

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

<p><b>DOCKET NO. 468</b> - The Connecticut Light &amp; Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kV overhead electric transmission line entirely within existing Eversource right-of-way and associated facilities extending approximately 3.4 miles between Eversource's existing Plumtree Substation in the Town of Bethel to its existing Brookfield Junction in the Town of Brookfield; (b) reconfiguration of two existing 115-kV double-circuit electric transmission lines at Eversource's existing Stony Hill Substation in the Town of Brookfield; and (c) related substation modifications</p>	<p style="text-align:center"><b>DOCKET NO. 468</b></p> <p style="text-align:center">September 15, 2016</p>
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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RAYMOND GAGNON, ALLEN SCARFONE, FARAH OMOKARO, AND CHRISTOPHER SODERMAN ON BEHALF OF THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY DOING BUSINESS AS EVERSOURCE ENERGY CONCERNING ENGINEERING, DESIGN, ROUTE SELECTION, PROJECT NEED, CONSTRUCTION, EMF CHARACTERISTICS, AND OUTREACH FOR THE SOUTHWEST CONNECTICUT RELIABILITY PROJECT**

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1 **1. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please identify yourselves.**

3

4 A. [Mr. Gagnon] I am Raymond Gagnon, Director - Transmission Projects,  
5 employed by Eversource Energy Service Company (Eversource Service), an affiliated  
6 company that provides services to The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing  
7 business as Eversource Energy (Eversource).

8 [Mr. Scarfone] I am Allen Scarfone, Manager – Transmission System Planning,  
9 employed by Eversource Service.

10 [Mrs. Omokaro] I am Farah Omokaro, Senior Engineer- Transmission Planning &  
11 Siting, employed by Eversource Service.

12 [Mr. Soderman] I am Christopher Soderman, Senior Engineer- Transmission Line  
13 Engineering, employed by Eversource Service.

14 Our professional qualifications and experience are set out in our respective  
15 resumes provided in a separate volume along with this testimony.

16 **Q. What is the relationship of Eversource Service to the applicant,**  
17 **Eversource?**

18 A. Eversource Service provides administrative and engineering services to  
19 Eversource and the other Eversource Energy subsidiaries. Eversource Service has  
20 provided the “in-house” resources for the development of the Southwest Connecticut  
21 Reliability Project (Project).

22

23

24           **Q.     Does Eversource expect to call on any other personnel to respond to**  
25 **planning, engineering or other technical issues?**

26           A.     David Coleman of Eversource Service may be called upon to respond to  
27 questions relating to analytical, system planning, or engineering design topics, while  
28 Anthony Johnson of Eversource Service may be called to answer questions concerning  
29 vegetation management.    In addition, Dr. Gabor Mezei of Exponent, Inc. will be  
30 available to respond to questions concerning his report, *Research on Extremely Low*  
31 *Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields and Health, August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2015*, a  
32 copy of which was submitted as Exhibit 7D to the Application.  Their resumes and the  
33 resumes of other potential witnesses are provided to the Council in a separate volume.

34           **Q.     What responsibility have you had in connection with the Application**  
35 **to the Siting Council?**

36           A.     We have supervised the preparation and submission of the Application and  
37 interrogatory responses.  The Application was compiled under our supervision by  
38 Eversource Service staff and engineering and environmental consultants.

39           **Q.     Do you have any additions or corrections to make to any of the**  
40 **information in the Application?**

41           A.     Yes, we have some minor additions and clarifications.  We inadvertently  
42 omitted data regarding our calculations of post-Project electric fields along the Project  
43 right-of-way (ROW) from Table 7C-1 on page 7C-3 of Appendix 7C.  Attachment 1 to  
44 this testimony contains a replacement page 7C-3 that adds the omitted information to  
45 Table 7C-1.

46 In addition, we should clarify that, in our discussion of electric and magnetic  
47 fields in the Application, we referred to one of the Focus Areas in section 7 of the  
48 Application as “Hearthstone Drive in Bethel” (pp. 7-7, 7-8), and then referred to the same  
49 Focus Area in Appendix 7B as the “Chimney Drive Focus Area” (pp. 7B-8, 7B-9). These  
50 terms refer to the same focus area in Bethel, which includes portions of both Hearthstone  
51 Drive and Chimney Drive.

52 Finally, page 5-46 of the Application incorrectly states that the existing Stony Hill  
53 Substation occupies 3.2 acres of a 24.0-acre parcel. The correct figures are that the  
54 existing Stony Hill Substation occupies approximately 1.7 acres of an 18.8-acre  
55 Eversource parcel, as correctly reflected on page 12-1 of the Application.

56 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

57 A. The purpose of our testimony is to provide a high-level summary of the  
58 Project. We will cover the following topics:

- 59 1. Overview and General Location of the Project;
- 60 2. Modifications to Substations and Reconfiguration of 115-kV lines;
- 61 3. Need for the Project;
- 62 4. Cost and Schedule;
- 63 5. Route Selection;
- 64 6. System Alternatives;
- 65 7. Construction;
- 66 8. Electric and Magnetic Fields;
- 67 9. Safety and Security;
- 68 10. Municipal Consultations & Outreach; and

69 11. Statutory Compliance.

70 In addition, Eversource’s environmental consultants, Louise Mango of Phenix  
71 Environmental, Inc. and Paul Knapik of BSC Group, are filing Direct Testimony  
72 regarding environmental matters concerning the Project, while Julia Frayer of London  
73 Economics International is filing Direct Testimony regarding her analysis of non-  
74 transmission alternatives. The resumes of these witnesses are also included in the  
75 separate volume.

76 **2. OVERVIEW AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

77

78 **Q. Please describe the Project.**

79 A. The Project consists of a new, approximately 3.4-mile 115-kilovolt (kV)  
80 overhead electric transmission line from Eversource’s existing Plumtree Substation in the  
81 Town of Bethel, through the eastern portion of the City of Danbury, to Brookfield  
82 Junction<sup>1</sup> in the Town of Brookfield. The new 115-kV line will be connected to Plumtree  
83 Substation within the existing substation fenceline, and minor modifications will be made  
84 at that substation. Eversource also proposes to reconfigure existing 115-kV line  
85 interconnections at its existing Stony Hill Substation, also located in the Town of  
86 Brookfield, and to make modifications at Stony Hill Substation. All of the proposed  
87 Project facilities and modifications would be accommodated within Eversource’s existing  
88 transmission line ROWs or on Eversource-owned property.

89 **Q. Please briefly describe the purpose of the Project.**

90 A. These proposed electric transmission system upgrades are required to  
91 improve the reliability of the 115- kV electric system in the Southwest Connecticut  
92 (SWCT) area generally and in the Housatonic Valley-Norwalk–Plumtree sub-area of

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

93 SWCT (referred to herein as the Housatonic Valley sub-area) in particular. Figure ES-1  
94 from the Application, provided as Attachment 2 to this testimony, illustrates the existing  
95 electric transmission system in SWCT, including the Housatonic Valley sub-area. By  
96 bringing a new transmission source into the Housatonic Valley sub-area, the Project will  
97 address thermal overloads and voltage violations identified in studies conducted by  
98 Independent System Operator New England, Inc. (ISO-NE), the independent regional  
99 system planning authority for the New England states.

100 **Q. Please indicate the location of the new 115-kV line.**

101 A. Figure 1-1 from the Application, provided as Attachment 3, illustrates  
102 the Proposed Route for the new 115-kV line, as well as the location of Brookfield  
103 Junction and Stony Hill Substation. The Proposed Route begins at the existing  
104 Plumtree Substation in Bethel and traverses in roughly a northerly direction as it  
105 crosses through Bethel, the eastern portion of Danbury, and back into Bethel before  
106 entering Brookfield and ending at Brookfield Junction. All of the proposed Project  
107 facilities would be accommodated within Eversource's existing transmission line  
108 ROW or on Eversource-owned property. This ROW has been devoted to utility use  
109 for decades.

110 **Q. How much of the Proposed Route is in each of the three towns**  
111 **traversed by the Project.**

112 A. The table on the next page shows the portion of the Project in each of  
113 these towns:

114

115

116  
117

**ROW Length and Width by Municipality**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Eversource ROW Characteristics</b>	
	<b>Length (Approx. Miles)</b>	<b>Width Range (Feet, Typical)</b>
Bethel	2.2	175-225
Danbury	0.9	175
Brookfield	0.3	175
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.4</b>	

118

119 **Q. Describe the existing transmission lines in the ROW, and the**  
120 **changes in the ROW that will occur as a result of the construction of the new**  
121 **115-kV line.**

122 A. The Proposed Route for the new 115-kV transmission line would be  
123 entirely within Eversource’s existing approximately 175-to-225-foot-wide  
124 transmission line ROW, adjacent to two existing overhead lines (a 115-kV line [the  
125 1770 Line] and a 345-kV line [the 321 Line]), which are supported together on  
126 double circuit structures. The 1770 and 321 lines are supported on steel lattice or  
127 monopole structures that are approximately 85 feet tall near Plumtree Substation, but  
128 are typically 150 feet in height along the majority of the ROW.

129 The proposed new overhead 115-kV line would be aligned east of the existing lines  
130 on weathering steel monopole structures in a vertical configuration. The new  
131 monopole structures would have typical structure heights of 95-135 feet above  
132 ground, depending on terrain, with the exception of the first segment of the new line  
133 just west of Plumtree Substation, where four three-pole weathering steel structures in  
134 a horizontal configuration approximately 30-40 feet in height would be installed.

135 Thus, depending on terrain, the new 115-kV structures would typically be



136 substantially shorter than the existing double-circuit 345-kV/115-kV transmission  
137 line structures on the ROW.

138 **Q. Will the existing structures in the ROW have to be relocated or**  
139 **rebuilt to allow for construction of the new 115-kV line?**

140 A. No. The existing Eversource ROW is sufficiently wide to  
141 accommodate the new monopoles without requiring the relocation or rebuilding of  
142 any existing structures.

