

56 Prospect Street P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06103

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager-Transmission Siting

Tel: (860) 728-4527

April 15, 2021

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

RE: Sub-Petition No.1293-BN-01

# Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-BN-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Bethel and Newtown, Connecticut. The work includes replacing two existing single circuit wood transmission line support structures on the 1760 Line with new weathering steel structures.

Eversource sent the enclosed Sub-Petition to the towns of Bethel and Newtown and notice to owners of directly abutting property (see Proof of Notice).

Please contact me at 860-728-4527 if you have any questions regarding the enclosed Sub-Petition.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

# Attachments:

Exhibit A. Sub-Petition

Exhibit B. Sub-Petition Maps

Exhibit C. Abutter Letter and Proof of Notice

Exhibit D. Pictures

### ATTACHMENT A

# THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY doing business as EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Sub-Petition

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL – PETITION NO. 1293

TRANSMISSION FACILITY ASSET CONDITION

MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS TO COMPLY

WITH THE UPDATED NATIONAL ELECTRIC

SAFETY CODE CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

Towns: Bethel and Newtown Sub-Petition No-1293-BN-01

Project: 1760 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: Two Transmission Line Structures located in Bethel and Newtown,

Connecticut

# I. Introduction

In accordance with Condition 1 of the March 30, 2017 ruling by the Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") (as set forth in the Council's August 31, 2017 letter) regarding Petition No. 1293 ("CSC Ruling"), The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") submits this Sub-Petition.

# II. Description of Transmission Work Activities:

An engineering evaluation has determined that, due to asset condition, two structures require replacement on a portion of the 1760 Line, which is a 115-kV transmission line that extends from Newtown Substation in Newtown to Plumtree Substation in Bethel, Connecticut. The structures require a slight increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements<sup>1</sup>.

Eversource plans to conduct transmission structure replacement work to remediate wood structure damage caused by structure age, weather, and woodpecker activity. The following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

- Replace 2 existing direct-embedded wood guyed-angle structures with 2 new weathering steel guyed angle structures.
- The proposed structures will each have a final height that is no more than 5 feet greater than the height of the applicable existing structure being replaced.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Eversource will also be replacing approximately 6 miles of one (1) 3/8 alumoweld shield wire ("ALWLD") with optical ground wire ("OPGW").

The proposed structures will be installed within 10 feet of the existing structure locations.

Eversource also will replace the existing shield wire on the 1760 line with optical ground wire ("OPGW").

# III. No Substantial Adverse Environmental Effect:

Eversource respectfully submits that the proposed modifications would have no "substantial adverse environmental effect" pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-50k, based on the following factors:

- i) Work would take place within Eversource's existing right-of-way ("ROW") utilizing existing access routes (collectively the "Work Area").
- ii) Work Activities would occur in uplands areas only, no wetland impacts are proposed. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements)*, September 2016 ("BMPs").
- iii) According to Eversource's review of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CTDEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB"), no Work Activities will be located within NDDB areas.
- iv) The structure replacements would require minor tree trimming and/or vegetation mowing within the managed ROW corridor to improve access to portions of the Work Area.
- v) A review of previously recorded cultural resources on file with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office revealed that no National or State Register of Historic Places (NR/SR) properties or historic districts are located within 500 feet of the Work Area. Results of the Phase 1A cultural assessment indicate that the work areas have no/low archaeological sensitivity and no additional archaeological examinations were recommended prior to construction.
- vi) Structure height increases of the replacement structures average approximately 5 feet. Heights of the replacement structures will not exceed 100 feet above ground level.
- vii) Replacement structures would be located within 10 feet of existing structures.
- viii) There are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas where the proposed Work Activities would be performed.
- ix) There would be no change in noise levels following installation of the new structures.
- x) Any changes in electric and magnetic field levels beyond the ROW edges would be negligible.

# IV. Mitigation:

Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as follows:

(a) Erosion and sediment controls ("E&S") will be employed and maintained, as needed, for the duration of the Work Activities in accordance with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil

Erosion and Sediment Control and the BMPs.

- (b) Eversource's contractor will perform construction sequencing such that any earth materials are exposed for a minimum of time before they are covered, seeded, or otherwise stabilized to prevent erosion.
- (c) During construction, when necessary, anti-tracking mats would be installed at construction entrances onto public roads to prevent tracking of soil onto local streets.
- (d) Upon completion of the Work Activities, all disturbed/exposed areas would be stabilized and revegetated. After the establishment of permanent ground cover, Eversource's contractor would remove the temporary E&S controls and remove/dispose of any accumulated sediments and debris from areas where such measures were used.

