

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

August 18, 2021

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-OX-01

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-OX-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Oxford, Connecticut. The work includes replacing two existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the Town of Oxford of Eversource's submission of the Sub-Petition and sent a copy of the Sub-Petition to the owner of the directly abutting property (see Proof of Notice).

Enclosed please find an original and 3 copies of this filing.

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

Town: Oxford

Sub-Petition: 1293-OX-01

Project: 1403 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: Two Transmission Line Structures Located in Oxford, 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. Description of Transmission Work Activities:

Eversource's 1403 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, two structures require replacement on the 1403 Line at a location just north of Oxford Substation in Oxford, Connecticut. The 1403 Line in its entirety, is a 115-killovolt line that extends from Oxford Substation to Towantic Substation in Oxford, Connecticut. The two replacement structures will each require an increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements.

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

- Replace one existing wood H-frame structure, Structure1444, with a new weathering steel H-frame structure.
- Replace one existing wood single-pole structure, Structure 1445A, with a new weathering steel single-pole 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 property and existing right-of-way ("ROW") utilizing existing access roads (collectively the "Work Areas"). Portions of the existing access roads will be improved.
- b) The Work Activities would not result in any impacts to wetlands. 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"), no Work Areas are proposed within a NDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and/or CTDEEP owned/managed land. Therefore, the Work Areas would not be subject to an NDDB Review Request. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's BMPs to avoid or minimize impact to terrestrial habitats that may support rare species. With these protective measures, no adverse impacts to state-listed rare species are anticipated.
- e) The Work Areas are within habitat of the New England Cottontail ("NEC"). To avoid or mitigate impacts to the habitat for this species, Eversource will adhere to its BMPs for the NEC.
- f) The Work Activities will not require any tree clearing. However, Eversource may need to undertake tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing within the Work Areas for conductor clearance and/or to improve access to portions of the Work Areas.
- g) 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 a review of historic maps, aerial photographs, and available soil profiles, one of the proposed work pad locations was identified to possess a potential for moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. A subsequent pedestrian survey of the proposed work pad site also concluded that the location could have a moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. As a result, Heritage performed a Phase 1B cultural resources field survey (shovel pit testing) at the proposed work pad location. The Phase 1B survey found no physical evidence of archaeological significance; therefore, Heritage advised that no further cultural resource examinations are recommended or warranted.
- h) Both structures require a height increase to comply with current clearance requirements. Structure 1444 will increase by 1.5 feet for an overall height of 52.5 feet above ground level, while Structure 1445A will increase by 1 foot for an overall height increase of 70 feet above ground level.

- i) Because of the proximity of the replacement structures to Waterbury-Oxford Airport, a general aviation airport, Eversource consulted with both the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") and the Connecticut Airport Authority ("CAA"). The CAA manages and operates Waterbury-Oxford Airport. After aeronautical review of the proposed structure height increases, the FAA issued a Determination of No Hazard, finding the that the replacement structures will not exceed obstruction standards and that marking/lighting the structures is not required. Eversource is completing consultations with the CAA and will provide as built information about the Project upon CAA's request.
- j) There are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas.
- k) 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.
- I) 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 ("E&S") controls 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.
- 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 the construction entrance off Commerce Drive to prevent tracking of soil onto the public road.
- Upon completion of the Work Activities, all disturbed/exposed areas will be stabilized and revegetated as needed. After establishing 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:

Eversource will access the Work Areas by entering its property at Oxford Substation utilizing an existing access road off Commerce Drive. The existing access road will require some improvement to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles.

