages of interstate access, zone
21 incentives, a freight line, and competitive land pricing.

22 Putnam boasts of a renaissance within its
23 heritage of older structural sound mills in bringing
24 mixed-use and housing development into more than 750,000

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 square feet of architectural treasures. Our community
2 faces the challenges of these difficult economic times,
3 but sees a bright future in our economic development. Our
4 industrial park has sustained all businesses within its
5 bounds and many are expending by creating jobs they slow,
6 steady, and thoughtful way.

7 We are extremely proud of our manufacturing
8 businesses focusing on medical plastics, metals, and the
9 aerospace industries. A market and feasibility study has
10 recently been completed, showing positive outcomes for our
11 newly proposed 220 acre regional Quinebaug Technology
12 Park. The target industries, including manufacturing,
13 mid-range tech., green energy, consumer products and
14 sustainable agriculture were screened for having a
15 northeastern United States factor. All companies had at
16 least a 50 percent growth rate, an annual income of
17 3,000,000, a link to existing clusters in the region, and
18 a strong stake in northeastern United States.

19 A major factor in the success of future
20 growth, sustainability and expansion will rely in part on
21 long-term, reliable, and affordable electrical power
22 supply. We see that in this Interstate Reliability
23 Project.

24 Connecticut Light and Power has provided an

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 arduous solution for the future of our energy needs
2 through its proposed use of existing rights-of-way and
3 overhead lines and effective efficient means to the
4 continuing high demand of power distribution. CL&P
5 continues to be a strong partner by providing human
6 resource outlets, technical service, and professional
7 development to Putnam's business community. Thank you for
8 the opportunity to provide encouraging support of the
9 Interstate Reliability Project. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Next, Boyd
11 Nielsen?

12 MR. BOYD NIELSEN: My name is Boyd Nielsen,
13 N-I-E-L-S-E-N. I rise in opposition of this because,
14 unlike the people who have spoken up till now I don't
15 think any of them actually own land that this is going
16 through and this goes right through our backyard and not -
17 - well, it goes through our property and we have a nice
18 wooded lot, which will now be less wooded because they
19 have to exercise their easement right to go through and
20 clear off more of our land. And I just hope that the
21 Council will look at that as also a deciding factor also.

22 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Mr. Nielsen, it would help
23 if you would be willing to give us your address?

24 MR. NIELSEN: 9 Herrick (phonetic) Road.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you.

2 A MALE VOICE: What town?

3 MR. NIELSEN: Just follow the line.

4 A MALE VOICE: What town?

5 MR. NIELSEN: Brooklyn. Sorry.

6 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you.

7 MR. AL LANDRY: Thank you. Hello, I'm Al
8 Landry, L-A-N-D-R-Y, and I'm from Thompson, Connecticut.
9 A former Wetlands Commission member, current Planning and
10 Zoning, but I'm here to talk as a farmer. The line abuts
11 our farm and I do have a few concerns. The current poles
12 are right in the stream and when they come every few years
13 to treat the bottom of the poles they dig down about three
14 feet and put this blue gunk on. Now, this is in a stream,
15 mind you, it leads to a heron breeding grounds.

16 But my real concern is with our farm. We
17 were told that it was going to be right on the edge of our
18 farm and they were going to have to put a 100x100 pad in.

19 Will that part of the land is actually owned by CL&P and
20 what happened when we first started farming 30 years ago,
21 the farmer who came and plowed for us did the wrong end of
22 the field. We've since pulled away and gone where we
23 belong, but we planted that area with perennial
24 wildflowers and it's a bird, bee, and butterfly paradise

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 down there in the summer.

2 And we had a meeting with representatives
3 today and they feel that they can go across the street
4 from us and it's flat, out of the wetlands, and I'm very
5 happy to say that this has been going on for four years,
6 our talks with them, but it seems to beginning resolved.

7 The other thing I wanted to say is we make
8 our own power for 30 years, but I understand that people
9 need the power so I'm not against it for that. You know,
10 it's kind of funny, if you're in the middle the garden you
11 look one way you see the high tension lines, you look the
12 other way you see our portable tag panels, but I
13 understand that this is necessary and I'm very glad that
14 CL&P is working with us to try to save what's been done
15 down there. Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Would you like to give us
17 your address and Thompson?

18 MR. LANDRY: 33 Rendall Road, Thompson,
19 Connecticut. R-E-N-D-A-L-L.

20 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. I don't know
21 if there's a relation.