# V. Access

No new access roads will be constructed. Existing access roads may be hardened and temporarily widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles.

Eversource would access the Work Areas by entering its ROW from existing access points from public roads and then continue on existing access routes as follows:

- Taylor Road, Bethel for structure 1725
- Scudder Road, Newtown for structure 1702

By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

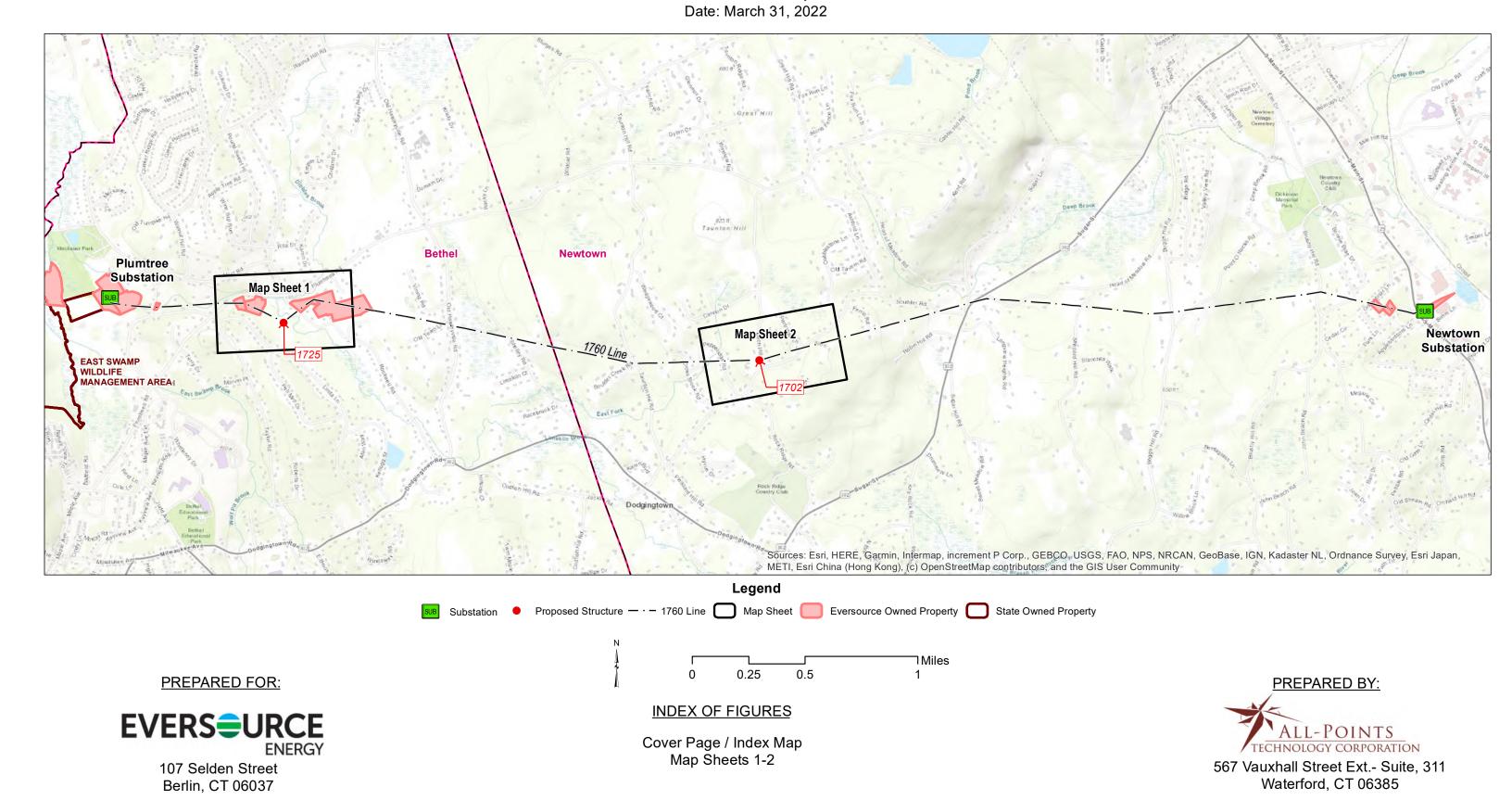
Manager – Transmission Siting

# Attachment B:

**Sub-Petition Maps** 

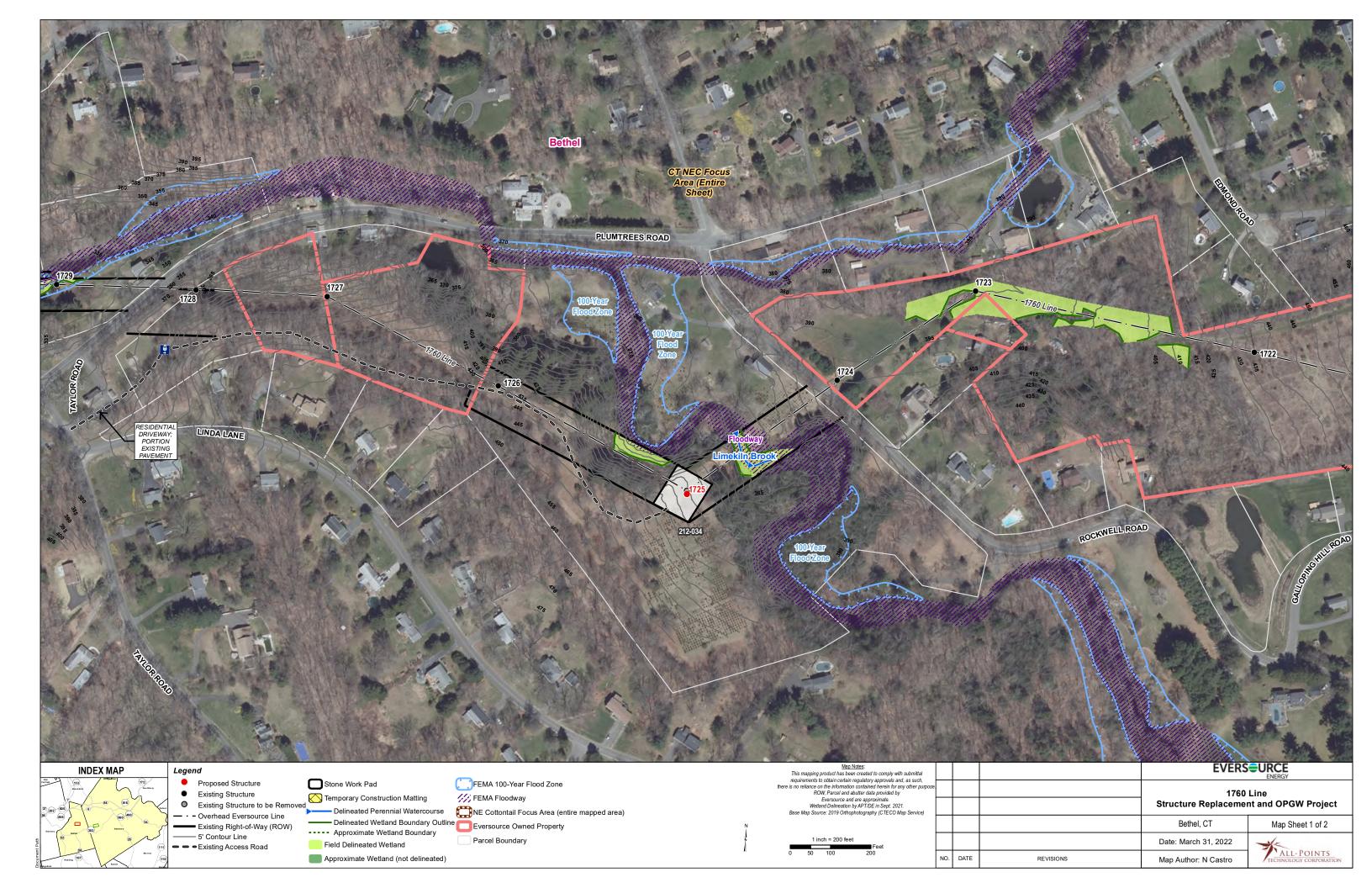
# 1760 Line - Structure Replacement Project and OPGW Project

