June 7, 2018

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

Re: DOCKET NO. 483 - The United Illuminating Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Pequonnock Substation Rebuild Project that entails construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115/13.8-kilovolt (kV) gas insulated replacement substation facility located 700 feet southwest of UI's existing Pequonnock substation on an approximately 3.7 acre parcel owned by PSEG Power Connecticut, LLC at 1 Kiefer Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, and related transmission structure and interconnection improvements.

Dear Chairman Stein:

Enclosed please find the original and fifteen (15) copies of The United Illuminating Company's responses to the Siting Council's First Set of Interrogatories dated May 17, 2018 in connection with the above-referenced docket.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions concerning this submittal at (203) 772-7787.

Very truly yours,

Bruce L. McDermott

Enclosures

Murtha Cullina LLP 265 Church Street New Haven, CT 06510 T 203.772.7700 F 203.772.7723

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The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483

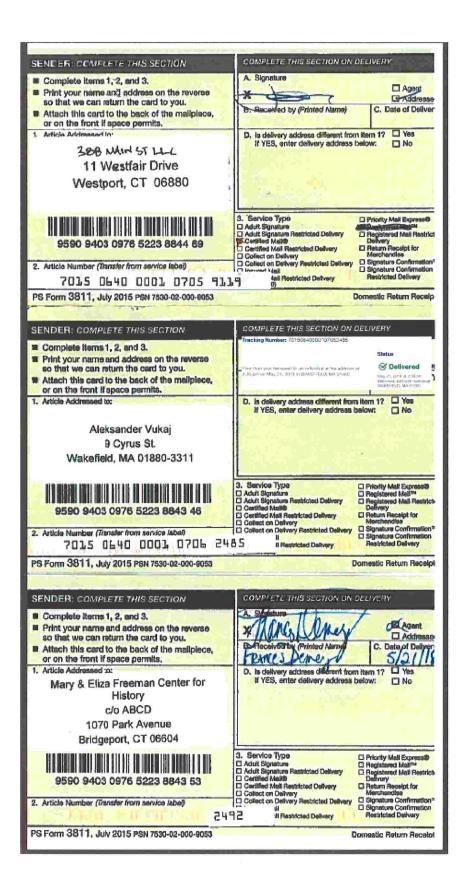
Witness: Samantha Marone Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-1: Were the notice letters sent to abutting property owners sent by certified mail? If yes, of the letters sent to abutting property owners, how many certified mail receipts were received? If any receipts were not returned, which owners did not receive their notice? Were any additional attempts made to contact those property owners?
- A-CSC-I-1: Yes, the notice letters were sent to abutting property owners by certified mail. Of the thirteen letters sent, ten certified mail receipts were received. The three certified mail receipts that were not received were researched via their tracking numbers and verified to have been received.

See CSC-I-1 Attachment A - Certified Mail Return Receipts.pdf.

CSC-I-1 Attachment A - Certified Mail Return Receipts

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Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 70150640000107059089

Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 2:24 pm on April 12, 2018 in BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604.

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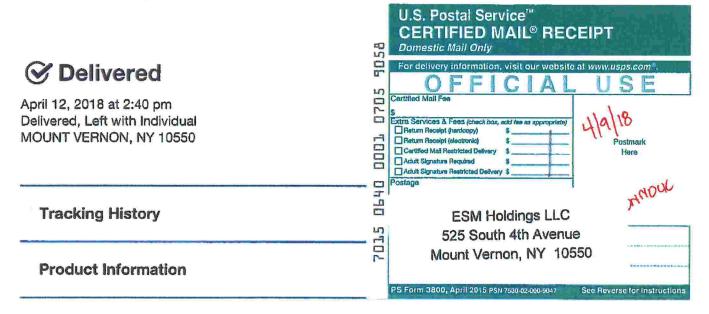
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Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

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The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483 Witness: Samantha Marone Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-2: Under Appendix H of the Application, does the list of abutters match the numbering on the aerial view drawing? If not, provide a corresponding numbered list of abutters to match the aerial view.
- A-CSC-I-2: Yes, the list of abutters matches the numbering on the aerial view drawing. However, since the Owner ID was removed from the list prior to submittal, the same list is attached providing the Owner ID that matches the aerial view drawing.

See CSC-I-2 Attachment B - Abutter List with Owner ID.pdf.

