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

June 29, 2022

Melanie Bachman, Esq.  
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 Facilities in the City of Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut (“Notice of Exempt Modification”)*

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) hereby gives notice to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) of its intent, in accordance with Section 16-50j-57(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (“RCSA”), to undertake modifications to install full-stop joints with motor-operated valves (FSJ/MOVs) along three existing underground high-pressure fluid-filled (“HPFF”) 115-kilovolt (“kV”) electric transmission lines (the 1608, 1867, and 1880 lines) in the City of Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

These three parallel HPFF lines extend between Eversource’s Ely Avenue Transition Station (“Transition Station”) and Norwalk Harbor Substation. The proposed work will be performed within the Transition Station, a municipal road, and on Eversource properties. This work is described below. Attachment A provides maps and aerial photographs that illustrate the planned locations of the work.

#### **Purpose for and Description of the Proposed Modifications**

The FSJ/MOVs will be installed at locations along the existing 115-kV HPFF lines to allow the isolation of sections of the lines in the event of a failure, thereby minimizing any potential fluid leaks to the environment. A FSJ is a specially designed electrical splice that is equipped with a barrier plate and epoxy insulation to prevent dielectric fluid from migrating longitudinally through the splice itself. The fluid must travel through 2-inch diameter steel “bypass piping”, which is connected in series to a MOV. The MOVs are designed to close automatically upon sensing a pressure drop in the line fluid (which could be associated with a leak).

Eversource selected locations along the three HPFF lines for the installation of the FSJ/MOVs based on topography. The FSJ/MOV locations were strategically selected to prevent the downslope migration of fluid within the HPFF lines in the event of a leak.

For each HPFF line, the FSJs will be installed within underground vaults and will be connected to MOVs, each of which will be in an adjacent above-ground cabinet on Eversource property. The FSJs will be installed in three existing HPFF underground vaults (one for each of the 115-kV lines) located on the eastern portion of the Transition Station property (as shown on Sheet 1 of 2 in Attachment A). The existing vaults measure approximately 6 feet high by 6 feet wide by 16 feet long. The tops of each of

the vaults in the Transition Station are approximately 2 feet below grade. The vault for the 1867 line, located within the Transition Station, will need to be expanded by 8 feet in length (total dimensions will be 6 feet high by 6 feet wide by 24 feet long), to accommodate the FSJ and the necessary splicing. After the expansion of this vault, the area affected will be restored. No other vaults at the Transition Station will need to be expanded.

A single new vault will be located along the HPFF cable system within Gray Rock Road (as shown on Sheet 2 of 2 in Attachment A). This single new vault, which will measure approximately 20 feet long by 18 feet wide by 7 feet high, will accommodate all three HPFF lines and associated FSJs and will be buried to provide a depth of cover of approximately 1 foot -6 inches above the top of the vault. After the installation of the vault, the affected area of the road will be restored and repaved.

As noted above, each FSJ will be connected to a MOV via a 2-inch diameter steel bypass piping. The MOVs each will be housed within an above-ground weatherproof utility cabinet that will measure approximately 5 feet tall (above grade) by 5 feet long and 3 feet wide. The MOVs for the vaults at Transition Station will be located on the Transition Station property, while the MOVs associated with the single vault in Gray Rock Road will be located on Eversource property that abuts the road<sup>1</sup>.

To perform the construction required for the FSJ/MOV modifications, Eversource must isolate the HPFF line segments along which the work will occur. Accordingly, Eversource will install temporary "freeze pits" on each of the HPFF lines. Freeze pits are excavations surrounding one or more pipes that permit access to the pipe(s). If two or more pipes are spaced close enough together (typically less than or equal to approximately 6 feet), it is feasible to construct one freeze pit that encompasses multiple pipes. This is the case for the freeze pit in the Transition Station on the 1608 and 1880 lines, and the 1608, 1867 and 1880 lines on Gray Rock Road. Although a freeze pit may expose more than one circuit's pipe, a freeze will only be applied to the single circuit being worked on to install the FSJ/MOV. This freeze pit may then be used to put a freeze on the next circuit's pipe without re-excavating and establishing a new pit.