143 **Q. Will the Project require acquisition of additional property rights to**  
144 **expand the ROW or the acquisition of additional property at Plumtree or Stony Hill**  
145 **Substations?**

146 A. No, the existing ROW will not have to be expanded, and Eversource will  
147 not need to acquire any property at Plumtree or Stony Hill Substations. No additional  
148 easements would be required for the Project, with the possible exception of off-ROW  
149 road easements for access.

150 **3. MODIFICATIONS TO SUBSTATIONS AND RECONFIGURATION OF**  
151 **115-kV LINES**  
152

153 **Q. Briefly describe the existing Plumtree Substation.**

154 A. Plumtree Substation, which was built approximately 44 years ago, is  
155 located at 16 Walnut Hill Road in the western portion of the Town of Bethel. The  
156 developed (fenced) substation occupies approximately 4.6 acres of a 13.8 acre-  
157 Eversource property that is otherwise characterized as predominantly forested. Five  
158 115-kV and two 345-kV transmission lines presently connect to the substation.

159

160

161 **Q. What modifications to Plumtree Substation are planned?**

162 A. At Plumtree Substation, the new 115-kV transmission line would connect  
163 to a spare position, which currently includes equipment and structures to accommodate  
164 the new line. The new 115-kV line would be terminated on the existing steel A-frame  
165 structure and would tie into the substation between two existing 115-kV circuit breakers.  
166 Terminal equipment, including the line disconnect switch and wave trap, would be  
167 upgraded to meet the new 115-kV line capacity requirements. In addition, new  
168 protection, control, and indication equipment would be installed.

169 **Q. Would all of the modifications at Plumtree Substation take place**  
170 **within the existing fenced-in area at Plumtree Substation?**

171 A. Yes. There is no need to expand the substation's fenced-in area.

172 **Q. Briefly describe the existing Stony Hill Substation.**

173 A. Stony Hill Substation, which is located at 49 Stony Hill Road in the  
174 southern portion of the Town of Brookfield, is situated adjacent to the existing 115-kV  
175 1770 / 1887 line ROW, approximately 0.8 mile east of Brookfield Junction. The  
176 property is bordered to the north by a railroad, to the west by Stony Hill Road, to the  
177 south by Deer Trail Drive, and to the east by undeveloped land. The existing (fenced)  
178 substation occupies approximately 1.7 acres of an 18.8-acre Eversource property that  
179 is otherwise characterized as predominantly forested. The substation was constructed  
180 approximately 27 years ago. The substation property is presently accessible via an  
181 access road off Stony Hill Road on the northern portion of the Eversource property.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> As part of modifications to the Stony Hill Substation that are part of a separate submission to the Council (Petition 1230), Eversource proposed to expand the substation and to develop a new access road to the station. The Siting Council approved this petition on June 23, 2016. The precise location of this new access road has not yet been determined.

182 On-ROW existing access roads continue eastward along the existing 1770 and 1887  
183 lines corridor and to the south along the railroad. The surrounding land use is  
184 characterized by forested and residential areas. Two 115-kV lines presently connect to  
185 the substation.

186 **Q. What modifications to Stony Hill Substation and existing 115-kV**  
187 **interconnections at the substation are planned for the Project?**

188 A. Modifications will be made to both equipment within Stony Hill  
189 Substation and to two existing 115-kV transmission lines (i.e., the 1770 Line and the  
190 1887 Line) that presently connect to the substation. The proposed work will be  
191 performed on Eversource property within or adjacent to the substation. The work within  
192 the fenceline includes: (1) connecting an existing 115-kV capacitor bank to a different  
193 bus; and (2) reconfiguring two existing overhead 115-kV lines, both of which presently  
194 connect to the substation.

195 **Q. Please describe the modification to the existing 115-kV**  
196 **interconnections at Stony Hill Substation in greater detail.**

197 A. Eversource proposes to reconfigure the existing three-terminal 1770 Line  
198 that extends into Plumtree Substation from Bates Rock Substation (in the Town of  
199 Southbury) into separate two-terminal lines, one between Plumtree and Stony Hill  
200 substations and the other between Stony Hill and Bates Rock substations. After this  
201 reconfiguration, the 1770 Line would be re-numbered (although no physical changes  
202 would be made to the line other than at Stony Hill Substation). Thus, from Plumtree to  
203 Stony Hill substations, the existing 1770 Line would be re-designated the 1268 Line,  
204 whereas the portion of the 1770 Line connecting Stony Hill and Bates Rock substations

205 would become the 1485 Line. In addition, we would reconfigure the existing 1887 Line  
206 into a three-terminal line between Plumtree, West Brookfield, and Shepaug substations.  
207 The existing 1887 Line interconnection to Stony Hill Substation would be eliminated.  
208 Thus, after the proposed reconfiguration, the 1887 Line would bypass Stony Hill  
209 Substation.

210 The reconfiguration work would include the removal of three existing structures  
211 associated with the existing 1770/1887 line interconnections to the substation. The  
212 structures to be removed are wood poles with typical heights of approximately 85 feet  
213 that are located on Eversource property north of the substation fence. Two new  
214 structures would be installed to re-connect Stony Hill Substation to the 1770 Line (which  
215 then would be re-designated as the 1268 and 1485 lines). One of these structures, which  
216 would support the newly-designated 1268 Line and consist of an approximately 85-foot-  
217 tall direct embedded weathering steel structure, whereas the structure that would support  
218 the newly-designated 1485 Line would be an approximately 70-foot-tall engineered steel  
219 pole on a caisson foundation.

220 **Q. Why is Eversource reconfiguring these 115-kV lines at Stony Hill**  
221 **Substation?**

222 A. The reconfiguration of the 115-kV line connections at Stony Hill  
223 Substation is part of a cost effective reliability solution in that this work eliminates the  
224 need to perform other system upgrades that would otherwise be necessary. Specifically,  
225 the reconfiguration work will avoid the need to reconductor other existing 115-kV  
226 transmission lines and install additional reactive compensation in the local area.

227           **Q.     Describe the modifications that Eversource is proposing within the**  
228 **fenceline of Stony Hill Substation?**

229           A.     Within the substation, the existing 22K 115-kV capacitor bank connection  
230 to Bus A1 would be removed and the capacitor bank would instead be connected to  
231 existing Bus A3. This work would include the removal of existing bus-related equipment  
232 and support structures and the installation of new bus equipment and support facilities.  
233 Lightning arrestors would also be installed at the ends of the new underground cable for  
234 the electrical relocation of the capacitor bank.

235           **Q.     What access road will be used for the work at Stony Hill Substation?**

236           A.     Eversource expects to use the existing access road off Stony Hill Road on  
237 the northern portion of the Eversource property. In addition, Eversource may also use a  
238 new access road that may be constructed in connection with the substation expansion  
239 approved in Petition 1230. In Petition 1230, Eversource proposed to construct the new  
240 access road off Stony Hill Road on the western portion of the Eversource property. The  
241 Siting Council has requested that Eversource evaluate constructing this access road off of  
242 Deer Trail Drive on the southern portion of the property. Therefore, there is a potential,  
243 if this access road is constructed as part of Petition 1230, it may be used for work  
244 associated with SWCT Project work at Stony Hill Substation as well.

245  
246 **4. NEED FOR TRANSMISSION UPGRADES IN THE HOUSATONIC VALLEY**  
247 **SUB-AREA**

248  
249           **Q.     What was the process by which the need for the Project was**  
250 **determined?**

251           A.     The need for the Project was identified by a working group (the Working  
252 Group) led by ISO-NE, which consisted of members from ISO-NE, Eversource and The

253 United Illuminating Company (UI). The Working Group was formed to prepare a “10-  
254 year look ahead” evaluating the reliability of the transmission system serving the SWCT  
255 study area for the projected system conditions in 2022.

256 The SWCT study area includes the following sub-areas:

- 257 • Housatonic Valley-Norwalk-Plumtree sub-area (the location of the upgrades  
258 proposed in this Application);
- 259 • Frost Bridge-Naugatuck Valley sub-area;
- 260 • New Haven-Southington sub-area;
- 261 • Bridgeport sub-area;
- 262 • Glenbrook-Stamford sub-area.

263  
264 The findings and conclusions of the Working Group regarding the SWCT study  
265 area are set forth in two reports, *SWCT Connecticut Area Transmission 2022 Needs*  
266 *Assessment (SWCT Needs Report)* and *SWCT Connecticut Area Transmission 2022*  
267 *Solutions Study Report (SWCT Solutions Report)*. (Copies of these reports are included  
268 in Volume IV of the Application.) These reports identified, respectively, the need for  
269 upgrades to resolve reliability problems throughout SWCT, and the specific solutions  
270 designed to address these needs, including the upgrades in the Housatonic Valley sub-  
271 area that are the subject of this Application.

272 **Q. What were the conclusions of the Working Group regarding the need**  
273 **for transmission upgrades in the Housatonic Valley sub-area?**

274 A. The planning studies conducted by the Working Group showed that there  
275 were violations of both thermal and voltage criteria in the Housatonic Valley sub-area.  
276 The electric system in the Housatonic Valley sub-area load pocket is subject to overloads  
277 when the system attempts to serve peak load under contingent conditions. All of the

278 criteria violations for the Housatonic Valley sub-area were related to serving load *within*  
279 the pocket, as opposed to power transferring through the sub-area to serve another part of  
280 the system. The Working Group determined that, when contingencies removed one or  
281 more transmission supplies to this load pocket, the remaining transmission connections  
282 and local generation in the Housatonic Valley sub-area were insufficient to serve the  
283 load, resulting in thermal overloads and severe low voltage conditions.

