

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

July 8, 2020

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-MM-02 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Middlefield and Middletown, Connecticut. The work includes replacing 17 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipalities of Middlefield and Middletown 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

Towns: Middlefield and Middletown

Sub-Petition 1293-MM-02

Project: 387 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: 17 Transmission Line Structures located in Middlefield and Middletown,

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. <u>Description of Transmission Work Activities:</u>

Eversource's 387 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, many structures require replacement on a portion of the 387 Line between a location just east of I-691, in Middlefield and Scovill Rock Switching Station, in Middletown. The 387 Line, in its entirety, is a 345-killovolt line that extends from Totoket Junction, in North Branford to Scovill Rock Switching Station. Of the structures that will be replaced, 17 structures require an increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements. These 17 structures to be replaced are a mix of wood H-frame and monopole structures.

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 17 existing wood structures with new weathering steel structures. Each
replacement structure will be of the same design as its corresponding existing
structure, though slightly taller than the existing structure.

## 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 would access each of the structure replacement locations utilizing its existing rights.
- b) Collectively, utilizing existing and proposed access roads, the Work Activities would result in approximately 4,873 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary matting for access and work pads for two structures as follows:

Wetland Number	Structure Number	Construction Work Pads Temporary Impacts (SF)	Access Roads Temporary Impacts (SF)
W52	19069	±4,420	0
W55	19072	±245	±208
Subtot	als:	±4,665	±208
TOTAL:		±4,8	373

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"), only the Work Activities associated with portions of the work pad for Structure 19069 and portions of the access road and work pad for Structure 19072 are proposed within a NDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and therefore would be subject to a NDDB review request. Eversource is currently in consultation with CTDEEP regarding Eversource's proposed work in these areas and will adhere to any state-listed species protection measures recommended by CTDEEP, as necessary. Any recommended measures will be incorporated into Eversource's BMPs during construction. 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 within the managed ROW corridor to improve access to portions of 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 located within 500 feet of the Work Areas. However, Work Areas were found to be located within 500 feet of nine archaeological sites. Based on a review of historic maps, aerial

photographs, available soil profiles, and proximity to identified archaeological sites, nine proposed work pad locations and four proposed access road locations were identified to possess a potential for moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. Based on the results of a pedestrian survey, five of the work pad locations and two of the access road locations retained the initial archaeological sensitivity assessment of moderate to high. Heritage completed a Phase 1B cultural resources survey (shovel pit testing) at the remaining locations and found no physical evidence of archaeological significance; therefore, Heritage advised that no further examination is recommended or warranted.

- g) Increases in the heights of the 17 replacement structures will average approximately 7 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. <u>Mitigation:</u>

Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as follows:

- 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.
- Potential impacts to wetlands and watercourses will be mitigated with the use of temporary construction matting and adherence to the BMPs.
- Any NDDB recommended rare species protective measures will be incorporated into Eversource's BMPs during construction.
- 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 onto public roads to prevent tracking of soil onto local roads.
- Upon completion of the Work Activities, all disturbed/exposed areas would be stabilized and revegetated as needed. 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:

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 temporarily widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles. Construction matting would be used for temporary access in wetlands. The matting will be removed upon completion of the Work Activities and the areas restored, as necessary.

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

## **Middlefield**

Baileyville Road for Structures 19003, 19005 and 19008

## **Middletown**

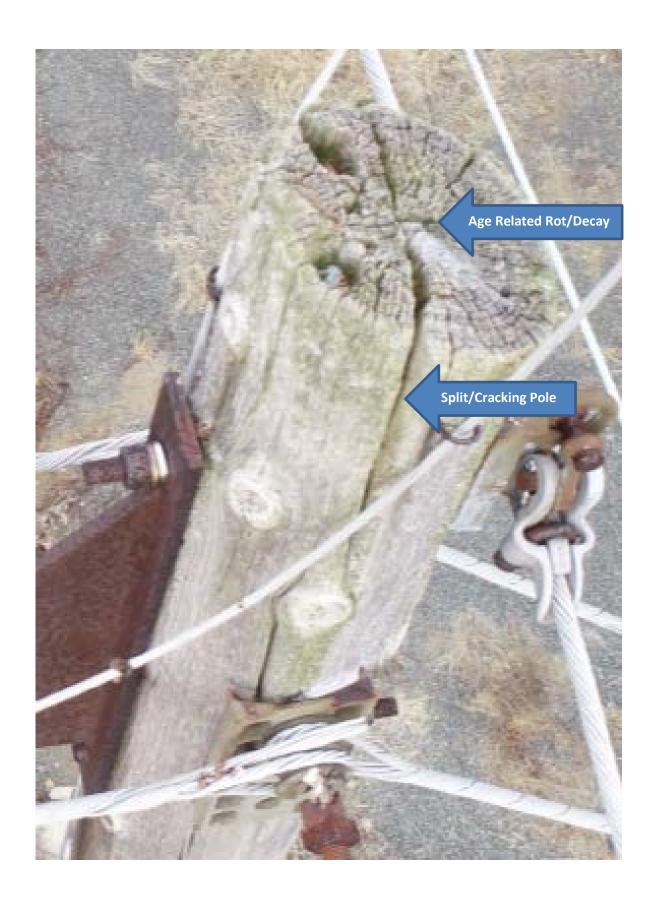
- Arbutus Street for Structure 19044
- Margarite Road Extension for Structure 19054
- East Mount Road for Structure 19062
- Bartholomew Road for Structures 19066, 19069, 19070, 19071, 19072 and 19074
- Saybrook Road for Structures 19078, 19079, 19080, 19081 and 19082.5

