

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

Deborah Denfeld Team Lead-Transmission Siting Tel: (860) 728-4654

June 16, 2023

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No. 1293-E-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Essex, Connecticut. The work includes replacing three existing double-circuit lattice tower transmission structures on the 1261 Line and the 1598 Line with new double-circuit and single-circuit weathering steel monopole structures and adding one new mid-span double-circuit weathering steel monopole structure.

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

Enclosed please find an original and three copies of this filing

Please contact me at 860-728-4654 if you have any questions regarding the enclosed Sub-Petition.

Sincerely,

Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead, Siting Transmission

Deborah Denfeld

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 <u>EVERSOURCE ENERGY</u>

Sub-Petition
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
SUB-PETITION NO. 1293-E-01
TRANSMISSION FACILITY ASSET CONDITION
MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS TO COMPLY
WITH THE UPDATED NATIONAL ELECTRIC
SAFETY CODE CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

Town: Essex Sub-Petition No-1293-E-01

Project: 1261/1598 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: Three Transmission Line Structures located in Essex, 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:

Eversource's 1261/1598 Line 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 assure safe and reliable transmission of power to its customers. An engineering evaluation has determined that, due to asset condition, three structures require replacement on a portion of the 1261/1598 Line, which is a 115-kilovolt transmission line that extends from Haddam Substation (Haddam) to Bokum Substation (Old Saybrook). The replacement structures require an increase in structure height to comply with current National Electrical Safety Code and Eversource standard clearance requirements. A new mid-span structure is also required to be added in order to meet line clearance requirements and avoid expanding the ROW.

Eversource plans to conduct transmission structure replacement work to remediate lattice tower structure damage caused by structure deterioration due to age and environmental factors. The following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

- Replace 2 double-circuit lattice tower structures with 4 new single-circuit weathering steel monopole structures.
- Replace 1 double-circuit lattice tower structure with 1 new double-circuit weathering steel monopole structure.

- Install one new double-circuit weathering steel monopole mid-span structure to meet clearance requirements without expanding the right-of-way ("ROW").
- The proposed replacement structures will each have an average height increase of 20 feet.
- The proposed replacement structures will be installed within 15 feet of the existing structure locations.

## 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 ROW utilizing existing access routes (collectively the "Work Area").
- ii) The Work Activities would occur in uplands areas only, no wetland impacts will result from the Work Activities. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements), April 2022 ("BMPs").
- iii) Based on review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Database ("NDDB"), no portion of the Work Area is proposed within both a NDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and/or CT DEEP owned/managed land. Additionally, the Work Activities will not require a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan. Therefore, the Work Area would not be subject to a 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 species are anticipated.
- Potions of the ROW are within known habitat for the New England Cottontail ("NEC"). During Project restoration, Eversource will incorporate additional habitat enhancements in Project restoration activities within sensitive areas (such as NEC Focus Areas, and open space). These enhancements will include amending gravel work pads (partially or entirely) with either stockpiled native topsoil or fine processed stone, and application of a CT DEEP approved seed mixture comprised of native grasses and forbs.
- v) 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.
- vi) A Phase 1B Cultural Resource Survey was conducted in November, 2021. The Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") revealed that no National or State Register of Historic Places properties or historic districts are located within 500 feet of the Work Area. A Pedestrian Survey of the structures was conducted in January, 2023. The assessment indicated that the Project work areas have no/low archaeological sensitivity and no additional archaeological examinations were recommended by SHPO.
- Structure height increases of the replacement structures average approximately 20 feet. Existing Structure heights range from 107 feet to 137 feet. Replacement structures heights range from 127.5 feet to 153 feet. The new mid-span structure would be 156 feet in height. The height of the new mid-span structure, located between Structure 6965 and Structure 6966, is required because of the ascending topography.
- viii) Replacement structures would be located within 15 feet of existing structures.
- ix) One Work Activity location requires temporary activity within a 100-year flood zone. This

includes temporary matting that shall be anchored in place and there will be no net fill within the flood zone.

- x) There would be no change in noise levels following installation of the new structures.
- xi) 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. Temporary construction matting will be restored with either native stockpile topsoil or fine processed stone seeded with and Eversource approved natural seed mix and mulched straw.