284 **Q. Did ISO-NE consider the need for transmission improvements in each**  
285 **of the SWCT sub-areas separately?**

286 A. Yes. Although the Working Group considered potential interdependencies  
287 in the load serving needs and potential solutions for all of the SWCT sub-areas, the study  
288 did evaluate needs and solutions that were specific to each sub-area, including the  
289 Housatonic Valley sub-area. The Working Group combined the Housatonic Valley sub-  
290 area and the Frost Bridge-Naugatuck Valley sub-area to evaluate possible interactions  
291 between these sub-areas, and then considered both “local” and “global” solutions to the  
292 reliability issues in these two sub-areas. The two “local solutions” that were developed  
293 and evaluated for the Housatonic Valley sub-area were designed to solve the violations in  
294 each individual load pocket separately, while the two potential “global solutions”  
295 considered for the Housatonic Valley sub-area and the Frost Bridge-Naugatuck Valley  
296 sub-area were intended to provide an additional transmission line linking these two sub-  
297 areas that would be mutually beneficial. The Working Group ultimately determined that  
298 the optimal solution for the Housatonic Valley sub-area was a “local” solution (referred  
299 to as “Local 2”) that would address the reliability needs in the Housatonic Valley sub-  
300 area separately from those in the Frost Bridge-Naugatuck Valley sub-area.

301           **Q.     Had the need for the Project been identified in prior planning studies**  
302 **conducted by ISO-NE prior to the formation of the Working Group?**

303           A.     Yes. In studies conducted over 15 years ago that led to the construction of  
304 major projects approved by the Council in Docket 217 (Bethel - Norwalk 345-kV line),  
305 Docket 272 (Middletown - Norwalk 345-kV line), and Docket 292 (Glenbrook -  
306 Norwalk 115-kV cables), transmission planners noted that several 115-kV lines within  
307 SWCT were near or above their thermal loading limits, that some 115-kV substations in  
308 the SWCT area had low voltage issues, and that these issues would not be fully resolved  
309 by construction of the 345-kV loop. At that time, transmission planners determined that  
310 the region's 345-kV projects would move forward, and that follow-up studies would be  
311 performed to identify and then correct any local criteria violations in SWCT. The  
312 SWCT Reliability Project arose out of these follow-up studies.

313           **Q.     How does the proposed 115-kV line and the other work described in**  
314 **the Application improve the reliability of the transmission system in the Housatonic**  
315 **Valley sub-area?**

316           A.     The planning studies demonstrated that thermal and voltage violations  
317 occurred following the loss of one or more transmission sources that feed the Housatonic  
318 Valley sub-area load pocket. Therefore, the Working Group determined that a new  
319 supply source into the sub-area was needed. The proposed 115-kV line will bring in a  
320 new transmission source to serve the Housatonic Valley sub-area.

321           The new 115-kV line would be an extension of the 1887 Line, so that when this  
322 Project is completed, the 1887 Line will be a three-terminal line connecting Plumtree  
323 Substation, West Brookfield Substation, and Shepaug Substation. (See Attachment 4 for



324 diagrams included in the Application that show the pre-Project and post-Project  
325 configuration of the 1887 line and 1770 lines, and how the new line coupled with the  
326 reconfiguration work will provide a new 115-kV source into the Housatonic Valley sub-  
327 area.) This new 115-kV line, which will be available to serve the reliability needs of all  
328 customers in the load pocket, including those in municipalities of Bethel, Danbury, and  
329 Brookfield, provides: (1) an additional system element to share the load that is  
330 automatically redistributed upon the failure of other system elements; and (2) a source to  
331 help maintain continuity of supply to the load from external sources in such an event.

332 **Q. Why does Eversource propose to reconfigure the capacitor bank bus**  
333 **connections at Stony Hill Substation?**

334 A. There are currently three capacitor banks in Stony Hill Substation, two  
335 rated at 37.8 MVAR (mega volt amps (reactive)) and one rated at 25.2 MVAR. The two  
336 37.8 MVAR capacitor banks are connected to the “A1” 115-kV bus, while the 25.2  
337 MVAR capacitor bank is connected to the “A2” 115-kV bus. The SWCT planning  
338 studies showed that there are contingencies involving these capacitors that would cause  
339 low voltage violations at several substations. Reconfiguring one of Stony Hill  
340 Substation’s 37.8 MVAR capacitor banks to the same side as the 25.2 MVAR capacitor  
341 bank will improve the post-contingent voltage in the area.

342 **Q. Is the Project part of a long-range plan for expansion of Connecticut’s**  
343 **power grid that serves the public need for adequate, reliable and economic service?**

344 A. Yes. The Project is a key component of a set of transmission  
345 improvements in Connecticut coordinated by ISO-NE that are included in ISO-NE’s

346 Regional System Plan and that will ensure compliance with reliability criteria through  
347 2022.

348 **Q. Are there other improvements to the transmission system in the**  
349 **Housatonic Valley Sub-area that Eversource is planning?**

350 A. Yes. There are other improvements in the Housatonic Valley sub-area  
351 referenced in the *SWCT Solutions Report* that are being implemented separately from the  
352 Project. These projects include: (i) installing a synchronous condenser at Stony Hill  
353 Substation; (ii) reconductoring the 1887 Line in Brookfield between West Brookfield  
354 Substation and West Brookfield Junction; (iii) installing two 14.4 MVAR capacitor banks  
355 at West Brookfield Substation; (iv) rebuilding a portion of the 115-kV 1682 Line  
356 between Wilton Substation in Wilton and Norwalk Substation in Norwalk; (v)  
357 reconductoring the 115-kV 1470-1 Line from Wilton Substation to Ridgefield Junction in  
358 Redding; and (vi) reconductoring the 1470-3 Line from Peaceable Substation in Redding  
359 to Ridgefield Junction. All of these improvements will be completed prior to or  
360 contemporaneous with the in-service date of the Project.

361 These other improvements, which provide independent reliability benefits to the  
362 region, are the subject of separate filings with the Siting Council in the form of petitions  
363 for declaratory rulings or notices of exempt modifications, and these filings are either  
364 currently pending before the Council or will be filed in the near future.

## 365 **5. COST AND SCHEDULE**

366 **Q. What is the estimated cost of the Project?**

367 A. The estimated capital cost of the Project is approximately \$24.4 million.

368 **Q. Does Eversource expect that the costs of the Project will be**  
369 **“regionalized”?**

370 A. ISO-NE makes the determination of whether all costs of a project are  
371 regionalized. As currently designed, we expect that all costs of the Project would be  
372 subject to regional cost support. However, if ISO-NE were to determine that the Project,  
373 as built, includes some costs that are incurred to satisfy “local” requirements, such costs  
374 would likely be localized.

375 **Q. If the costs are regionalized, then what share would Connecticut’s**  
376 **electricity customers pay?**

377 A. Connecticut’s electricity customers (not just Eversource customers) would  
378 pay approximately 25% of the Project costs, assuming all costs were to be regionalized.

379 **Q. What is the anticipated timetable for construction?**

380 A. Project construction is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2018.

381 **Q. What is the tentative in-service date for the Project?**

382 A. The tentative in-service date is December, 2018.

383

## 384 **6. ROUTE SELECTION**

385 **Q. What were the primary objectives of the routing and configuration**  
386 **process used by Eversource to develop and analyze potential alternatives before**  
387 **deciding on the Proposed Route?**

388 A. The primary objectives of this process were to: (1) select a cost-effective  
389 and technically feasible solution to achieve the required transmission system reliability  
390 improvements and to interconnect the specified substations; and (2) avoid, minimize, or

391 mitigate adverse environmental and cultural effects and minimize impacts to the  
392 community to the extent possible.

393 **Q. What were the primary criteria considered by Eversource in selecting**  
394 **the Proposed Route and the primarily overhead configuration?**

395 A. Eversource applied the following factors in its evaluation process:

- 396 • Comply with all statutory requirements, regulations, and state and federal siting  
397 agency policies;
- 398 • Maximize the reasonable, practical, and feasible use of existing linear corridors  
399 (e.g., transmission line, highway, railroad, pipeline ROWs);
- 400 • Minimize adverse effects to sensitive environmental resources;
- 401 • Minimize adverse effects to significant cultural resources (archaeological and  
402 historical);
- 403 • Minimize adverse effects on designated scenic resources;
- 404 • Minimize conflicts with local, state and federal land use plans and resource  
405 policies;
- 406 • Minimize the need to acquire property by eminent domain;
- 407 • Maintain public health and safety;
- 408 • Achieve a reliable, operable and cost-effective solution.

409  
410 **Q. How many route alternatives did Eversource investigate?**

411 A. Eversource investigated and evaluated ten route alternatives. These  
412 alternatives included the proposed all-overhead route along Eversource's existing ROW,  
413 five all-overhead route alternatives, one all-underground route alternative, and three  
414 combination overhead/underground route alternatives. Specifically, the route alternatives  
415 considered were:

- 416 • Proposed Route – Along Eversource's existing ROW
- 417 • Alternative 1 – Old Sherman Turnpike to Greenfield ROW to Railroad Route
- 418 • Alternative 2 – West on Greenfield ROW to Railroad Route
- 419 • Alternative 3 – Utility ROW West to Railroad Route

- 420 • Alternative 4– Utility ROW West to Greenfield ROW to Railroad Route
- 421 • Alternative 5 – U.S. Route 6/I-84 West to Railroad Route
- 422 • Alternative 6 – Utility ROW East to Old Hawleyville Road to Railroad Route
- 423 • Alternative 7 – East on U.S. Route 6 and Roads to Greenfield ROW Route
- 424 • Alternative 8 – U.S. Route 6 East to Greenfield ROW to Railroad Route
- 425 • Alternative 9 – All Underground Route aligned predominantly within Road
- 426 ROWs

427 These route alternatives are discussed in detail in Section 11 of Volume 1 of the  
428 Application and are illustrated on the map at Attachment 5 (Figure 11-2 from the  
429 Application).