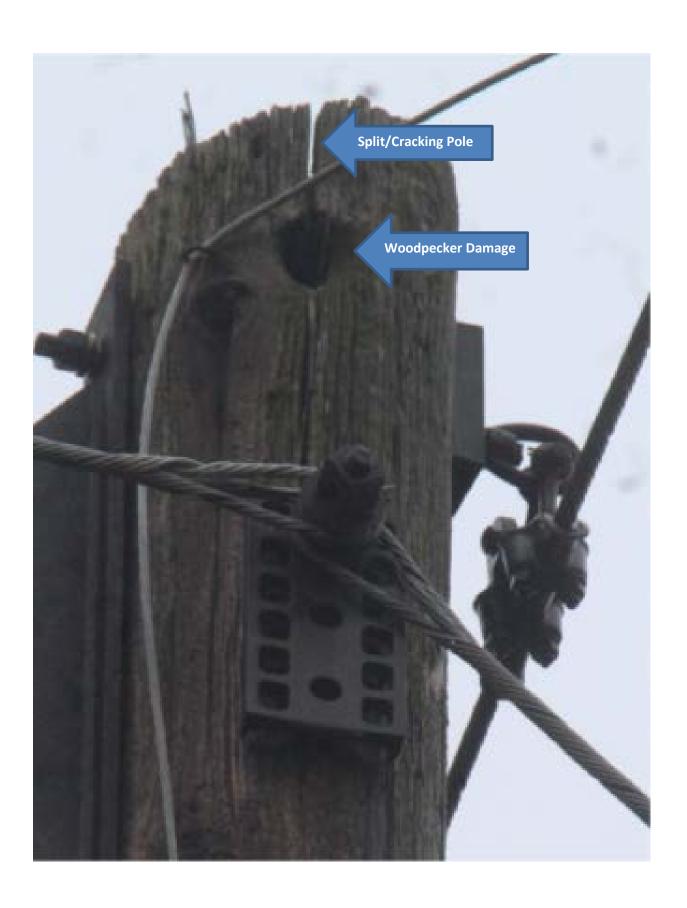
By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

# ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS







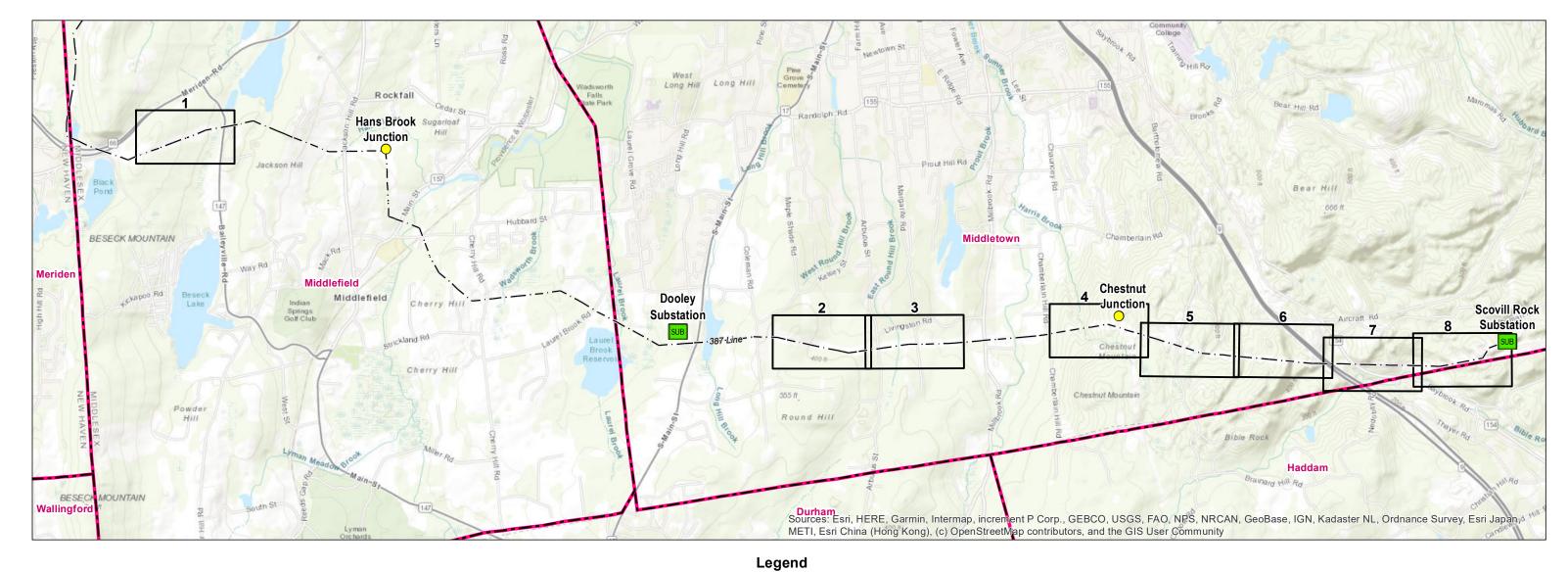


# ATTACHMENT C MAPS

# 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project

Middlefield and Middletown, CT Sub-Petition Map Set

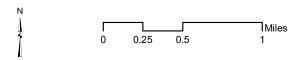
Date: July 08, 2020







# Map Sheet — · - Overhead Eversource Line — Municipal Boundary



# **INDEX OF FIGURES**

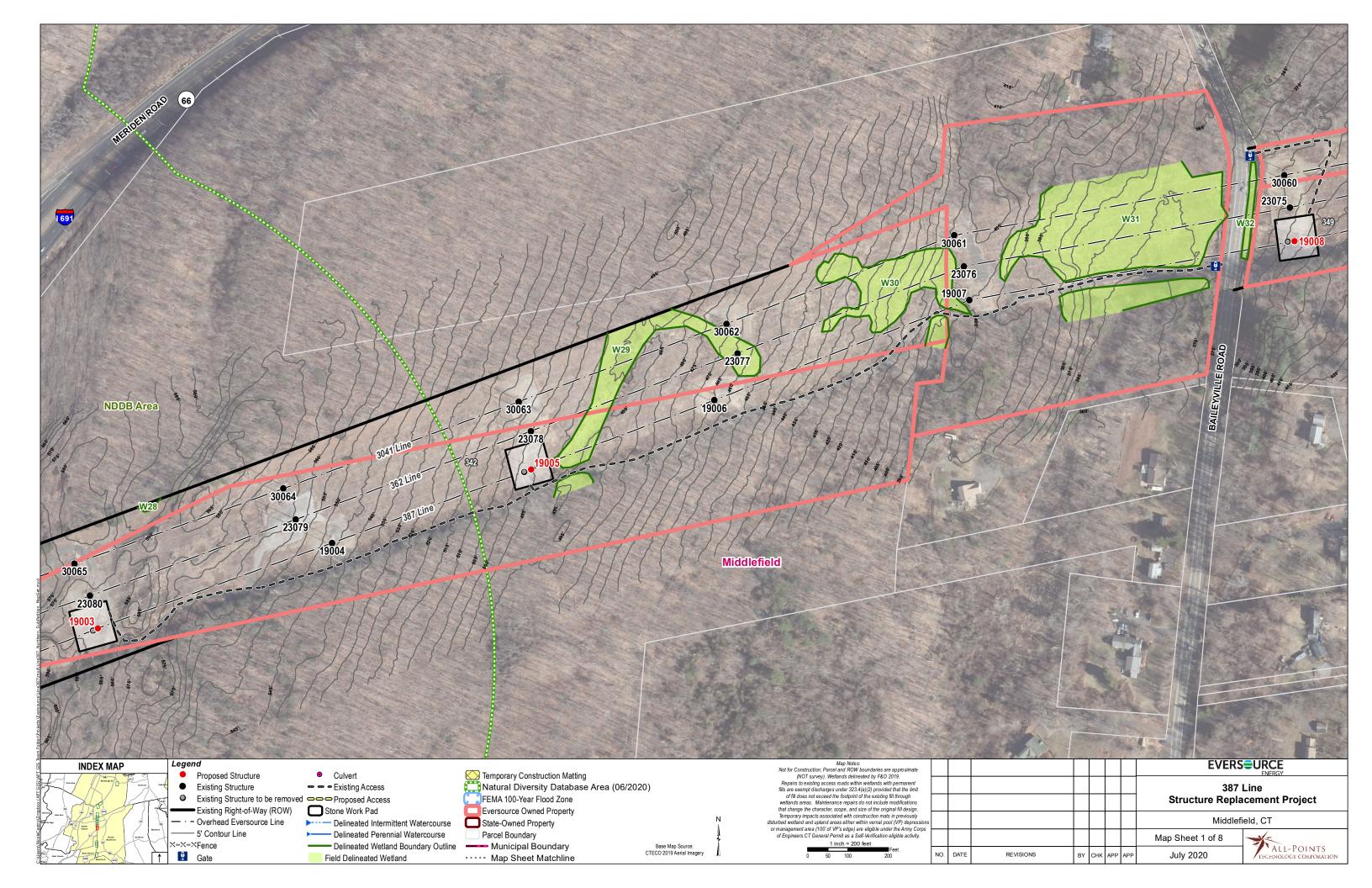
Substation

Title Sheet / Index Map Abutter Tables & Map Sheets 1-8



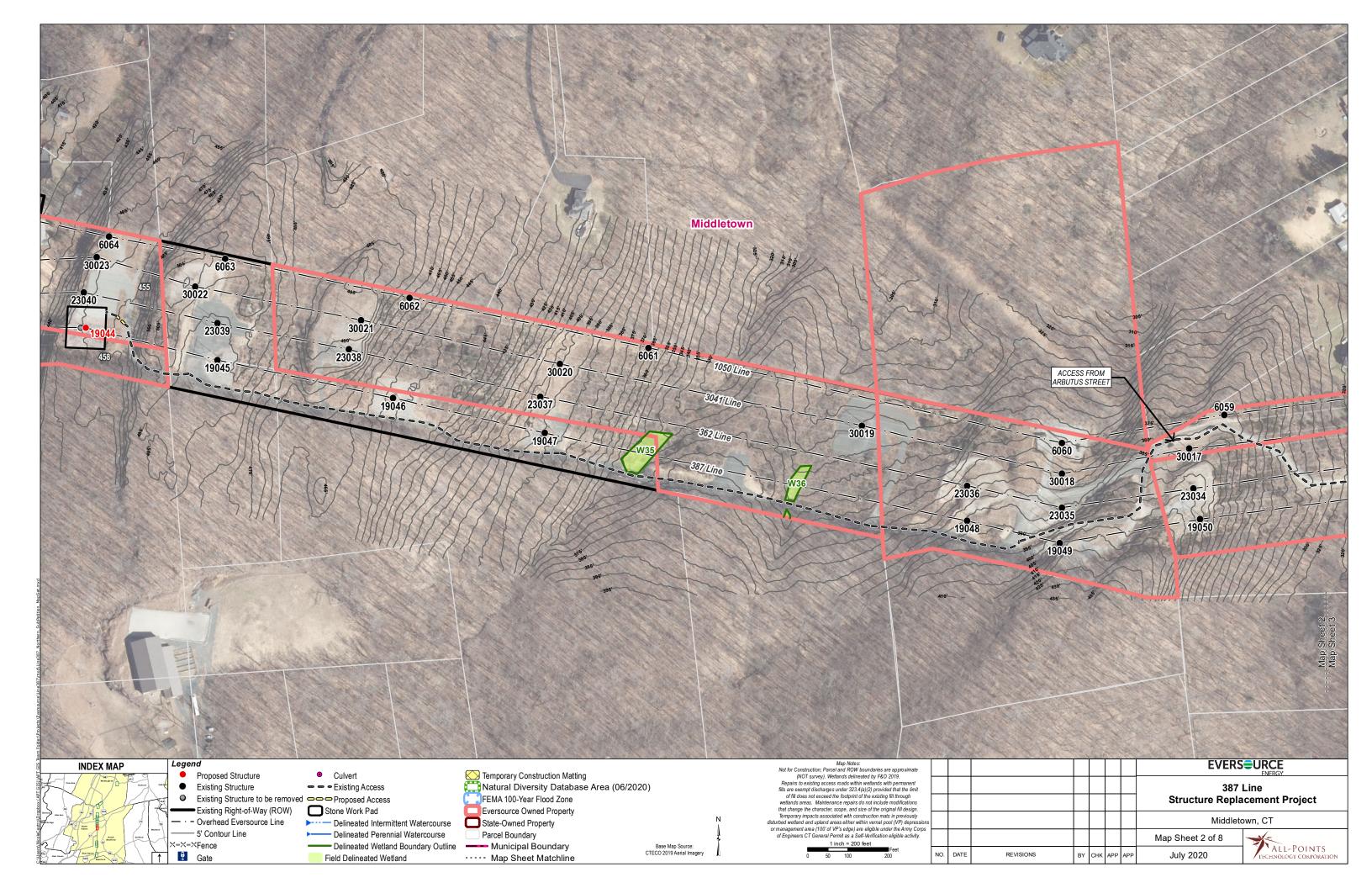
