

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

June 24, 2020

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-NM-03

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-NM-03 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in New Milford, Connecticut. The work includes replacing 14 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipality of New Milford 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 ELECTRIC SAFETY CODE
CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

Town: New Milford

Sub-Petition 1293-NM-03

Project: 1618 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: 14 Transmission Line Structures located in New Milford, 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 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. Description of Transmission Work Activities:

Eversource's 1618 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project is part of an ongoing maintenance program that evaluates the integrity of its utility structures and implements repair, upgrade, or replacement to ensure the safe and reliable transmission of power to its customers. Due to asset condition, many structures require replacement on portions of the 1618 Line between Rocky River Substation, in New Milford and a location just east of Wynwood Drive, in New Milford. The 1618 Line, in its entirety, is a 115-kilovolt line that extends from Rocky River Substation to West Brookfield Substation, in Brookfield. Of the structures that will be replaced, 14 structures require a slight increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements. These 14 structures to be replaced are a mix of wood H-frame and monopole structures.

Eversource plans to conduct transmission structure replacement work to remediate wood structure damage caused by structure age, weather, and woodpecker activity. The following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

Replace 14 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 (10 feet or less)
than the existing structure. The replacement structures will be installed within 15 feet of the existing
structure location centerlines.

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 in areas 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 23,228 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary construction matting for access and work pads for three structures as follows:

Wetland Number	Structure Number	Construction Work Pads Temporary Impacts (SF)	Access Roads Temporary Impacts (SF)
W02	10161A	±2,484	0
W07	10169A	±2,361	±6,849
W07	10170A	±10,000	±1,534
Su	btotals:	±14,845 ±8,383	
TO	OTAL:	±23,	228

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 impact to nearby wetland and watercourse resources.

c) No adverse impacts to vernal pools ("VP") or vernal pool envelopes ("VPE") are anticipated from the proposed Work Activities. However, four VP habitats have been identified near some Work Areas. Portions of the temporary work pad and temporary access for Structure 10169A would be located within the VP and VPE associated with VP21 and a portion of the temporary access for Structure 10173A would be located within the VPE associated with VP07 and a portion of the temporary work pad for Structure 10276.5A would be located within the VPE associated with VP12. In addition, portions of the temporary work pad and gravel work pad for Structure 10181A would be located within the VPE associated with VP20. Due to a significant slope and exposed bedrock, the work pad at Structure 10181A will be constructed as a two-tiered work pad. Temporary matting will be used to construct the lower tier of the work pad. The upper tier consists of uneven bedrock outcropping and will require rock removal, minor grading, and the placement of gravel to create a safe level work platform. The gravel area within the VPE will be seeded with a conservation seed-mix and covered in mulch after construction is complete.

Elevated construction matting will be installed within the VP and VPE at Structure 10169A and VPE at Structure 10173A where the access roads bisect wetland habitats that may provide migratory routes for amphibian movement during the active VP season. Except for utilizing gravel on a portion of the work pad at Structure 10181A, as described above, non-elevated construction matting would be utilized on the work pads within VPEs to avert amphibian access and avoid entrapment. Vegetation removal in the VP and VPEs will be minimized and limited to hand clearing only. Species protection measures will be implemented where Work Activities extend into the VPs and VPEs. With the implementation of these protective measures, no adverse impacts to VPs or to VPEs are anticipated from the proposed Work Activities.

d) Based on review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CTDEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB"), only the Work Activities associated with portions the access roads and work pads for Structures 10169A and 10170A 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 protection measures, no adverse impacts to state-listed rare species are anticipated.

- e) The Work Activities will not require 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 was conducted by Heritage Consultants, LLC ("Heritage") revealed two previously identified archaeological sites (96-62 and 96-63) within 500 feet of the Work Areas. Site 96-62 is located in the general area of Structure 10175A. Although the proposed Work Activities will not impact this historic feature, protective construction matting will be utilized to avoid inadvertent impacts. Site 96-63 is situated in the general area of Structure 10276.5. Heritage concluded that the proposed Work Activities will not impact this historic feature. No National or State Register of Historic Places properties/districts were identified within 500 feet of the Work Areas.

Based on review of historic maps, aerial photographs, and available soil profiles, five proposed work pad locations at Structures 10156A, 10170A, 10171A, 10173A and 10276.5, and seven proposed access roads for structures 10169A, 10170A, 10172A, 10173A, 10174A and 10175A were identified as possessing a potential for moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. With the exception of structure 10156A, temporary construction matting will be used during construction to avoid potential impacts at the proposed structure work pads and access roads. A pedestrian survey conducted by Heritage at Structure 10156A revealed that it retained a no/low archaeological sensitivity; therefore, Heritage advised that no further examination is recommended or warranted.

- g) Increases in the heights of the 14 replacement structures will average approximately 7 feet and none will exceed 10 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. Mitigation:

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.
- Vernal pool protective measures will be incorporated into Eversource's BMPs during construction.
- 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 streets.

