



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051  
Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950  
E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)  
Web Site: [portal.ct.gov/csc](http://portal.ct.gov/csc)

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 9, 2021

Kathleen M. Shanley  
Manager – Transmission Siting  
Eversource Energy  
56 Prospect Street  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06103

RE: **SUB-PETITION NO. 1293- MGHACL -02 (Manchester, Glastonbury, Hebron, Andover, Columbia and Lebanon)**– Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvements statewide to comply with the updated National Electrical Safety Code clearance requirements.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated August 5, 2021 regarding a project change to the Petition No. 1293 sub-petition for the above-referenced section of transmission line that was approved by the Council on July 27, 2021.

The proposed project change consists of the replacement of Structure 18140 in Columbia, a 3-pole wood dead-end structure, with a new 3-pole weathering steel dead-end structure that is 5 feet higher than the existing structure to comply with National Electrical Safety Code conductor clearance requirements. Recent field surveys of site soils and area topography determined a taller structure is necessary in this location. The structure is located within a wetland; therefore, approximately 13,518 square feet of temporary wetland impacts would occur from the use of temporary construction matting for work pads/construction access. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base Program has approved work in this location.

Pursuant to the Council's Petition No. 1293 decision of March 31, 2017 and the July 27, 2021 decision on this sub-petition, your request for the proposed modification is hereby approved. This approval applies only to the project change dated August 5, 2021. Any additional changes to the sub-petition decision require advance notification and approval.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

*s/Melanie Bachman*

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director



56 Prospect Street  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06103  
**Kathleen M. Shanley**  
Manager – Transmission Siting  
Tel: (860) 728-4527

August 5, 2021

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-MGHACL-02: 310/368 Line Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project, Amendment to Sub-Petition pursuant to Condition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council Sub-Petition Approval

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On June 25, 2021, 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 transmission right-of-way ("ROW") in Manchester, Glastonbury, Hebron, Andover, Columbia, and Lebanon, Connecticut. As detailed in the Sub-Petition, the work includes replacing 33 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

On July 27, 2021, the Council issued a letter acknowledging that the above-reference project would not have an adverse environmental effect and would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need. Accordingly, Eversource commenced work on the asset condition improvements specified in the Sub-Petition, as well as on the replacement of structures not subject to Council jurisdiction (i.e., structures to be replaced due to asset condition issues, but that will require no increase in height compared to the structure to be replaced).

However, after the completion of civil work at one of the structures at which no height increase was anticipated (3-pole dead-end Structure 18140 in Columbia), Eversource determined that the height of the replacement 3-pole structure must increase by 5 feet (85 feet compared to the existing 80 feet). This structure is in a wetland, which is located at the base of a slope leading from Structure 18139.

After the project civil work revealed the actual condition of the wetland substrate and taking into consideration the change in topography, Eversource determined that replacement Structure 18140 must be slightly taller than the existing structure in order to maintain appropriate conductor elevations. The attached map, excerpted from the Sub-Petition filing, has been revised to reflect the location of Structure 18140 (revised Sub-Petition Map 14).

Ms. Bachman  
August 5, 2021  
Page 2

Eversource respectfully submits that the Structure 18140 replacement activities will not result in any substantial adverse environmental impacts, based on the following factors:

The replacement structure work ("Work Activities") will be within Eversource's existing ROW, which will be reached via an approved on and off-ROW access road.

- The project Work Activities associated with the replacement of Structure 18140 will result in approximately 13,518 square feet of temporary wetland impacts from the use of timber mats for the work pad and the access road leading to the work pad. 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.
- No vernal pools or vernal pool envelopes are located near Structure 18140.
- Eversource consulted with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB"), and has received NDDB approval for the Structure 18140 work.
- Eversource conducted a Phase 1A cultural resource assessment (conducted by Heritage Consultants, LLC), which did not identify any known historic or archaeological sites in or near the Structure 18140 work pad or access road.
- Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as referenced in Sub-Petition 1293-MGHACL-02
- Eversource will access the Structure 18140 work area via an approved off-ROW access road from Jonathan Trumbull Highway (State Route 87),

Eversource respectfully seeks Council approval of this proposed amendment to Sub-Petition 1293-MGHACL-02.

Please contact me at 860-728-4527 if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John P. Smith', is written over a faint, illegible typed name.

Enclosures



Legend	
● Proposed Structure	▭ Proposed Access
⊙ Existing Structure to be Removed	▭ Stone Work Pad
● Existing Structure	▭ Existing Gravel
--- Overhead Eversource Line	▭ Temporary Construction Matting
--- Existing Right-of-Way (ROW)	▭ Open Water
--- 5' Contour Line	▭ Delineated Perennial Watercourse
▭ Gate	▭ Delineated Intermittent Watercourse
▭ Existing Access	● Culvert
▭ Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline	▭ Natural Diversity Database Area (Dec 2020)
▭ Field Delineated Wetland	▭ Public Water Supply Watershed
▭ Approximate Wetland (not delineated)	▭ Parcel Boundary
▭ FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone	▭ Eversource Owned Property
▭ FEMA Floodway (none in mapped extent)	▭ State Owned Property
▭ NE Cottontail Focus Area (none in mapped extent)	▭ Hiking Trail
▭ Critical Habitat (none in mapped extent)	▭ Municipal Boundary
	▭ Map Sheet Matchline

**Map Notes:**  
 This mapping product has been created to comply with submittal requirements to obtain certain regulatory approvals and, as such, there is no reliance on the information contained herein for any other purpose.  
 Wetlands field delineated by RSC 2017. Parcel and ROW boundaries are approximate Parcel and ROW boundary provided by Eversource (2020021).  
 Aerial Base Map Source: ©TRCO 2019  
 1 inch = 200 feet  
 0 100 200 Feet

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS
1	8/4/21	Added Replacement Str 18140

**EVERSOURCE**  
 WATER

**310/368 Lines - Structure Replacement Project**

Columbia, CT      Map Sheet 14 of 17

Date: August, 2021  
 Map Author: N. Castro