As illustrated on the Attachment A maps, for the work at the vaults at the Transition Station, freeze pits will be located along each of the three HPFF lines on Eversource property directly east of the Transition Station permanent fence line and along the existing temporary fence line. Eversource will remove the temporary fence during construction and will follow its standard practices for maintaining security during this work.

For the installation of the new vault and FSJs in Gray Rock Road, a temporary freeze pit will be constructed to encompass all three HPFF lines. The freeze pit will be approximately 16 feet by 10 feet, located within the road to the west of the vault.

A small temporary shelter will be erected at ground level around each freeze pit. This shelter will both prevent precipitation from entering the pit and secure the site from unauthorized access. Liquid nitrogen will be used to freeze the cable fluid uphill of the pit, effectively creating a blockage in the fluid. A vacuum truck will then be used to drain a calculated amount of fluid from the downhill side of the isolated segment of the HPFF cable to keep fluid from draining.

Eversource anticipates that approximately 2-3 weeks will be required for the freeze pit work along each HPFF cable/vault location. During this time, the freeze must be maintained on a 24/7 basis.

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<sup>1</sup> The three MOVs for the FSJs along the HPFF cables in Gray Rock Road will be in cabinets that will be grouped on a common pad, which will measure approximately 3 feet by 15 feet.

## **Impacts and Mitigation**

The proposed FSJ/MOV modifications will not have a substantial adverse environmental effect or cause a significant adverse change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics because:

- The work will be performed within the Transition Station and adjacent Eversource property, along the existing HPFF cable system routes within Gray Rock Road, and on Eversource property abutting Gray Rock Road - all within upland areas. The MOVs will be installed in upland areas on Eversource property and connected to the vaults via short underground pipe segments, also in upland areas.
- The work will not affect wetlands, waterways, or coastal resources, and will minimize the potential for adverse impacts to water resources that could be associated with an HPFF line failure.
- Except for the excavation of the freeze pits on Eversource property along the HPFF cable alignments east of the Transition Station fence line, no vegetation will be affected by the modification work. The affected vegetation is along Eversource's existing ROW for the three HPFF cables and thus is managed in low-growth vegetation.
- Access to the work sites will be via Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard to the Transition Station and Gray Rock Road. In addition, to facilitate large equipment ingress/egress to the southeastern portion of the Transition Station, Eversource proposes to use an existing paved access on property owned by Eversource at 349 Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard. Eversource's review of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural Diversity Data Base maps identified no state-listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species in the vicinity of the work sites that would be affected by the proposed work.
- Soils disturbed by the vault and freeze pit excavations will be managed in accordance with applicable regulations.
- The fluid removed from the cable segments for the FSJ/MOV work will be collected and managed in accordance with applicable regulations.
- The work will result in short-term noise typical of construction activities but will not result in any long-term changes to the noise levels.
- The installation of the freeze pits, new vault, and FSJs in Gray Rock Road will require the temporary full or partial closure of the road in the immediate vicinity of the work.
- Eversource has conducted initial outreach to City Officials to make them aware of the proposed work, including the closure of Gray Rock Road. Eversource has also conducted initial outreach to potentially impacted property owners.
- Eversource will coordinate with the City of Norwalk, including meeting with relevant City Officials prior to the start of construction, regarding appropriate traffic control measures, including the use of municipal police officers, flaggers, construction work zone signs, and temporary detours, as appropriate. Eversource will inform potentially affected property owners of the temporary full or partial road closure and work with all abutting property owners to address any questions or concerns throughout project construction and restoration. Access to all residential and commercial properties will be maintained during this period. Eversource also will coordinate with the city regarding the restoration of the road after the installation of the vault.
- Electric and magnetic field levels will not be affected by the FSJ/MOV modifications.

**Schedule**

Eversource proposes to commence construction in August 2022. Work to install the FSJs/MOVs on the three HPFF lines will be sequenced (with staggered line outages anticipated in the Fall of 2022). The work is scheduled to be completed in 2022.

Eversource is submitting this filing electronically and is providing three hard copies for the Council's records, along with the requisite fee of \$625.00. A notice of this exempt modification filing has been provided to the Mayor of the City of Norwalk.