By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

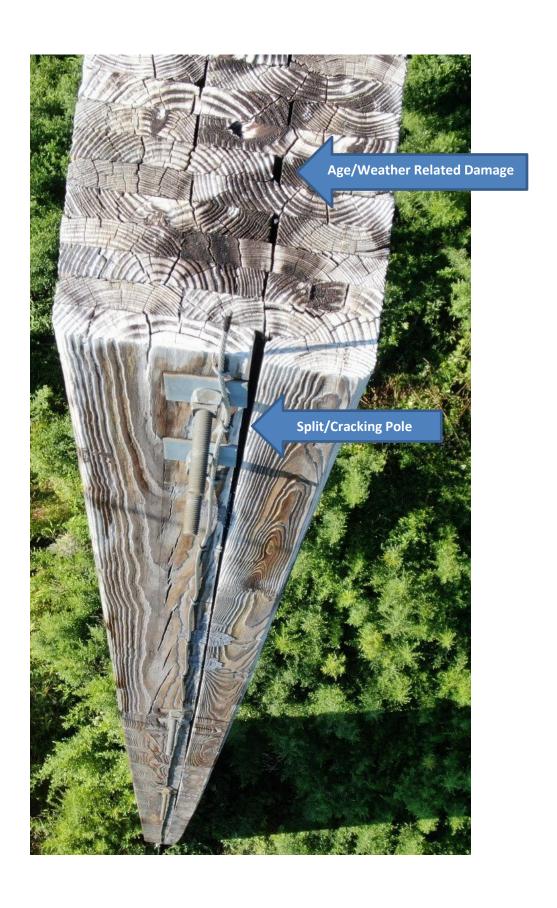
Manager - Transmission Siting

ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS

Structure #1444



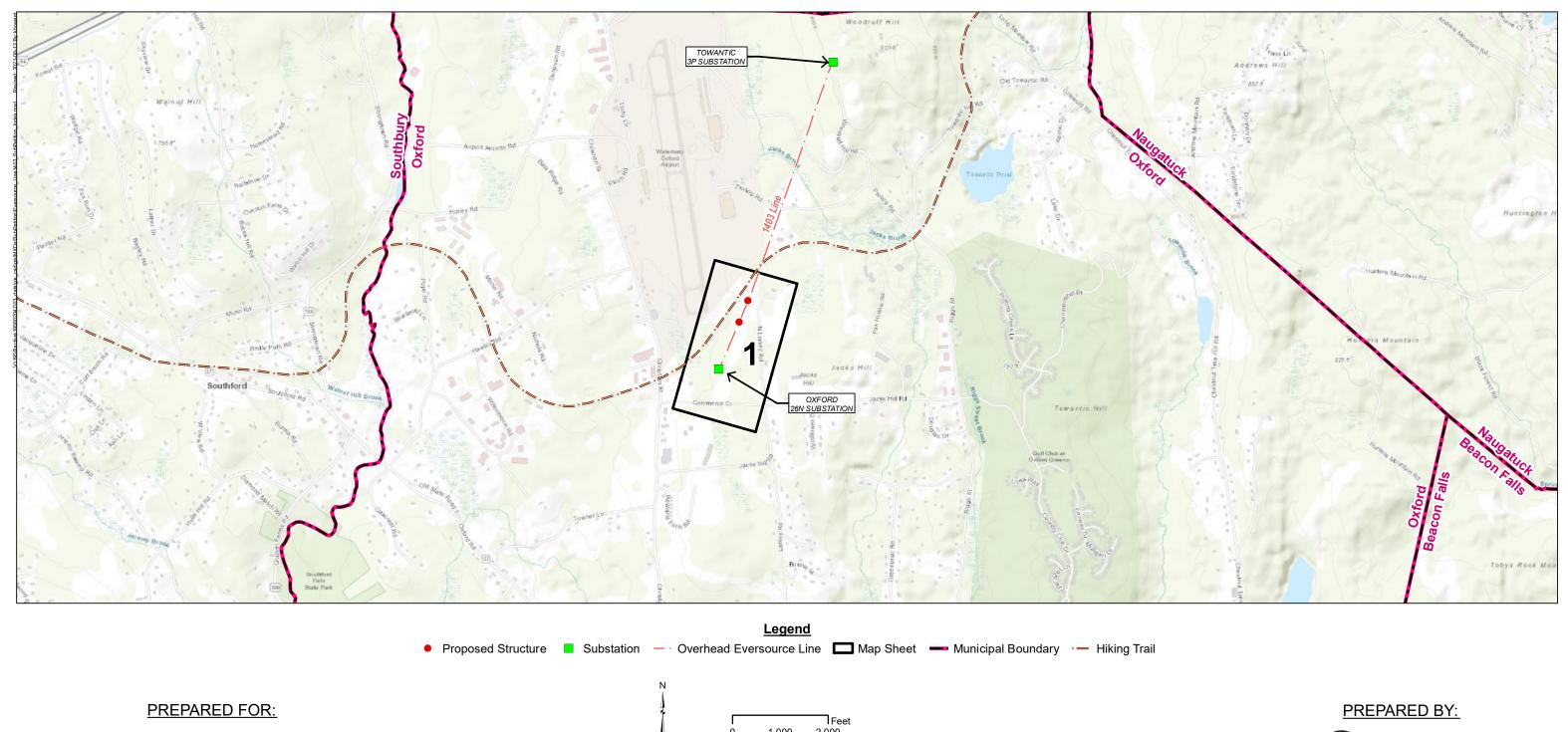
Structure #1445A



ATTACHMENT C MAPS

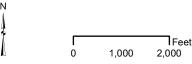
1403 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Oxford, CT Sub-Petition Map Set Date: August 12, 2021