430 **Q. Please provide a comparative summary of the alternative routes**  
431 **considered and the principal characteristics of such routes (including total route**  
432 **length, overhead and underground components).**

433 A. The tables on the next page provide a “high level” comparison of the  
434 characteristics of the Proposed Route, as compared to the route alternatives that were  
435 considered and subsequently eliminated.

436

437  
438

**Summary and Comparison of All-Overhead  
Route Alternatives Considered and Eliminated**

Route Alternative Characteristic	Route Alternative (Number)					Proposed Route
	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>LENGTH*</b>						
Total Length (Miles)	3.66	3.63	5.50	4.36	4.79	3.34
<b>Length, by Municipality (Miles):</b>						
• Bethel	0.63	2.12	0.51	0.51	1.63	2.16
• Danbury	2.59	1.07	4.55	3.41	2.72	0.85
• Brookfield	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.34
<b>ROW CHARACTERISTICS</b>						
Length within Transmission Line ROWs (miles)	1.33	2.47	1.70	0.46	2.23	3.34
Length along Local/State Road ROWs (miles)	0.59	0	0	0	0.59	0
Length along RR Corridors (miles)	1.11	0.34	3.72	2.36	1.40	0
Length of greenfield ROW (miles)	0.51	0.82	0	1.53	0	0
Need to Acquire New ROW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

\*Length totals may not be exact due to rounding of segment lengths

439  
440  
441  
442  
443

**Summary and Comparison of Underground Route Alternative and Combination  
Underground/Overhead Route Alternatives Considered and Eliminated**

Route Alternative Characteristic	Route Alternative				Proposed Route
	6	7	8	9	
<b>LENGTH*</b>					
Total Length (Miles)	5.60	3.82	4.82	3.46	3.34
• Miles Above Ground	2.30	3.32	3.92	0	3.34
• Miles Underground	3.30	0.50	0.90	3.46	0
<b>Length, by Municipality:</b>					
• Bethel	4.11	2.46	2.80	2.30	2.16
• Danbury	0	0.85	0.85	0.81	0.85
• Brookfield	1.46	0.51	1.16	0.34	0.34
<b>ROW CHARACTERISTICS</b>					
Length within Transmission Line ROWs (miles)	1.54	2.23	2.23	1.34	3.34
Length along Local/State Road ROWs (miles)	3.28	1.04	0.61	2.11	0
Length along RR Corridors (miles)	0.70	0	0.47	0	0
Length of greenfield ROW (miles)	0	0.55	1.51	0	0
Need to Acquire New ROW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

\*Length totals may not be exact due to rounding of segment lengths

444  
445  
446

**Q. Why did Eversource ultimately reach the decision to select the all-**

**overhead route on the existing ROW as the Proposed Route over the other route alternatives described above?**

A. All of the route alternatives were evaluated based on Eversource's criteria and objectives for overhead and underground transmission lines. The Proposed Route

451 within Eversource's existing ROW, using an all-overhead transmission line design, was  
452 determined to be the preferred alternative. The Proposed Route and overhead line design  
453 represent the optimal Project configuration for the following reasons:

- 454 • The new overhead 115-kV line would be located entirely within Eversource's  
455 existing ROW, which is already devoted to utility use and has sufficient  
456 unutilized space to accommodate the new line without requiring relocation of the  
457 existing lines or the acquisition of additional easements. The co-location of the  
458 new line within this existing ROW also would be consistent with federal policies  
459 regarding linear energy facility siting, as well as with Eversource objectives.
- 460 • Although unavoidable temporary effects and minor long-term impacts to site-  
461 specific environmental resources would occur as a result of the construction and  
462 operation of the proposed 115-kV transmission line within Eversource's existing  
463 ROW, the development of the Project along Eversource's existing ROW would be  
464 consistent with state and local land use policies and would minimize long-term  
465 adverse environmental impacts to the maximum extent practical. Further, because  
466 the new 115-kV line structures would typically be substantially shorter than the  
467 existing transmission line structures on the ROW, the overall visual effects would  
468 be minor and inconsequential.
- 469 • The Proposed Route and overhead line design represent the most cost-effective  
470 alternative to Connecticut consumers and offer the optimal solution to bring a new  
471 115-kV source to the Housatonic Valley sub-area.

472

473           **Q.     Did Eversource consider alternative configurations for the overhead -**  
474 **115-kV line within the existing ROW?**

475           A.     Yes. During the Municipal Consultation Filing period that Eversource  
476 conducted as part of the Council’s pre-filing process, certain landowners and  
477 representatives of the Town of Bethel requested that Eversource evaluate “shifting” the  
478 location of the new transmission line to the west/north side of the existing 321/1770 line,  
479 rather than the east/south side (as proposed in the Application). This configuration option  
480 was suggested to avoid forest vegetation clearing near certain residences. Eversource  
481 investigated this potential line design, taking into consideration engineering,  
482 environmental impacts, and cost. However, because the 321/1770 line structures are not  
483 centered within the ROW, there is less “un-used” space on the west/north side of the  
484 ROW to accommodate the new 115-kV line. As a result, the use of this configuration  
485 variation would require the acquisition of new easements from private property owners  
486 along the ROW. Based on this evaluation, Eversource determined that, compared to the  
487 Proposed Route, this configuration would increase costs and social impacts (from  
488 additional property acquisition) and would not result in any environmental, engineering,  
489 or constructability benefits.

490 **7. SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES**

491           **Q.     Did Eversource consider a “no action” alternative?**

492           A.     Yes, but a “no action” alternative was rejected because doing nothing to  
493 eliminate violations of national and regional reliability standards and criteria would not  
494 address the risk of system failures under certain contingency conditions and would be  
495 inconsistent with Eversource’s obligation to provide reliable electric service.



496 **Q. Were any transmission alternatives considered and evaluated?**

497 A. Yes, as discussed in detail in the *SWCT Solutions Report*, the Working  
498 Group considered three other transmission alternatives, including one “local” alternative  
499 that – like the proposed Project – involved only upgrades in the Housatonic Valley sub-  
500 area, and two “global” alternatives that addressed the reliability issues in both the  
501 Housatonic Valley sub-area and the Frost Bridge-Naugatuck sub-area through combined  
502 solutions. The Working Group compared these four alternatives based on system  
503 performance, estimated cost, and other key factors such as ease of permitting,  
504 constructability, and expandability. The proposed Project was chosen as the preferred  
505 solution for the Housatonic Valley sub-area because it:

- 506 (1) Resolves all thermal and voltage criteria violations in the 10-year planning  
507 horizon;  
508 (2) Provides the least-cost alternative to resolve the criteria violations in the sub-area;  
509 and  
510 (3) Minimizes environmental and social impacts by focusing the 115-kV transmission  
511 upgrades within existing ROWs and on or in the vicinity of existing substations.

512 **Q. Did Eversource consider non-transmission alternatives?**

513 A. Yes, as discussed in Section 10 of the Application and in the Prefiled  
514 Testimony of Julia Frayer, Eversource retained London Economics International, LLC  
515 (LEI) to prepare a comprehensive analysis of non-transmission alternatives that could  
516 address the need served by the transmission solution. As outlined in detail in LEI’s  
517 report (see Volume 4 of the Application) and summarized in the Application and Ms.  
518 Frayer’s testimony, LEI concluded that an NTA solution – whether solely consisting of  
519 new generation or new generation in combination with demand reduction - would be far  
520 more costly than the Project and therefore economically impractical.

521

522 **8. CONSTRUCTION**

523 **Q. What construction steps would be followed for the installation of the**  
524 **new overhead 115-kV line?**

525 A. The primary activities involved in the construction of the overhead  
526 transmission line would include the following:

- 527 • Survey to stake the vegetation clearing boundaries and proposed structure  
528 locations;
- 529 • Mark the boundaries of previously delineated wetland and watercourse areas, as  
530 well as areas to be avoided or where site-specific mitigation measures will apply  
531 (e.g., sensitive cultural or environmental resource areas);
- 532 • Establish construction field office(s) and material staging sites (e.g., storage,  
533 staging and laydown areas) to support the construction effort. The preferred  
534 locations for such areas are typically in the vicinity of the ROW;
- 535 • Perform vegetation clearing along those portions of the ROW to be used for the  
536 construction of the transmission line;
- 537 • Install erosion and sedimentation (E&S) controls in accordance with best  
538 management practices;
- 539 • Construct new access roads (and/or improve existing roads) and work pads for  
540 structure and conductor installation;
- 541 • Construct foundations and erect/assemble new structures;
- 542 • Install conductors and shield wires;
- 543 • Restore disturbed sites.

544

545 **Q. What construction activities will occur at Plumtree Substation?**

546 A. The construction of the proposed Project modifications to the Plumtree  
547 Substation would involve connecting the new 115-kV transmission line to existing  
548 equipment within the substation yard, as well as replacing and upgrading an associated  
549 line disconnect switch and wave trap. No site preparation activities would be required for  
550 this work. Standard construction procedures for the line connection and equipment  
551 installation would be followed.

552           **Q.     What types of activities will occur at Stony Hill Substation and the**  
553 **adjacent ROW in connection with the proposed modifications to the substation and**  
554 **the reconfiguration of 115-kV interconnections at Stony Hill Substation.**

555           A.     The modifications within the Stony Hill Substation would involve  
556 standard construction procedures (e.g., site preparation, implementation of erosion and  
557 sedimentation (E&S) controls, modifications to equipment and structures, and site  
558 stabilization with crushed stone or equivalent). The reconfiguration of the existing 1770  
559 and 1887 lines would entail procedures similar to those described for the construction of  
560 the new 115-kV line, except that three existing wood pole structures, located within the  
561 Eversource ROW adjacent to the substation, would be removed and properly disposed of.  
562 Two new structures would be installed to complete the line reconfigurations.

