

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager – Transmission Siting Tel: (860) 728-4527

March 12, 2021

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-CW-02

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-CW-02 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Cheshire and Wallingford, Connecticut. The work includes replacing seven existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipalities of Cheshire and Wallingford of Eversource's submission of the Sub-Petition and sent copies of the Sub-Petition to owners of directly abutting properties (see Proof of Notice).

Per the Council's instructions in response to COVID-19, Eversource is submitting this filing electronically and will be providing one hard copy for the Council's records. Eversource further understands that the Council will invoice the Company for the requisite \$625 filing fee.

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

Sincerely,

**Enclosures** 

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Sub-Petition Exhibit B: Photographs

Exhibit C: Maps

Exhibit D: Abutter Letter and Proof of Notice

# ATTACHMENT A SUB-PETITION

#### THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY doing business as <u>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</u>

Sub-Petition
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL — PETITION NO. 1293
TRANSMISSION FACILITY ASSET CONDITION
MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS TO COMPLY
WITH THE UPDATED NATIONAL ELECTRICAL
SAFETY CODE CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

Town: Cheshire and Wallingford

Sub-Petition 1293-CW-02

Project: 1610 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: Seven Transmission Line Structures in Cheshire and Wallingford,

Connecticut

#### I. <u>Introduction:</u>

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 March 31, 2017 letter) regarding Petition No. 1293, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") submits this Sub-Petition.

#### II. Description of Transmission Work Activities:

Eversource's 1610 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project is part of an ongoing maintenance program which evaluates the integrity of its utility structures and implements repair, upgrade or replacement in order to ensure the safe and reliable transmission of power to its customers. Due to asset condition, seven structures require replacement on the 1610 Line between a location just west of Wallingford Road in Cheshire and Schwab Junction in Wallingford, Connecticut. The 1610 Line in its entirety, is a 115-killovolt line that extends from Southington Substation in Southington to United Illuminating's June Street Substation in Woodbridge, Connecticut. The structures to be replaced are wood H-Frame structures that will require an increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements.

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

 Replace seven existing wood H-Frame structures with new weathering steel H-Frame structures.

#### 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:

- a) All Work Activities would take place within Eversource's existing right-of-way ("ROW") utilizing existing and proposed new permanent access roads, as well as some temporary access roads (collectively the "Work Areas"). Some of the existing access roads would be improved. Eversource can access each structure replacement location utilizing its existing rights; however, it is currently working with a private landowner to obtain rights to utilize an alternative off-ROW access route that would reduce the amount of proposed access roads that would need to be installed within the ROW and lessen the impacts to wetlands.
- b) Collectively, utilizing existing and temporary access roads, the Work Activities would result in approximately 38,640 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the temporary use of matting required for the construction of access roads and work pads for three structures as follows:

Wetland	Structure	Construction Work Pads	Access Roads
Number	Number	Temporary Impacts (SF)	Temporary Impacts (SF)
W1	5246	±5,173	±13,301
W5	5264	±3,751	±3,771
W6	5269	±12,644	0
Subtotals:		±21,568	±17,072
TOTAL:		±38,	640

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") to avoid impacts to nearby wetland and watercourse resources.

- c) No vernal pools or vernal pool envelopes are located in proximity to the proposed Work Areas.
- d) Based on review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CTDEEP") Natural Diversity Database ("NDDB"), no Work Areas are proposed within a NDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and/or CTDEEP owned/managed land. Therefore, the Work Areas would not be subject to an NDDB Review Request. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's BMPs to avoid or minimize impact to terrestrial habitats that may support rare species. With these protective measures, no adverse impacts to state-listed rare species are anticipated.
- e) The Work Activities will not require any tree clearing. However, Eversource may need to undertake tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing to establish required conductor clearance, to improve access roads and/or to install work pads within the Work Areas.
- f) A Phase 1A assessment review of previously recorded cultural resources on file with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office conducted by Heritage Consultants, LLC ("Heritage") did not identify any National or State Register of Historic Places properties/districts or archeological sites within 500 feet of the Work Areas.

