Petition No. 1040

The Connecticut Light and Power Company

South Meadow Substation, Reserve Road, Hartford

Staff Report

November 15, 2012

On September 28, 2012, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition (Petition) from The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required to modify the existing South Meadow Substation at Reserve Road, Hartford. This Petition was field reviewed by Council member Brian Golembiewski and Michael Perrone of the Council staff on October 23, 2012. The following representatives from CL&P also attended the field review: John Morissette, Manager – Siting and Permitting; Mark Smith, Project Manager; and Ali Karimi, Senior Project Engineer.

Specifically, CL&P seeks to install one new relay and control enclosure. This project would include the following: installation of a new foundation pad for the control enclosure; addition of a new (52-foot long by 28-foot foot by 12-foot high) relay and control enclosure to be located adjacent to the existing (40-foot long by 28-foot wide by 12-foot high) control enclosure; expansion of the existing substation by moving the fence line 7 feet to the northeast and approximately 21 feet to the southeast; installation of new redundant protective relaying systems/cabinets; installation of a new redundant direct current system (battery, distribution panel, charger, etc.) in the existing control enclosure; installation of a new cable trench system in the substation yard; and modify the existing transmission and distribution protection schemes to incorporate the new relays. This project is needed to comply with the Northeast Power Coordinating Council Bulk Power System Protection Criteria requirements.

The site is already developed with an existing substation and power plant. The nearest home is roughly one-half of a mile west-northwest of the site. Given the size of the subject property, existing utility infrastructure, and distance to the nearest home, the visual impact is expected to be negligible. There are no wetlands, waterways, or watercourses located on or near the location of the proposed installation. No impact on wildlife is anticipated since this is a developed site with no known existing habitat. Sound pressure levels at all points along the property line would continue to meet State regulations.

Notice was provided to property owner and abutters on or about the date of filing (September 28, 2012). No replies have been received. This project would be completed by December 2013.