

June 18, 2019

Melanie Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Notice of Exempt Modification Pursuant to RCSA § 16-50j-57(a) to Existing Energy Facility Site at 28 Meadow Street, East Hartford, Connecticut (“Notice of Exempt Modification”)

Dear Ms. Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) hereby gives notice to the Connecticut Siting Council of its intent to undertake modifications between Eversource’s existing structure B3 and structure 5-202 (the “Project”) on the Eversource property described herein.

Modifications

The proposed modifications would take place on Eversource’s property at 28 Meadow Street in the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut (see Figure 1 below) to facilitate the installation of an Optical Ground Wire (“OPGW”) between structure B3 and Riverside Drive Substation. The Project comprises installing two new wood poles, structures 5-202A and 5-202B, approximately 33 feet above ground level to support the OPGW between structure B3 and structure 5-202, which support Eversource’s existing 1786/1775 Line, a double-circuit 115-kV transmission line. See Figure 1.

Figure 1 Aerial – Locations of Existing and Proposed Structures



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

- The new permanent structures would be located in an area that is surrounded by state highways, the Connecticut River and wetlands, and they would be shorter than the adjacent existing structures on the electric transmission line.
- Permanent wetland effects would result from the installation of two new wood poles (structures 5-202A and 5-202B) in wetlands. The installation of these structures would result in approximately 50 square feet of permanent wetland effects. The Project will also result in approximately 1.40 acres of temporary effects to wetlands, associated with the temporary use of construction mats for access roads and work pads. All construction mats will be promptly removed upon Project completion and wetland areas will be restored in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements)*, September 2016 ("BMPs").
- The Project right-of-way is located within the 100-year zone FEMA flood zone associated with the Connecticut River over much of the Project area. New structures 5-202A and 5-202B would be located within the 100-year zone. In addition, temporary work activities and materials would be located within the 100-year flood zone at existing structures B3, 5-202, 5-203, 5-206, and 5-207.

Eversource would utilize its BMPs to minimize any impacts in these areas including the use of construction mats for work pads to ensure that hydrology is not adversely affected. All construction mats would be removed promptly after the Project is complete.

Areas of disturbance would be promptly stabilized in order to minimize the potential for soil erosion and the discharge of sediment into nearby resource areas. Prior to significant storm events, Eversource will secure the construction mats to impede lateral movement during temporary flooding. Accordingly, the Project would have a de minimis effect on the flood storage capacity of the affected flood zones.

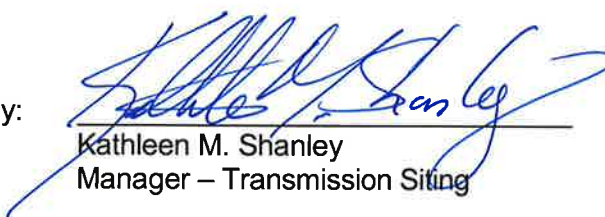
- Review of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDDB"), identified state-listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species in the vicinity of the Project area. As such, Eversource submitted a NDDDB Review Request to the CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources Wildlife Division on March 26, 2019. Eversource will adhere to the recommendations and protection strategies identified in the NDDDB determination once it is received. No work that is subject to the NDDDB Review will occur until receipt of the NDDDB determination, and concurrence that state-listed species are adequately protected.
- There would be no television or radio interference caused by these modifications.
- Sound-pressure levels at all points along the perimeter of the Property would continue to comply with state regulations.
- There would be no changes in electric and magnetic field levels caused by these modifications.

Eversource proposes to commence construction in August 2019.

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

Eversource has informed the Mayor of East Hartford about the Project.

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

By: 
Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting

cc: Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc, Town of East Hartford