Based on a review of historic maps, aerial photographs, and available soil profiles, one proposed work pad location was identified to possess a potential for moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. A pedestrian survey conducted by Heritage at this location revealed the presence of previous disturbances, rocky soil and poor drainage; therefore, Heritage reclassified the location as no/low archaeological sensitivity and advised that no further examination is recommended or warranted.

- g) Increases in heights of the seven replacement structures will vary from 4.5 feet to 13.5 feet to comply with current clearance requirements. Four of the structure height increases will be less than 10 feet.
- h) There are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas.
- i) No change in noise levels would result from the installation of the new structures and the applicable line would continue to comply with the State of Connecticut noise regulations.
- j) Any changes in electric and magnetic field levels outside the ROW would be negligible.

#### IV. Mitigation:

Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as follows:

- Erosion and sediment ("E&S") controls 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.
- Potential impacts to wetlands will be mitigated with the use of temporary matting and adherence to the BMPs.
- Eversource's contractor will perform construction sequencing such that any earth materials are exposed for a minimum amount of time before they are covered, seeded, or otherwise stabilized to prevent erosion.
- During construction, when necessary, anti-tracking mats would be installed at construction entrances to public roads to prevent tracking of soil onto local roads.
- Upon completion of the Work Activities, all disturbed/exposed areas will be stabilized and revegetated as needed. After establishing 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:

Some new permanent access roads would be constructed to facilitate access to structures within the ROW and existing access roads in upland areas may be hardened and widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles. Construction matting will be used for temporary access roads within wetlands. The matting will be removed upon completion of the Work Activities and the areas restored, as necessary.

Eversource will access the Work Areas by entering its ROW from existing access points on public roads as follows:

#### Cheshire

 Wallingford Road for Structure 5246 (off-ROW access from Thorn Hollow Road would be utilized for Structure 5246 if rights are obtained)

#### Wallingford

- Church Street for Structures 5259, 5260, 5262 and 5264
- Highland Avenue for Structure 5269
- Chimney Hill Road for Structure 5270

By:

Kathleen M./Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

# ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS







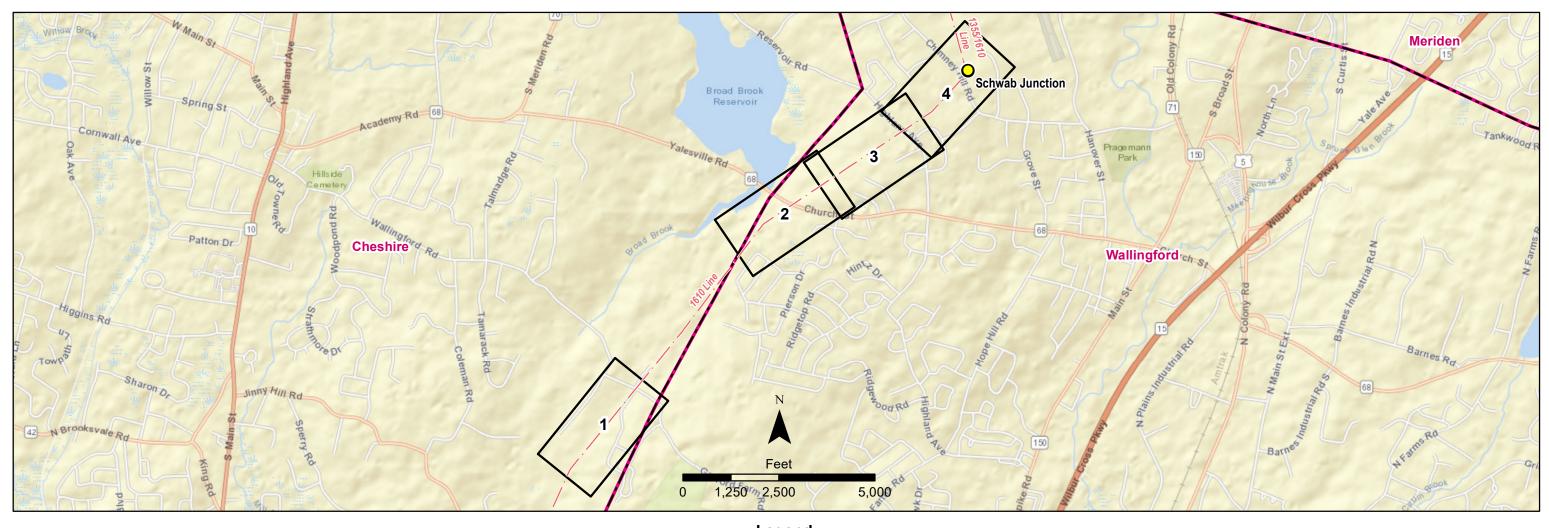


# ATTACHMENT C MAPS

Cheshire & Wallingford, CT

## **Sub-Petition Map Set**

March 05, 2021



