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

October 18, 2016

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

RE: The Connecticut Light and Power Company's Notice of Exempt Modification Pursuant to RCSA § 16-50j-57(a) to Existing Energy Facility Site at 272 East Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405 ("Notice of Exempt Modification")

Dear Chairman Stein:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") hereby gives notice to the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") of its intent to undertake an exempt modification in accordance with Section 16-50j-57(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") for the modification to Eversource's Branford Substation described herein.

## **Proposed Modification**

The modification would take place on Eversource's property within the existing fenced area at Branford Substation ("Substation"), located at 272 East Main Street, in Branford, Connecticut. The Substation is a 115- to 23-kV facility with two 115- to 23-kV transformers, and three 115-kV transmission circuits.

Eversource proposes to replace an existing circuit breaker and a capacitor bank, install a new series circuit breaker. Also, Eversource proposes to install a flood wall around the existing control enclosure and raise some equipment to mitigate flood risk. The Substation is located within the 100-year flood zone.

Eversource's proposed modification to the Substation would include the following components:

a) Replacement of an existing 115-kV oil circuit breaker with a new 115-kV Sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) circuit breaker on the existing foundation.

- b) Replacement of the existing 37.8-Mvar capacitor bank cans with new 50.4-Mvar capacitor bank cans. The existing capacitor bank structure, foundations, and rack will remain (Section E).
- c) Installation of a flood wall around the control enclosure to provide adequate protection against a flood event. The proposed flood wall would form a rectangle that would be approximately 66 feet long and 48 feet wide. The wall would have an above-grade height of 5 feet and it would be 12 inches thick (Section AN).
- d) Installation of a new 115-kV series circuit breaker on new foundation (Section A-A). Installation of a steel structure to accommodate the installation of the new 115-kV series circuit breaker.
- e) Relocation of an existing 115-kV manually-operated disconnect switch on new foundation to accommodate the new 115-kV series circuit breaker (Section A-A).
- f) Raising an existing 115-kV circuit breaker, control boxes and junction boxes to a height that is one foot above the 100-year flood level.

The existing Substation arrangement with the modification components is shown in Drawing No. 11401-92001 - Branford - General Arrangement - Plan & Sections - CSC.

The modification would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect or cause a significant adverse change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics because:

- a) The Substation's fenced area would not be expanded.
- b) The equipment being raised and the new equipment being installed will be no taller than the tallest existing equipment within the Substation.
- c) There would be no change to the existing television or radio interference resulting from the modification of the Substation.
- d) Sound-pressure levels at all points along properties lines would continue to comply with requirements set out in RCSA §§ 22a-69-1 et seq.
- e) The modification work would not affect any water resource areas.
- f) Eversource's review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base did not identify any statelisted endangered, threatened, or special concern species in the vicinity of the Substation.
- g) Electric and magnetic field levels at the Substation boundary would not change as a result of the modification.

Eversource proposes to commence construction in December 2016. Work is scheduled to be completed by December 2017.

Enclosed are two (2) copies of this Notice of Exempt Modification along with the filing fee of \$625.00.

A notice of this proposed modification has been provided to the First Selectman of Branford.

Communications regarding this Notice of Exempt Modification should be directed to Kathleen M. Shanley at (860) 728-4527.

By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

Attachment A: Drawing No. 11401-92001- Branford - General Arrangement - Plan & Sections - CSC.

