



56 Prospect Street  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

**Kathleen M. Shanley**  
Manager – Transmission Siting  
Tel: 860-728-4527

March 18, 2019

James Murphy, Jr., Acting Chairman  
Connecticut Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

**Re: *Docket No. 468: Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project – Final Report***

Dear Mr. Murphy:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy (Eversource) hereby provides its Final Report for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project (Project) to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council). The Project consisted of the construction of a new 115-kV transmission line between Plumtree Substation and Brookfield Junction, all within existing Eversource rights-of-way (ROWs) in the Fairfield County towns of Bethel, Danbury and Brookfield, as well as related modifications to Eversource's existing Stony Hill Substation (Town of Brookfield) and Plumtree Substation (Town of Bethel).

This Final Report is submitted in accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RSCA), Section 16-50j-62(c); the Council's Decision and Order regarding the Project; and the Council's approval of the Development and Management Plans for the Project. Pursuant RSCA Section 16-50j-62(c), the Final Report identifies the following:

1. All agreements with abutters or other property owners regarding special maintenance precautions;
2. Significant changes to the D&M plans that were required because of the property rights of underlying and adjoining owners or for other reasons;
3. The location of construction materials which have been left in place including, but not limited to, culverts, erosion control structures along watercourses and steep slopes, and corduroy roads in regulated wetlands;
4. The locations of areas where special planting and reseeding have been performed; and
5. The actual construction cost of the facility, including, but not limited to, the following costs:
  - a. Clearing and access;
  - b. Construction of the facility and associated equipment;
  - c. Rehabilitation; and
  - d. Property acquisition for the site or access to the site.

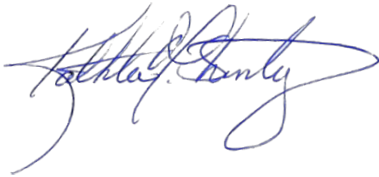
Acting Chairman Murphy  
March 18, 2019  
Page 2

In accordance with the Council's requirements, this Final Report is being provided within 180 days after the completion of all Project site construction and rehabilitation. Specifically, whereas the Project's facilities were placed in service on June 24, 2018, Eversource continued to perform Project restoration activities until September 19, 2018. Accordingly, on October 30, 2018 Eversource submitted to the Council notice of Project construction completion.

Along with this filing, Eversource is submitting a motion for a Protective Order regarding the provision of certain Project cost information.

Should you or other Council members have any questions regarding this Final Report, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at [kathleen.shanley@eversource.com](mailto:kathleen.shanley@eversource.com) or telephone at (860) 728-4527.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathleen M. Shanley". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "K" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen M. Shanley

Encl.



**SOUTHWEST CONNECTICUT RELIABILITY  
PROJECT**

(Connecticut Siting Council Docket No. 468)

**FINAL REPORT**

**MARCH 2019**

***Submitted to:***

Connecticut Siting Council

***Prepared by:***

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy

*This page intentionally left blank.*

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

#### *LIST OF ATTACHMENTS*

- Attachment 1:** All agreements with abutters or other property owners regarding special maintenance precautions.
- Attachment 2:** Significant changes to the Development and Management (D&M) plans that were required because of the property rights of underlying and adjoining owners or for other reasons.
- Attachment 3:** The location of construction materials that have been left in place including, but not limited to, culverts, erosion control structures along watercourses and steep slopes, and corduroy roads in regulated wetlands.
- Attachment 4:** The locations of areas where special planting and reseeding have been performed.
- Attachment 5:** The actual construction cost of the facility, including, but not limited to, the following costs:
- a. Clearing and access;
  - b. Construction of the facility and associated equipment;
  - c. Rehabilitation; and
  - d. Property acquisition for the site or access to the site.

*This page intentionally left blank.*

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

To bring the electric supply system in Southwest Connecticut (SWCT), including the Housatonic Valley-Norwalk-Plumtree subarea of SWCT in particular, into compliance with applicable national and regional reliability standards and criteria, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy (Eversource or the Company) constructed and is presently operating a new 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line (the 1887 Line) and related improvements to the electric system in Fairfield County, Connecticut. These improvements, referred to as the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project (the Project; refer to Figure 1), consist of:

- The new approximately 3.4-mile 115-kV 1887 Line, located entirely within an existing Eversource right-of-way (ROW) and traversing between Eversource's Plumtree Substation in the Town of Bethel, through the eastern portion of the City of Danbury, to Brookfield Junction<sup>1</sup> in the Town of Brookfield. The new 3.4-mile line, which extends the 1887 Line to Plumtree Substation<sup>2</sup>, parallels and is co-located within the same ROW as two other overhead transmission lines - the 321 Line (345-kV) and the former 1770 Line, now referred to as the 1268 Line (115-kV).
- Modifications within the developed area of Eversource's Plumtree Substation to interconnect the 1887 Line extension to the transmission system.
- Modifications to Eversource's Stony Hill Substation (located in the Town of Brookfield), all within or adjacent to the substation and consisting of: (1) the connection of an existing 115-kV capacitor bank to a different bus; and (2) the reconfiguration of the existing 1770 and 1887 overhead 115-kV lines, both of which previously connected to the substation. As now configured, the 1887 Line bypasses Stony Hill Substation; the former 1770 Line loops into the substation, and has been renumbered as the 1268 Line (which extends from Stony Hill Substation to Plumtree Substation) and the 1485 Line (which extends from Stony Hill Substation to Bates Rock Substation in the Town of Southbury).

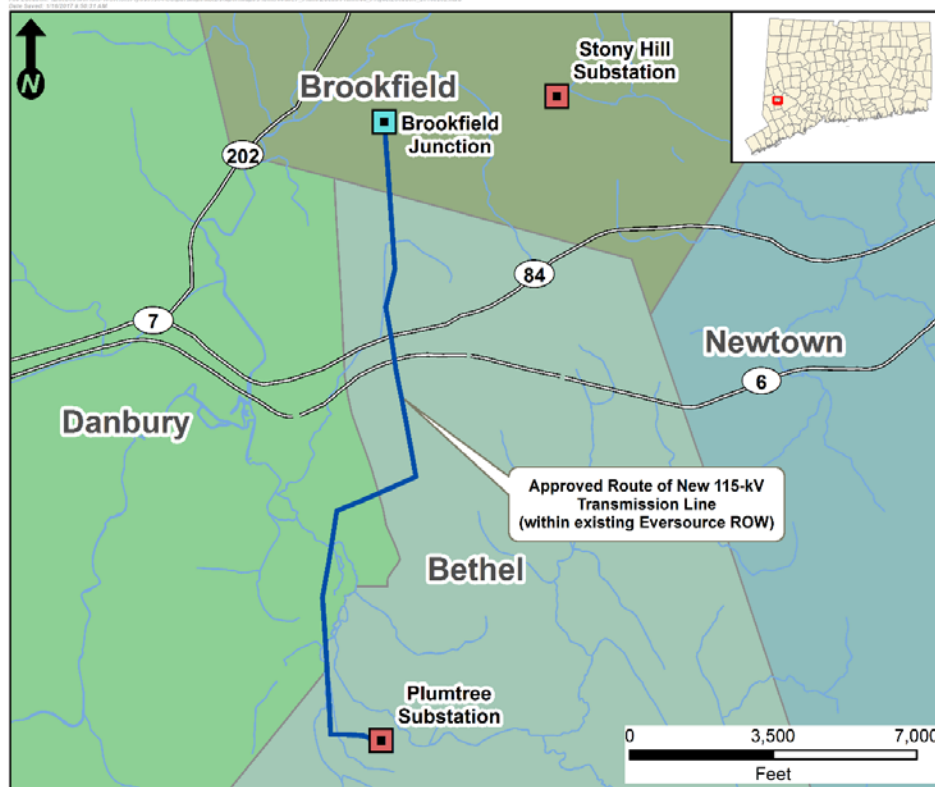
On June 29, 2016, Eversource submitted to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council or CSC) an *Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need* for the Project (Council Docket No. 468). After a public comment and evidentiary hearing, on November 10, 2016, the Council issued a Decision and Order (D&O) approving the Project.

---

<sup>1</sup> A transmission system "junction" is a location where different transmission lines intersect.

<sup>2</sup> The 1887 Line now is a three-terminal line connecting Plumtree Substation, West Brookfield Substation (located in the Town of Brookfield), and Shepaug Substation (located in the Town of Southbury).

Figure 1: Project Location



Subsequently, in accordance with the conditions of the Council's D&O, Eversource prepared Development and Management (D&M) Plans<sup>3</sup> for the Project, which were submitted to the Council on June 15, 2017. The Council approved the D&M Plans on July 20, 2017. Project construction, which was performed pursuant to the Council's requirements (D&M Plans) and the regulations of other involved federal and state agencies, commenced in the fourth quarter of 2017.