 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 on temporary access roads in wetlands as well as in agricultural/maintained lawn upland areas. 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 its property and/or ROW from existing access points on public roads in New Milford as follows:

- Candlewood Lake Road N for Structures 10154A, 10155A, 10156A, 10161A and 10165A
- Sunny Valley Lane for Structures 10169A, 10170A and 10171A,
- Sunny Valley Road for Structures 10172A, 10173A, 10174A, 10175A and 10276.5A
- Hilltop View Lane for Structure 10181A

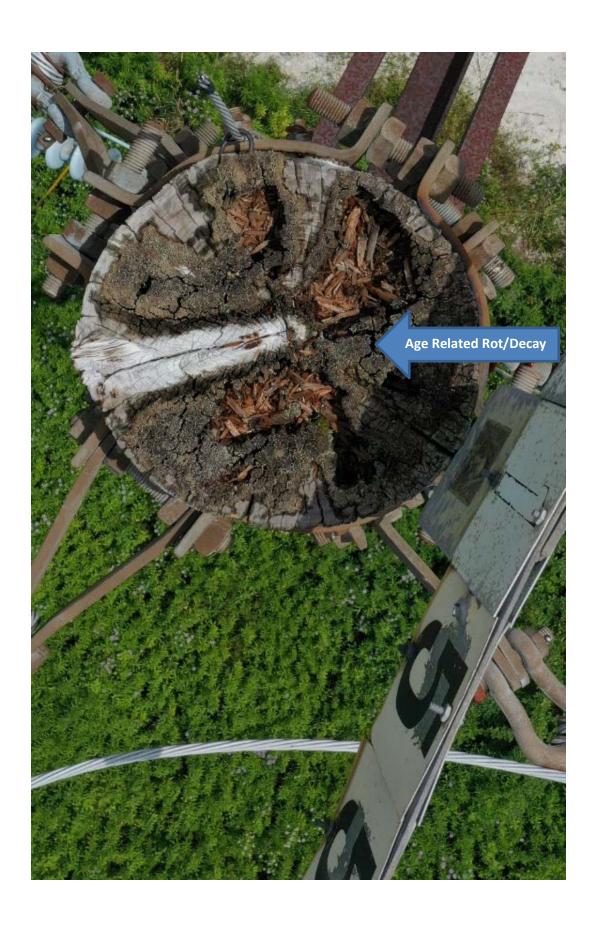
By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