CSC-I-2 Attachment B - Abutter List with Owner ID

Owner ID	Address	Parcel ID	Owner Name	Mailing Address	Note	Abutter Count
1	Railroad Corridor	n/a	State of CT	2800 Berlin Turnpike P.O. Box 317546 Newington CT 06131		1
2	1 Atlantic Street	22/542/22	PSEG Power Connecticut LLC	80 Park Plaza T-9 Newark, NJ 07102-4194	Power Plant	2
3	30 Keifer Street	22/513/8	O'Hara's LLC	P.O. Box 320129 Fairfield, CT 06825		3
4	38 Keifer Street	22/513/6	O'Hara's LLC	P.O. Box 320129 Fairfield, CT 06825		
5	54 Keifer Street	22/513/5	O'Hara's LLC	P.O. Box 320129 Fairfield, CT 06825	• 44 - 1	
6	420 Main St. (#422)	22/513/3	Vukaj Aleksander	170 Jennings Road Fairfield, CT 06825		4
7	418 Main Street	22/513/4	Kiefer Main Incorporated	77 Grannis Road Orange, CT 06477		5
8	394 Main Street	22/515/1/A	388 Main Street LLC	11 Westfair Drive Westport, CT 06880		6
9	388 Main Street	22/515/2/A	388 Main Street LLC	11 Westfair Drive Westport, CT 06880		
10	376 Main Street	22/515/3	ESM Holdings LLC	525 South 4th Avenue Mount Vernon, NY 10550		7
11	360 Main Street (#366)	22/515/4	Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History	360 Main Street Bridgeport, CT 06604		8
12	354 Main Street	22/515/5	Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History			
13	340 Main Street (#350)	22/515/6	Parkside Properties LLC	c/o Vincent Aurelia 150 Alsace Street Bridgeport, CT 06604		9
14	28 Whiting Street (#30)	22/515/7	ESM Holdings LLC	525 South 4th Avenue Mount Vernon, NY 10550		
15	375 Main Street	21/516/1	Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport	376 East Washington Ave. Bridgeport, CT 06608	parking lot	10
16	10 Atlantic Street	22/528/3	Bridgeport Energy LLC	10 Atlantic Street Bridgeport, CT 06604	Power Plant	11
17	330 Water Street	29/963/15/A	Bridgeport Port Authority	330 Water Street Bridgeport CT 06604	Ferry Dock	12
18	600 Main Street	28/510/2	City of Bridgeport	45 Lyon Terrace Bridgeport, CT 06604	Webster Bank Arena	13
	500 Main Street	28/510/1	City of Bridgeport	45 Lyon Terrace Bridgeport, CT_06604	Harbor Yard Baseball Field	
	1 Atlantic Street (portion of) will need to be assigned new address		The United Illuminating Company	Annette Potasz 180 Marsh Hill Road Orange, CT_06477	subject	

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The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483 Witness: Ronald Rossetti Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-3: Which municipalities make up The United Illuminating Company's (UI) service area for electrical distribution service in Connecticut?
- A-CSC-I-3: Ansonia, Bridgeport, Derby, East Haven, Easton, Fairfield, Hamden, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Shelton, Stratford, Trumbull, West Haven, Woodbridge.

See CSC-I-3 Attachment C - Map of UI Distribution Service Municipalities.pdf.

CSC-I-3 Attachment C - Map of UI Distribution Service Municipalities



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Witness: Ronald Rossetti Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-4: How many residences are located within 1,000 feet of the center of the proposed replacement substation?
- A-CSC-I-4: There are 21 residences located within 1,000 feet of the center of the proposed replacement substation.

The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483

Witness: Ronald Rossetti Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-5: What is the address and direction (from the center of the proposed replacement substation) of the closest residence?
- A-CSC-I-5: There are two residences equidistant and in a southwesterly direction from the center of the proposed replacement substation: 309 Main Street and 77 Whiting Street.

The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483 Witness: Richard Pinto Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-6: How far away from the proposed replacement substation is the nearest statedesignated or locally-designated scenic road? Would the proposed replacement substation be visible from such scenic road?
- A-CSC-I-6: The closest state-designated scenic road is The Merritt Parkway from the New York state line to the Housatonic River Bridge, which is approximately 4.4 miles away. No, the proposed replacement substation would not be visible from this scenic road.