107 Selden Street Berlin, CT 06037



INDEX OF FIGURES

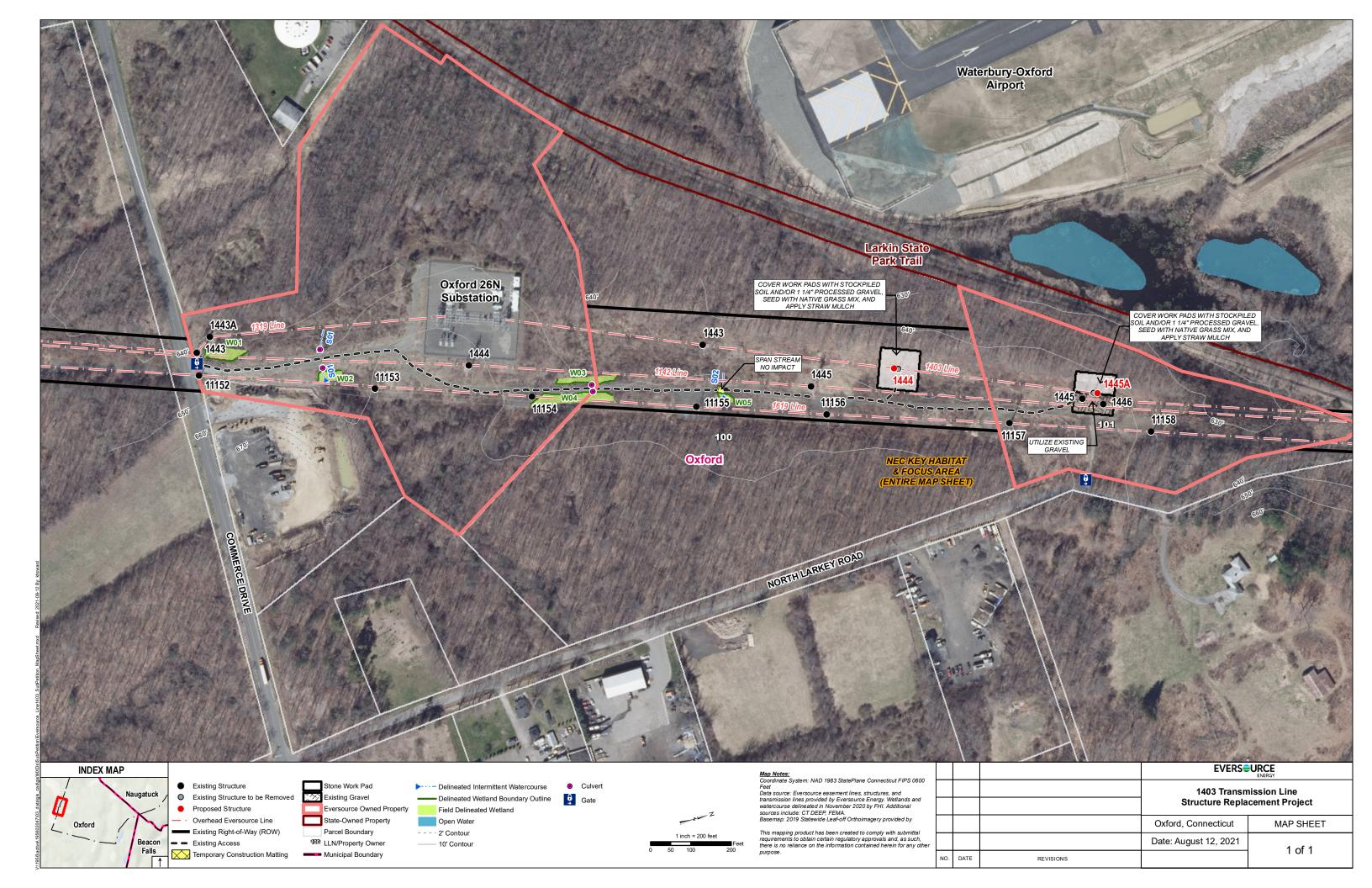
Title Sheet / Index Map Abutter Tables & Map Sheets 1-1



30 Park Drive Topsham, ME 04086

1403 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project Sub-Petition Map Sheet 1 Abutters Table

LL NUMBER	OWNER NAME (First)	OWNER NAME (Last)	PARCEL ADDRESS	PARCEL CITY/TOWN	PARCEL STATE	PARCEL ZIP
100	CONNECTICUT AIRPORT AUTHORITY	1	NORTH LARKEY RD	OXFORD	СТ	06478
101	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER	1	NORTH LARKEY RD	OXFORD	СТ	06478



ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



August 18, 2021

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 Eversource right-of-way in Oxford A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting <u>Sub-Petition No. 1293-OX-01</u> 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 area.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace one structure due to structure age, weather, and/or woodpecker activity. The new structure will comply with current clearance requirements and provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

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-OX-01 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,

Franco Saporoso

Franco Saporoso Eversource Project Manager – Transmission Projects

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

	MITIBATURE OF MOTIOE
STATE OF CONNECTICUT)) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTFORD) SS. Hartiord)
on Petition No. 1293, I hereby including a copy of the Sub-P Energy ("Eversource") to be set the sole abutter. The notice of	endition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") March 31, 2017 declaratory ruling certify that on August 18, 2021, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities retition No.1293-OX-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource rived on the municipality listed below, as well as the Connecticut Airport Authority, which is of the proposed maintenance activities states that comments or concerns regarding the ed in the Sub-Petition should be submitted to the Council within 30 days of the date of such
Municipal Officials:	
Town of Oxford George R. Temple, 486 Oxford Road Oxford, CT 06478-1	
On this that 19th	Louise & Mango Louise F. Mango Project Siting Specialist
Louise F. Mango, known to	_ day of August 2021, before me, the undersigned representative, personally appeared me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the owledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.
In witness whereof, I he	ereunto set my hand and official seal.
	Signature
	Signature

Notary Public / My Commission expires

Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No. $\frac{413393}{}$