563           **Q.     Has Eversource identified potential storage and staging areas?**

564           A.     As described in Section 4.1.2 of Volume I of the Application, Eversource  
565 has identified potential material storage or staging sites on Eversource-owned properties  
566 in the vicinity of the Project ROW. However, the construction contractor(s) that  
567 Eversource selects for the Project would make final decisions regarding whether these or  
568 other staging areas would be used. Thus, because the location of the storage and staging  
569 sites would not be finalized until after a construction contractor is selected, final locations  
570 would be identified in the Development and Management (“D&M”) Plan or submitted  
571 directly to the Council for approval before use.

572

573           **Q.     How would construction vehicles and equipment access the Project**  
574 **ROW?**

575           A.     Construction vehicles would access the Project ROW using the existing  
576 public road network along the route.

577

578 **9. ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS**

579           **Q.     What are Electric and Magnetic Fields?**

580           A.     Electric fields ("EF") are produced when a voltage is applied to a  
581 conductor. The level of an electric field at a given location near to a power line depends  
582 on the magnitude of the voltage applied, the arrangement and spacing of the line  
583 conductors and the distance from the conductors to the location.

584           Magnetic Fields ("MF") are produced when electric current flows on a conductor.  
585 The level of a magnetic field at a given location near to a power line depends on the  
586 magnitude of the current, the arrangement and spacing of the line conductors, and the  
587 distance from the conductors to the location.

588           EF and MF are collectively referred to as "EMF". Levels of each field fall off  
589 quickly as the distance from the conductor source is increased. Objects such as trees or  
590 building walls weaken or block electric fields, but magnetic fields are not affected by  
591 most materials. In the case of parallel lines of circuit conductors, the levels of EF and  
592 MF also depend upon the phasing of the circuit conductors and the directions of current  
593 flow.

594

595           **Q.     Has Eversource evaluated the effect of the Project on the current**  
596 **range of levels of EF and MF along the Proposed Route?**

597           A.     Yes. Section 7 (Volume I) of the Application (including the appendices to  
598 that section) provides a thorough analysis of the effect of the Project on EF and MF  
599 levels.

600           **Q.     Has Eversource considered the Council’s EMF Best Management**  
601 **Practices in designing the Project?**

602           A.     Yes. The design of the Project is consistent with the Connecticut Siting  
603 Council’s Electric and Magnetic Field Best Management Practices (“BMP”), as revised  
604 on February 20, 2014.

605           **Q.     What do the EMF BMP require?**

606           A.     Among other things, the BMP require transmission line applicants to  
607 adopt “no cost” line designs for lowering magnetic fields from new or reconstructed  
608 lines, and to identify “low cost” opportunities for making further reductions. The BMP  
609 establish a “benchmark” for “low cost” field reduction measures of 4% of the project  
610 cost, including substation costs. “Low cost” measures for reducing magnetic fields are  
611 required to achieve at least a 15% reduction in the fields that would be associated with  
612 the “base line” construction, consistent with standard good utility practice and  
613 incorporating no-cost field reduction measures.

614           Another requirement is that an applicant for an electric transmission line needs to  
615 present evidence of any new developments in scientific research addressing the potential  
616 health effects of transmission line magnetic fields or changes in scientific consensus  
617 group positions regarding them.

618           **Q.     Has Eversource provided an analysis of new developments in**  
619 **scientific knowledge concerning potential health effects of MF or position changes**  
620 **regarding MF in its Application?**

621           A.     Yes. Eversource retained scientists at Exponent, Inc. (“Exponent”) to  
622 perform such analysis. Appendix 7D to the Application includes a report from Exponent  
623 with a systematic literature review critical evaluation of epidemiology and *in vivo* studies  
624 published from August 1, 2012 to July 31, 2015.

625           **Q.     What was Exponent’s conclusion?**

626           A.     Exponent concluded that no recent studies that would alter the conclusions  
627 the Council has reached in its EMF Best Management Practices and in its recent  
628 transmission line dockets: the scientific evidence does not establish that EMF exposure  
629 is the cause of cancer or any other disease process at the levels we encounter in our  
630 everyday environment.

631           **Q.     What would be the major sources of EMF along the ROW once the**  
632 **Project is completed?**

633           A.     The multiple existing transmission lines on the existing ROW and the  
634 proposed 115-kV line would be the major sources of EMF. On the ROW from Plumtree  
635 Substation to Brookfield Junction, the proposed new line would be adjacent to the  
636 existing 345-kV 321 Line, a heavily-loaded circuit that is now and would remain the  
637 dominant magnetic field source on the ROW. In addition, the new line would be built  
638 adjacent to the existing 115-kV 1770 Line, and would share with that line the load  
639 transmitted between Plumtree Substation and Brookfield Junction. As a result, the  
640 addition of the proposed new 115-kV line to the Plumtree Substation to Brookfield

641 Junction ROW would have very little effect on the magnetic fields as compared to the  
642 pre-existing edge of ROW magnetic fields.

643 Transformers and other equipment within the Plumtree and Stony Hill Substations  
644 are also potential EMF sources, but would cause little or no exposure to the general  
645 public. The strength of fields from equipment inside a typical substation decreases  
646 rapidly with distance, and reaches very low levels at relatively short distances beyond  
647 substation perimeter fences. The exception is where transmission and distribution lines  
648 enter the substation property.

649 **Q. Did Eversource take measurements of existing electric and magnetic**  
650 **field levels along the Proposed Route, as required by the BMP?**

651 A. Yes. Spot measurements of electric and magnetic fields were taken by  
652 Eversource representatives on May 12 and 20, 2016 at two locations along the Proposed  
653 Route. The Council's *Application Guide* requires measurements of existing EMF at the  
654 boundaries of adjacent schools, daycare facilities, playgrounds, hospitals, youth camps,  
655 and residential areas. There are no schools, daycare facilities, playgrounds, hospitals, or  
656 youth camps adjacent to the ROW within which the new 115-kV line would be located.  
657 However, there are two groups of homes that might be considered to be residential areas  
658 adjacent to the ROW.

659 Accordingly, measurements were taken across the ROW, including at boundaries  
660 of adjacent properties, at two locations where houses are closest to the ROW, specifically,  
661 on Hearthstone Drive in Bethel and in the Lexington Meadows condominium complex  
662 near the Danbury/Bethel line. These areas are referred to as "Focus Areas." The  
663 measurements near each of these Focus Areas were taken at a height of 1 meter (3.28

664 feet) above ground, in accordance with the industry standard protocol for taking  
665 measurements of EMF near power lines.

666 The measurements are set forth in the table below.

667 **Measured Electric and Magnetic Fields**  
668

Location	Magnetic Field (mG)	Electric Field (kV/m)
Hearthstone Drive, Bethel	22.33	2.3
Lexington Meadows, Bethel/Danbury	3.2	0.03

669

670 **Q. What type of information do these measurements provide?**

671 A. The measurements of MF are only a snapshot of conditions at a single  
672 moment in time at a specific location. Within a day, and over the course of days, months,  
673 and seasons, the MF level changes at any given location, depending on the amount and  
674 patterns of power supply and demand within the state and surrounding region. In  
675 contrast, the EF is quite stable over time.

676 **Q. Did Eversource provide calculated estimates of EF and MF along the**  
677 **Project route before and after the proposed construction, as required by the**  
678 **Council's BMP?**

679 A. Yes, this information can be found in Table 7C-1 on page 7C-3 of  
680 Appendix 7C. As discussed earlier, Attachment 1 to this testimony contains a  
681 replacement page 7C-3 that adds certain information inadvertently omitted from Table  
682 7C-1 in the Application.

683 **Q. How were MF and EF calculated for this purpose?**

684 A. As described more fully in Section 7.3.2 of the Application and Appendix  
685 7C (Volume I), Eversource estimated (1) annual peak load (APL) conservatively from  
686 ISO-NE's projected 90/10 system peak loads, (2) peak-day average loads (PDAL) over



687 24 hours at 85% of the system’s hourly peak load (based on the 90/10 peak-load days)  
688 and (3) annual average loads (AAL) based on the annual hourly average.

689 The Application presents calculations of magnetic field levels at 25-foot intervals  
690 for the base design and alternative designs at AAL, APL and PDAL, together with  
691 associated electric field levels. We consider the AAL case to be most useful reference for  
692 predicting field levels for any ‘typical’ day. Accordingly, we used these levels to develop  
693 the profiles and tables presented in the Application.

694 As required by the EMF BMP, loads projected for the year 2018 (the first summer  
695 when the new line would be in service) were used for the “before construction”  
696 calculations, and loads projected for 2023 (five years after the line will have been in  
697 service) were used for the “after construction” calculations.

698 **Q. How do the estimated pre-Project electric and magnetic field levels**  
699 **compare to the estimated post-Project electric and magnetic fields?**

700 A. As shown in the tables below and the graphs in Section 7.3.2 of the  
701 Application (Volume I), the calculations based on projected average annual loading  
702 conditions (which best represents the time weighted average of exposure) demonstrate  
703 that the addition of the new 115-kV line will not substantially increase electric and  
704 magnetic fields at the edge of the ROW, and will decrease electric fields in some  
705 locations, compared to existing conditions.

706

707  
708

Summary of Magnetic Field Calculations

Magnetic Field Calculation Summary (Average Annual Loads, field in mG)	Left Edge of ROW		Right Edge of ROW	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
	9.85	12.91	12.24	14.02

709 \*Left and right edges of ROW are defined by looking from Plumtree Substation to  
710 Brookfield Junction

711  
712  
713  
714

Summary of Electric Field Calculations

Electric Field Calculation Summary (Field in kV/m)	Left Edge of ROW		Right Edge of ROW	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
	0.17	0.16	0.17	0.22

715

716 **Q. What is a Field Management Design Plan?**

717 A. Under the EMF BMP guidelines, the Council requires an applicant  
718 proposing to build an overhead electric transmission line to develop and present a Field  
719 Management Design Plan that identifies design features to mitigate MF that would  
720 otherwise occur along an electric transmission ROW, particularly where the ROW is near  
721 certain land uses, such as playgrounds, residential areas, schools, and licensed day-care  
722 facilities.