The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483

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Witness: Richard Pinto Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-7: Estimate the area of the proposed replacement substation (as bounded by the proposed fencing) in both square feet and acres.
- A-CSC-I-7: The proposed replacement substation area is approximately 77,400 sq. ft. or 1.8 acres.

The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483

Witness: Richard Pinto Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-8: Page ES-4 of the Application notes that, "The substation components will be elevated 3 feet above the 14-foot Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for the area, as defined in 2013 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and thus will be about 7 feet higher in elevation than the existing substation." Provide the following information related to flood elevations.
 - a) Is 2013 the most recently available FEMA flood information?
 - b) What is the 500-year flood elevation in the vicinity of the proposed replacement substation?
 - c) Is the 500-year flood based on a 0.2 percent probability of occurring in a given year?
 - d) Was any potential/projected sea level rise associated with climate change considered? Explain.
 - e) Was potential storm surge considered in the proposed replacement substation design? Explain.
 - f) As a comparison, provide the current 500-year flood elevation in the vicinity of the existing Pequonnock Substation.
 - g) Provide the elevation of the existing Pequonnock Substation in above mean sea level (amsl).
 - h) How would raising the proposed replacement substation's flood elevation affect flood water displacement?
- A-CSC-I-8: a) Yes. In 2013, FEMA issued significantly revised base flood elevation (BFE) maps for Fairfield County, including the City of Bridgeport.

b) The 500-year flood elevation at the proposed substation is 15.9 feet.

c) Yes, the 500-year flood level is based on a 0.2 percent probability of occurrence per year.

d) Yes, the flood protection design for the proposed project includes one additional foot of elevation beyond standard requirements to account for future sea level rise. The additional one foot of elevation for future sea level rise is the minimum recommended by FEMA for coastal facilities.

e) The proposed substation will be protected in accordance with ASCE-24-14 (Flood Design Class 4) which includes protection against the effects of storm surge. An additional one foot of elevation is added to account for future sea level rise as per the response above.

f) The 500-year flood elevation at the existing substation is 15.9 ft which is the same as the proposed substation since the two sites are directly adjacent to each other.

g) The yard elevation of the existing Pequonnock substation is approximately 6.3ft MSL (or 6.5ft NAVD88).

h) Because the flooding is coastal flooding from Long Island Sound, the

proposed substation's displacement of floodwater will have a negligible effect on the existing adjacent area flood plain.

The United Illuminating Company Docket No. 483

Witness: Richard Pinto Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-9: What kind of "structural concerns" exist at the existing Pequonnock Substation as noted in bullet point two on page 1-6 of the Application?
- A-CSC-I-9: The existing substation's structural concerns are mostly related to the distribution switchgear and control enclosure. Evidence of uneven settling among the enclosures foundation is present and indicated by measurements taken within the enclosure in recent years. This settling has caused misalignment within equipment housed in the enclosure as well as foundation and wall cracks. Also, the substation 115-kV steel box structure has shown signs of foundation settling and twisting of steel supports causing misalignment of 115-kV disconnect switches.

See CSC-I-9 Attachment D - Asset Condition Assessment Summary Pequonnock Substation.pdf.

CSC-I-9 Attachment D - Asset Condition Assessment Summary Pequonnock Substation

David Bradt, P.E. UI Transmission Asset Planning 180 Marsh Hill Rd, Orange, CT August 17th 2016

Asset Condition Assessment Summary Pequonnock Substation

(Bridgeport, Connecticut)



Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment

1. Background and Objective:

This document summarizes the asset condition concerns at UI's Pequonnock Substation in Bridgeport, CT. The base reference document for this study was the UI Coastal Substation Flooding Asset Condition Review, dated 2/29/2016. Pequonnock Substation was constructed in stages over the last 60+ years and has been found to have significant asset condition deficiencies ranging from significant exposure to destructive coastal flooding events to widespread and persistent site settling issues.