Map Sheet 1 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
342	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	BAILEYVILLE RD & RT 147	MIDDLEFIELD	СТ
349	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	BAILEYVILLE RD & RT 147	MIDDLEFIELD	СТ



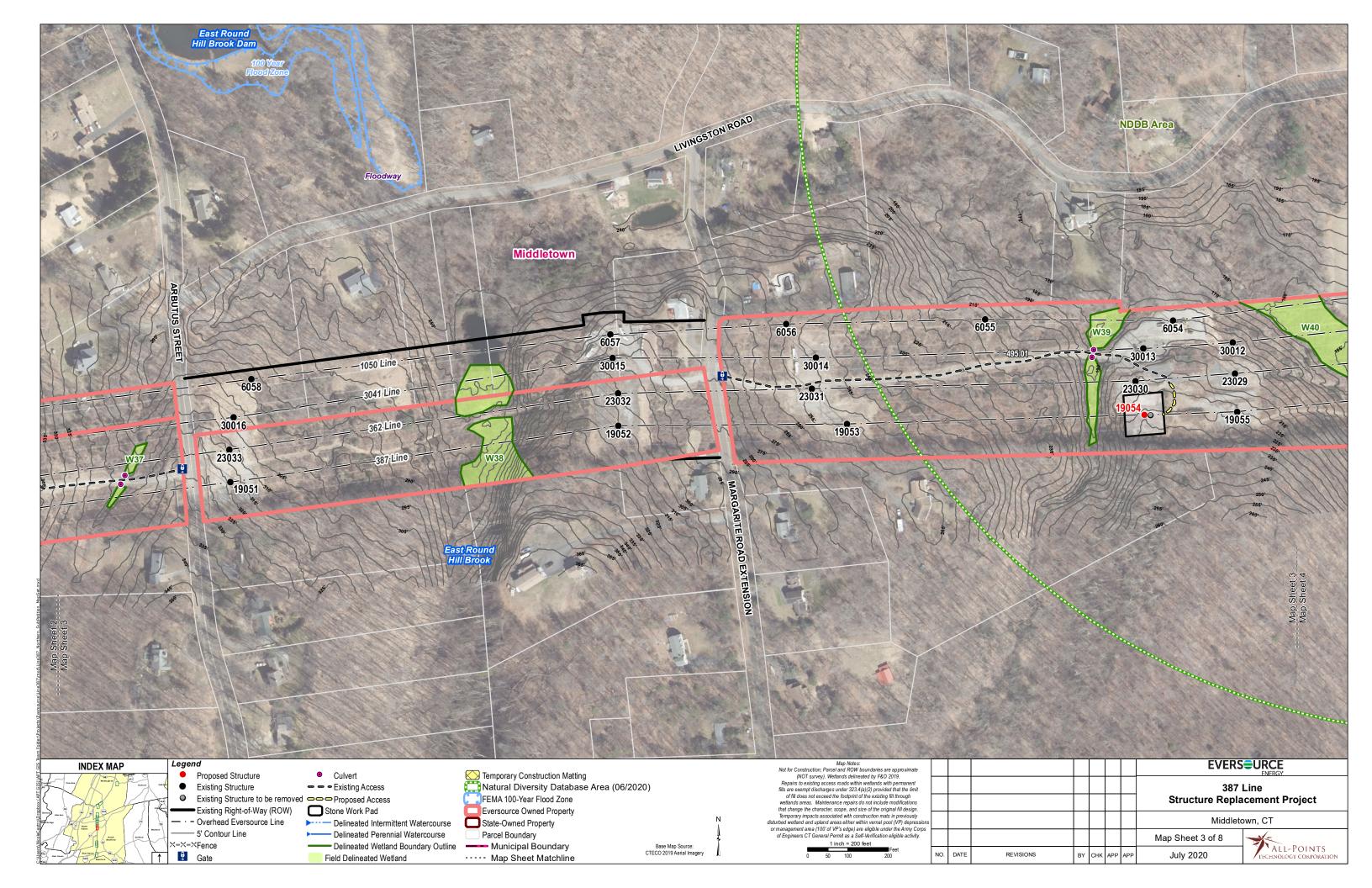
Map Sheet 2 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
455	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	COLEMAN RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
458	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	KELSEY ST	MIDDLETOWN	СТ



