

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

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

February 7, 2023

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-HEHLELMW-01: 348/364 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project -Amendment to Sub-Petition pursuant to Condition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council Sub-Petition Approval – One Additional Replacement Structure (Town of East Haddam)

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On January 3, 2019, the Connecticut Light and Power Company, doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource"), filed a Sub-Petition for the above-referenced project with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its 348/364 transmission line right-of-way ("ROW") in Haddam, East Haddam, Lyme, East Lyme, Montville and Waterford, Connecticut. As detailed in the Sub-Petition, the work included replacing 115 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

On February 4, 2019, the Council issued a letter acknowledging that the subject project would not have an adverse environmental effect and would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need. Since the time of the Council's ruling, Eversource has identified one additional transmission structure on the 348/364 Line that requires replacement due to asset condition. Eversource plans to conduct the transmission structure replacement work to remediate structure damage caused by age, weather, and woodpecker activity. In support of the additional structure replacement, the following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

• Replace one existing single-circuit wood H-frame structure, Structure 9753, with a new single-circuit weathering steel H-frame structure. To comply with current conductor clearance requirements, the height of the replacement structure will be increased by 4.5 feet for an overall height of 88 feet.

Please see revised map sheets 14 and 15 in Attachment A; *"348/364 Line - Structure Replacement Project" "Sub-Petition Map Set"*, dated January 2, 2019, revised February 3, 2023. Eversource respectfully submits that the proposed structure replacement would have no "substantial adverse environmental effect" pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-50k, based on the following factors:

- All Work Activities would take place in areas within Eversource's existing ROW, utilizing existing 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 the structure replacement location utilizing its existing rights.
- As detailed on revised Map Sheet 15, the Work Activities associated with the proposed access road to Structure 9753 will result in approximately 613 square feet of additional temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary construction matting for the access road. 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") to avoid impacts to the wetland and watercourse just west of Structure 5479.

- No vernal pools or vernal pool envelopes are located in proximity to the proposed Work Areas.
- Eversource consulted with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB") and has received recommendations from NDDB (NDDB Revised Determination No. 202207703) for the work activities associated with the access road and work pad at Structure 9753. The recommended protection measures identified in the NDDB Determination have been accepted by Eversource and will be incorporated into the Company's BMPs, project plans and construction activities. With these protection measures, no adverse impacts to state-listed rare species are anticipated.
- The Work Activities will not require any tree clearing. However, Eversource may need to undertake tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing for conductor clearance and/or to improve access to portions of the Work Areas.
- 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 the results of a Pedestrian Survey conducted by Heritage, Structure 9753 has been classified as no to low sensitivity for cultural resources based on the presence of poor drainage characteristics, moderate/steep slopes, and/or obvious signs of previous ground disturbances. Therefore, Heritage concluded that no additional archeological examination of the Work Areas is recommended or warranted.
- There are no 100-year flood zones associated with the Work Areas.
- No change in noise levels would result from the installation of the new structure and the applicable lines would continue to comply with the State of Connecticut noise regulations.
- Any changes in electric and magnetic field levels outside the ROW would be negligible.
- Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as referenced in Sub-Petition 1293-HEHLELMW-01.
- Eversource will access the Work Areas by entering its ROW from an existing access point off Norwich Salem Road (State Route 82) in East Haddam.

Eversource herewith respectfully requests approval for the requested change. Enclosed please find an original and 3 copies of this submission. Should you, the Council members or Council staff have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at <u>deborah.denfeld@eversource.com</u> or telephone at (860) 728-4654.