2. Areas of Concern:

The asset condition concerns at Pequonnock are summarized in the sections below:

a) Coastal Flooding Exposure (reference Figures 1-4):

Pequonnock is built adjacent to Long Island Sound and is "at-risk" of being destroyed by coastal flooding events which could contribute to a significant and sustained adverse impact to the New England Bulk Electric System (BES) and Connecticut customers. The station is no longer designed to an adequate flood elevation as evidenced by recent storm history, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood map updates, and site elevation surveys, all of which indicate that a 100-year flood event would likely destroy all critical equipment at this station. The initial recovery period from such an event is expected to be in the range of 3-6 months to achieve a temporary operating condition state, with full long term recovery and repair expected to take upwards of 1-2 years in consideration of long equipment lead times, extensive resource requirements, and outage planning.

b) Site Settling (reference Figures 5-11):

One of the most significant non-flood related issues at Pequonnock is the widespread and persistent site settling that has been occurring over the years. Overtime this has manifested itself in observations of 115 kV yard foundation, box structure (built in 1950's and expanded over the years), and distribution control house (built ~ 1956) shifting which has resulted in operational concerns, increased maintenance and concerns of structural failure. Investigations reveal the cause to be shifting and movement of soil layers beneath Pequonnock Substation. This issue continues to be observed in the following ways:

- Cracking in distribution control room building foundations
- Shifting of 13.8 kV distribution switchgear
- Excessive forces on switchgear bushings
- Misalignment of switchgear enclosures
- Reoccurring misalignment and binding of newly installed 115 kV disconnect switches
- Reoccurring separation of bolted box structure steel members

There is a significant concern that these ongoing site settling issues are precursors to an eventual failure and collapse of the 115 kV box structure and/or distribution control building, as well as the potential for the electrical failure of the 13.8 kV switchgear and 115kV switchyard.

c) Congestion and Clearance Concerns (reference Figures 12-13):

The High Voltage Control Building (built ~1970) has congestion and clearance concerns throughout that hinder routine operations and maintenance activities and also prevent necessary future upgrades and expansion. Cable tray systems are loaded significantly beyond allowable levels and wiring terminal blocks have been located on the ceiling to necessitate construction, though this is considered an unacceptable practice by modern standards.

Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment

d) "Grandfathered" NPCC Directory #4 (BPS Protection Criteria)

It is noted that although it is not necessary for the existing Pequonnock protection and control systems to meet the requirements of NPCC Directory #4 since the station pre-dated the adoption of BPS criteria, any significant modifications would trigger an obligation to meet these requirements. This must be considered for all comprehensive solution upgrade options since all are expected to trigger significant upgrades. The expected upgrades will trigger an obligation to bring all protection systems into full compliance including the most significant requirement which includes physical separation of all Primary and Secondary P&C system components (hardware, cabling, raceways, etc.).

e) Inadequate Emergency Mobile Substation Access (reference Figure 15):

UI owns two 115/13.8 kV mobile transformers both of which experience accessibility problems when trying to maneuver them into this substation yard under emergency conditions. Additionally, the mobile transformers have inadequate working clearance between circuit breaker cabinets and breaker disconnects when backing into the yard. As a result, simultaneous terminals must be de-energized to maneuver into the high-voltage tap locations which result in operational concerns depending on system conditions at the time of the emergency.

f) Inadequate Short Circuit Duty Margins

In addition to the physical deficiencies described above, UI has also observed eroding short circuit margins over the years at Pequonnock substation. These margins have been greatly influenced by system expansion projects as well as generation additions and retirements in the area in recent years. The most recent projected short circuit study reveals a small remaining margin at approximately 95% fault duty. High short circuit fault duties such as these can inhibit future system expansion projects in this area due to the typical high costs associated with mitigating short circuit duty needs.

3. Conclusion:

The Coastal Substation Flood Mitigation Study¹ found that it would not be cost-effective to address either the flood risk or other extensive asset deficiencies listed above within the existing Pequonnock substation site footprint. Instead the study concluded that the best solution would be to rebuild the entire substation on an adjacent property at a higher elevation addressing all of the deficiencies described above.

¹ The Coastal Substation Flood Mitigation Study will remain in its current draft state until after receipt of initial stakeholder feedback following UI's presentation of recommendations currently scheduled for September 21st 2016. After incorporation of stakeholder feedback, the full report will be posted to the ISO-NE website for stakeholder review prior to finalization.