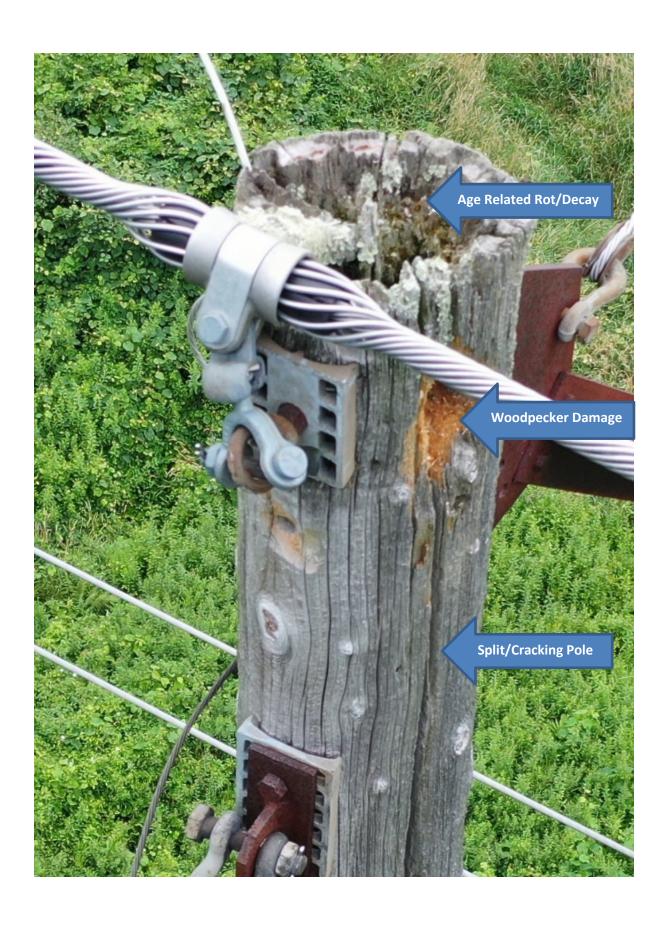
Manager - Transmission Siting

ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS

Structure #10155A



Structure #10169A



Structure #10176.5A



Structure #10181A

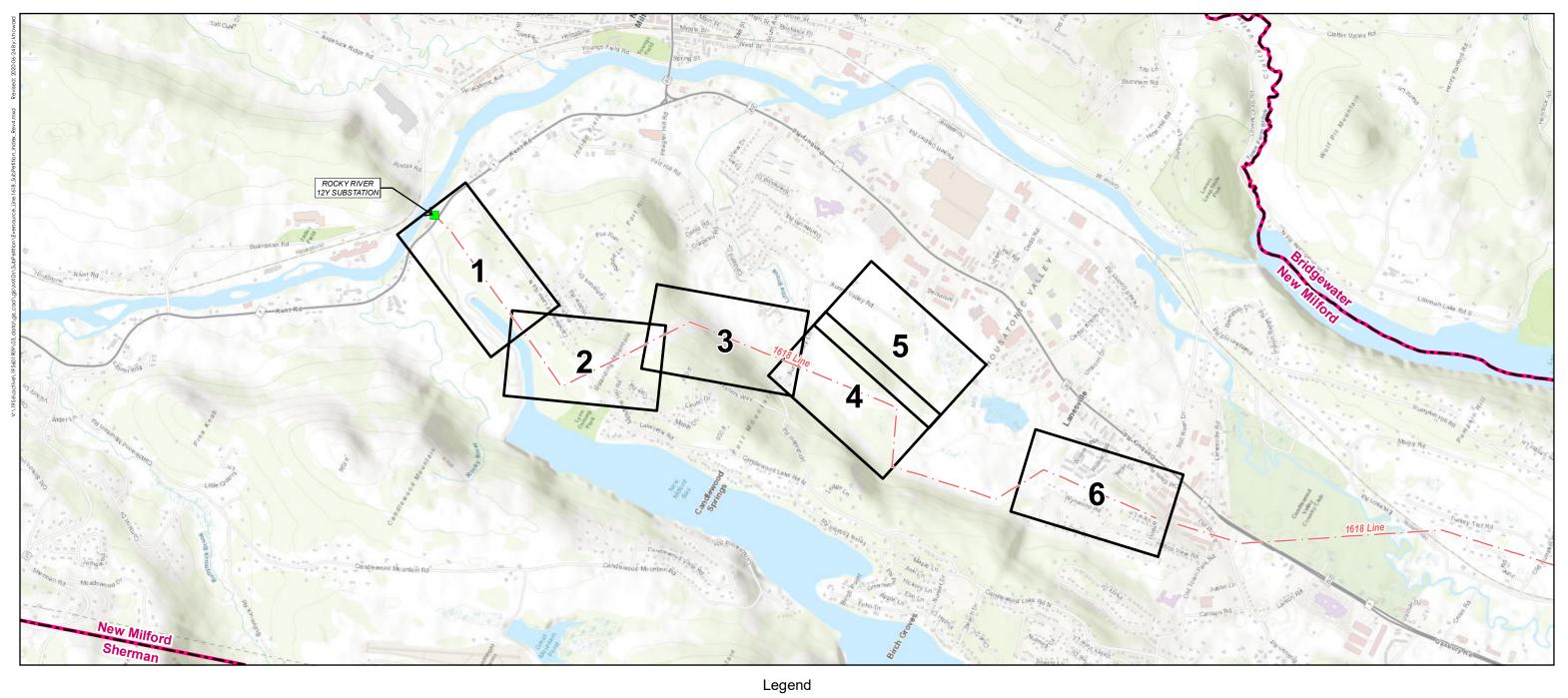


ATTACHMENT C MAPS

1618 LINE-STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

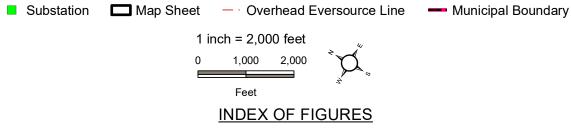
New Milford, CT Sub-Petition Map Set