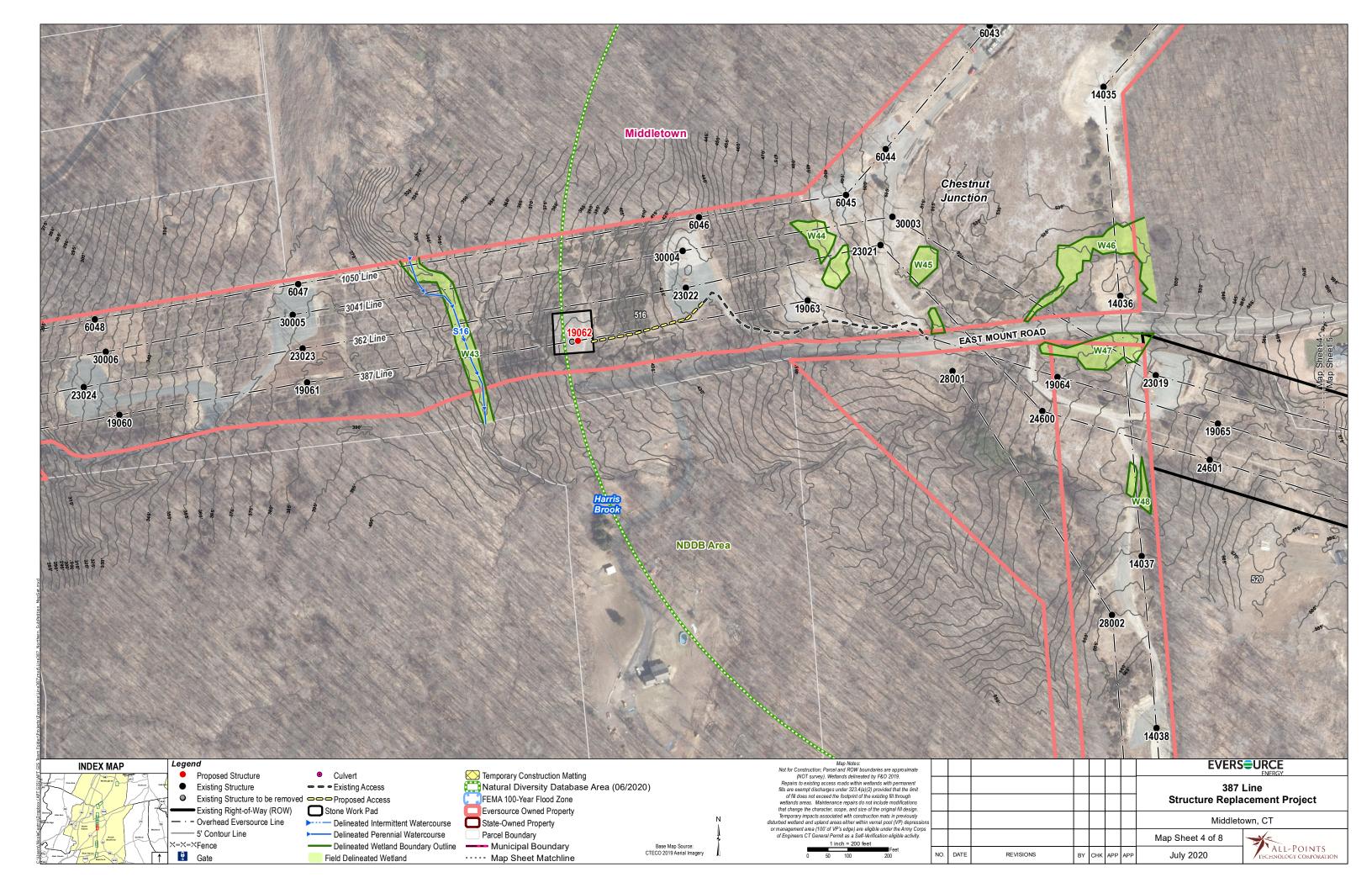
Map Sheet 3 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
495.01	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	MILLBROOK RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ



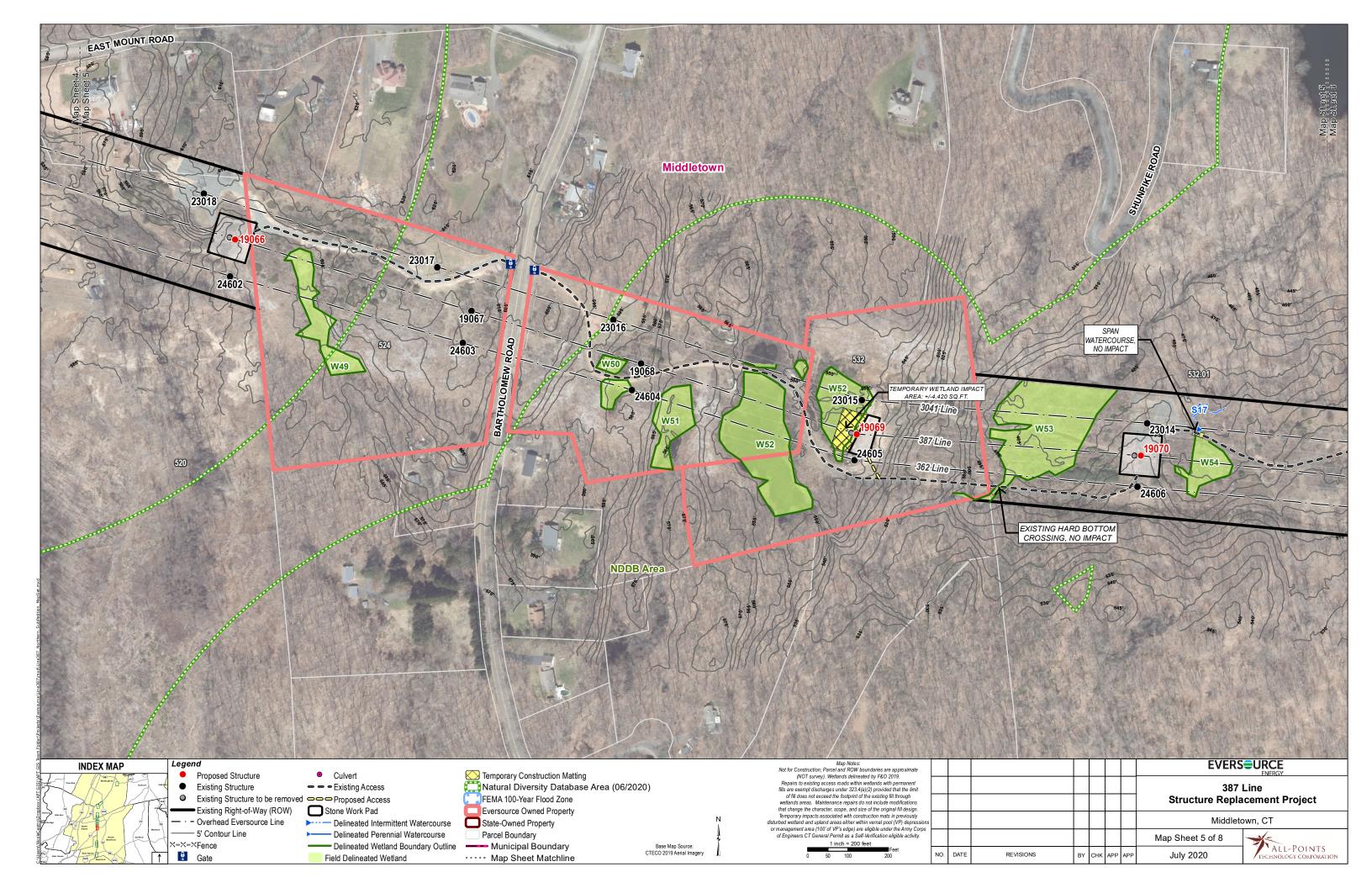
Map Sheet 4 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
516	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	BARTHOLOMEW RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
520	MARK & MARIA SEVERINO	EAST MOUNT RD	MIDDLETOWN	CT



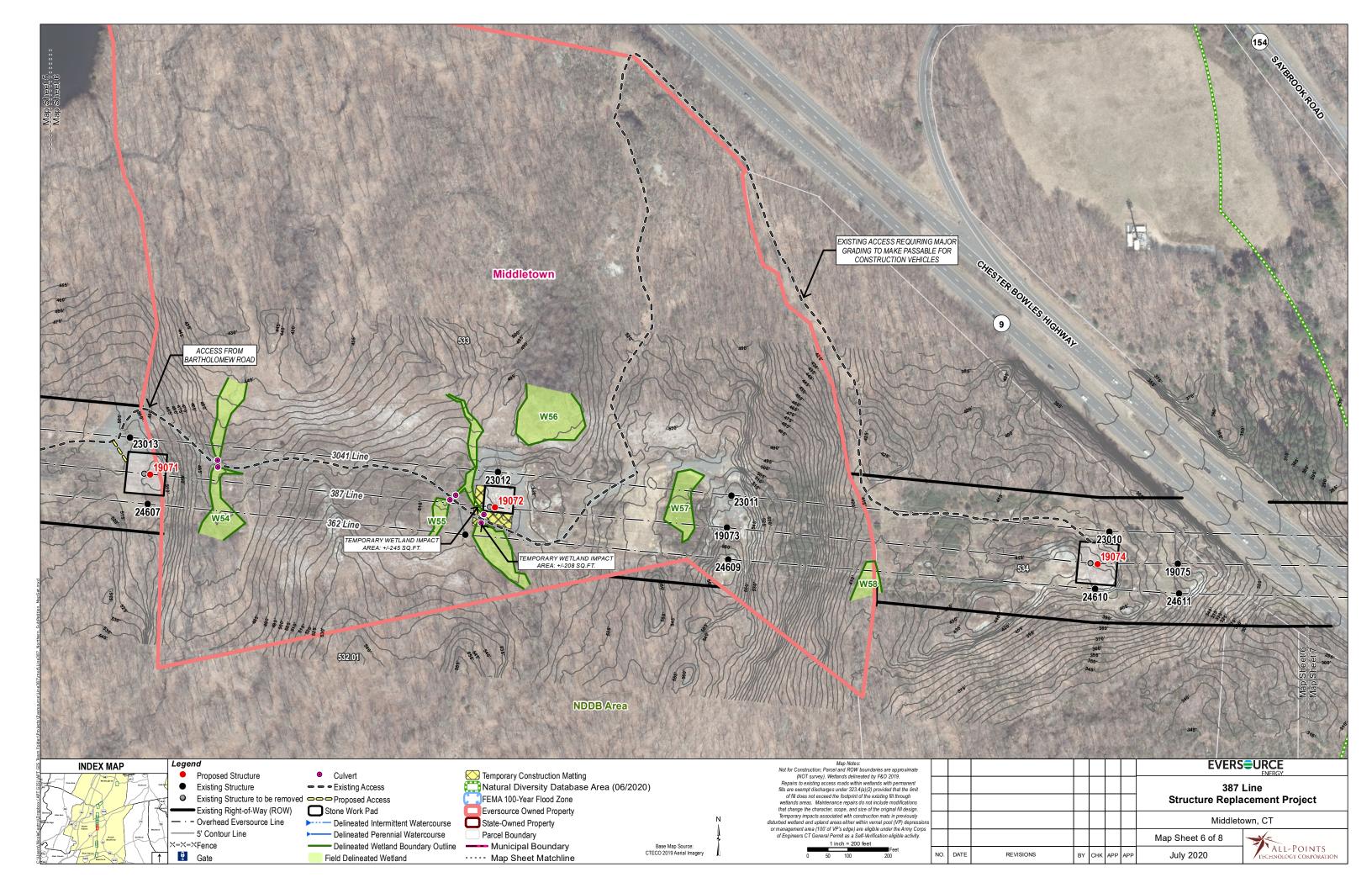
Map Sheet 5 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
520	MARK & MARIA SEVERINO	EAST MOUNT RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
524	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	BARTHOLOMEW RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
532	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	SHUNPIKE RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
532.01	ALAN E & LYNN BERNSTEIN ETALS	SHUNPIKE RD	MIDDLETOWN	CT