Appendix – Photos (Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment)

Flood Exposure



Figure 1: Substation Google Earth View



Figure 3: Tropical Storm Irene Flooding (8/28/2011)



Figure 2: Substation Proximity to Eroding Riverbank

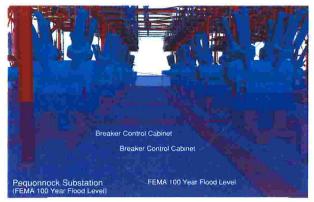


Figure 4: Pequonnock 100-Year Flood Level

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Appendix – Photos (Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment)

Site Settling - Yard Structures



<u>Figure 5:</u> Box Structure Bracing Gap#1 indicates movement (Before Temp Repair)



Figure 7: Box Structure Bracing Gap#2 indicates movement (Before Temp Repair)



Figure 6: Box Structure Bracing Gap#1 indicates movement (After Temp Repair)

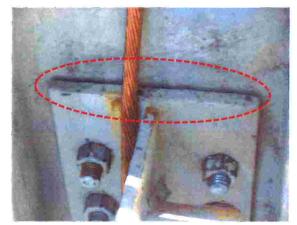


Figure 8: Box Structure Bracing Gap#2 indicates movement (After Temp Repair)

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Appendix – Photos (Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment)

<u>Site Settling – Buildings</u>



Figure 9: Settling and Cracking Causing Switchgear Door Misalignment



Figure 10: Building Wall Separation



Figure 11: Wall Reinforcements With Mechanical Movement Monitoring Gauge

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Appendix - Photos (Pequonnock Asset Condition Assessment)

General

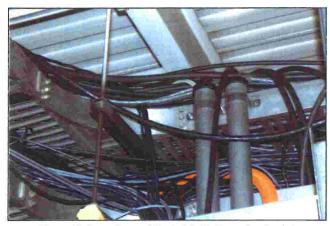


Figure 12: Protection and Control Cable Trays Overloaded



Figure 14: Distribution Control House Deteriorated Supports, Feb 2016



Figure 13: Congested Control Room



Figure 15: Emergency Mobile Transformer Cannot Fit In Energized Bay

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- Q-CSC-I-10: Appendix F (Noise Study) indicates that the two proposed power transformers would be 30/40/50 megavolt-ampere (MVA) each. What is the MVA capacity of the proposed replacement substation? Given such capacity, has UI forecasted the distribution loads (i.e. ten-year forecast of projected MVA distribution loads) for the proposed replacement substation? If yes, provide such forecast. While the Application focuses on flooding and asset condition issues, does UI have any concerns about future load growth versus the MVA capacity of the existing Pequonnock Substation? Explain.
- A-CSC-I-10: Pequonnock Substation's existing power transformers are 42/56/70 megavoltampere (MVA) each with an expected overload or "firm" rating of 77.0 MVA. The proposed power transformers are expected to be 30/40/50 MVA with an expected overload or "firm" rating of 72.0 MVA, which is 93.5% of the existing substation capacity.

UI develops a 10-year peak load forecast of its substations every year. Based on the 2017 Ten Year Load Forecast, by 2027 the load on this substation is projected to be 42.55 MVA or 59% of the expected capacity rating. This is based on a 90/10 (extreme weather) forecast scenario. There exists the potential for a major load increase in this area in the near future, including a proposed casino in Bridgeport, which would significantly increase the load on this substation. However, UI believes that the proposed capacity is sufficient to serve the area needs for the foreseeable future.

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- Q-CSC-I-11: Referencing page 1-1 of the Application, the existing Pequonnock Substation has two transformers. How many MVA are each transformer? What is the MVA capacity of the existing Pequonnock Substation?
- A-CSC-I-11: The existing Pequonnock's transformers are top nameplate rated at 70 MVA each. The substation's current "firm" rating is 77.0 MVA based on a voltage stability analysis completed in 2015 at an n-1 contingency level.

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- Q-CSC-I-12: How would the new power transformers be delivered, e.g. by truck, rail, or barge?
- A-CSC-I-12: UI has not ordered the new power transformers. However, it is anticipated that they would be delivered by truck or a combination of rail and truck. The delivery method is determined by the transformer manufacturer.

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- Q-CSC-I-13: Bridgeport Harbor Unit (BHU) #3 currently has a transmission line connection to the existing Pequonnock Substation. Does this transmission line connection also serve BHU #4? Based on UI's ad placed in the Connecticut Post, "The new substation is proposed to be completed and in-service by the end of 2021." However, according to Finding of Fact #193 of Petition No. 1218, "PSEG has committed to ending commercial operation of BHU #3 by July 1, 2021." Explain why the transmission connection to BHU #3 would be re-connected to the proposed replacement substation. For example, would this proposed transmission line connection also serve BHU #4?
- A-CSC-I-13: Yes, both BHU#3 and BHU#4 are interconnected to the same terminal at the existing and proposed Pequonnock Substation. UI as a Transmission Owner is obligated to preserve the interconnection of existing commercially active generators when substation upgrades are performed including BHU#4.