Revised Date: June 24, 2020





107 Selden Street Berlin, CT 06037



INDEX OF FIGURES

TITLE SHEET / INDEX MAP

MAP SHEETS 1-6

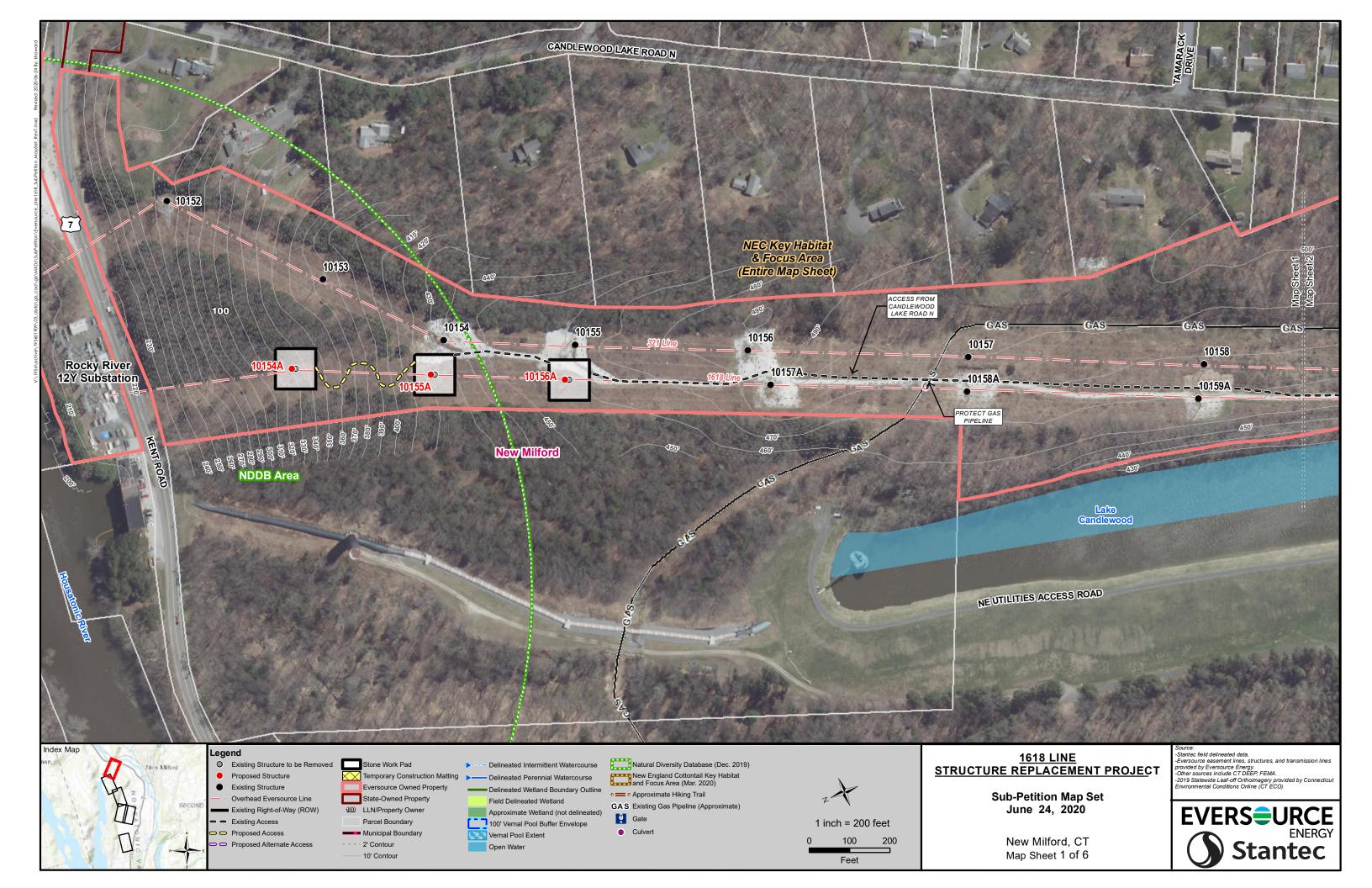
ABUTTER TABLES



30 Park Drive Topsham, ME 04086

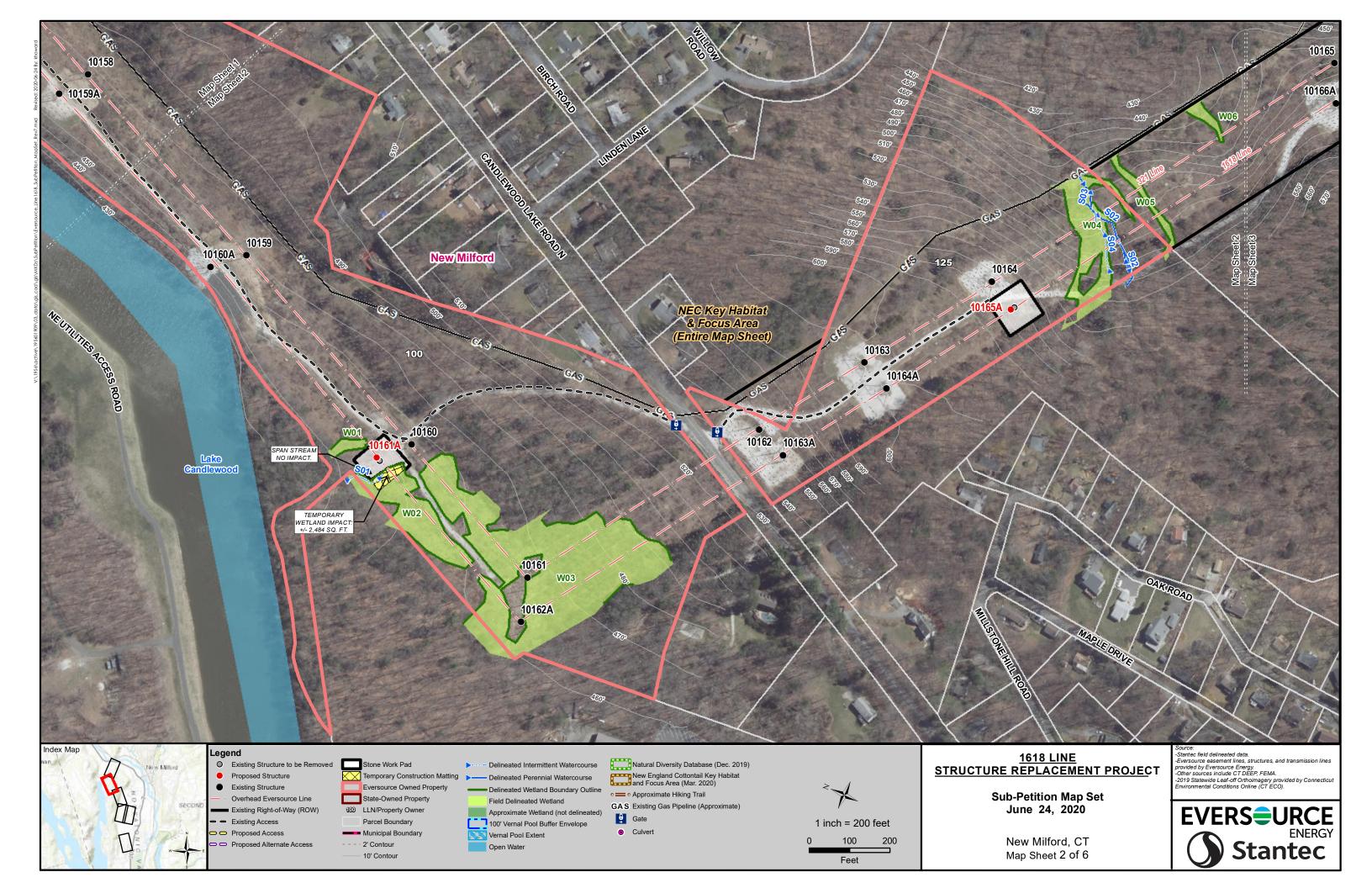
1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 1 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
100	FIRSTLIGHT HYDRO GENERATING COMPANY		221 KENT RD		CT	06776