Sincerely,

Deborah Neufeld

Deborah Denfeld ^{*U*} Team Lead - Transmission Siting

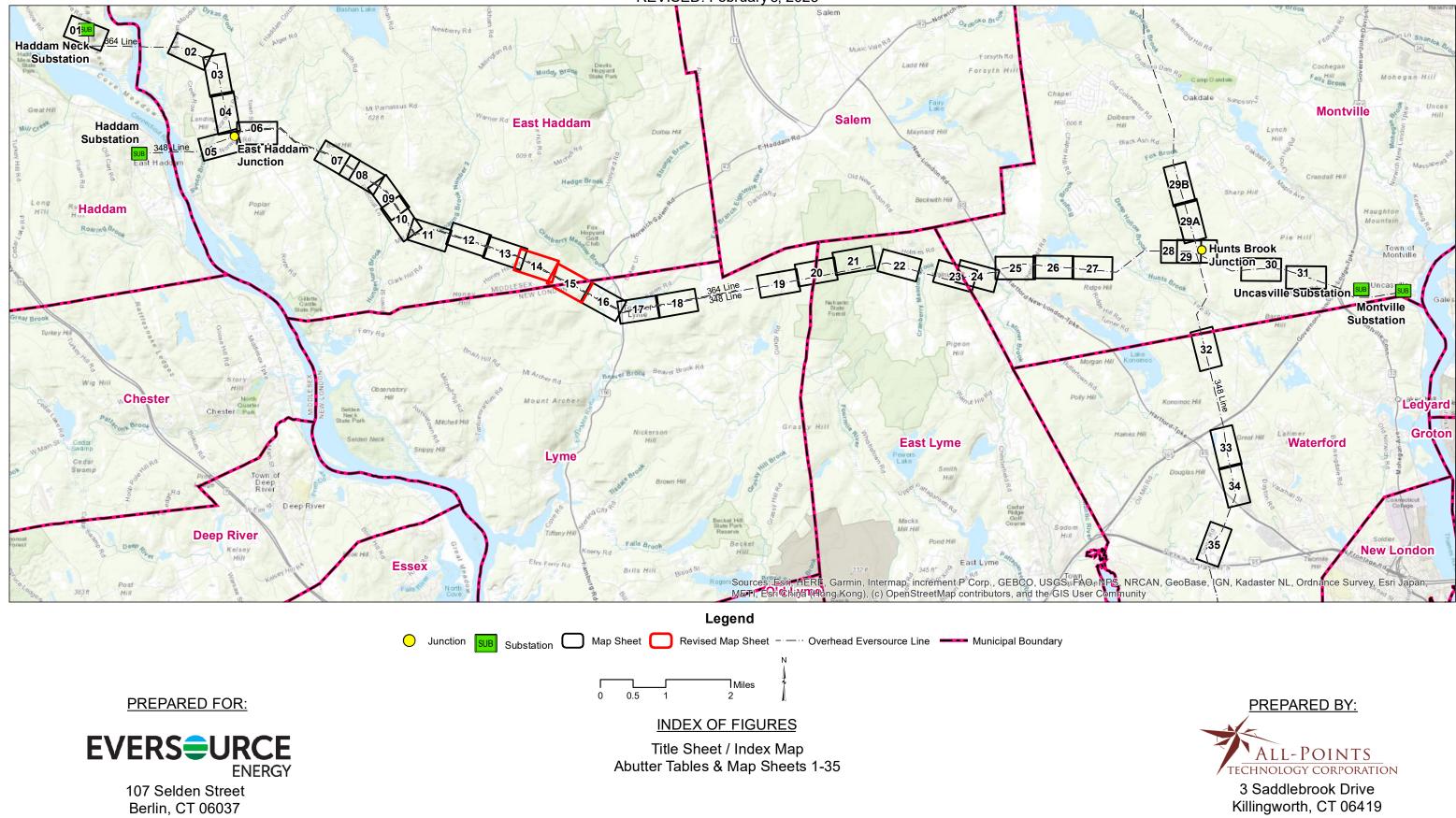
Enclosure

Attachment A

348/364 Line - Structure Replacement Project

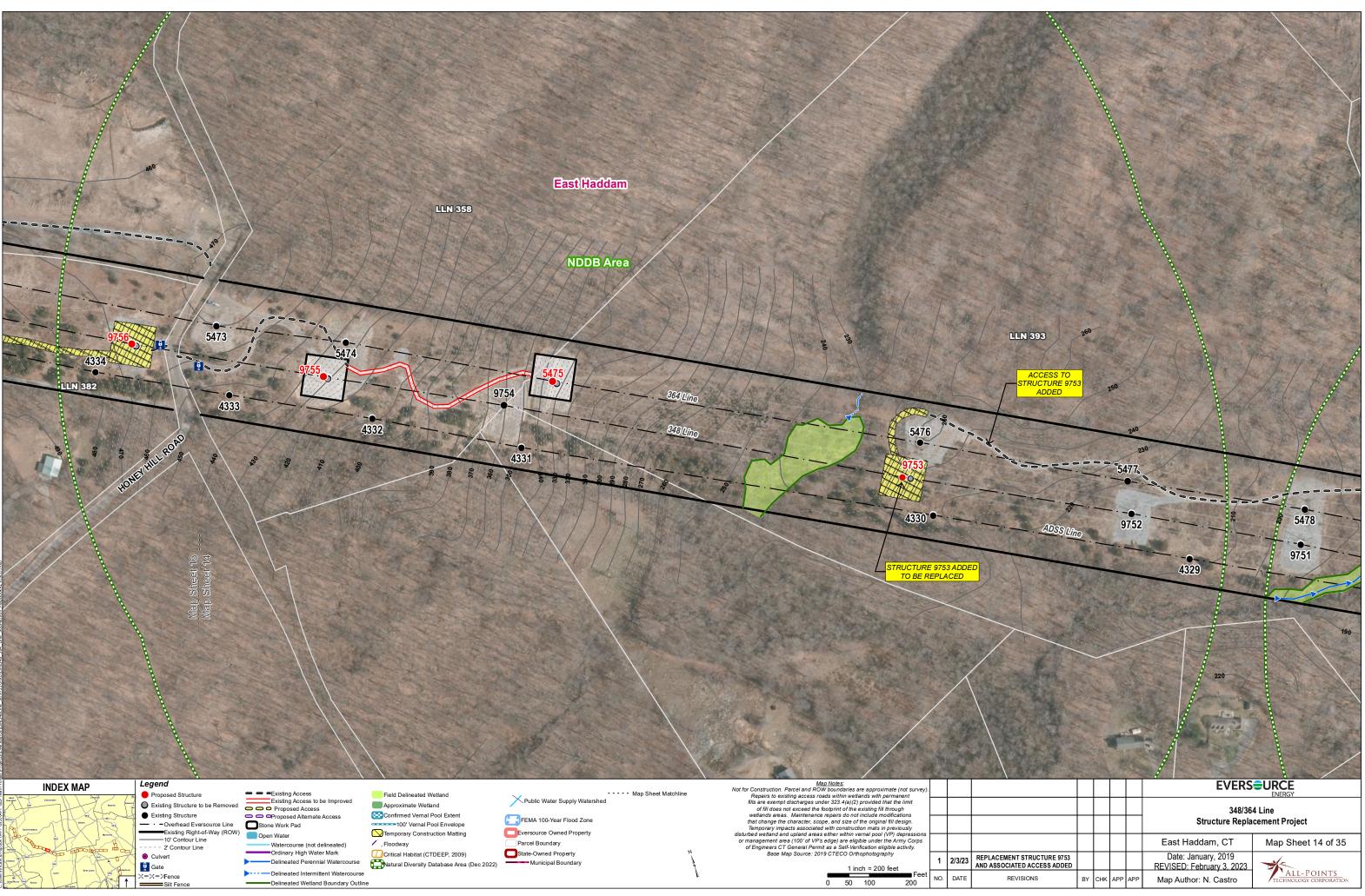
Haddam, East Haddam, Lyme, East Lyme, Montville, and Waterford CT

Sub-Petition Map Set Date: January 2, 2019 REVISED: February 3, 2023 Salem



Map Sheet 14 of 35 348/364 Line Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
358	FOX HOPYARD ASSOC INC	TATER HILL RD	EAST HADDAM	СТ
382	DONALD L & SUSAN L PORTER	HONEY HILL RD- CELL#302527	EAST HADDAM	СТ
393	FRANK M GRAZIOSO TRUSTEE	NORWICH SALEM RD	EAST HADDAM	СТ



		-^		
P	Colchester	N		c)al
49		1 \ 1	~~~	- 3



1	2/3/23	REPLACE

Map Sheet 15 of 35 348/364 Line Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
393	FRANK M GRAZIOSO TRUSTEE	NORWICH SALEM RD	EAST HADDAM	СТ
425	JAMES O & MABEL S MATSCHULAT	NORWICH SALEM RD	EAST HADDAM	СТ
450	ANTONIA I HONISS	630 HAMBURG RD AKA RT 156	LYME	СТ