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

By:



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Kathleen M. Shanley  
Manager - Transmission Siting

cc: Harry W. Rilling, Mayor, City of Norwalk

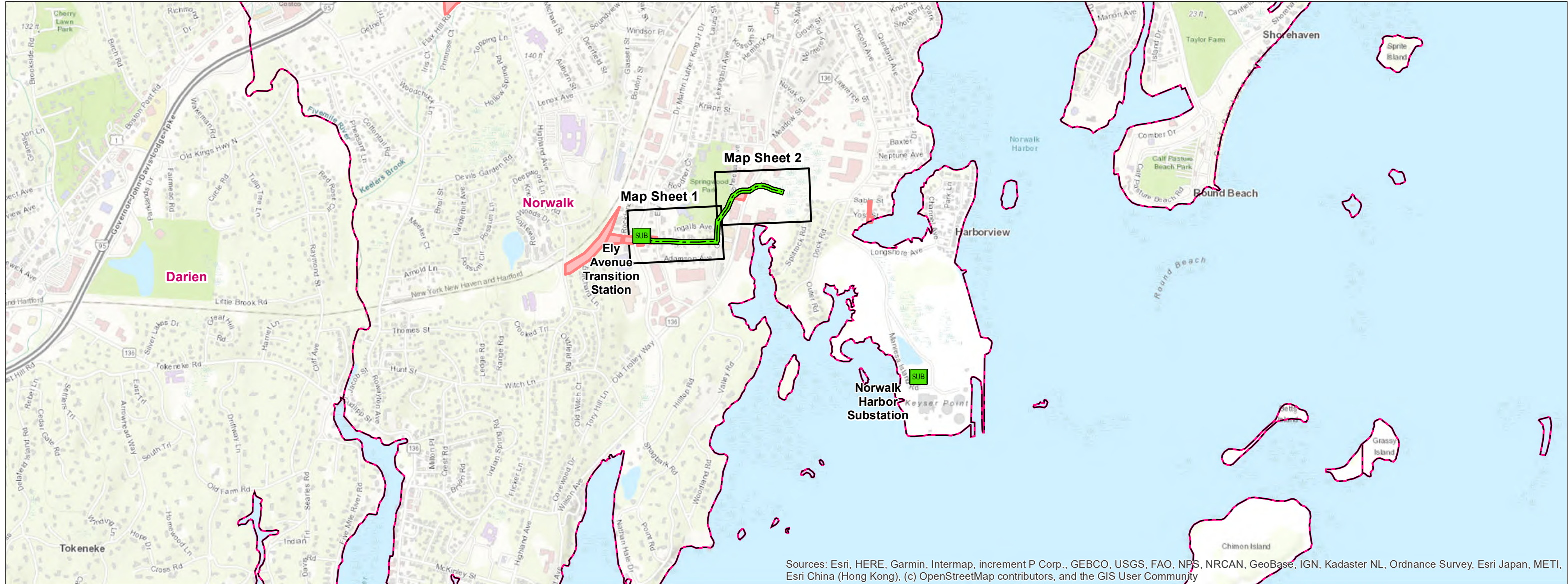
**ATTACHMENT A**  
**MAPS**



# Norwalk MOV Program

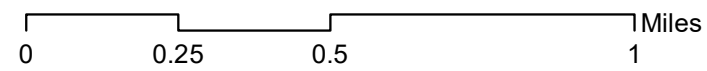
Norwalk, CT

Date: June 16, 2022



## Legend

- Substation
- Project Corridor
- MapSheets
- Municipal Boundary
- Eversource Owned Property



PREPARED FOR:

**EVERSOURCE**  
ENERGY

107 Selden Street  
Berlin, CT 06037

## INDEX OF FIGURES

Cover Page / Index Map  
Abutter Tables and Map Sheets 1-2

PREPARED BY:

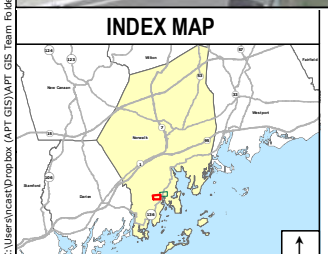
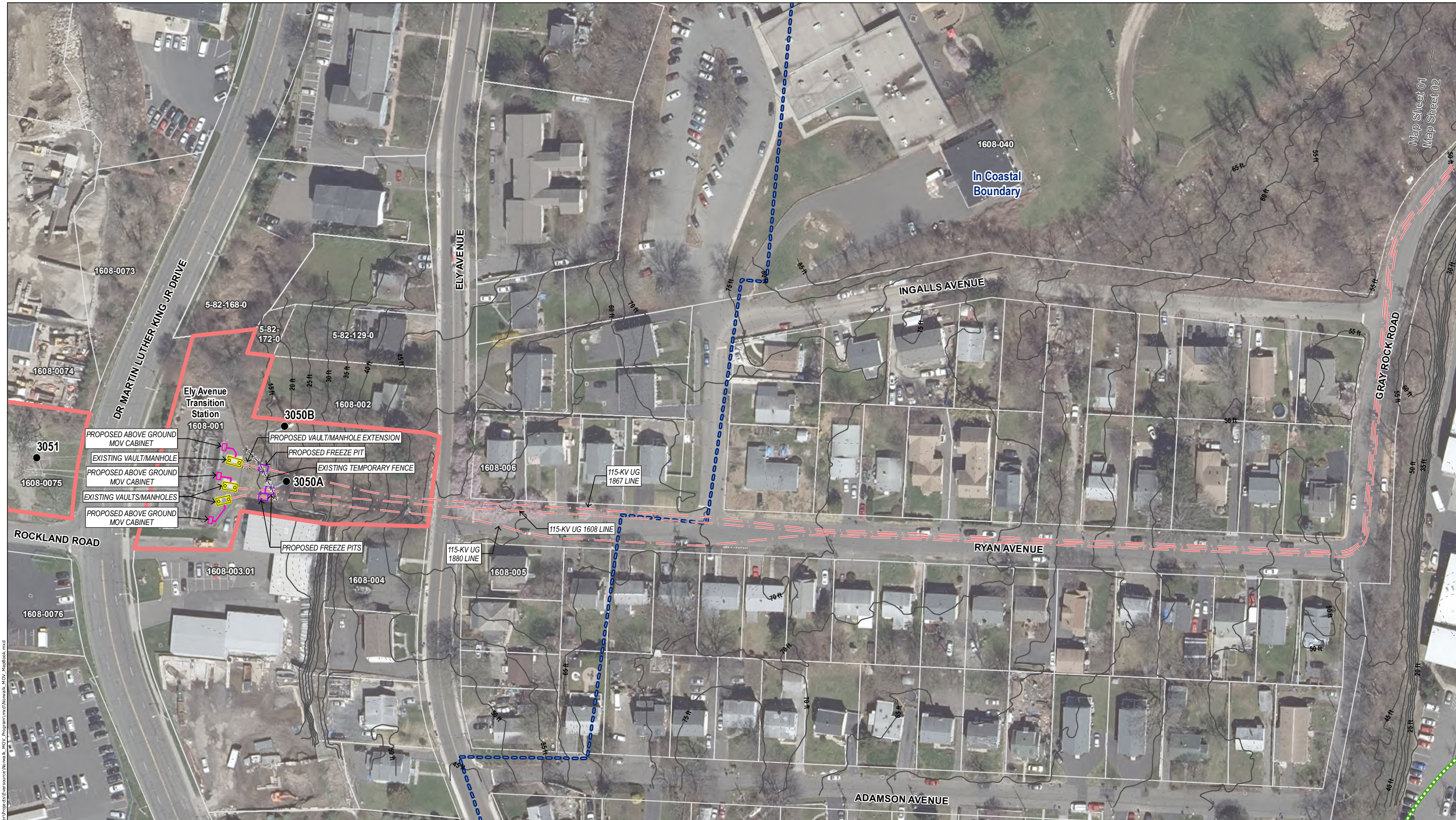
**ALL-POINTS**  
TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION

567 Vauxhall Street Ext.- Suite, 311  
Waterford, CT 06385

Map Sheet 1 of 2  
 Norwalk MOV Program  
 Abutters List

<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1608-001	324 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO.
1608-002	320 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	FREDISWINDA SOTO VARGA VALENTIN
1608-003.01	349 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DR	NORWALK	CT	JOHN G SR DANTONIO
1608-004	328 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	ANDREW FRY
1608-005	327 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	JOHN W & MARGARET ANN WALKER
1608-006	1 RYAN AVE	NORWALK	CT	AARON IPE OOMMEN & SHIKHA VYAS
1608-0073	324 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DR	NORWALK	CT	FORTY-NINE EAST AVENUE LLC
1608-0074	47 ROCKLAND RD	NORWALK	CT	MARCELLO G. RONDANO EST & RONDANO ROCKLAND ROAD LLC
1608-0075	76 ROCKLAND RD	NORWALK	CT	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO.
1608-0076	79 ROCKLAND RD	NORWALK	CT	79 ROCKLAND ROAD LLC
1608-040	11 INGALLS AVE	NORWALK	CT	CITY OF NORWALK (SCHOOL – NATHANIEL ELY)
5-82-129-0	318 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	JAMES YAO
5-82-168-0	310 ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION
5-82-172-0	316 ½ ELY AVE	NORWALK	CT	CITY OF NORWALK





Legend	
● Existing Structure	— 5' Contour Line
— Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)	- - - 1' Contour Line
x-x-x Existing Temporary Fence	+ Railroad
- - - Underground Eversource Line	Coastal Boundary
Freeze Pit	Approximate Wetland (not delineated; CTDEEP)
Proposed MOV Location	Approximate Tidal Wetlands (not delineated; CTDEEP)
Vault/Manhole	Watercourse (not delineated; CTDEEP)
Vault/Manhole Extension	
FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone	
Natural Diversity Database Area (Dec 2021)	
Parcel Boundary	
Eversource Owned Property	
Matchline	

**Map Notes:**  
 This mapping product has been created to comply with submittal requirements to obtain certain regulatory approvals and, as such, there is no reliance on the information contained herein for any other purpose.  
 Aerial Base Map Source: CTECO 2019