The Project facilities were placed into service on June 24, 2018. ROW restoration/stabilization began in the second quarter of 2018 and continued through mid-September 2018, when Eversource determined that the areas affected by Project construction had achieved rehabilitation or stabilization. To verify the success of the ROW rehabilitation, in accordance with the Project's regulatory requirements, the Project ROW was monitored by an Eversource environmental representative for an additional three months, through early December 2018.

<sup>3</sup> Eversource prepared two Project D&M Plans: one for the new transmission line and one for the modifications to Plumtree and Stony Hill substations. Each D&M Plan consisted of two volumes (text and mapping), as well as a third volume, which provided plans, procedures, and other data applicable to the Project as a whole.



This Final Report to the Council regarding the Project provides information pursuant to the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RSCA), Section 16-50j-62(c); the Council's D&O in Docket No. 468; and the Project's D&M Plan, Volume 3, Attachment A, Section A.3.3. In particular, the Final Report identifies the following:

- Attachment 1: All agreements with abutters or other property owners regarding special maintenance precautions;
- Attachment 2: Significant changes to the D&M Plans that were required because of the property rights of underlying and adjoining owners or for other reasons;
- Attachment 3: The location of construction materials that have been left in place including, but not limited to, culverts, erosion control structures along watercourses and steep slopes, and corduroy roads in regulated wetlands;
- Attachment 4: The locations of areas where special planting and reseeding have been performed; and
- Attachment 5: The actual construction cost of the facility, including, but not limited to, the following costs:
  - a. Clearing and access;
  - b. Construction of the facility and associated equipment;
  - c. Rehabilitation; and
  - d. Property acquisition for the site or access to the site.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### AGREEMENTS WITH ABUTTERS OR OTHER PROPERTY OWNERS REGARDING SPECIAL MAINTENANCE PRECAUTIONS

For the construction of the Project facilities, Eversource used its existing ROW and fee-owned properties and, as necessary, entered into real estate easement agreements with property owners for use of private properties. In some cases, landowner/abutter agreements included provisions pertaining to vegetation preservation and special maintenance requirements, such as the installation of gates and fencing. Table 1-1 summarizes such agreements.

**Table 1-1: Agreements Implemented Regarding Vegetation Preservation, Fencing, and Gates**

D&M Plan Mapsheet No.	Municipality	Nearest Structure Number	Line List Number	Description
3	Bethel	1007	402 (Town of Bethel)	At the request of the town, two gate posts and two bollards were installed as part of a chain gate on the town's access road from Shelter Rock Road.
7	Bethel	1014	236	Gate installed at access entrance to Structure 1014 from Hearthstone Drive (per landowner request).
7/8	Bethel	1015	235	An existing tree buffer was maintained (within Eversource property) between edge of the ROW and residential property. Screen plantings were also installed (refer to Table 4-1).  Gate installed at access entrance to Structure 1015 from Chimney Drive (per landowner request).
9	Bethel	1017	222 (Bethel Land Trust)	Gate installed at access entrance to Structure 1017 from Skye Edge Lane (per landowner request).

## ATTACHMENT 2

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE D&M PLANS

During the construction of the Project, Eversource requested and the Council approved significant changes to the D&M plans. Table 2-1 summarizes these changes, including the rationale for the change, date requested, and date approved by the Council.

**Table 2-1: SWCT Project (Docket 468): Significant D&M Plan Changes**

Change Request No.	Description of Change	Date Submitted to CSC	Date Approved by the CSC
1	Eversource proposed to use a material laydown and staging yard (6 acres of 7.6-acre property) at 29 Stony Hill Road, Town of Bethel.	9/12/2017	9/14/2017
2	Eversource proposed to shift the access road between Structures 1011 and 1012 (City of Danbury) farther into the ROW to avoid slopes associated with large piles of compacted soils and similar materials. The shifted access road consisted entirely of temporary timber mats and was located in wetland W1.	2/13/2018	2/14/2018

### ATTACHMENT 3

#### LOCATIONS WHERE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS ARE LEFT IN PLACE

All of the construction materials left in place as a result of the Project pertain to long-term ROW access, ROW stabilization, or best management practices (BMPs) for permanent erosion/sedimentation control. In certain upland areas of the ROW, work pads at structure sites and gravel roads remain in place to provide access to facilitate Eversource's future transmission line maintenance, vegetation management, and emergency repairs.