Bethel and Newtown, CT Sub-Petition Map Set



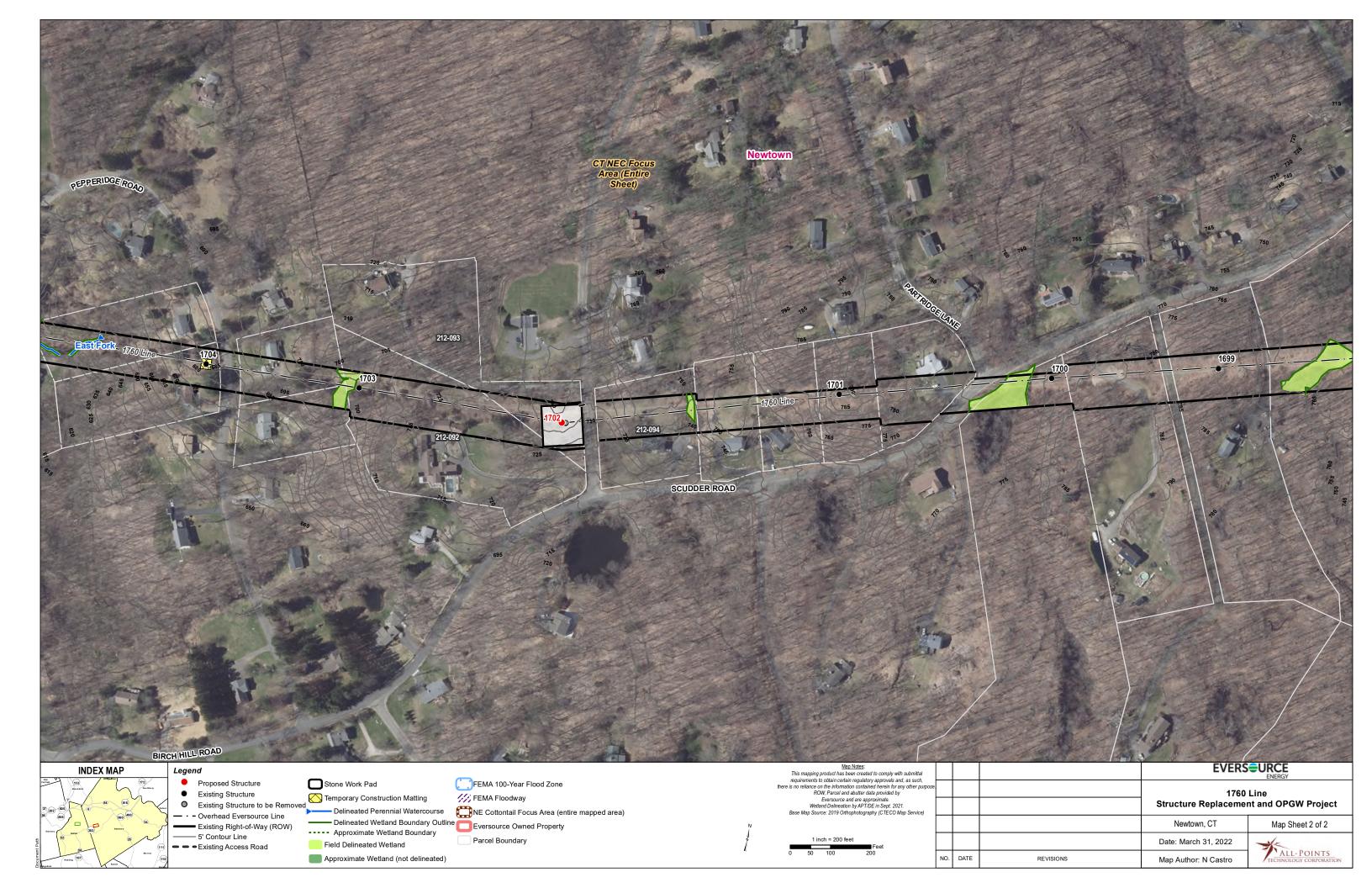
Map Sheet 1 of 2 1760 Line – Structure Replacement Project Abutter Table

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner</u>
212-034	92 ROCKWELL ROAD	BETHEL	CT	EDWIN T ROCKWELL



Map Sheet 2 of 2 1760 Line – Structure Replacement Project Abutter Table

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Owner</u>
212-092	52 BIRCH HILL ROAD	NEWTOWN	СТ	JOSEPH P & LUCILLE A FREEMAN
212-093	50 BIRCH HILL ROAD	NEWTOWN	СТ	CRAIG MICHAEL TILDEN AND ALEXA C PIGNONE
212-094	66 SCUDDER ROAD	NEWTOWN	CT	GIAN CARLOS CACHO



# Attachment C: Abutter Letter and Proof of Notice



April 15, 2022

Dear Neighbor,

As part of our everyday effort to deliver reliable energy to our customers and communities, we're planning work in your area to replace electric transmission structures. Maintaining the infrastructure that supports the electric lines is one of the ways Eversource ensures the safe, secure transmission of electricity throughout the region.

