



VIA ELECTRONIC AND US MAIL

September 11, 2023

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
The Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: The United Illuminating Company's Notice of Exempt Modification Pursuant to R.C.S.A. § 16-50j-58 to Existing Energy Facility Site at 1677 Seaview Avenue in the City of Bridgeport ("Notice of Exempt Modification")

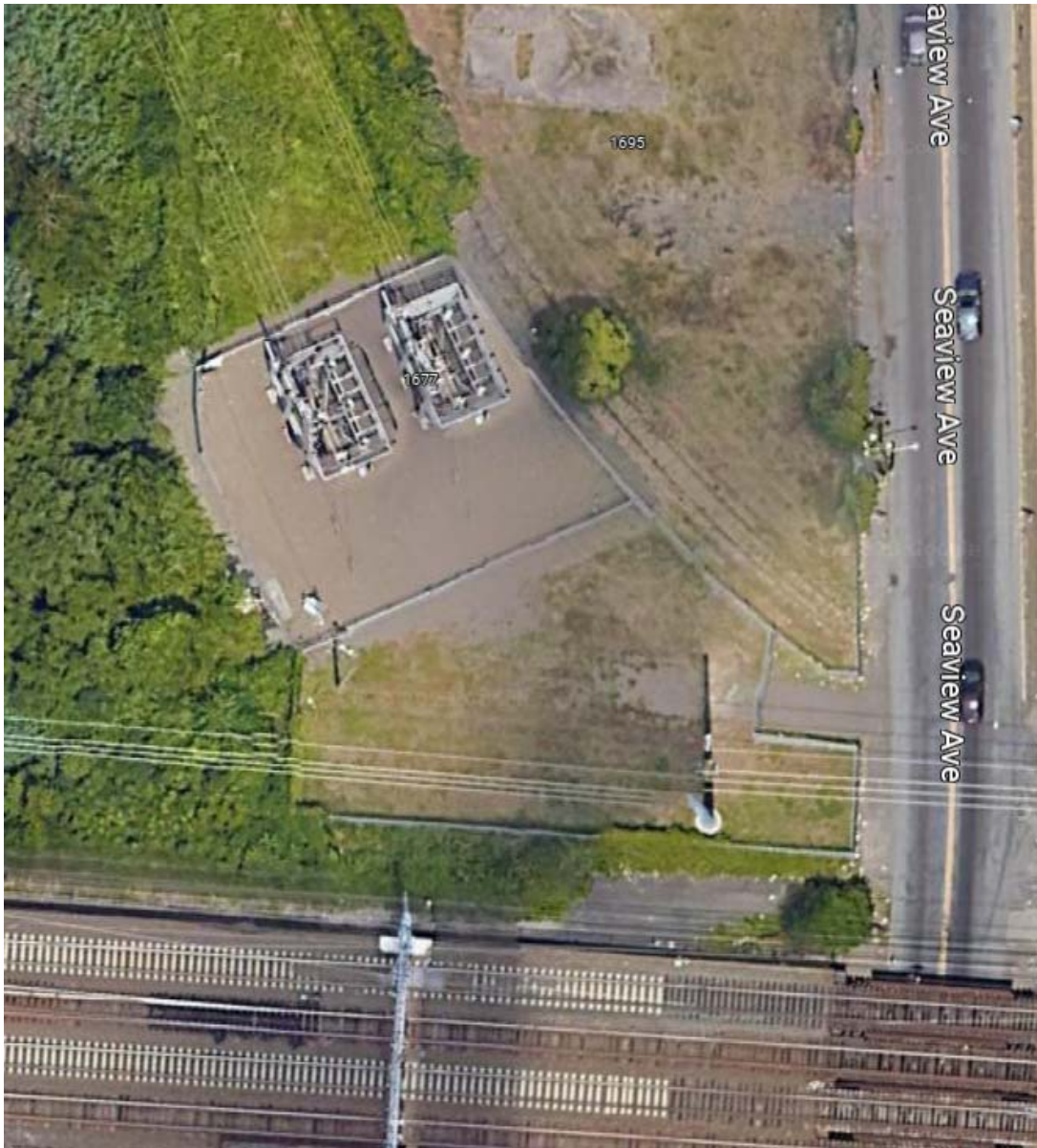
Dear Attorney Bachman:

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("R.C.S.A.") §16-50j-58, The United Illuminating Company ("UI" or "Company") hereby notifies the Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") of its intent to make exempt modifications to its Seaview Tap Substation ("Facility" or "Energy Facility"). The \$625 filing fees, along with 2 copies of this Notice of Exempt Modification are enclosed herewith.

