



August 12, 2016

Robert Stein, Chairman 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 98 Manresa Island Road, Norwalk, Connecticut ("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 of its intent to undertake modifications to Eversource's Norwalk Harbor Substation ("Project") described herein.

## **Proposed Modifications**

The Project would take place on property owned by NRG Energy ("NRG") over which Eversource has easement rights for its Norwalk Harbor Substation ("Substation") located at 98 Manresa Island Road in Norwalk. Following an evaluation of its substations' susceptibility to flooding due to storm tide surges during hurricane and tropical storm events, Eversource has determined that flood mitigation is required at the Substation to mitigate the potential for equipment damage due to flooding.

The Substation interconnects three 115-kV underground cable transmission lines, the power station's two generator lead lines and its backup station service power transformer, and, through a 300-MVA 115/138-kV autotransformer, the 138-kV submarine cables that extend to the Long Island Power Authority's (LIPA's) Northport Substation on Long Island, New York.

The Substation is mostly at a grade of 10.7 feet with the western portion sloping to an elevation of 8.2 feet. Eversource's flood mitigation plan for this Substation proposes to raise existing equipment, and to install precast concrete barriers within the Substation fence line for flood

protection during storm events. The modifications consider the potential range of storm surge values, and accounts for expected wave height at the Substation site during these events.

The proposed modifications to the Substation would include the following:

- a) Raise two 138-kV circuit breakers one foot above their current positions, by utilizing the existing adjustable leg supports supplied with the existing circuit breaker.
- b) Raise one 138-kV circuit breaker two feet by replacing the existing adjustable leg supports supplied with the circuit breaker with new adjustable leg supports to accommodate the proposed elevation change.
- c) Install two-foot high concrete foundation wall extensions on the west, south and east sides of the existing control enclosure.
- d) Install two-foot high removable flood concrete barriers at the existing control enclosure door locations.
- e) Raise the existing emergency generator 18 inches by installing a steel mounting support, which will be secured to the existing foundation.
- f) Install a sump pump within the control enclosure, which would be powered by the existing emergency generator.
- g) Install 965 linear feet of Type "F" precast concrete barriers around the perimeter of the Substation. The barriers will be 55 inches high by 40 inches wide at the base and 22 inches wide at the top.

The existing Substation arrangement with the modifications is shown in Drawing No. 20305-92001 Norwalk Harbor Substation - Yard Arrangement Plan & Sections

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 barriers would be located within the substation's existing fence line; the Substation's fenced area would not be expanded.
- b) The equipment being raised 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 modifications of the Substation.

d) Sound-pressure levels at all points along properties lines would continue to meet state regulations set out in Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §§ 22a-69-1 et seq.

e) The Project work would not affect water resource areas.

f) The Substation is within a 100-year flood zone, but there will be no excavation during the Project.

g) 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 Project.

h) Electric and magnetic field levels at the Substation boundary would not change as a result of the modifications.

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

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

A notice has been provided to the City of Norwalk and the property owner, NRG.

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

cc: Mayor Harry Rilling, City of Norwalk

Attachment:

Attachment A: Drawing No. 20305-92001 Norwalk Harbor Substation - Yard Arrangement Plan & Sections