All work pads and gravel access roads left in place are pursuant to landowner approvals and as depicted on the D&M Plan maps.<sup>4</sup> In addition to the work pads depicted as being left in place on the D&M Plan maps, at the request of the landowners, the following gravel access roads or work pads remain:

- Line List #222 (Bethel Land Trust): gravel work pad and road (Structure 1017, access from Sky Edge Lane) left in place for use as parking.
- Line List #101 (Town of Brookfield): gravel roads between Structures 1023 and 1026. These existing roads were upgraded with gravel, per the request of the landowner, and left in place.

In addition, as listed in Table 3-1, permanent BMPs for soil erosion and sedimentation protection have been installed in five locations along the ROW. These BMPs consist of check dams, sedimentation basins, and swales.

---

<sup>4</sup> Work pads within parking lots and manicured lawns were removed and affected areas were restored (Structures 1019-1022).

**Table 3-1: Locations of Permanent BMPs along SWCT ROW**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>D&amp;M Plan Mapsheet No.</b>	<b>Structure No.</b>	<b>Permanent BMPs</b>
<b>Danbury</b>			
	4/5	1008-1009	Two riprap check dams (approximately 3-4 feet wide) on east side of access road between Structures 1008 and 1009
	5	1009	Five riprap check dams (each approximately 3-4 feet wide) on the east side of access road directly south of Structure 1009. Swales, check dams, and sedimentation basins on sloped area east of Structure 1009 work pad
	6	1012	Gravel sedimentation basin within ROW along Old Sherman Turnpike
	6	1013	Swale with riprap check dams and sedimentation basin along south side of access road to Structure 1013 from Old Sherman Turnpike. Stone swale is approximately 7 feet wide; small stone drainage on north side of access road (approximately 2 feet wide)
<b>Bethel</b>			
	7	1014	Stone sedimentation basins and check dams along access road to Structure 1014 from Hearthstone Drive
<b>Brookfield</b>			
	13	1026-1027	Stone dams and ditches remain adjacent to gravel road where road slope is moderately steep

## ATTACHMENT 4

### LOCATIONS OF AREAS OF SPECIAL PLANTINGS AND RESEEDING

Eversource performed restoration, including reseeded, of the areas affected by Project construction in accordance with the standard protocols identified in the D&M Plans. As listed in Table 4-1, in certain areas affected by the Project in the Town of Bethel<sup>5</sup>, Eversource also installed special plantings, per landowner requests. No special reseeded was required or performed for the Project.

**Table 4-1: List of Locations of Special Plantings along the Project ROW**

Line List No.	D&M Plan Mapsheet No.	Location / Structure No.	Plantings / Seeding
408	1A	Plumtree Substation access road (abutter at 18 Walnut Hill Road)	Remove overgrown bushes and forsythia bush along access road to substation; fill holes with topsoil and seed with grass.
402	3	1007	Per Town of Bethel request, four trees planted along the existing off-ROW access road from Shelter Rock Road to the town Parks and Recreation Department shed. (Plantings adjacent to pond, associated with Wetland 1, near access road.) Phragmites (Common Reed) also mowed in area as part of plant installation.
237	7	1014	Stumps ground per landowner request; plantings installed for screening along property line.
236	7	1014	Plantings installed prior to construction and – after initial plantings did not survive – plantings were replaced in spring 2018.
235	7/8	1015	Planted spruce tree (to replace damaged tree) and relocated seven arborvitaes to front of house, per landowner request.  Ground stumps; spread stockpiled topsoil over pull pad.
224	8	1016 7 Sky Edge Lane	Ground two stumps located on property line shared with Eversource; areas filled with soil and seeded. Plantings installed for ROW screening.
214	10	1020	Replacement plantings
210	11	29 Birch Drive (abutter, southeast of Str. 1021)	Extensive replacement plantings installed to screen back of residential property from view of ROW.

<sup>5</sup> No special plantings were requested along Project areas in the City of Danbury or Town of Brookfield.

**ATTACHMENT 5****ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION COST OF THE FACILITY**

The actual construction cost of the Project is as follows:

<b>Cost Categories</b>	<b>Total (\$,000)</b>
• Clearing and Access	\$***
• Overhead Transmission Line Construction	\$***
• Substation Modifications: Construction	\$***
• ROW Rehabilitation	\$***
• Property Rights Acquisition	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,508.90</b>

\*\*\*This cost data is CONFIDENTIAL PROPRIETARY INFORMATION that is subject to Eversource's proposed protective order.