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:

- Waterside Lane, for Structures 6965, 6965A, 6966 and 6966A
- Bokum Road, for Structures 6970 and 6970A

Deborah Denfeld

By:

Deborah Denfeld

Siting Lead - Transmission

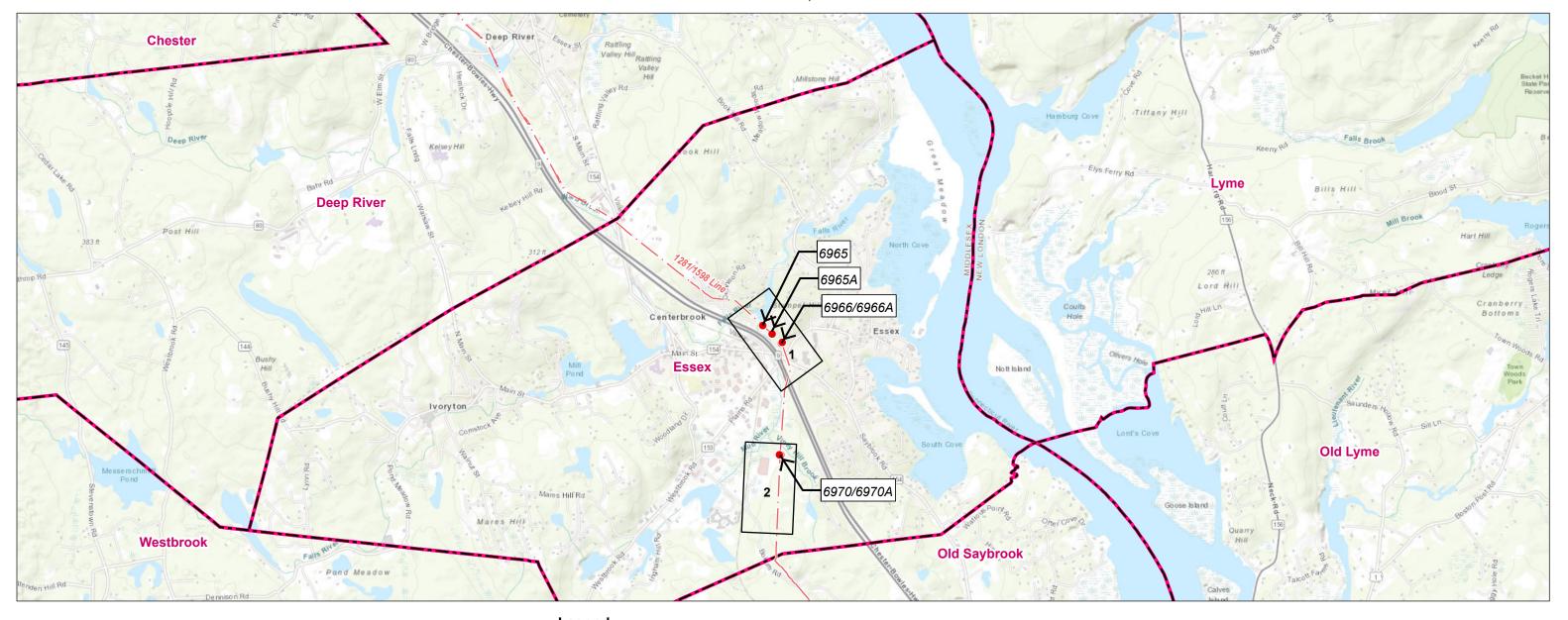
Attachment B:

**Sub-Petition Maps** 

## 1261/1598 Line Lattice Tower Replacement Project

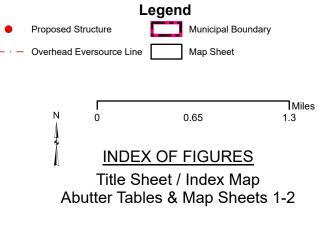
Sub-Petition Map Set ESSEX, CT

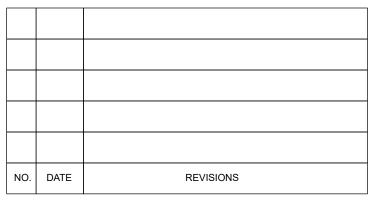
Date: June 07, 2023





107 Selden Street Berlin, CT 06037





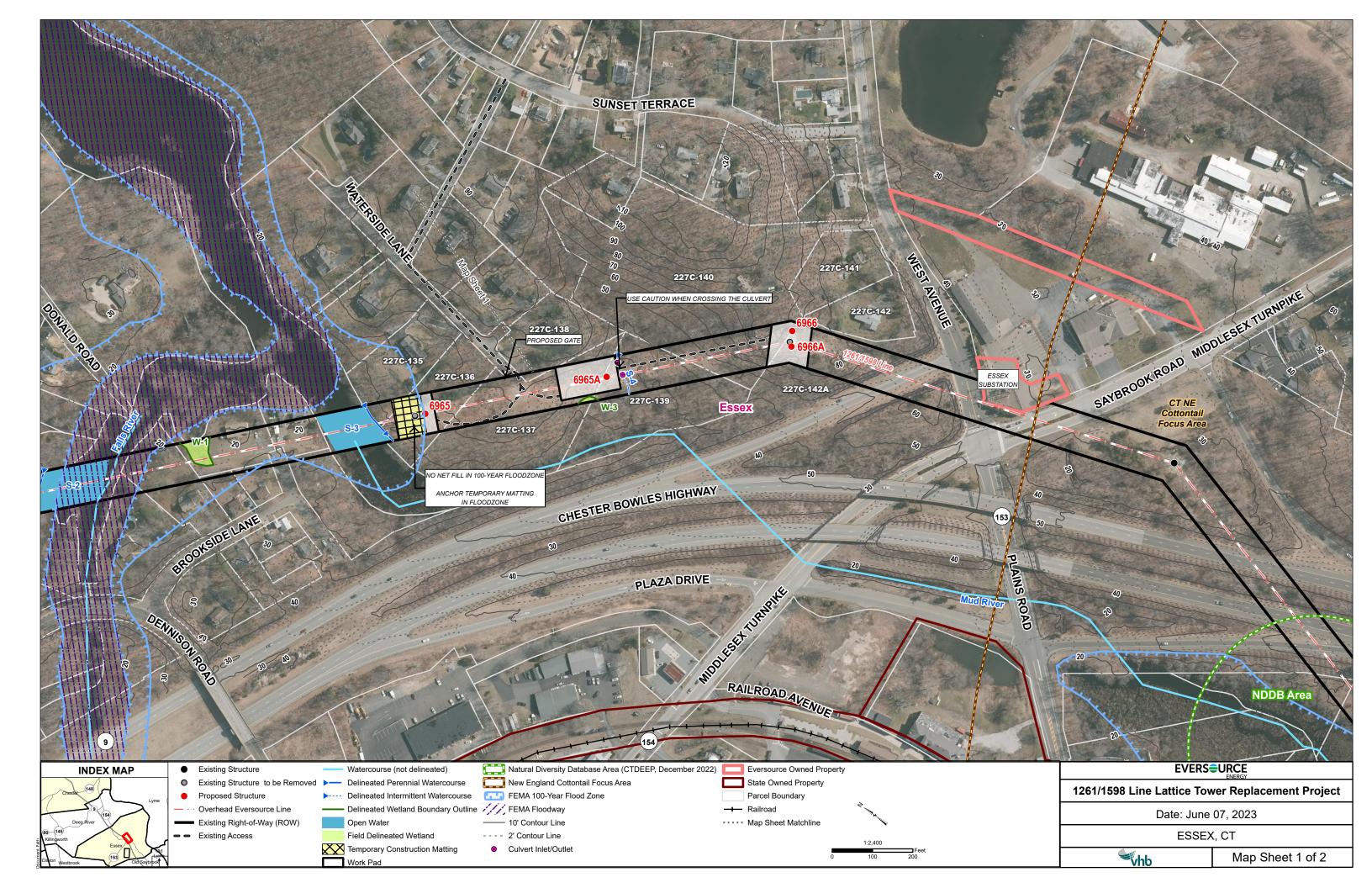
PREPARED BY:

100 Great Meadow Road
Suite 200
Wethersfield, CT 06109

## 1261/1598 Line - Structure Replacement Project

## Map Sheet 01 Abutter's Table

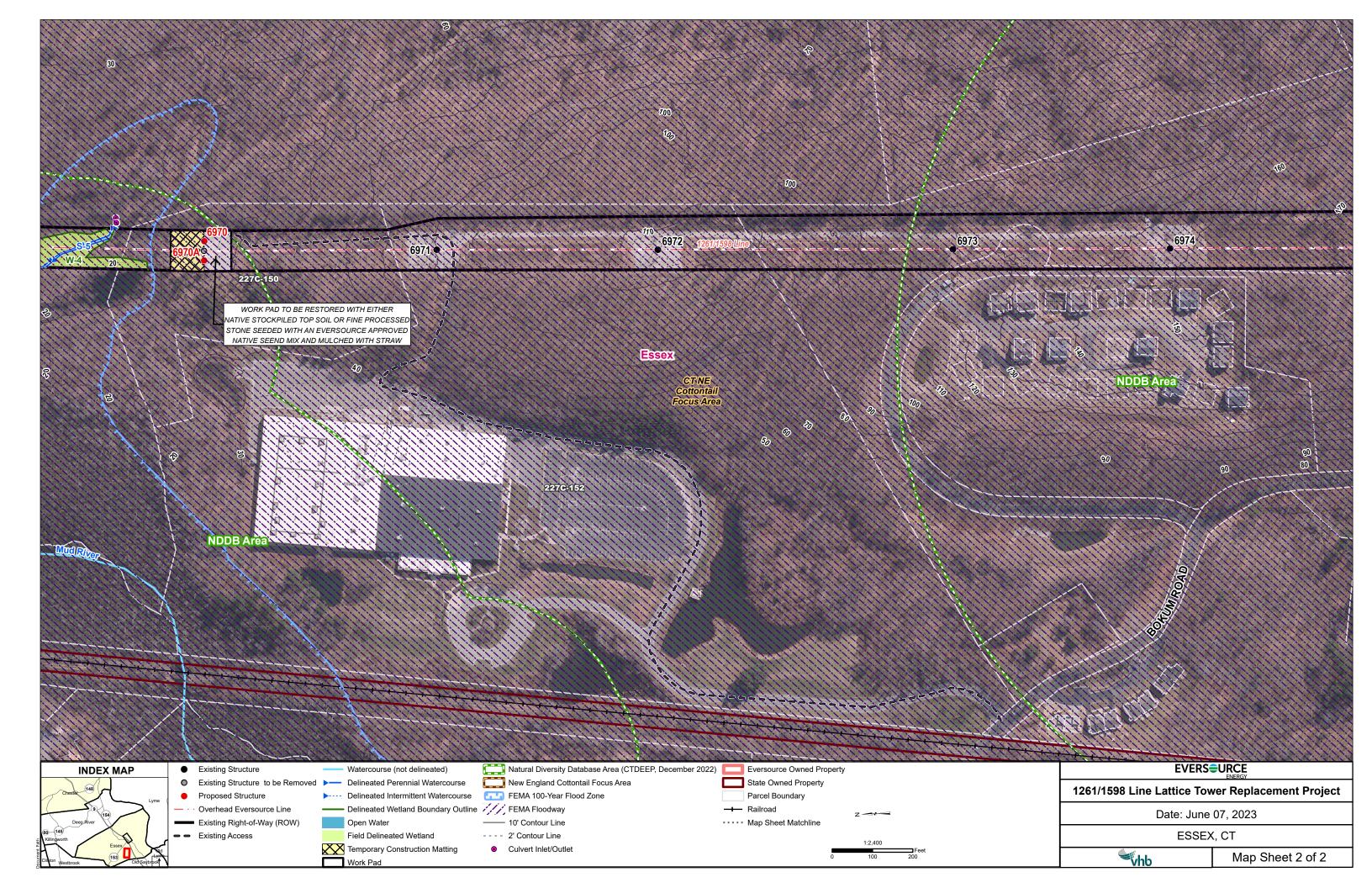
Abutter Number	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
227C-135	JONATHAN N & KATHLEEN K	SCALZI	4 WATERSIDE LA	ESSEX	CT
227C-136	THE RED WING FOUNDATION INC		WATERSIDE LA	ESSEX	CT
227C-137	LANDING AT PRATT POND HOMEOWNERS ASSO		4 WATERSIDE LA	ESSEX	CT
227C-138	KEVIN L	DODD	1 WATERSIDE LA	ESSEX	CT
227C-139	DISABILITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC		WATERSIDE LA	ESSEX	CT
227C-140	DEBRA J	LEE	71 WEST AVE	ESSEX	CT
227C-141	GENE PATTON	GOSSAGE	73 WEST AVE	ESSEX	CT
227C-142	MARILYN	ALVERIO-HABICHT	75 WEST AVE	ESSEX	CT
227C-142A	STATE OF CT		ROUTE 9	ESSEX	CT



