

<p><b>DOCKET NO. 474</b> - The Connecticut Light &amp; Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Greater Hartford-Central Connecticut Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Hartford, West Hartford, and Newington, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line within existing Eversource, Amtrak and public road rights-of-way and associated facilities extending overhead approximately 2.4 miles and underground approximately 1.3 miles between Eversource's existing Newington Substation in the Town of Newington and existing Southwest Hartford Substation in the City of Hartford; (b) modifications to a .01 mile section within existing Eversource right-of-way of the existing overhead 115-kV electric transmission line connection to the Newington Substation (Newington Tap); and (c) related modifications to Newington Substation and Southwest Hartford Substation.</p>	<p>} Connecticut          } Siting          } Council          } February 1, 2018</p>
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**Decision and Order**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 16-50p and the foregoing Findings of Fact and Opinion for the 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line project known as the Greater Hartford-Central Connecticut Reliability Project, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) finds that there is a public need for the proposed facility and the effects associated with the construction of a new 115-kV electric transmission line, associated facilities and related improvements to the Newington Substation in Newington, Newington Tap in Newington and the Southwest Hartford Substation in Hartford (Project), including effects on the natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety, forests and parks, scenic, historic, and recreational values, air and water purity, fish, aquaculture and wildlife are not disproportionate either alone or cumulatively with other effects compared to need, are not in conflict with the policies of the State concerning such effects, and are not sufficient reason to deny the application. Therefore, the Council directs that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, as provided by Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k, be issued to Eversource Energy (hereinafter referred to as the Certificate Holder) for the construction, maintenance and operation of the Project.

Unless otherwise approved by the Council, the Project shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this matter, and subject to the following conditions:

1. The Certificate Holder shall construct the proposed electric transmission line along the proposed route and perform related Project improvements, as proposed, subject to modifications during final site design and approval of the Development and Management (D&M) Plan for the project.
2. The Certificate Holder shall prepare a D&M Plan for this Project. The D&M Plan shall be in compliance with Sections 16-50j-60 through 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The D&M Plan shall be served on the Towns of Newington and West Hartford and the City of Hartford for comment, and all parties and intervenors as listed in the service list, and submitted to and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of facility construction. The D&M Plan shall include:
  - a. Detailed site plans depicting final structure heights and showing the placement of the access roads, structure foundations, equipment and material staging areas for the overhead portion of the route;
  - b. Detailed site plans depicting final transition structure heights and showing the placement of transition structures, duct banks and splice vaults for the underground portions of the route;

- c. Plans to address traffic impacts associated with underground construction;
  - d. Plans for perennial stream crossing (e.g. open cut method) for underground cable;
  - e. Detailed site plans for equipment installation/modifications for the expanded areas at Newington Substation (including Newington Tap modifications) and Southwest Hartford Substation, including fencing details;
  - f. Identification of areas for staging and equipment lay down, field office trailers, sanitary facilities and parking;
  - g. An erosion and sediment control plan, consistent with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*, as amended;
  - h. A stormwater management plan consistent with the *2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*;
  - i. Identification of wetland and watercourse resources, related temporary construction impacts and methods to reduce such impacts;
  - j. Details of ground disturbance;
  - k. Vegetative clearing plan;
  - l. Wetland restoration plan;
  - m. Restoration plan of disturbed areas;
  - n. A spill prevention and countermeasures plan;
  - o. Invasive species control plan;
  - p. A schedule of construction hours;
  - q. A blasting plan, if necessary;
  - r. Provisions for site specific measures to reduce impacts to State listed endangered, threatened, and special concern species; and
  - s. EMF Monitoring Plan.
3. The Certificate Holder shall obtain necessary permits from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and any other state or federal agency with concurrent jurisdiction prior to the commencement of construction, in areas where said permits are required.
  4. The Certificate Holder shall comply with all future electric and magnetic field standards promulgated by State or federal regulatory agencies. Upon the establishment of any new standards, the facilities granted in this Decision and Order shall be brought into compliance with such standards.
  5. The Certificate Holder shall provide to the Council an operating report within three months after the conclusion of the first year of operation of all facilities herein with information relevant to the overall condition, safety, reliability, and operation of the new transmission line.
  6. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, this Decision and Order shall be void if all construction authorized herein is not completed within five years of the effective date of the Decision and Order, or within five years after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The Certificate Holder shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable.
  7. Any request for extension of the time period referred to in Condition 6 shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this Certificate and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, as listed in the service list, the Towns of Newington and West Hartford, and the City of Hartford.
  8. This Certificate may be surrendered by the Certificate Holder upon written notification to the Council.

9. The Certificate Holder shall comply with Sections 16-50j-60 through 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and submit quarterly construction progress reports. The Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities. In addition, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice of the completion of site construction, and the commencement of site operation
10. The Certificate Holder shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v.
11. This Certificate may be transferred in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50k(b), provided both the Certificate Holder/transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. In addition, both the Certificate Holder/transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility.

We hereby direct that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order be served on each person listed in the Service List, dated June 9, 2017, and notice of issuance published in the Hartford Courant.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.