You're receiving this letter and a copy of the Sub-Petition because the proposed work would be taking place within the right of way on or near your property in Newtown and Bethel, CT. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-BN-01 this week to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for its review and approval.

# About This Electric System Improvement: What You Can Expect

First, we want you to know that this work will not interrupt electric service to your property.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace, and slightly increase the height of the existing wood structures. The proposed new, weathering steel structures will increase in height by 5 feet or less to accommodate clearance requirements and will be installed within 10 feet of the existing structure locations.

We are proposing to do the work within the existing rights of way on or near your property. The new structures will provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

# **Health and Safety Is Our Top Priority**

Please know that Eversource remains committed to prioritizing public health as well as the health of employees and contractors. All Eversource personnel follow applicable health and safety guidelines to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

# **Connecticut Siting Council Process and Timing**

With this letter, Eversource is providing notice to you of its proposed work activity. If you have any comments or concerns about the project, please send them to the CSC at the following address within 30 days of the date of this letter: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director; Connecticut Siting Council; Ten Franklin Square; New Britain, CT 06051. You may also email them to the <a href="siting.council@ct.gov">siting.council@ct.gov</a>. If you choose to send comments to the CSC, please reference Sub-Petition No. 1293-BN-01 in your correspondence.

# **Our Commitment to You**

We are committed to be a good neighbor and doing our work with respect for you and your property. If you would like more information about this work please call 1-800-793-2202, or send an email to <a href="mailto:ProjectInfo@eversource.com">ProjectInfo@eversource.com</a>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Bailey

Daniel W. Bailey Eversource Project Manager

# AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT	)
	) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTFORD	)

In accordance with Condition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") March 31, 2017 declaratory ruling on Petition No. 1293, I hereby certify that on April 15, 2020, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-BN-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipalities listed below and 4 abutters. The notice of the proposed maintenance activities states that comments or concerns regarding the maintenance activities described in the Sub-Petition should be submitted to the Council within 30 days of the date of such notice.

Municipal Officials:

First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker Town of Bethel 1 School Street Bethel, CT 06801

First Selectman Daniel Rosenthal Town of Newtown 3 Primrose Street Newtown, CT 06470

Christine Farrell
Project Siting Specialist

On this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2022, before me, the undersigned representative, personally appeared, Christine Farrell, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

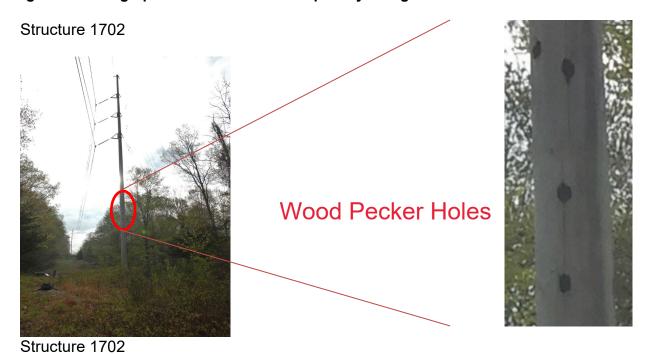
In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

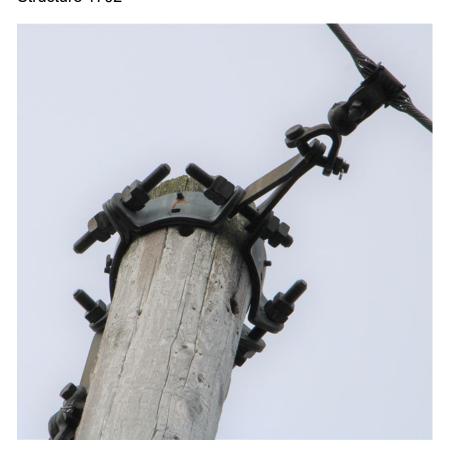
Sandre W. Fol	
Signature	
Notary Public / My Commission expires	
Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No. 413393	

# Attachment D: Pictures



Figure 1. Photographs of Structures with a priority rating of C





**Wood Splitting** 







Structure 1725

Stress Bending