723 **Q. Did Eversource provide a Field Management Design Plan in the**  
724 **Application, as required by the Council's BMP?**

725 A. Yes, Eversource's Field Management Design Plan is included in Section 7  
726 of the Application at Appendix 7B. In accordance with the BMP guidelines, the proposed  
727 new 115-kV line has been designed so that it will have very little effect on magnetic field  
728 levels within and along the ROW. The Project's base overhead design incorporates "no  
729 cost" magnetic field reduction measures. Specifically, the base design incorporates

730 “optimum phasing”, i.e., arranging the phases of the new 115-kV line to achieve better  
731 cancellation with the magnetic field from the existing transmission lines on the ROW.

732 **Q. Did Eversource also consider “low cost” magnetic field mitigation**  
733 **measures at the two Focus Areas, specifically, along Hearthstone and Chimney**  
734 **Drives in Bethel and at the Lexington Meadows condominium complex along the**  
735 **Bethel/Danbury line?**

736 A. Eversource reviewed other mitigation measures for these two Focus Areas  
737 in developing the Field Management Design Plan, including the installation of an  
738 underground segment at these locations, split phasing, an increase in structure height, and  
739 shifting the new 115-kV line to the other side of the ROW. However, none of the  
740 measures considered were “low cost” options, and only one of the measures (the split  
741 phase design) would achieve substantial reduction in MF levels. Utilizing a split phase  
742 design along Hearthstone and Chimney Drives and at the Lexington Meadows  
743 condominium complex would increase the Project cost by a total of \$3.92 million and  
744 \$3.22 million, respectively. Both of these expenditures would significantly exceed the  
745 Council’s guideline of 4% of total project costs (approximately \$1 million for this  
746 Project) for “low cost” mitigation measures. Therefore, Eversource does not recommend  
747 the use of any additional MF mitigation measures at either of these Focus Areas,  
748 particularly given that the projected increase in MF levels along the ROW is not  
749 substantial.

750

751           **Q.     Has Eversource complied with all of the requirements in the relevant**  
752 **provisions of the statutes concerning EMF and the Council’s BMP?**

753           A.     Yes, Section 7 of the Application and the documents in Appendix 7 fully  
754 comply with all of the requirements in the relevant provisions of the statutes concerning  
755 EMF and the Council’s BMP.

756           **Q.     Please summarize Eversource’s efforts to comply with the statutory**  
757 **and BMP requirements concerning EMF.**

758           A.     Eversource has complied with the statutory and the BMP requirements  
759 regarding EMF by:

- 760           •     providing an update of scientific research and authoritative positions  
761                 concerning potential adverse health effects of MF;
- 762           •     providing measurements and calculations that were developed in  
763                 accordance with the BMP; and
- 764           •     preparing a Field Management Design Plan with a base design that  
765                 incorporates standard utility practice with no-cost/low cost MF mitigation  
766                 design features as applicable.

767           **Q.     Has Eversource complied with published MF guidelines?**

768           A.     Yes, the IEEE International Committee for Electromagnetic Safety (ICES)  
769 and the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) have  
770 issued guidelines for long-term public exposures to MF. The ICES reference level is  
771 9,040 mG, and the ICNIRP reference level is 2,000 mG. Projected MF levels for the  
772 Project are well below these guideline levels.

773

774 **10. SAFETY AND SECURITY**

775 **Q. Would the proposed new 115-kV line, substation modifications, or**  
776 **reconfiguration of existing 115-kV interconnections pose any safety risk to the**  
777 **public?**

778 A. No. The construction of the proposed line, the modifications to Plumtree  
779 and Stony Hill substations, and the reconfiguration of existing 115-kV interconnections at  
780 Stony Hill Substation would not pose a safety threat or create any undue hazard to the  
781 general public, including persons or property. All work would be designed and  
782 constructed in accordance with all applicable national, electric utility industry, state and,  
783 to the extent practical, local codes.

784 **Q. What would happen if an outage or fault occurred on the**  
785 **transmission or substation equipment?**

786 A. High-speed protective relaying equipment would automatically detect  
787 abnormal system conditions (e.g., a faulted overhead transmission line that causes an  
788 outage) and would send a protective trip signal to circuit breakers to isolate the faulted  
789 section of the transmission system. Protection would also be provided by a Supervisory  
790 Control and Data Acquisition system (SCADA). The SCADA system allows for remote  
791 control and equipment monitoring by the Connecticut Valley Electric Exchange  
792 (CONVEX) System Operator.

793 **Q. What fire protection systems are maintained at Plumtree and Stony**  
794 **Hill substations?**

795 A. Smoke detection equipment would automatically activate an alarm at  
796 CONVEX and the system operators would then take appropriate action.

797 **Q. Would the physical security of the Plumtree and Stony Hill**  
798 **Substations, as modified by this Project, be consistent with the Council's *White***  
799 ***Paper on the Security of Siting Energy Facilities*, initially adopted in the Council's**  
800 **Docket 346, as amended (White Paper).**

801 A. Yes. As explained in detail in the Application, the Project modifications  
802 would be consistent with the Council's *White Paper* Guidelines, including the focus on  
803 security issues associated with planning, preparedness, response, and recovery.

804

805 **11. MUNICIPAL CONSULTATIONS AND OUTREACH**

806 **Q. Has Eversource complied with the municipal consultation**  
807 **requirement of section 16-50l(e) of the General Statutes?**

808 A. Yes. Initial briefings were provided to the first selectmen of the Towns of  
809 Bethel and Brookfield and the mayor of the City of Danbury in March of 2016.  
810 Eversource initiated the formal municipal consultation process with these municipalities  
811 on April 14, 2016, more than 60 days before the Application filing.

812 **Q. Has there been any dialogue with the municipal representatives after**  
813 **the municipal consultation filing?**

814 A. Yes. Eversource received feedback from representatives of the towns  
815 during this period, including the request from Bethel representatives to evaluate a  
816 configuration alternative, as discussed above.

817 **Q. Please summarize Eversource's contacts with Connecticut**  
818 **stakeholders, including government entities, interested organizations, landowners,**  
819 **and other individuals interested in or concerned about the Project, since you began**  
820 **your public outreach efforts.**

821 A. Over the past year, Eversource has implemented a comprehensive  
822 outreach strategy to inform elected federal, state, and local officials, municipal  
823 department heads, municipal Commissions and Agencies, residents, business  
824 organizations and other stakeholders about the Project and to solicit feedback.  
825 This outreach has included group and individual meetings and presentations, written  
826 communications, phone calls, and an open house.

827 **Q. What federal and state agencies has Eversource consulted with in**  
828 **connection with the Project?**

829 A. In connection with the permits and approvals that would be required for  
830 the construction and operation of the Project, Eversource consulted, and is continuing to  
831 consult with, the following federal and state agencies:

- 832 • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 833
- 834 • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 835
- 836 • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 837
- 838 • Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- 839
- 840 • Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office
- 841
- 842 • Native American Tribal Historic Preservation Office
- 843

## 844 **12. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE**

845 **Q. What measures were undertaken by Eversource to inform the public**  
846 **and property owners along the route of the Project and adjacent to the substations,**  
847 **and to obtain their input?**

848 A. Eversource sponsored an open house on May 4, 2016 at the Bethel CJH  
849 Municipal Center. As required by section 16-50l(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes,

850 bill inserts with Project information were mailed to customers. Notices were provided to  
851 community organizations and water companies as required by the Council's Application  
852 Guide, and to abutters of the Plumtree and Stony Hill substations, as required by section  
853 16-50l(b). Legal notices of the Application were published in the Danbury News-Times,  
854 as required by section 16-50l(b). Copies of the Municipal Consultation Filing were  
855 placed in the local libraries and on the Project website [www.eversource.com](http://www.eversource.com). Finally, a  
856 project hotline (1-800-793-2202) and a transmission project email address  
857 (TransmissionInfo@eversource.com) were established through which residents and other  
858 stakeholders can communicate with Project management.

859 **Q. How was information presented at the open house?**

860 A. The information was presented using a series of informational kiosks. The  
861 Project team subject matter experts were present to address questions from attendees  
862 about the proposed Project.

863 **Q. Were signs posted informing the public of the Council's public**  
864 **hearing to be held on September 22, 2016, in advance of the hearing?**

865 A. Yes. On September 6, 2016, 4-foot by 6-foot signs notifying the public of  
866 the hearing were posted by members of the Project team at the locations below: (See  
867 [Attachment 6](#))

868 **Bethel:**

- 869 • Plumtree Substation - Walnut Hill Road;
- 870 • Eversource Property - Payne Road
- 871 • Eversource Property - Hearthstone Drive
- 872 • Eversource Property - Chimney Drive
- 873 • Eversource Property - Sky Edge Lane
- 874 • Stony Hill Road/U.S. Route 6 (Line List 218)

875  
876



877 **Danbury:**

878 • Eversource Property - Shelter Rock Road

879

880 **Brookfield:**

881

882 • Stony Hill Substation: 49 Stony Hill Road

883 **13. CONCLUSION**

884 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

885 A. Eversource proposes to construct the Project in compliance with all  
886 statutory requirements, the Council's regulations and applicable industry codes and  
887 standards. The Project will strengthen the reliability of the electric transmission system  
888 serving the Housatonic Valley sub-area of SWCT and would be constructed within an  
889 existing ROW and existing substation properties, thereby minimizing the impacts of the  
890 Project.