22 MS. LYNN LANDRY: Hi. I'm Lynn Landry, L-
23 A-N-D-R-Y, also known as Al's wife. And I specifically
24 would like to talk about the placement of pole 324 near

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 Quadric Town Farm Road. We farm land that's been in my
2 family for four generations and we own land on each side
3 of the right-of-way owned by Northeast Utilities. And
4 what I'm requesting is that pole 324 be moved to the west
5 side of Quadric Town Farm Road. And at the present time in
6 the present plan there's 550 feet between pole 323 and 324
7 and 375 feet between 324 and going up the hill to pole
8 325. I feel that if the pole is moved to the west side of
9 Quadric Town Farm Road it would just switch these distances
10 with each other, it would have no impact on the wetlands
11 that surround Teff (phonetic) Brook and it would also
12 provide a very stable off-road place for installation with
13 minimal construction.

14 And this would probably be the site to
15 access even further down the line into what our
16 substantial wetlands, owned by the Nature Conservancy,
17 that continue to the west side of that area of land and
18 into Putnam. So thank you very much for your
19 consideration.

20 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you very much.
21 Randy Thompson?

22 MR. RANDY THOMPSON: No comment.

23 CHAIRMAN STEIN: No comment?

24 MR. THOMPSON: No.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay. Ward Walker?

2 MR. WARD WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
3 Council members. My name is Ward Walker, that's W-A-L-K-
4 E-R. I'm a resident of Pomfret. I just want to go on
5 record as opposing the Brooklyn overhead alternative
6 route. I do support the existing program through the
7 existing right-of-way in Brooklyn. The proposed
8 alternative route would cut through approximately 54 acres
9 of my current land and that would have to be taken through
10 eminent domain and I just want to be on record that I do
11 oppose it. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Shane Downing?

13 MR. SHANE DOWNING: How you doing? My name
14 is Shane Downing, that's D-O-W-N-I-N-G. I'm opposed to
15 the new transmission line going in, but I'm also for it
16 because I work for the company. I just want to show
17 pictures of my house. I live at 33 Meadowbrook Drive in
18 Brooklyn, Connecticut, right off of Church Street. This
19 line is within 200 feet of my house.

20 I don't feel my house should have been
21 approved where it is in the town, I bought it new, but
22 come to find out the right-of-way goes into my living
23 room. Putting this line where it's going to be is going
24 to be 100 feet from the corner of my house. I have young

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 children, there's a lot of young kids that live in that
2 neighborhood right along that section.

3 I'm opposed, but I'm not, because there's
4 other alternatives in the structures they could use
5 through the right-of-way. I'd like to talk to some of the
6 representatives later, but if I left these pictures with
7 you just to look at, I mean, they're so close and they're
8 only about 40 feet off the ground, they're on H-frame
9 structures. During the night you can hear those lines
10 buzzing.

11 Now I'm not complaining, because I bought the
12 house with them there, but I am complaining because I
13 didn't buy knowing that another 345 line was going through
14 there. So I just want to leave the pictures with you
15 guys. I have a real big concern, I have little kids.

16 I'm a lineman for the company, I know what
17 induction does, I know the effect it has on people, and I
18 know it can do some serious damage. So I'm opposed. And
19 I just want to leave my statement. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN STEIN: I'm not sure who the last
21 person that signed, is it Val Bruzzi?

22 MS. VALERIE BRUZZI: My name is Valerie
23 Bruzzi, B-R-U-Z-Z-I, and I have questions because I'm kind
24 of concerned about the EMF levels and that we already have

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 existing lines that about my property. And putting
2 another line in I'm concerned about the EMF and I want to
3 know what the distances for safe EMF levels. If you have
4 that I'd like to know it because, you know, I have a
5 little farm going on and there are a lot of people here
6 that are in my neighborhood that live right near it. And
7 that's a safety issue because I've just done a ton of
8 research regarding EMF levels and how they effect people
9 neurologically, leukemia, cancers -- funky cancers and I
10 have a concern about that. So if somebody could address
11 that with me, I'd appreciate it.

12 I mean, I see the benefits. I'm saying I
13 see what you mean about you want to have more power, but I
14 think there's alternatives. We could put America to work
15 thinking about it.

16 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Could you give us your
17 address please?