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- Q-CSC-I-14: Would the proposed replacement gas insulated substation utilize sulfur hexafluoride (SF6)? Is SF6 considered a greenhouse gas? Would there be any projected losses of SF6? If yes, would the charge have to be topped off periodically?
- A-CSC-I-14: The proposed replacement GIS equipment will utilize sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) gas.

SF6 is considered a greenhouse gas.

While a GIS vendor has not yet been selected, the switchgear is required to have a leakage rate of less than 0.5% per year. UI utilizes filling, storage, and handling techniques which ensure minimal gas loss to the environment during any operation involving filling or de-gassing of equipment. UI employs gas monitoring equipment for all SF6 filled equipment to ensure safe operation and identify gas leaks if they were to occur. In the event of pressure loss below normal operating limits, efforts would be made to identify and repair / replace leaking equipment and re-fill the gas to attain proper operating pressures.

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- Q-CSC-I-15: Page ES-5 of the Application notes that, "Standard work hours will be 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday; however, some construction tasks will require work on Sundays or beyond these standard work hours." Would some of the non-standard work hours be potentially associated with construction in the railroad right-of-way? If yes, would UI consult with Metro-North Railroad and/or Amtrak regarding such construction hours as necessary?
- A-CSC-I-15: Yes, some of the non-standard work hours would be related to the construction along railroad right-of-way. UI will consult with Metro-North Railroad, CDOT and AMTRAK to coordinate any work hours within the right-of-way.

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- Q-CSC-I-16: Would any trees six inches or greater in diameter be removed to construct the proposed replacement substation (and associated connections) project? If yes, either estimate the number of trees or provide an estimate of the tree clearing area in acres.
- A-CSC-I-16: There are no trees greater than six inches anticipated to be removed to construct this project.

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Witness: Richard Pinto Page 1 of 1

Q-CSC-I-17: Would the proposed overhead transmission structures all be galvanized steel?

A-CSC-I-17: Yes, the proposed overhead transmission structures would be galvanized steel.

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- Q-CSC-I-18: Under Appendix B.2.2, UI provided proposed best management practices (BMPs) to protect the Peregrine falcon, a State-designated Threatened Species. Such BMPs were submitted to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). Did UI receive any follow-up correspondence from DEEP regarding the proposed Peregrine falcon BMPs?
- A-CSC-I-18: Yes, on June 5, 2018 UI received follow up correspondence from CTDEEP regarding proposed Peregrine Falcon BMPs.

See CSC-I-18 Attachment E - NDDB Final Determination for Peregrine Falcon BMPs.pdf.

CSC-I-18 Attachment E - NDDB Final Determination for Peregrine Falcon BMPs



Connecticut Department of

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

June 5, 2018

Mr. Josh Wilson Fuss & O'Neill 146 Hartford Road Manchester, CT 06040 jwilson@fando.com

Project: The United Illuminating Company Pequonnock Substation Relocation Project from the Substation to 1 Atlantic Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut NDDB Determination No.: 201801803

Dear Josh,

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base maps and files regarding the area delineated on the map provided for the The United Illuminating Company Pequonnock Substation Relocation Project from the substation to 1 Atlantic Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. As you are aware we have known extant records for State Threatened *Falco Peregrinus* (peregrine falcon) that occur in close proximity to your project boundaries. I did receive your proposed best management practices to protect the peregrine falcon from project activities. I concur with some of the best management practices you provided but have added a few modifications.

Protection Recommendation:

• No construction activities should occur between April 1st and June 30th to fully protect project workers and this State Threatened bird species.

