



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

February 3, 2022

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

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 February 3, 2022 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 installation of a new access road on Eversource property that extends east from Route 85 to Structure 29266 in Hebron. The change is necessary due to the recent expiration and non-renewal of a lease for off-ROW access.

The new access road was assessed for environmental and archeological resources in accordance with Petition 1293 sub-petition procedures. The new access road is partially located within a wetland; therefore, approximately 3,085 square feet of temporary wetland impacts would occur from the use of temporary construction matting for construction access. Due to the presence of a State-listed species, Eversource will comply with recommendations from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

A cultural resource survey identified one location within the access road route that possessed a moderate/high potential for archaeological sensitivity. Temporary matting would be used to protect this area until further archeological work can be conducted.

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 February 3, 2022. Any additional changes to the sub-petition decision require advance notification and approval.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melanie Bachman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director



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

Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting
Tel: (860) 728-4527

February 3, 2022

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 July 27, 2021, Eversource Energy ("Eversource") received from the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), acknowledgement of the subject sub-petition to replace 33 existing wood transmission structures within its transmission right-of-way ("ROW") in the Towns of Manchester, Glastonbury, Hebron, Andover, Columbia, and Lebanon, subject to conditions.

Since the time of the Council's acknowledgement letter and in advance of construction, Eversource has identified the following access road location that requires modification.

Access to Structure 29266 from North Street (State Route 85), Hebron, CT (Map Sheet 6)

The agreement providing Eversource rights to utilize the off-ROW access to Structure 29266, and other structures within its ROW, has expired and the property owner is not willing to renew the agreement. Therefore, to gain access to its ROW, Eversource is proposing to construct a new in-ROW access road, within its property, extending from North Street (State Route 85) to Structure 29266. The attached map, excerpted from the Sub-Petition filing, has been revised to reflect the location of the in-ROW access road to Structure 29266 (revised Sub-Petition Map Sheet 6).

As detailed on revised Map Sheet 6, temporary construction matting will be used at two locations on the proposed access road. Based on the results of a Phase 1A and Pedestrian Survey conducted by Heritage Consultants, LLC ("Heritage"), a portion of the access will be matted in upland habitat to traverse an archeological sensitive area that is pending a Phase IB Cultural Resource Assessment and Reconnaissance Survey (shovel pit testing). Any additional protective measures recommended by Heritage will be incorporated in the BMPs during construction. This portion of the access road will be made permanent once cultural resource assessments/testing has been completed and Heritage provides assurance that the construction of the road will not impact cultural resources.

Temporary matting will also be used to traverse Wetland 44 ("W44") resulting in approximately 3,085 square feet of additional temporary wetland impacts. Details of the archeological assessment and temporary wetland impacts at W44 are discussed below.

Eversource respectfully submits that the proposed access road to Structure 29266 ("Work Activities") will not result in any substantial adverse environmental impacts, based on the following factors:

- As detailed on revised Map Sheet 6, the Work Activities associated with the proposed access road to Structure 29266 will result in approximately 3,085 square feet of additional temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary construction matting at W44. 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 within the Work Areas 18140.
- Eversource consulted with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDDB"), and has received recommendations from NDDDB (NDDDB Determination No. 202105254) for the work activities associated with the access and work pad at Structure 29266. The recommended protection measures identified in the NDDDB 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.
- Based on the results of a Phase 1A and Pedestrian Survey conducted by Heritage, a portion of the proposed access has been identified to possess the potential for moderate to high archaeological sensitivity and Heritage recommended a Phase IB Cultural Resource Assessment and Reconnaissance Survey (shovel pit testing). The Phase IB Survey will occur once the ground thaws and shovel pit testing can be performed. Upon completing the Phase IB Survey, any additional testing recommended by Heritage will be performed as needed. To complete the structure replacement activities during an upcoming scheduled outage this portion of the access road will be protected with temporary matting to avoid potential impacts to cultural resources. With these protective measures no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated.
- Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as referenced in Sub-Petition 1293-MGHACL-02