1 inch = 100 feet  
 0 50 100 Feet

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS

**EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**Norwalk MOV Program**

Norwalk, CT      Map Sheet 1 of 2

Date: June, 2022

Map Author: N. Castro

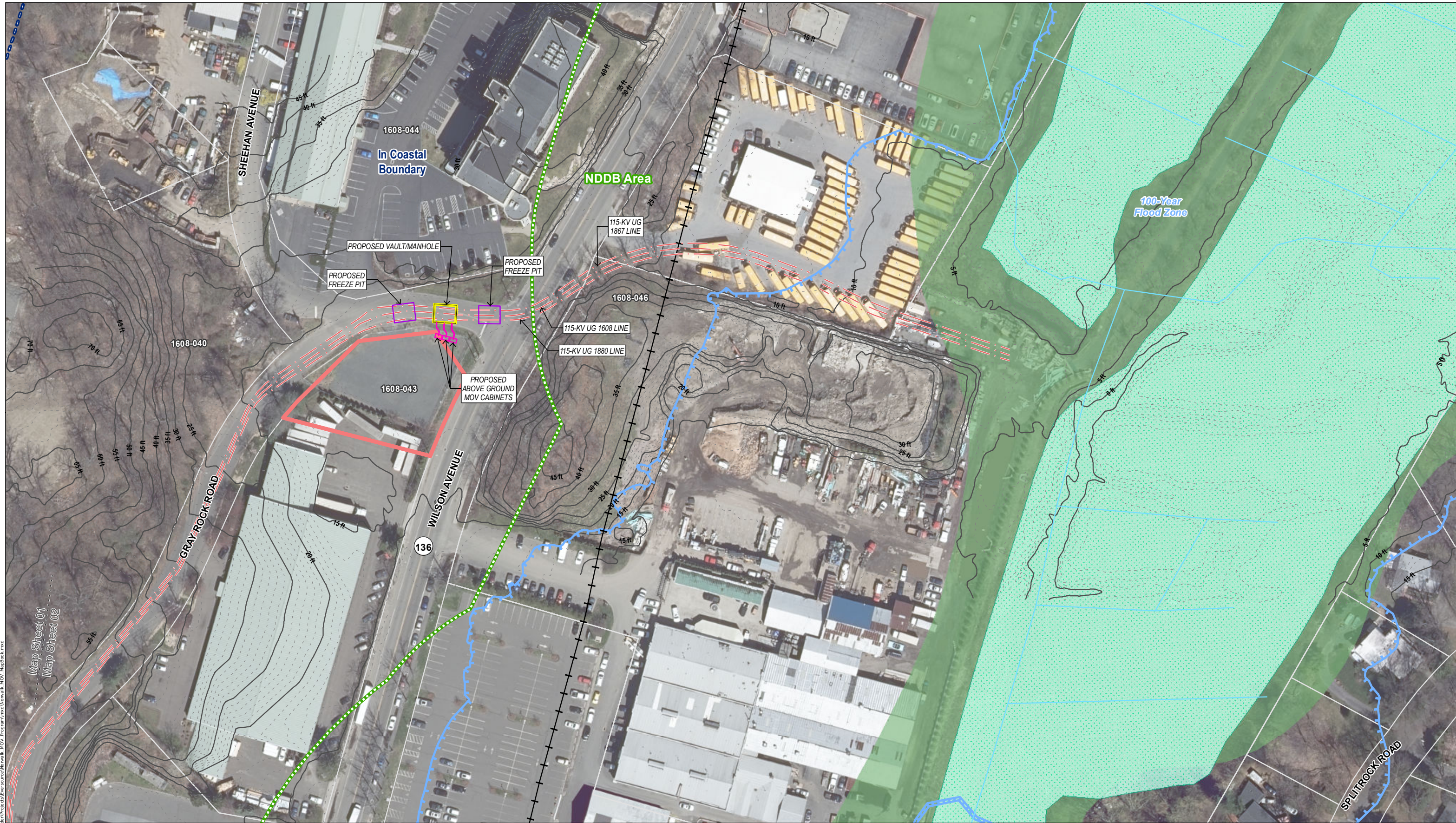
**ALL-POINTS TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION**



Map Sheet 2 of 2  
Norwalk MOV Program  
Abutters List

<u>Line List Number</u>	<u>Parcel Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>
1608-040	11 INGALLS AVE	NORWALK	CT	CITY OF NORWALK (SCHOOL - NATHANIEL ELY)
1608-043	319 WILSON AVE	NORWALK	CT	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO.
1608-044	333 WILSON AVE	NORWALK	CT	WILSON RAND LLC C/O PETER DINARDO ENTERPRISES
1608-046	314 WILSON AVE	NORWALK	CT	CRYSTAL LLC

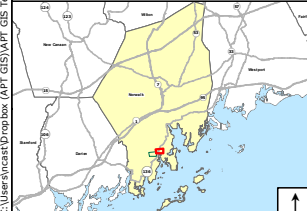




C:\Users\jcastro\Dropbox\A-PT GIS\Map\GIS Team\1608\Projects\Eversource\Norwalk MOV Program\mxd\Norwalk MOV Pagebook.mxd

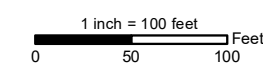
Map Sheet 01  
Map Sheet 02

**INDEX MAP**



**Legend**

- Existing Structure
- Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)
- x-x-x Existing Temporary Fence
- - - Underground Eversource Line
- Freeze Pit
- Proposed MOV Location
- Vault/Manhole
- Vault/Manhole Extension
- 5' Contour Line
- - - 1' Contour Line
- ⊕ Railroad
- Coastal Boundary
- Approximate Wetland (not delineated; CTDEEP)
- Approximate Tidal Wetlands (not delineated; CTDEEP)
- Watercourse (not delineated; CTDEEP)
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Aerial Base Map Source: CTECO 2019

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS



**Norwalk MOV Program**

Norwalk, CT	Map Sheet 2 of 2
Date: June, 2022	
Map Author: N. Castro	