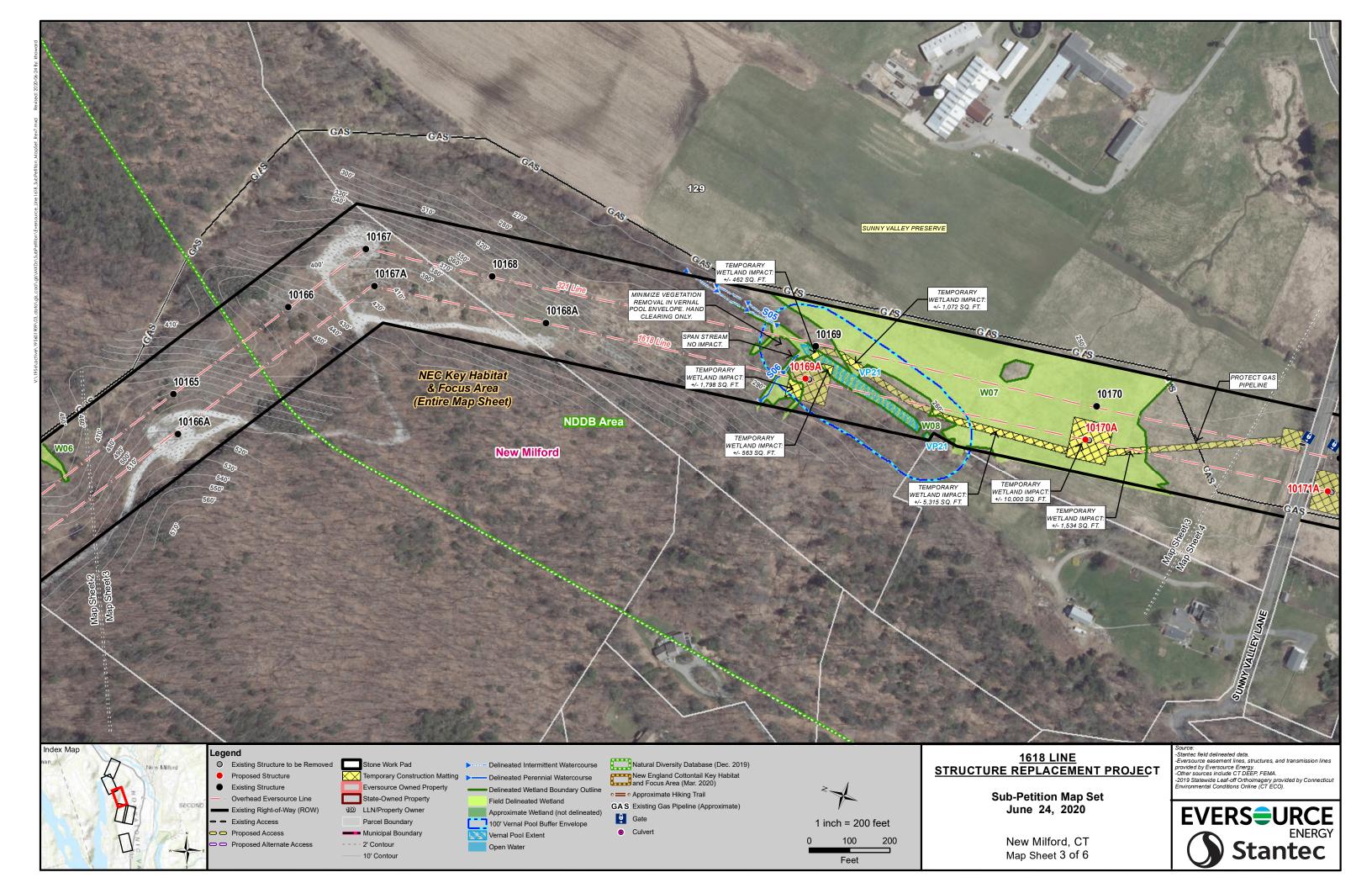
1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 2 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
100	FIRSTLIGHT HYDRO GENERATING COMPANY		221 KENT RD		CT	06776
125	CONNECTICUT LIGHT + POWER		CANDLEWOOD LK N		CT	06776