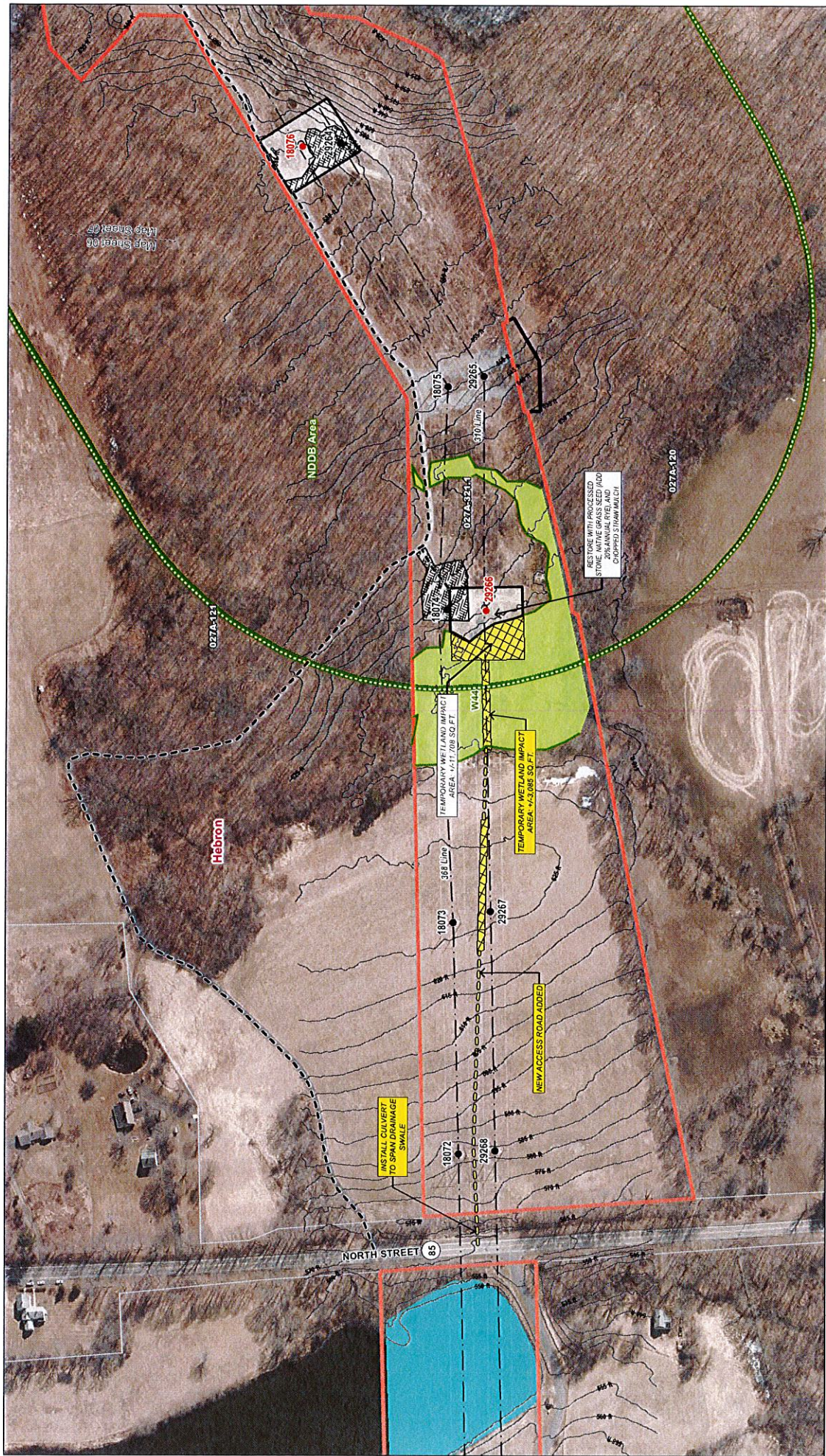
Eversource respectfully seeks Council approval of this proposed amendment to Sub-Petition 1293-MGHACL-02.

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 J. Conley", is written over a faint, illegible typed name.

Enclosure



EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

310568 Lines - Structure Replacement Project
Hebron, CT
Map Sheet 06 of 17

Date: June, 2021
REVISED: January 19, 2022
Map Author: N. Casiro

Added New Access off of Rt. 85
1/19/22
DATE: 1/19/22
NO. 85
FEET NO. 200
SCALE: 1" = 200' HOR.
SCALE: 1" = 100' VERT.

Map Sheet Matchline

Legend

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

Map data has been created to meet the requirements of the Connecticut Statewide Geographic Information System (CONNECTICUT GIS). This is for use in the information contained herein for any other purpose. Eversource Energy and its subsidiaries are not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map. All rights reserved. © 2022 Eversource Energy. All rights reserved. Eversource Energy and its subsidiaries are not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map. All rights reserved. © 2022 Eversource Energy. All rights reserved.