If work needs to be conducted during the breeding season (April 1st to June 30th) then:

- 1. You must hire an ornithologist (bird expert) to evaluate and prepare a protection plan for the birds. You have outlined some best management practices that will be used to protect these birds from project activities in your letter. They include:
 - A. Between April 1st and July 31st UI will hire an ornithologist to perform (at minimum) weekly inspections to monitor the nesting and behavioral activity of nesting peregrine falcons. Construction schedule and specific construction activities will dictate when inspections by the ornithologist will occur. For example, more frequent inspections may be needed during the drilling of the piers/foundations versus when electrical work is occurring.
 - B. In addition to regular inspections, the ornithologist will provide training to all construction personnel prior to the commencement of construction. The training will consist of a review of construction limitation outlined in this document, visual identification methods of the peregrine falcon (i.e., Species Identification

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 www.ct.gov/deep Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer Sheets), and a communication plan. The Communication Plan will require the construction contractor to, if peregrine falcon is observed, contact UI Environmental who in turn would contact the ornithologist. The ornithologist and UI Environmental will perform an immediate site inspection and if the peregrine falcon nest is within 600' of the project site all work will stop until the peregrine falcon nesting activities are completed.

2. All work on this project must maintain a minimum buffer of 600' from any active nest. If a nest is identified by workers (or ornithologist) all work should stop immediately and this information should be reported to our program for further assistance and guidance to complete the work safely.

Please re-submit an NDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun on this project by June 5, 2020.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the Data Base should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available. The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

Please contact me if you have further questions at (860) 424-3592, or dawn.mckay@ct.gov. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Data Base.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. moltay

Dawn M. McKay **Environmental Analyst 3**

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Witness: Todd Berman Page 1 of 1

- Q-CSC-I-19: Would the proposed project impact any federally-listed species? If yes, how would UI mitigate such impacts? Or alternatively, has UI received any written correspondence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding any federally-listed species? If yes, provide a copy of such correspondence.
- A-CSC-I-19: The project would not impact any federally listed or endangered species.

On March 14, 2018, in response to UI's inquiry, the United States Department of the Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service provided the list of federally listed or endangered species that might be affected by the project. That correspondence indicates that one species, Calidris canutus rufa (Red Knot), should be considered, however it also concludes that, "There are no critical habitats within your project area."

See CSC-I-19 Attachment F - USFWS IPAC Letter 20180314.pdf.

CSC-I-19 Attachment F - USFWS IPAC Letter 20180314



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE New England Ecological Services Field Office 70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104 http://www.fws.gov/newengland



In Reply Refer To: Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2018-SLI-1281 Event Code: 05E1NE00-2018-E-02883 Project Name: UI Pequonnock Substation Relocation Project March 14, 2018

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/ eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

New England Ecological Services Field Office

70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 (603) 223-2541

Project Summary

Consultation Code:	05E1NE00-2018-SLI-1281
Event Code:	05E1NE00-2018-E-02883
Project Name:	UI Pequonnock Substation Relocation Project
Project Type:	TRANSMISSION LINE
Project Description:	1 Atlantic Street, Bridgeport, CT

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <u>https://www.google.com/maps/place/41.17130514338679N73.18586425105558W</u>



Counties: Fairfield, CT

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Birds

NAME

STATUS Threatened

Red Knot *Calidris canutus rufa* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864</u>

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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- Q-CSC-I-20: Would the proposed project be located at least 0.25 miles from a known northern long-eared bat (NLEB) hibernaculum and at least 150 feet from a known (NLEB) maternity roost tree?
- A-CSC-I-20: According to CTDEEP databases, there are no northern long-eared bat hibernaculum in Bridgeport. There are no known maternity roost trees within 150 feet.

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- Q-CSC-I-21: Page 2-6 references the decommissioning of the existing Pequonnock Substation. Would the existing concrete foundations remain in place, or has this not yet been determined?
- A-CSC-I-21: The scope of decommissioning efforts at the existing Pequonnock Substation site has not yet been determined.

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- Q-CSC-I-22: Would the erosion and sedimentation controls comply with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control?
- A-CSC-I-22: Yes. All site construction activities will be subject to the CTDEEP General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering wastewaters from Construction Activities. That permit requires a Stormwater Management Plan prepared in accordance with the 2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual and requires measures to "stabilize" the site through the use of measures as outlined in the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil and Sediment Controls.

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Q-CSC-I-23: Calculate the amounts of cut and fill required to develop the proposed project.

A-CSC-I-23: Based on the analysis completed during conceptual engineering, the total estimate quantities of added and removed soils are:

Activity	Quantity Removed (c.y.)	Quantity Added (c.y.)
Site Grading		4800
Foundation Excavations & Structural Fill	3575	1800
Stormwater Retention	911	911
Totals	4486	7511

Pending data from the Phase II Soil / Groundwater investigation, the above totals are the estimated quantities which may need to be hauled off and on site assuming no re-use of existing spoils.