**PREPARED FOR:** 



107 Selden Street Berlin, CT 06037

#### Legend

Overhead Eversource Line Map Sheet Municipal Boundary

**INDEX OF FIGURES** 

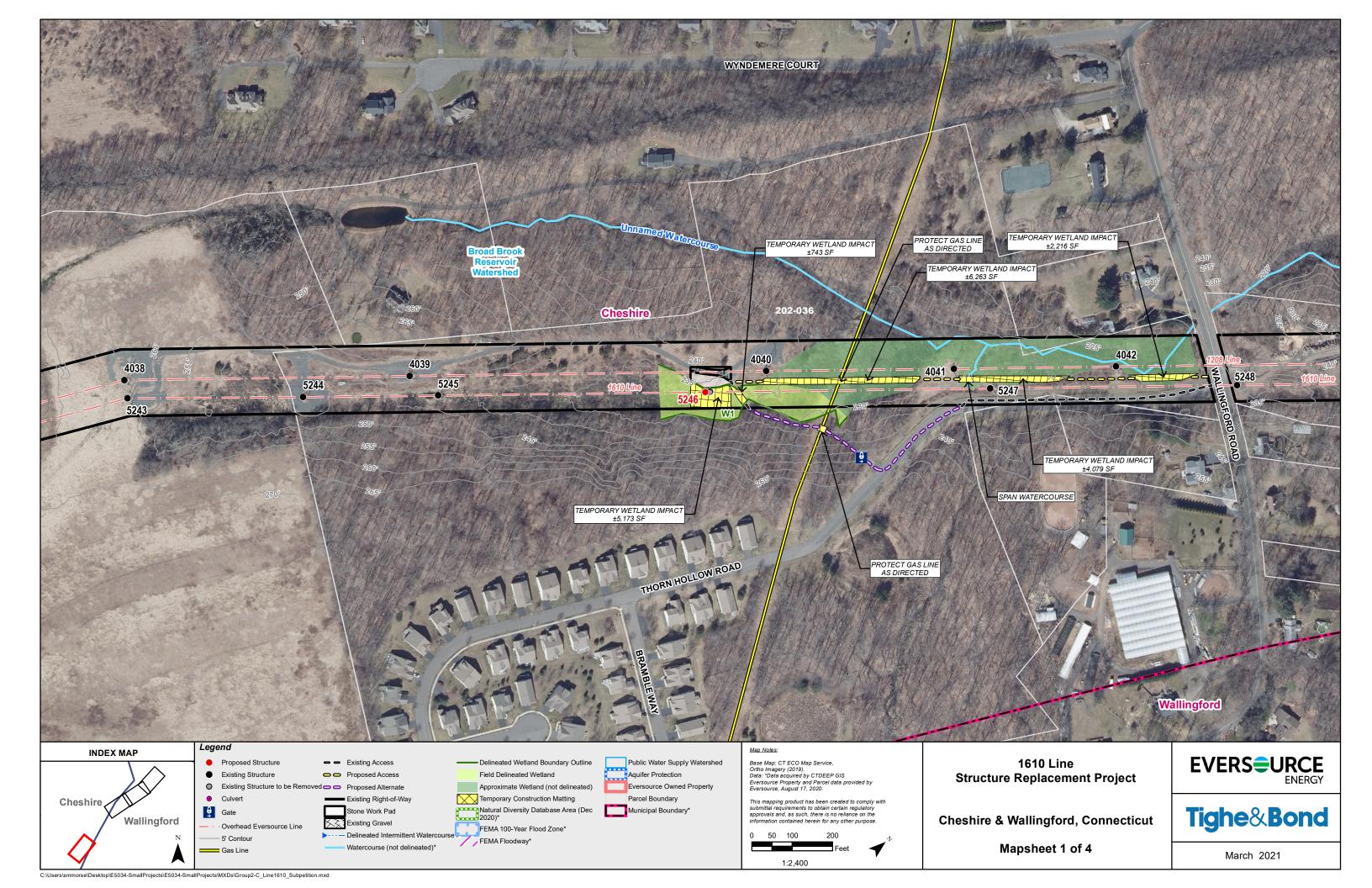
Title Sheet / Index Map Abutter Tables & Map Sheets 1-4 PREPARED BY:



213 Court Street Middletown, CT 06457

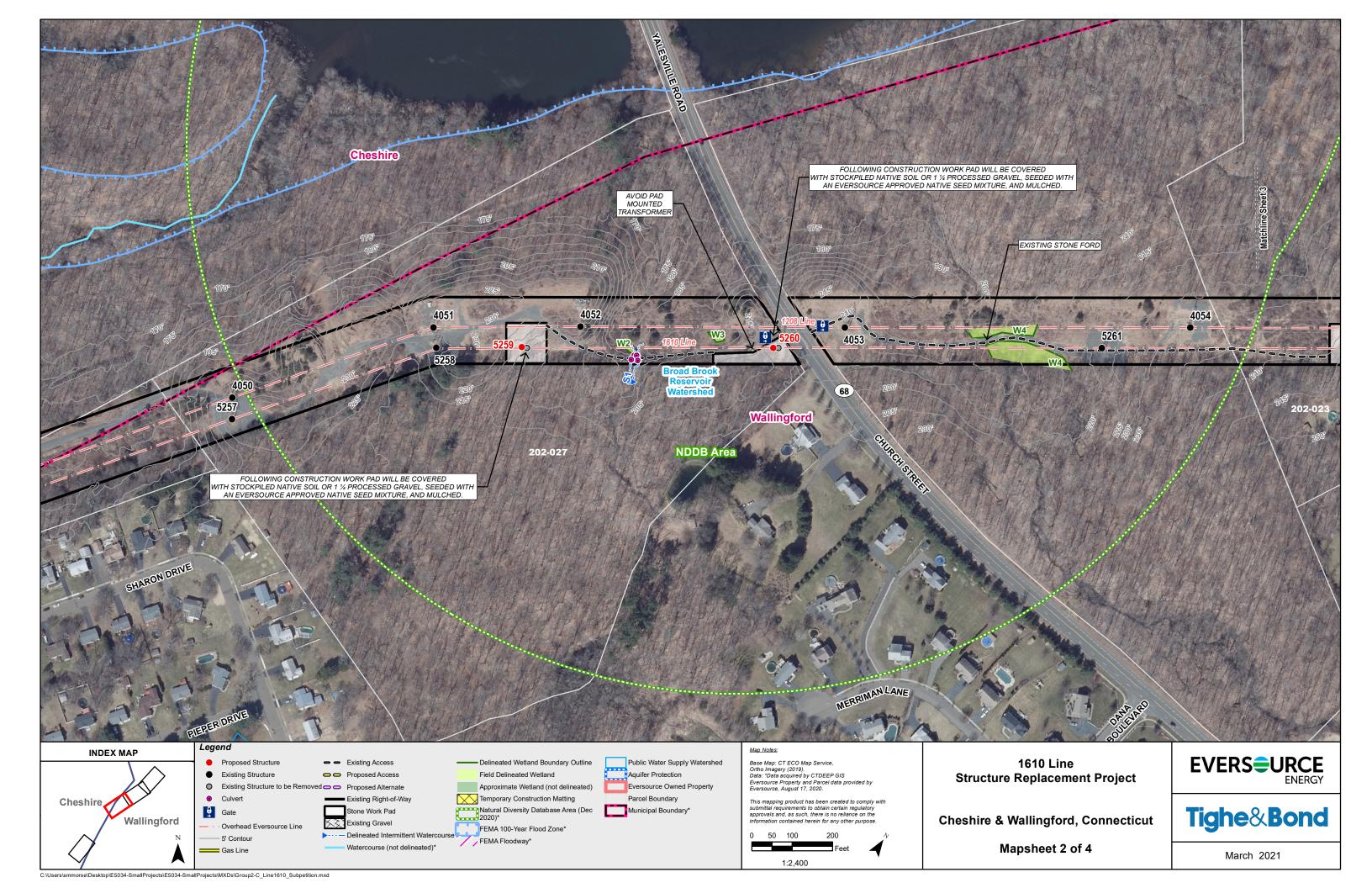
# **Map Sheet 1 Abutters List**

Line List	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
202-036	C/O PETER J. MALIA	THORN HOLLOW RD	CHESHIRE	CT