Existing Energy Facility

The Facility is located at 1677 Seaview Avenue at 41.186093 and Λ -73.170558 in the City of Bridgeport, CT and is bounded as follows:

Connecticut BEGINNING at a point on the westerly street line of Seaview Avenue 224.76 feet southerly of the southwest corner of Barnum Avenue and Seaview Avenue when measured along said westerly street line of Seaview Avenue; then continuing southerly along said street line for a distance of 39.72 feet to a point; thence westerly along a line making an interior angle of $85^{\circ}-07'-20''$ with said westerly street line of Seaview Avenue for a distance of 137.37 feet to a point; thence northerly along a line making an interior angle of $92^{\circ}-20'-10''$ with the last described line for a distance of 39.39 feet to a point; thence again northerly along a line making an interior angle of $212^{\circ}-26'-12''$ with the last described line for a distance of 47.41 feet to a point; thence again northerly along a line making an interior angle of $154^{\circ}-27'-38''$ with the last described line for a distance of 187.46 feet to a point on the southerly street line of Barnum Avenue; thence easterly along the southerly street line of Barnum Avenue making an interior angle of $80^{\circ}-49'-40''$ with the last described line for a distance of 33.90 feet to a point; thence southerly and easterly along the arc of a curve having a radius of 355.00 feet for a distance of 303.52 feet to the point of beginning. Existing yard structures are approximately 73'-0" high and are enclosed in a fenced and graveled area of 0.13 acres +/-.



Existing Seaview Tap Substation Yard, Google maps, 2023

Proposed Modifications

UI is proposing to install a fabricated steel utility cabinet to house fiber optic network gear to connect this substation to others in the system in a ring fashion. This fiber network is part of a project to connect all the Operating Companies that make up AVANGRID, the parent company. This fiber optic network is a high speed communications link, with the potential to carry all needed corporate communications to and from the facility, including security, SCADA, etc.

This network is private to UI and AVANGRID, and enhances cyber security for the grid by not allowing any internet or other outside access to same. The core controlling the system is state of the art, providing machine learning, artificial intelligence control, and behavioral analysis to detect, kill, track back and identify threats. This system is the first of its kind in the United States designed solely to protect network



traffic controlling and protecting the grid. It will materially enhance the reliability of the grid once fully deployed.

The cabinet is manufactured of aluminum sheeting by American Products, mounted on a 10' by 10' by 6" concrete pad to be poured on site. It is rated NEMA 3R. This is a fully enclosed system, with environmental controls to protect the equipment inside. The cabinet will be no larger than 78" tall by 60" wide 42" deep.



Compliance with R.C.S.A. § 16-50j-57(b)

Pursuant to R.C.S.A. §16-50j-57(b), the proposed changes do not constitute a modification to an existing facility that may have a substantial adverse environmental effect and are exempt from the requirement to obtain a certificate pursuant to Section 16-50k of the Connecticut General Statutes. Specifically, consistent with R.C.S.A. § 16-50j-57(b), the proposed changes to the existing site do not:

- (A) Extend the boundaries of the site beyond the existing fenced compound;
- (B) Increase the height of existing associated equipment;

- (C) Increase noise levels at the site boundary by 6 decibels or more, or to levels that exceed state and local criteria;
- (D) Impact electric and magnetic field levels at the site boundary in a manner that is inconsistent with the Council's Best Management practices for Electric and Magnetic Fields;
- (E) Cause a significant adverse change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics of the site; or
- (F) Impair the structural integrity of the facility, as determined in a certification provided by a professional engineer licensed in Connecticut, where applicable.

The project 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 cabinet would be located within the substation's existing fence line; the Substation's fenced area would not be expanded.
- (B) The equipment will be no taller than existing equipment within the Substation.
- (C) There would be no change to the existing television or radio interference resulting from the modifications of the Substation.
- (D) Sound-pressure levels at all points along properties lines would continue to meet state regulations set out in R.C.S.A. §§ 22a-69-1 et seq.
- (E) The project work would not affect water resource areas.
- (F) UI's review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base did not identify any state-listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species in the vicinity of the Project.

UI intends to initiate the project as soon as the Council acknowledges that the proposed activities are exempt.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 475.321.1404 should you have any questions regarding this notice.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Chelsea Hill

Project Manager
Avangrid Management Company

Enclosures

cc: Correne Auer, Avangrid Manager Environmental Programs
Mayor Joseph P. Ganim, City of Bridgeport
Bruce L. McDermott, Murtha Cullina LLP