18 MS. BRUZZI: 293 Hartford Road.

19 CHAIRMAN STEIN: And in what town?

20 MS. BRUZZI: Brooklyn.

21 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay. This is the
22 beginning of the process, we will be working to get that
23 information. Right now obviously I don't have it. This
24 is our opportunity to listen and get your concerns.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 Informally, if you want to talk to the representative from
2 CL&P afterwards that's fine, but --

3 MS. BRUZZI: Is that going to go on record
4 though? I want this to go on record what the distances --

5 CHAIRMAN STEIN: -- can I let --

6 MS. BRUZZI: -- okay. All right. I'm just
7 asking. I'm not being aggressive here, I'm just
8 concerned.

9 CHAIRMAN STEIN: -- okay. There are maps
10 that have that information.

11 MS. BRUZZI: Okay. Now, I have another
12 question. When I was researching that, underground lines
13 going through town like going through the towns you have
14 in Connecticut, they passed a law that all new lines had
15 to go underground in May of 2004 I believe. Could you
16 explain that? I'm not sure (indiscernible, talking over
17 each other).

18 CHAIRMAN STEIN: At this point really,
19 we're not here for give-and-take, we're here to listen.
20 The answer is, not all lines do have to go underground.
21 But again, I don't want to -- if that's a concern of yours
22 we'll certainly take that into consideration. Thank you.

23 This is the last person I have on the list, is there
24 anyone else who would like to speak at this time? Please,

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 we'll start with you. Come forward, give us your name,
2 spell your last name please, and I guess it would be
3 helpful if you live anywhere near to give us your address.

4 MS. KATHLEEN OZIMEK: Hi. My name is
5 Kathleen Ozimek, I live on 16 Windham Road in Brooklyn. I
6 just want to say that I oppose this project. I think
7 unlike --

8 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Excuse me. Could you
9 spell your last name please?

10 MS. OZIMEK: -- I'm sorry. O-Z-I-M-E-K.
11 Where the power lines come through our property. We are
12 actually affected on two sides so we are right at a
13 corner. And then as my neighbor over here in Brooklyn,
14 it's also going to be coming to within probably about 100
15 feet of my home and we do have -- I have a small child at
16 home as well. So I just want to state my concerns
17 regarding these issues.

18 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. I believe
19 there was a hand -- yes, ma'am?

20 MS. VICTORIA HOLLO: Good evening. My name
21 is Victoria Hollo, H-O-L-L-O. I have a couple questions
22 and maybe a comment. I've lived in this community now for
23 three years, I've chosen to live here, this is a beautiful
24 place, this is a beautiful part of Connecticut to live in.

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 I'm very proud to be here.

2 But my first question is, as far as -- what
3 is going to happen to property values? I feel like we're
4 hopscotching from community to community, we're going
5 underground, we're going over ground. I'm a little
6 confused as to what's going to be in my backyard and
7 what's not. And there are power lines right now in my
8 backyard. This is important to me. So I'm a little
9 excited.

10 Let me ask you then why are we avoiding
11 schools and day cares and places like that? That's
12 telling me it's not safe for everybody. If it's not safe
13 for kids, it's not safe for adults, it's not safe for our
14 animals, it's not safe for our livestock, it's not safe
15 for anything that we have spent money or spend our lives
16 trying to build in this community. It's not safe. You're
17 answering your own question.

18 The rest of that is, we're trying to put
19 this out in the country, do we not have rights out of the
20 country? Choosing to live in the country, as opposed to
21 downtown New London, downtown Waterford, is it not more
22 important to be able to have what you have out here
23 because you've worked for it and not have it taken away by
24 whether or not they put it above ground or underground

HEARING RE: CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
APRIL 19, 2012

1 route or dig up your backyard or kill your birds or kill
2 your fish or threaten your way of life for your family
3 when they put the lines down your living room? I have
4 questions I need to have answered and you might answer
5 these questions, you might not get the right answers, you
6 might get an answer today that'll change tomorrow. I need
7 everybody to think about that. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Is there
9 anyone else who wishes to speak? If not, again, I want to
10 thank everybody for coming out and again, to repeat, the
11 next public hearing on Docket 424 will be held next
12 Tuesday, April 24th at the Mansfield Middle School
13 Auditorium in Storrs. So at this point I'm going to close
14 the public hearing and again, thank you and drive home
15 safely.

16 (Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 8:00
17 p.m.)