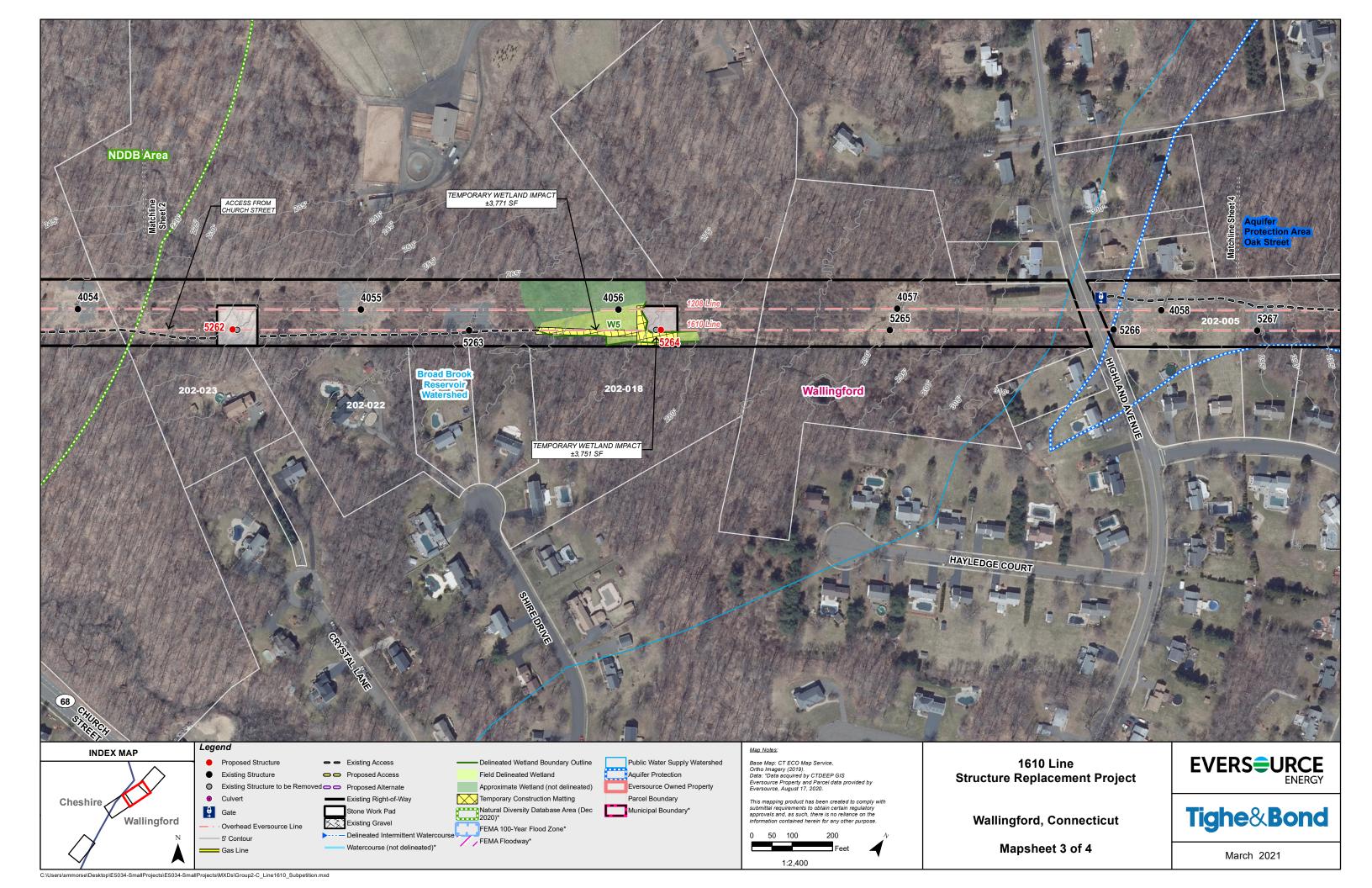
# **Map Sheet 2 Abutters List**

<b>Line List</b>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
202-023	JEFFREY MAYS	9 CRYSTAL LN	WALLINGFORD	CT
202-027	CITY OF MERIDEN WATER DEPARTMENT	989 CHURCH ST YALESVILLE	WALLINGFORD	CT