891 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

892 A. Yes.

**Docket No. 468 Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project**

**Direct Testimony of Raymond Gagnon, Allen Scarfone, Farah Omokaro, and Christopher Soderman**

**Attachments**

**Attachment 1** – Replacement Page for page 7C-3 of Application re: Calculations of Pre-Project and Post-Project Magnetic Fields

**Attachment 2** – SWCT Electric Transmission System (Figure ES-1 from Application)

**Attachment 3** – Proposed Route (Figure 1-1 from Application)

**Attachment 4** – Diagrams showing Reconfiguration of 1887 and 1770 115kV lines (Figures 2-3 and 2-4 from Application)

**Attachment 5** – Map of Overhead and Underground Route Alternatives (Figure 11-2 from Application)

**Attachment 6** – Notice Sign for September 22, 2016 Public Hearing

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

### Tabulated Results of Calculated Magnetic and Electric Fields

This appendix includes tabulated results for calculated electric and magnetic fields during annual peak load and the projected seasonal maximum 24-hour average load for pre- and post- construction. This is required in accordance with section IV.A of the Connecticut Siting Council Best Management Practices. Also included are results for the Average Annual Load, which serves as a surrogate that best represents the time weighted average of exposure from the proposed facilities.

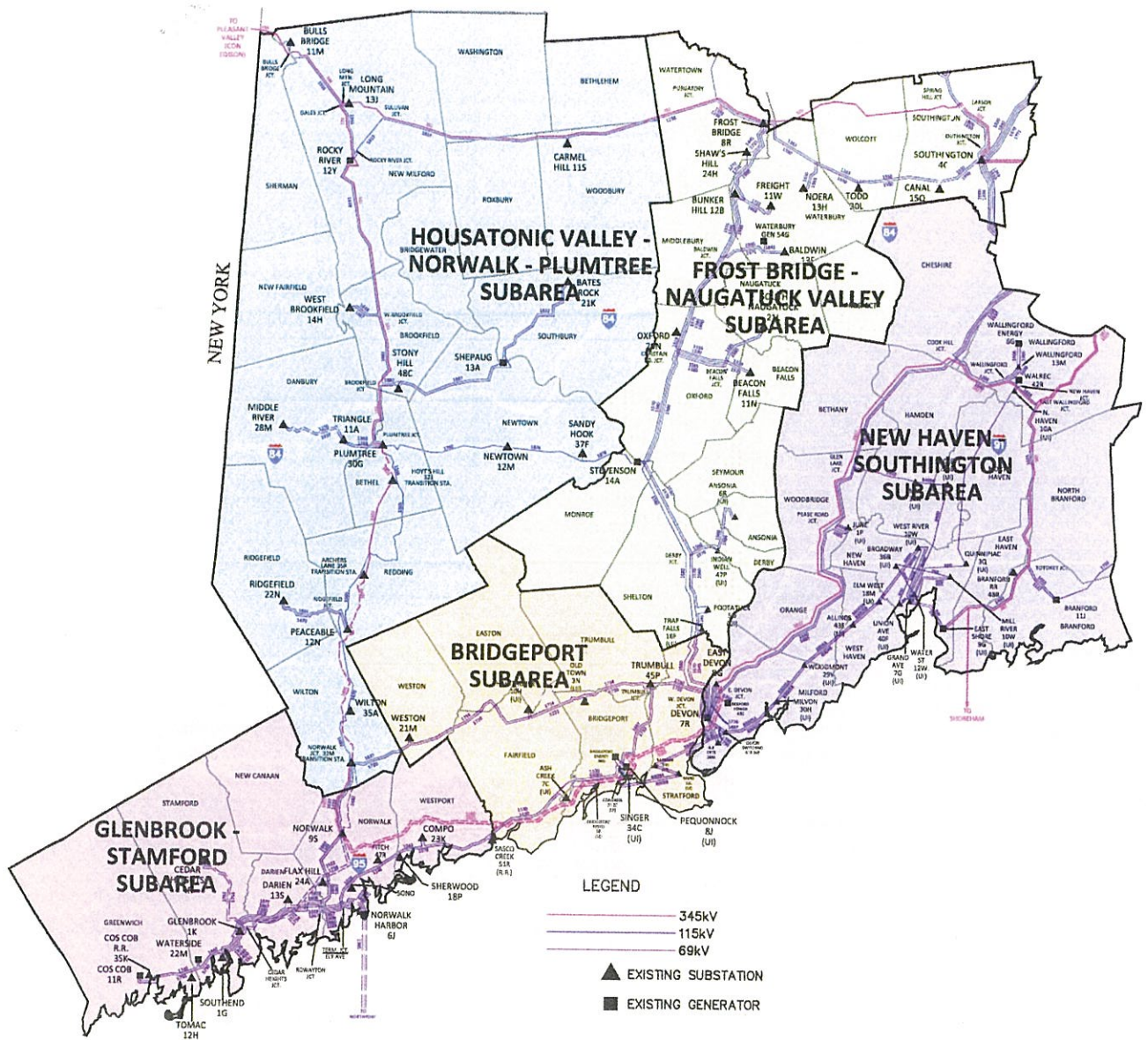
**Table 7C-1: Calculated EMF During Annual Peak Load (Pre- and Post-Construction)**

Distance from Proposed Transmission Line	Pre-Construction				Post-Construction			
	Electric Field	Magnetic Fields			Electric Field	Magnetic Fields		
		Average Annual Load	Peak Day Average Load	Annual Peak Load		Average Annual Load	Peak Day Average Load	Annual Peak Load
(feet)	(kV/m)	(mG)			(kV/m)	(mG)		
-300	0.08	1.4	2.1	2.8	0.08	2.1	1.3	2.1
-275	0.09	1.7	2.6	3.6	0.09	2.5	1.7	2.6
-250	0.11	2.1	3.4	4.5	0.10	3.1	2.1	3.3
-225	0.13	2.7	4.5	6	0.12	3.9	2.8	4.3
-200	0.15	3.5	6.2	8.2	0.15	5.1	3.9	5.9
-175	0.17	4.8	9	11.9	0.16	7	5.6	8.3
-150	0.18	7.3	14	18.2	0.17	10	8.7	12.5
-125	0.20	12.4	23.3	29.8	0.18	15.6	14.6	20
-100	0.72	24.7	40.7	50.8	0.71	27.7	25.9	33.2
-75	1.80	48.8	57.4	69.1	1.77	52.8	37.9	43.3
-50	4.33	65.5	43.5	50.2	4.14	77.8	33.1	29.3
-25	3.00	48.3	21.6	27.1	2.20	62.4	26.3	28.3
0	0.73	27.4	11.9	16.4	0.66	32.3	17.6	30.4
25	0.07	16.2	7.8	10.9	0.30	18.1	8.6	18.2
50	0.20	10.3	5.5	7.7	0.20	12	5.1	10.8
75	0.22	7	4.1	5.7	0.18	8.4	3.4	7
100	0.19	5	3.1	4.3	0.16	6.2	2.5	4.9
125	0.16	3.7	2.5	3.4	0.13	4.7	1.9	3.6
150	0.14	2.9	2	2.8	0.11	3.6	1.5	2.8
175	0.11	2.3	1.6	2.3	0.10	2.9	1.2	2.2
200	0.10	1.8	1.4	1.9	0.08	2.4	1	1.8
225	0.08	1.5	1.2	1.6	0.07	2	0.8	1.5
250	0.07	1.3	1	1.4	0.06	1.7	0.7	1.3
275	0.06	1.1	0.9	1.2	0.05	1.4	0.6	1.1
300	0.05	0.9	0.7	1	0.05	1.2	0.5	0.9