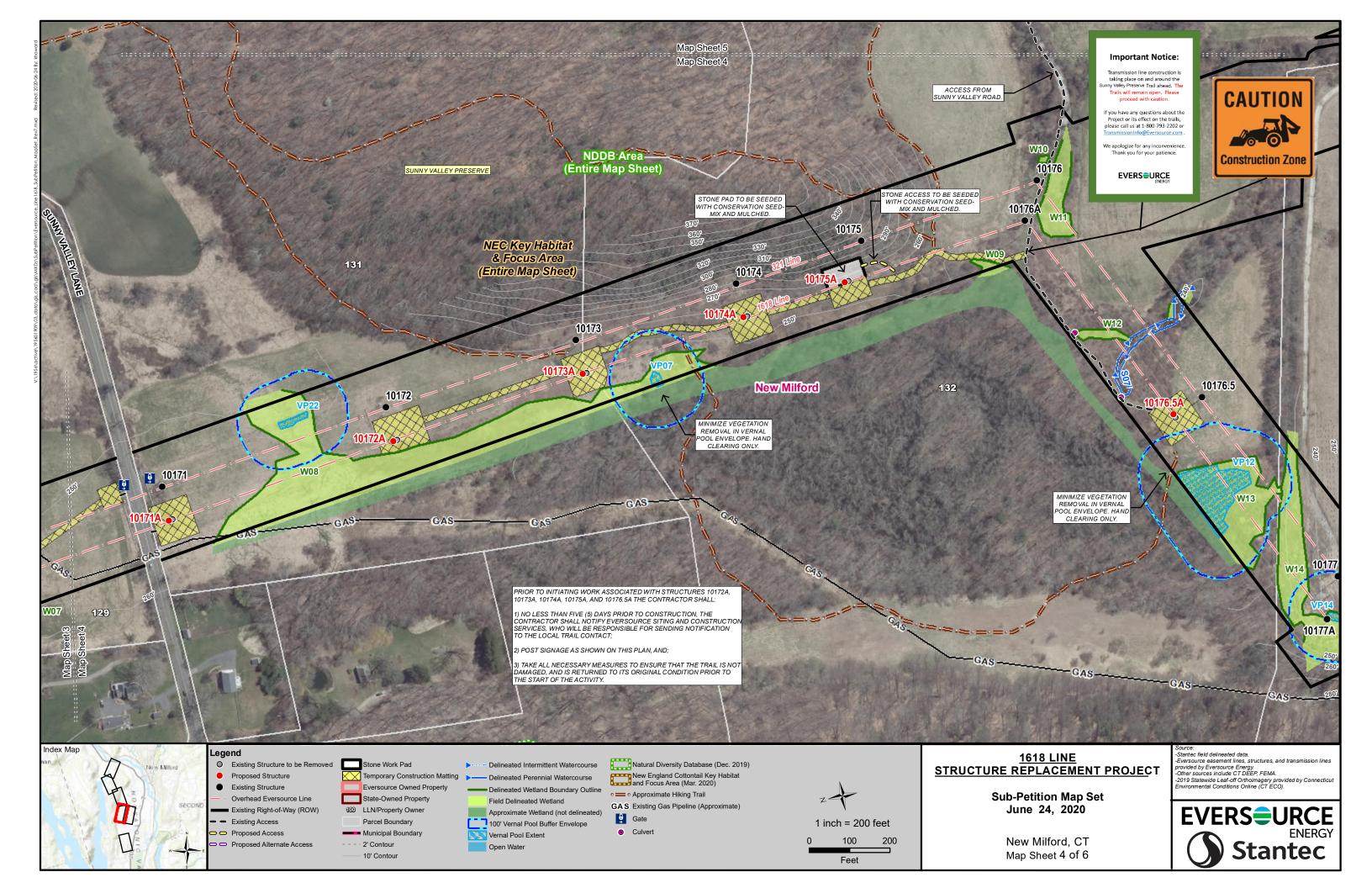
1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 3 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
129	NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CT INC				CT	06776