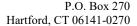
## 1261/1598 Line - Structure Replacement Project

## Map Sheet 02 Abutter's Table

Abutter Number	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
227C-150	LEE COMPANY	N/A	BOKUM RD		CT
227C-152	LEE COMPANY	N/A	55 BOKUM RD		CT



## Attachment C: Abutter Letter and Proof of Notice





June, 2023

Dear Neighbor,

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

## We Are Always Working to Serve You Better

We are submitting a sub-petition to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for proposed lattice tower structure replacements and the installation of one new structure in your area.

You're receiving this letter because the proposed work would be taking place within the existing Eversource right-of-way (power line corridor) on or near your property in Essex, Connecticut. The Project, called the 1261/1598 Structure Replacement Project ("Project"), includes replacing select lattice tower structures with new, more durable steel structures, with a finish that "weathers" or darkens over time, and the installation of one new steel structure. The new structures will comply with current clearance requirements and provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

## **What You Can Expect**

Pending receipt of the necessary approvals for this proposed work, construction is expected to begin in the September of 2023. We anticipate to complete construction, including restoration of affected areas, by the Spring of 2024.

#### **Contact Information**

Eversource is committed to being a good neighbor and doing our work with respect for you and your property. For more information, please call our projects hotline at 1-800-793-2202 or send an email to ProjectInfo@eversource.com.

If you would like to send comments regarding Eversource's sub-petition to the CSC, please send them via email to siting.council@ct.gov or send a letter to the following address: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director, Connecticut Siting Council, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051.

Sincerely,

## Everton Robinson

Everton Robinson
Project Manager on Behalf of Eversource - Transmission

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

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

Sec. 16-50j-40 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") provides that proof of notice to the affected municipality, property owners and abutters shall be submitted with a petition for declaratory ruling to the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"). In accordance with that RCSA section, I hereby certify that I caused notice of the petition for a declaratory ruling of The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy to be served by mail or courier upon the following municipal officials:

 First Selectman, Norman Needleman Town of Essex
 Essex Town Hall
 West Avenue
 Essex, CT 06426

I also certify that I caused notice of the proposed modifications to be served by mail or courier upon owners of abutting properties shown on the List of Abutters included in Attachment F of the Petition.

Christine Farrell Siting Specialist

On this the 16th day of June, 2023, 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.

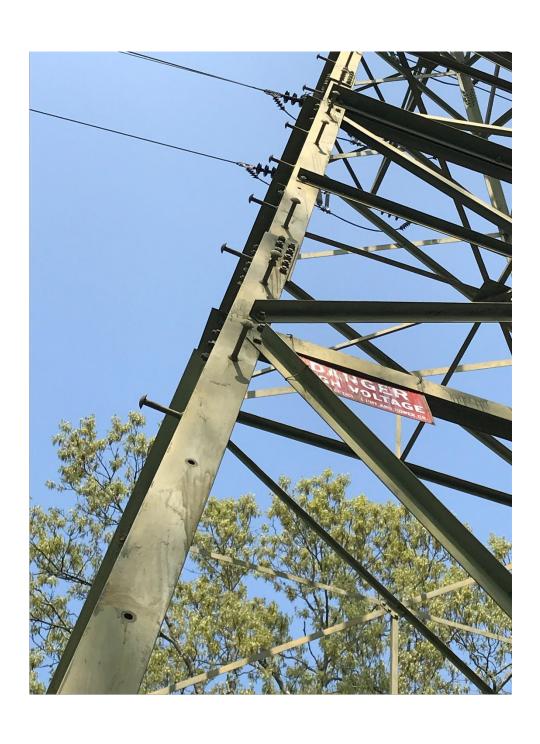
Notary Public/My Commission expires:

Officer of the Superior Court/ Juris No.: Louden W. Lo

# Attachment D: Pictures

Photographs of Structures

Structure 6965





Structure 6965, 1261 Line



Structure 6966, 1261 Line



Structure 6970, 1261 Line