# **ATTACHMENT 2**



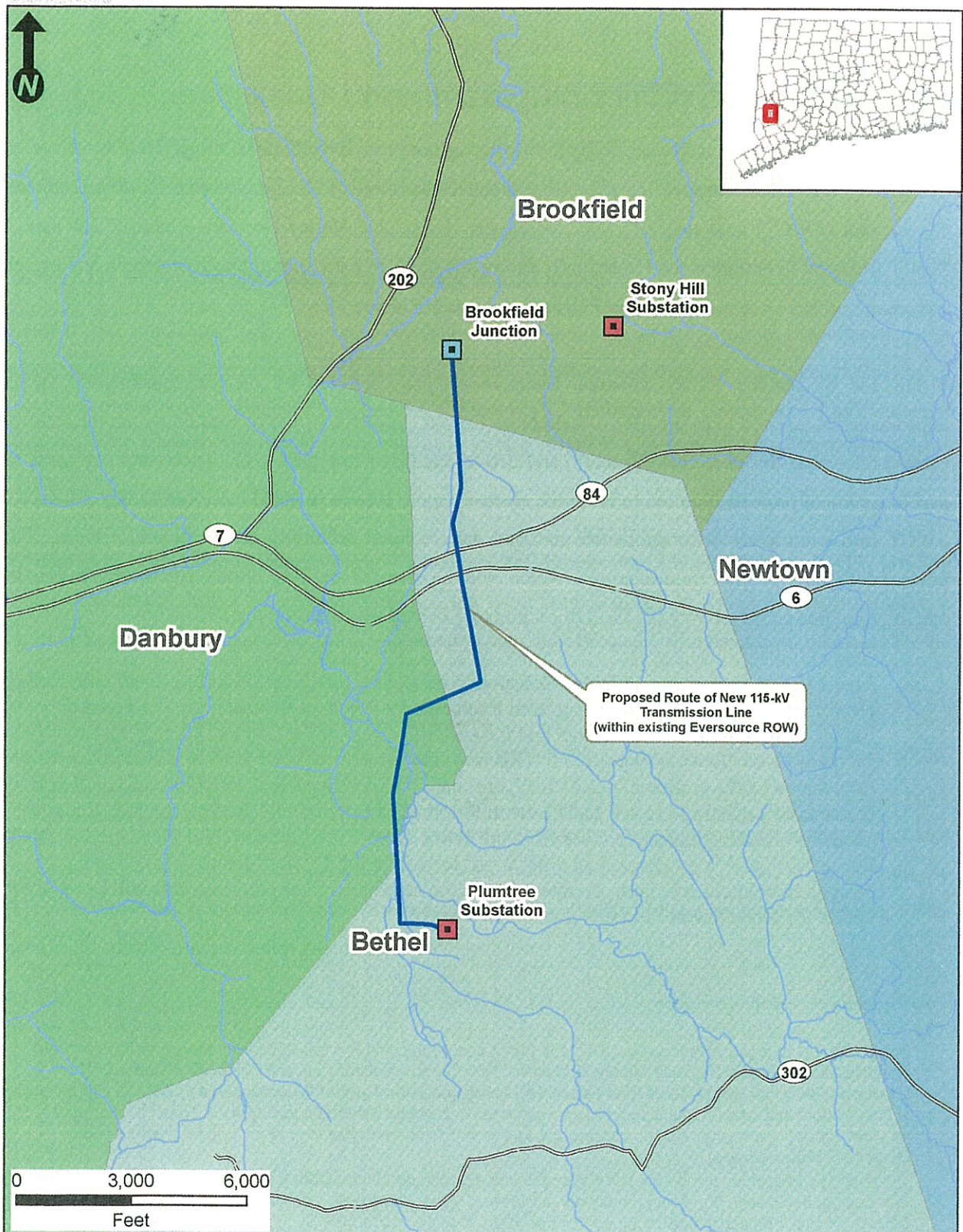
Figure ES- 1: SWCT Region



# **ATTACHMENT 3**



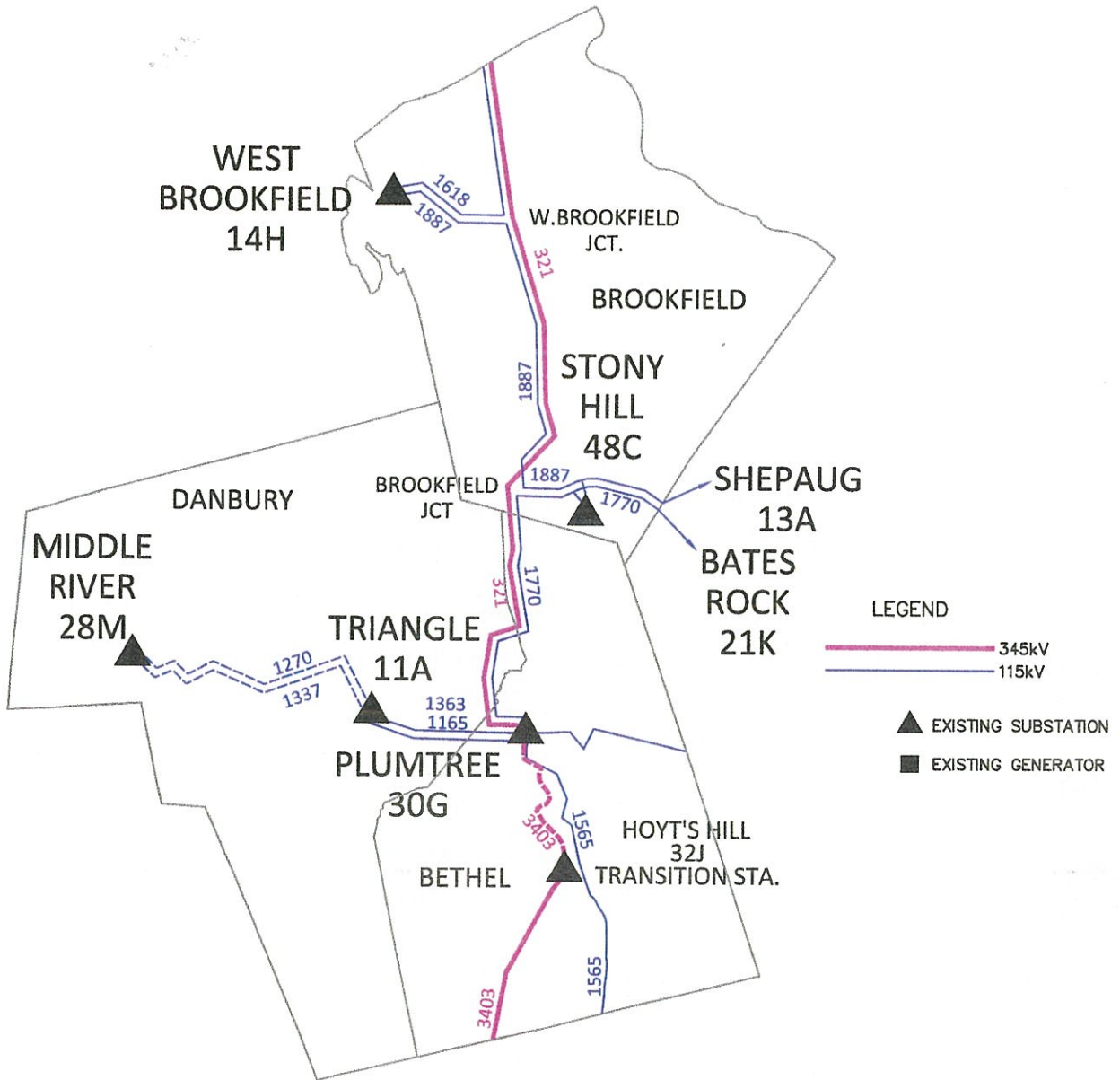
Figure 1-1: Proposed Project Location





# **ATTACHMENT 4**

Figure 2-3: "Pre-Project" Configuration of the 1887 and 1770 Lines

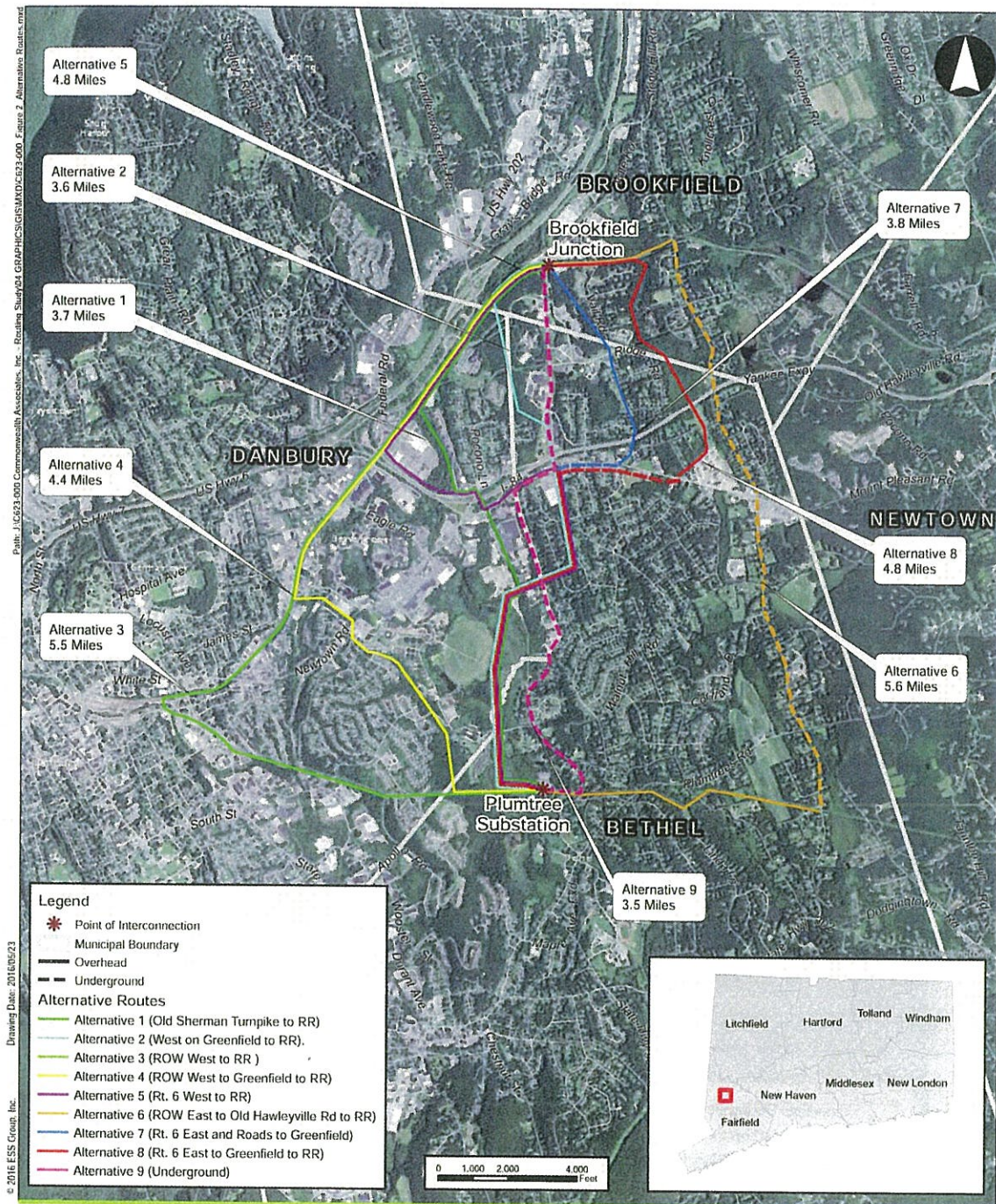




# **ATTACHMENT 5**



Figure 11-2: Alternative Route Map: Aerial Based Map



Drawing Date: 2016/05/23  
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Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project  
Fairfield County, Connecticut

Alternative Routes

Scale: See Graphic Scale

Source: 1) USGS, 2013

# **ATTACHMENT 6**



## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Applicant:** The Connecticut Light and Power Company  
doing business as Eversource Energy

**Type of Facility:** Electric Transmission Line

**Public Hearing Date:**

Thursday, September 22, 2016  
3:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Bethel Municipal Center - General Purpose Room  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801

Applicable Documents for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project are available at  
<http://www.ct.gov/rsc> under Pending Proceedings - Docket 468  
or the Town Halls in Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield

**Connecticut Siting Council information:**

(860)827-2935 or <http://www.ct.gov/rsc> or [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)  
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut 06106