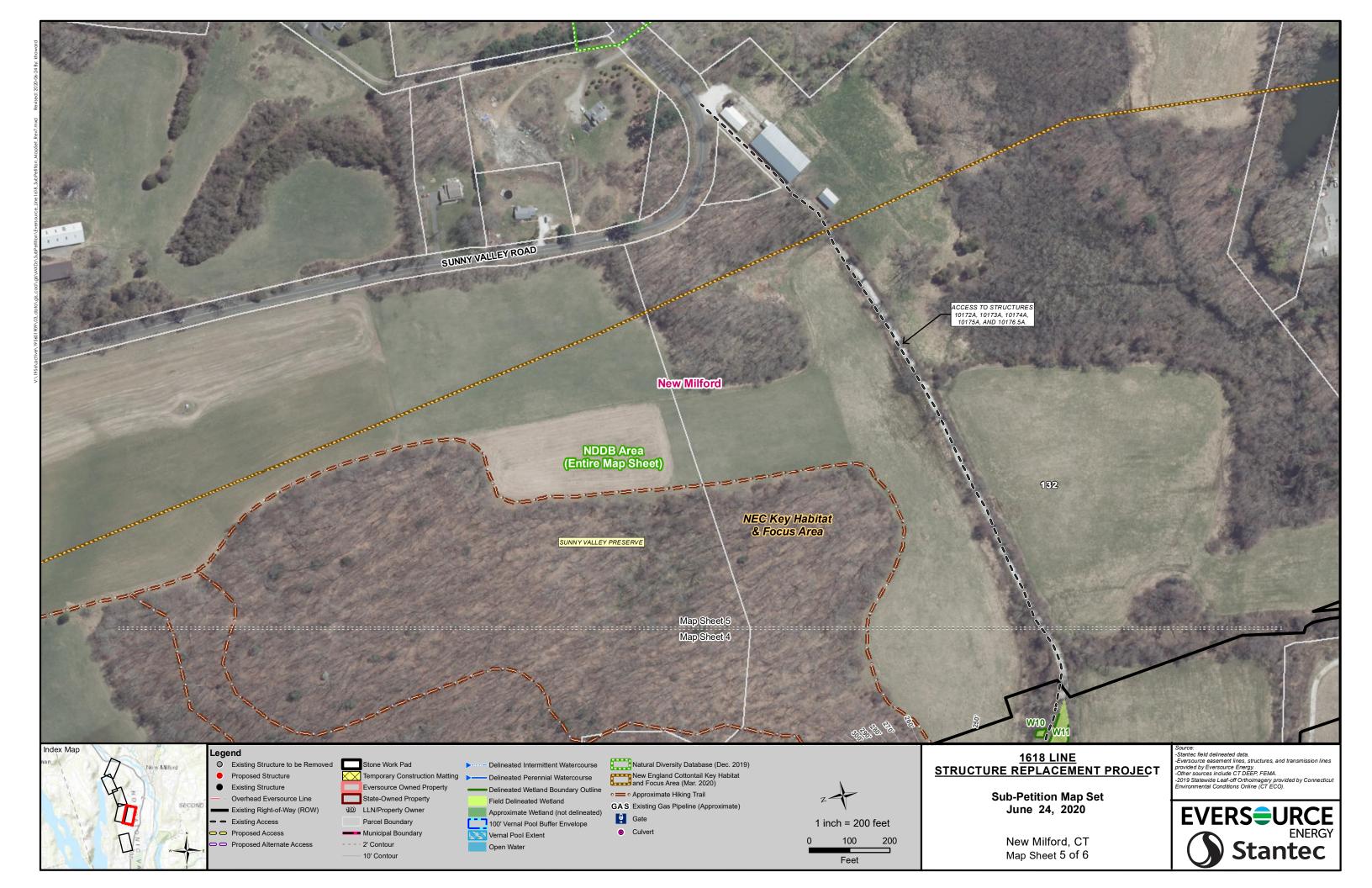
1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 4 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
129	NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CT INC		8 SUNNY VALLEY RD	NEW MILFORD	CT	06776
131	NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CT INC		JERUSALEM RD	NEW MILFORD	СТ	06776
132	NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CT INC		SUNNY VALLEY RD	NEW MILFORD	СТ	06776



