



**VIA US AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

November 17, 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 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, Connecticut ("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 Hawthorne Substation ("Facility" or "Energy Facility"). The \$625 filing fee, along with 2 copies of this Notice of Exempt Modification are enclosed herewith.

Existing Energy Facility

The Facility is located at 180 Hawthorne Drive in the Town of Fairfield at 41°12'50.76": N and  $\wedge$  73°15'04.80": W and was acquired via two deeds, volume 510 page 616 on March 31, 1967 and volume 5185 page 201 on September 30, 2014 and is described as follows:

Beginning at a point being the southeasterly corner of said parcel;  
Thence S 70°44'00" W a distance of 400.00' now or formerly Annette Herman, Louis and Stephanie Johnson, Kenneth L. and Maureen G. Boda, and Arthur P. Tournas, partly by each;  
Thence N 31°40'00" W a distance of 224.00' along land now or formerly of the General Electric Company;  
Thence N 40°17'48" E a distance of 160.00' along land now or formerly of the General Electric Company;  
Thence N 70°44'00" E a distance of 300.00' along land now or formerly of the General Electric Company  
Thence S 21°12'20" E a distance of 300.00' along land now or formerly of the General Electric Company and Joseph G. and Jill Almeida, partly by each;  
Containing 2.8 acres more or less  
Existing yard structures are approximately 30 feet high with nine lightning masts that are approximately 70 feet high and are enclosed in a fenced and graveled area of 0.85 acres +/-.





Line 1720

Line 1222

Existing Hawthorne Substation. 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, CT



UI to replace 9 jumpers from 1272 ACSR to 2X1590 ACSS

Section View (Current)



### Proposed Modifications

Eversource is currently engineering/executing a project to rebuild 1222 and 1730 lines, upgrading from 1272 ACSR to 1590 ACS. The upgrade is being done from Westin Substation (Eversource owned) to UI's Hawthorne Substation and then between Hawthorne Substation to UI's Old Town Substation. Eversource owns the last span of transmission line to the Hawthorne Substation A-frame.

UI will be replacing the existing jumpers into Hawthorne Substation to accommodate the new Eversource cable runs of Lines 1222 and 1720. The jumpers are being upgraded from 1272 ACSR to 1590 ACSS to adapt for the new cables being run by Eversource.

### 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 jumpers replacement activities will be located within the substation's existing fence line; the Substation's fenced area would not be expanded.
- (B) The equipment placement 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 natural resource areas.

UI intends to initiate the project on or after the Council's acknowledgement that the proposed activities are exempt.



Please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 202-8762 should you have any questions regarding this notice.

Very truly yours,

Correne Auer  
Manager Environmental Programs/Projects  
AVANGRID

Enclosures

Cc: Fist Select Woman Brenda L. Kupchick, Town of Fairfield; Bruce L. McDermott, Murtha Cullina LLP