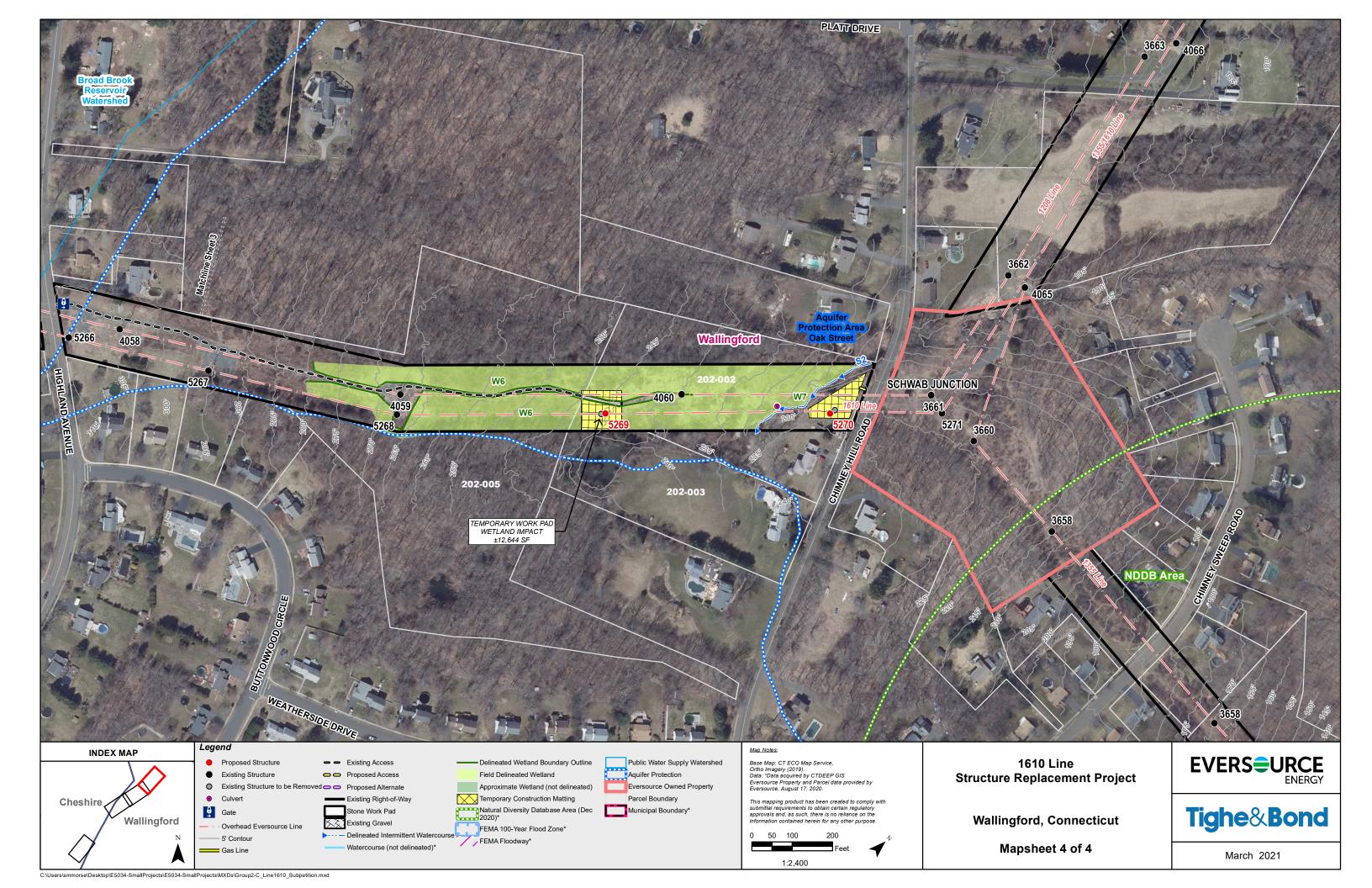
# **Map Sheet 3 Abutters List**

Line List	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
202-005	STRATHMORE FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC	83 CHIMNEY HILL RD	WALLINGFORD	CT
202-018	ARTHUR ABO	15 SHIRE DR	WALLINGFORD	СТ
202-022	JAY & LISA BUNNELL	14 SHIRE DR	WALLINGFORD	СТ
202-023	JEFFREY MAYS	9 CRYSTAL LN	WALLINGFORD	СТ



# **Map Sheet 4 Abutters List**

Line List	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
202-002	MATTHEW T & BRIANNE M HALL	105 CHIMNEY HILL RD	WALLINGFORD	CT
202-003	DEBRA C. PICH	101 CHIMNEY HILL RD	WALLINGFORD	СТ
202-005	STRATHMORE FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC	83 CHIMNEY HILL RD	WALLINGFORD	СТ



# ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



March 12, 2021

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 in Cheshire and Wallingford. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting <u>Sub-Petition No. 1293-CW-02</u> this week to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for its review.

#### **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 area.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace wood structures due to structure age, weather, and/or woodpecker activity. The new weathering steel structures will comply with current clearance requirements and provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

The safety of our employees, our customers, and the public is our top priority during the ongoing coronavirus public health crisis. Our commitment to safety, first and always, is continuous.

At the same time, Eversource must fulfill its foundational mission to deliver safe, reliable services to our customers. We continue to call on our employees and contractors to perform essential work, such as this proposed project, that maintains and improves the reliability of our networks, while also adapting our work practices to incorporate social distancing, heightened hygiene, and other best practices to protect their, and the public's, health.

#### **Connecticut Siting Council Process and Timing**

With this letter, Eversource is providing notice to you of its proposed work activity, as described in the enclosed Sub-Petition. 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 <a href="Sub-Petition No. 1293-CW-02">Sub-Petition No. 1293-CW-02</a> in your correspondence.

#### **Our Commitment to You**

We are committed to being 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,

#### Patrick Holmes

Patrick Holmes Eversource Project Manager – Transmission Projects

#### 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 March 12, 2021, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-CW-02 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipalities listed below and 8 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:

Town of Cheshire, CT Sean Kimball, Town Manager 84 South Main Street Cheshire, CT 06410

Town of Wallingford, CT William Dickinson, Jr. 45 South Main Street Wallingford, CT 06492

> James L. Smith Project Siting Specialist

On this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021, before me, the undersigned representative, personally appeared, James L. Smith, 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.

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