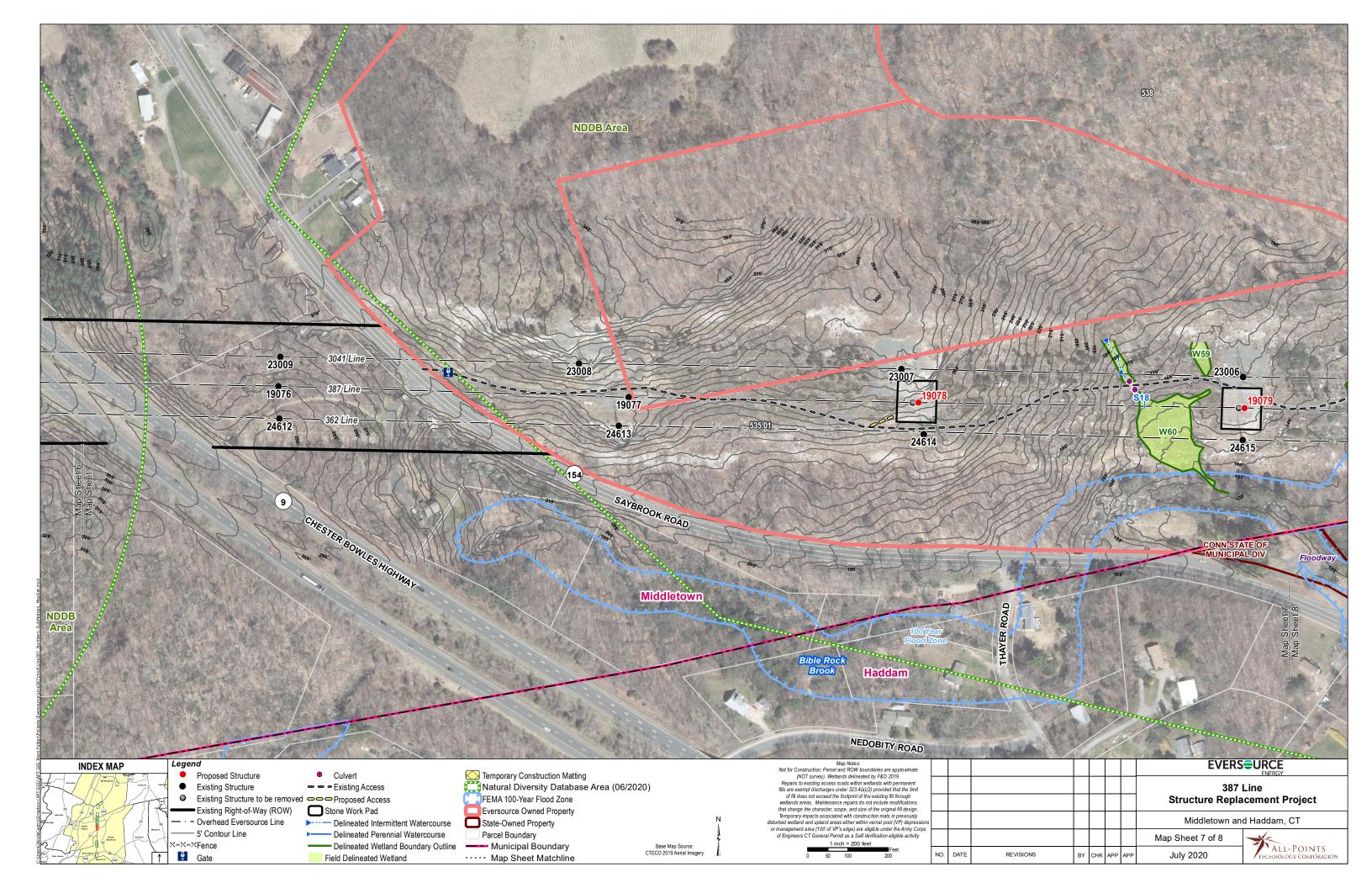
Map Sheet 6 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
532.01	ALAN E & LYNN BERNSTEIN ETALS	SHUNPIKE RD	MIDDLETOWN	CT
533	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	SHUNPIKE RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
534	REGOWSET RIDGE LLC	1987 SAYBROOK RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ



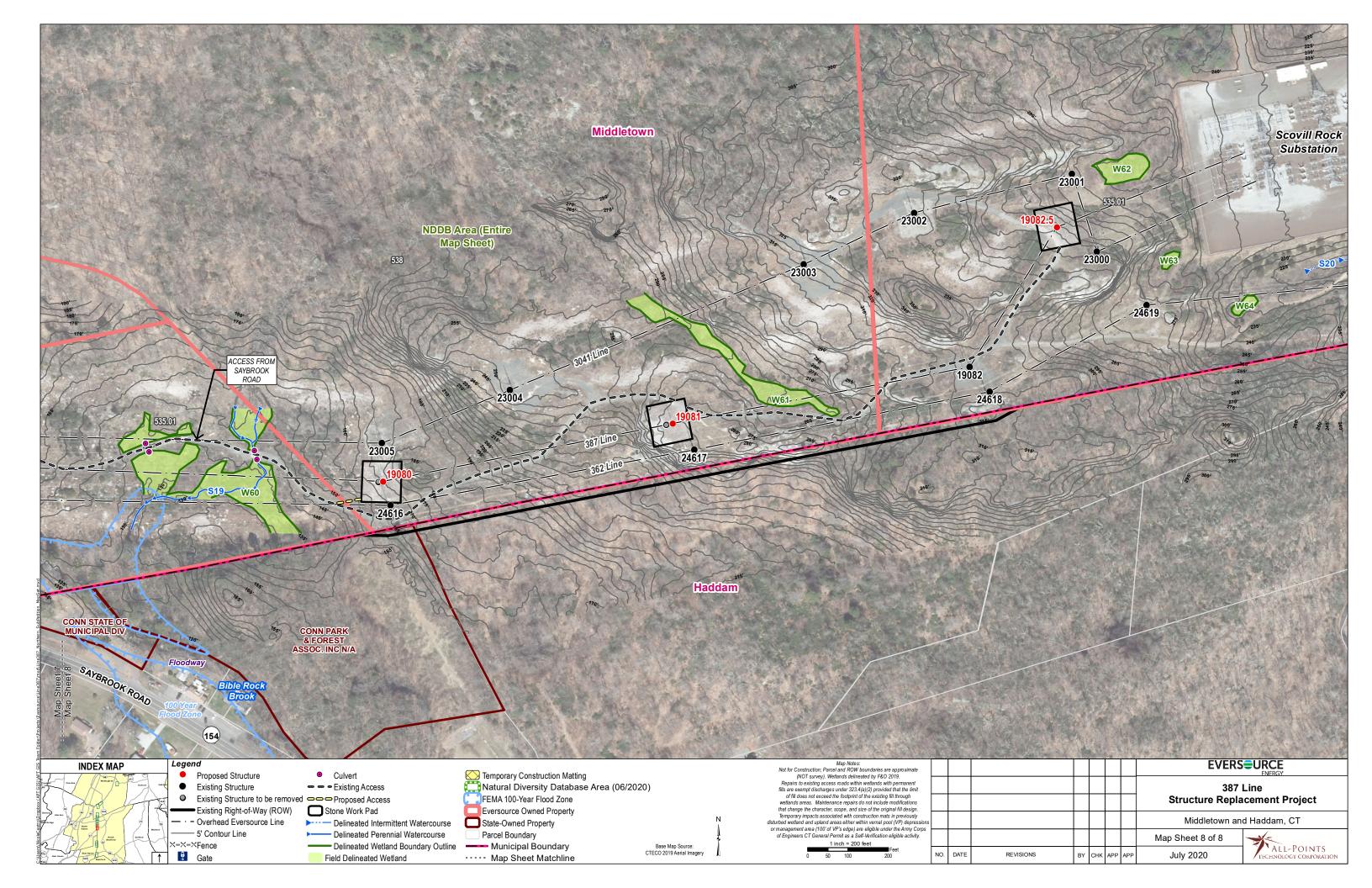
Map Sheet 7 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
535.01	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	SAYBROOK RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
538	RIVER ROCK REALTY CO (EVERSOURCE)	FREEMAN RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ



Map Sheet 8 of 8 387 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List

<u>Line List</u> <u>Number</u>	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	<u>State</u>
535.01	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	SAYBROOK RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ
538	RIVER ROCK REALTY CO (EVERSOURCE)	FREEMAN RD	MIDDLETOWN	СТ



# ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



July 7, 2020

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 on or near your property in Middlefield or Middletown. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-MM-02 this week to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for its review and approval.

#### **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 property.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace, and slightly increase the height of the existing wood structures. The new, weathering steel structures will increase in height by approximately 10 feet or less, depending on the location. We are proposing to do the work within the existing rights of way on or near your property. The new structures will 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, Acting Executive Director; Connecticut Siting Council; Ten Franklin Square; New Britain, CT 06051. You may also email them to the <a href="mailto:siting.council@ct.gov">siting.council@ct.gov</a>. If you choose to send comments to the CSC, please reference Sub-Petition No. 1293-MM-02 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,

# Jared Kupiec

Jared Kupiec

Eversource Project Manager - Transmission Projects

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT	)
	) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTEORD	1

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 July 7, 2020, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-MM-02 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipalities listed below and 3 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 Middlefield Edward Bailey, First Selectman 393 Jackson Hill Road Middlefield, CT 06455

City of Middletown Benjamin Florsheim, Mayor 245 deKoven Drive Middletown, CT 06457

> . James L. Smith Project Siting Specialist

On this the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of July 2020, 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 efficial seal.

Signature

Notary Public / My Commission expires

Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No.