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- Q-CSC-I-24: Page 3-4 of the Application notes that, "This elevation will be achieved by a combination of grading and importing fill." Would this be clean fill, i.e. free of contamination, or alternatively, would it be tested for contamination before use?
- A-CSC-I-24: The project anticipates the onsite re-use of spoils where possible based on the analytical data from UI's Phase II Soil/Groundwater Investigation and certain geotechnical criteria. However, in order to achieve the engineered design elevation UI will need to import (clean) fill to the site. Any fill brought to the site would meet CTDEEP's definition of clean fill as defined in DEEP's Management of Contaminated Environmental Media.

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- Q-CSC-I-25: Is any notice to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required for any proposed structures within the replacement substation and/or any proposed transmission structures? If yes, what is the status of such FAA review? Would additional notice to FAA be required for temporary structures such as cranes? Explain.
- A-CSC-I-25: Notification to the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") is required for the proposed substation and transmission structures and construction equipment. This notification will be provided to the FAA at least 45 days prior to the start date of the proposed construction.

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- Q-CSC-I-26: Is the replacement substation expected to cause any interference with radio, wireless telecommunications, or cable or satellite television?
- A-CSC-I-26: No. The corona noise generated by the 115-kV system is too weak and too low of a frequency to interfere with communications in the VHF (Very High Frequency) and UHF (Ultra High Frequency) bands in radio, wireless, telecommunications, or cable or satellite television.

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- Q-CSC-I-27: Did UI have to apply to the ISO New England (ISO-NE) Reliability Committee for a "no significant adverse effect on the transmission system" determination letter for the replacement Pequonnock Substation, or was it exempt because it would be a replacement of an existing facility, or is this otherwise not applicable? If yes, please provide a copy of such ISO-NE determination if available.
- A-CSC-I-27: UI was required to obtain approval of the Proposed Plan Application (I3.9 of the ISO Tariff) for this project since the existing and proposed configurations are not identical. UI received a determination letter from ISO-NE on December 28, 2016 confirming that the proposed project "will not have a significant adverse effect" on the reliability or operation of the system. A copy of this letter is included.

See CSC-I-27 Attachment G - PPA UI-16-T03 Determination Letter.pdf.

CSC-I-27 Attachment G - PPA UI-16-T03 Determination Letter

Stephen J. Rourke Vice President, System Planning



December 28, 2016

Mr. Chris Malone United Illuminating Company 180 Marsh Hill Road Orange, CT 06477-3628

Subject: Pequonnock Substation Reconfiguration Project - Proposed Plan Application (PPA) UI-16-T03

Dear Mr. Malone:

This letter is to inform you that, pursuant to review under Section I.3.9 of the ISO Tariff, no significant adverse effect has been identified with regard to the following PPA:

UI-16-T03 - Transmission application from United Illuminating Company (UI) for the Pequonnock Substation Reconfiguration Project

The in-service date of the project is December 2020. The Reliability Committee (RC) reviewed the materials presented in support of the proposed project and did not identify a significant adverse effect on the reliability or operating characteristics of the transmission facilities of UI, the transmission facilities of another Transmission Owner, or the system of any other Market Participant.

Having given due consideration to the RC review, ISO New England has determined that implementation of the plan will not have a significant adverse effect upon the reliability or operating characteristics of the Transmission Owner's transmission facilities, the transmission facilities of another Transmission Owner, or the system of a Market Participant.

A determination under Section I.3.9 of the ISO Tariff is limited to a review of the reliability impacts of a proposed project as submitted by Participants and does not constitute an approval of a proposed project under any other provisions of the ISO Tariff.

Sincerely

Stephen J. Rourke Vice President, System Planning

cc: Proposed Plan Applications

ISO New England Inc. One Sulfivan Road Holyoke, MA 01040-2841 413-535-4305 srourke@iso-ne.com

iso-ne.com isonewswire.com @isonewengland rso-ne.com/isotogo iso-ne.com/isoexpress This page intentionally left blank

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Q-CSC-I-28: How many distribution feeders would leave the replacement substation?

A-CSC-I-28: 17 distribution feeders are planned to leave the distribution substation.