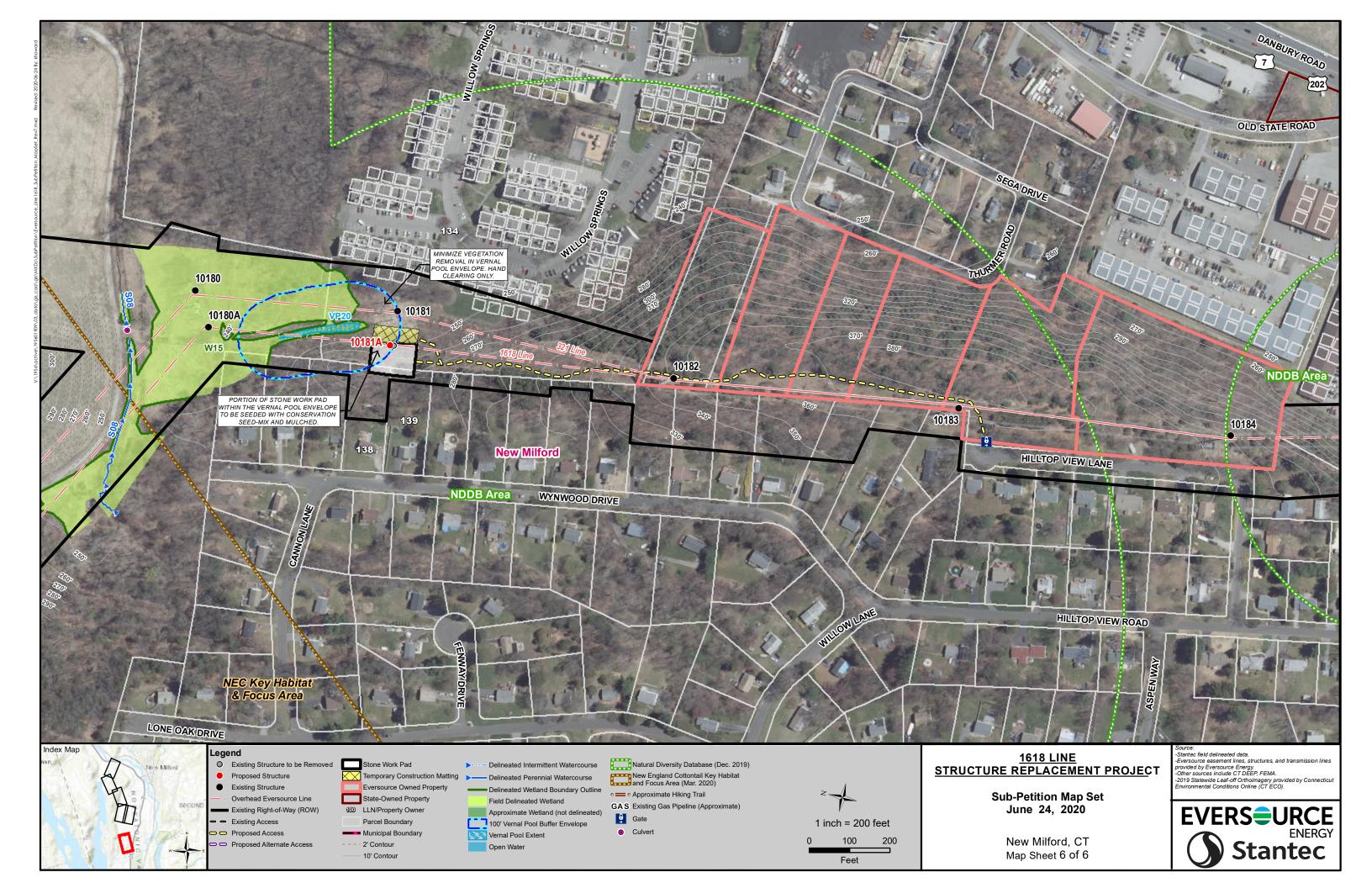
1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 5 Abutters Table

LL NUME	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
132	NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CT INC		SUNNY VALLEY RD		CT	06776



1618 Line Structure Replacement Project Map Sheet 6 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
134	MULTIPLE/WILLOW SPRINGS CONDO ASSOCIATION		1-332 WILLOW SPRINGS MAIN		CT	06776
138	MENEZIR BRANDAO	NETO	107 WYNWOOD DR	NEW MILFORD	СТ	06776
139	SHERRY	CREIGHTON	109 WYNWOOD DR		СТ	06776



ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



June 24, 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 New Milford. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-NM-03 this week to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for its review.

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 damaged structures due to structure age, weather, and/or woodpecker activity. The height of the existing structures will increase, as necessary, to comply with current clearance requirements. 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, Executive Director; Connecticut Siting Council; Ten Franklin Square; New Britain, CT 06051. You may also email them to the siting.council@ct.gov. If you choose to send comments to the CSC, please reference Sub-Petition No. 1293-NM-03 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 ProjectInfo@eversource.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jared Kupiec

Jared Kupiec Eversource Project Manager – Transmission Projects

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTFORD	
on Petition No. 1293, I hereby including a copy of the Sub-P Energy ("Eversource") to be maintenance activities states.	Indition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") March 31, 2017 declaratory ruling y certify that on June 24, 2020, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities Petition No.1293-NM-03 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource served on the municipality listed below and 7 abutters. The notice of the proposed that comments or concerns regarding the maintenance activities described in the Sub-

Municipal Officials:

Town of New Milford Peter Bass, Mayor 10 Main Street New Milford, CT 06776

> James L. Smith Project Siting Specialist

On this the ______ day of June 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 official seal.

Signature

Notary Public / My Commission expires

Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No.