



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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

July 9, 2021

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

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

Eversource notified the officials of the municipality of Ridgefield 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).

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathleen M. Shanley", written in a cursive style.

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
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

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: Ridgefield

Sub-Petition: 1293-RI-01

Project: 1470/1565 Transmission Lines Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: Four Transmission Line Structures located in Ridgefield, 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 1470/1565 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project ("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, four structures on the 1470/1565 Lines require replacement; the structures are located on either side of Florida Road in Ridgefield, Connecticut. The 1470 Line, in its entirety, is a 115-kilovolt ("kV") line that extends from Eversource's existing Wilton Substation in Wilton to Peaceable Substation in Redding to Ridgefield Substation in Ridgefield. The 115-kV 1565 Line, which in the Project area is collocated within the same right-of-way ("ROW") as the 1470 Line, extends between the Plumtree Substation in Bethel to Peaceable and Ridgefield substations. Compared to the existing structures, the four replacement structures will require an increase in height to comply with current clearance requirements.

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

- Replace two existing wood pole structures on the 1470 Line (Structures 3281 and 3281B) and two existing wood pole structures on the 1565 Line (Structures 3281C and 3281D) with weathering steel structures. Each replacement structure will be of the same design as its corresponding existing structure, though slightly taller.

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 on Eversource's property or within its existing ROW, utilizing direct access from Florida Road to the temporary construction mat work pad for Structures 3281B and 3281D and an existing permanent access road (which will be improved) to reach the temporary construction mat work pad for Structures 3181 and 3281C (collectively the "Work Areas"). Eversource will access each of the structure replacement locations using its existing rights.
- b) The Work Activities would not result in any impacts to wetlands or watercourses. No wetlands are located in or near the Work Areas; only one stream is located nearby. 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 the nearby watercourse.
- 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's") Natural Diversity Database ("NDDDB"), no Work Areas are proposed within a NDDDB buffered area and wetland jurisdictional area and/or CTDEEP owned/managed land. Therefore, the Work Areas would not be subject to a NDDDB 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 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 for conductor clearance and/or 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 or archeological sites within 500 feet of the Work Areas. Based on the results of the Phase 1A, Heritage advised that no further examination is recommended or warranted.
- g) The Work Areas are within a portion of the Ridgefield Rail Trail ("Trail"), which extends along a former railroad corridor. The Trail, which is listed as a Town of Ridgefield recreational resource, was repurposed and is owned by Eversource. The portion of the Trail affected by Work Activities will be closed during construction. Eversource has coordinated with and will provide advance notice of the Trail closure to the town. During the closure period, signs will be posted to alert any persons approaching the affected area from either direction along the Trail of its closure. After the completion of the structure replacements, the affected areas of the Trail will be restored to pre-construction conditions.
- h) Because the Work Activities are within the former railroad corridor, excavated soils will be managed and appropriately disposed of off-site based on the results of soil testing.
- i) To comply with current clearance requirements, Structure 3281B will increase in height by 12 feet, while the other three replacement structures will increase in height by less than 10 feet.

- j) The replacement structures are located on Eversource property along Florida Road, a town-designated scenic road. Florida Road will be used to access the Work Areas for all four structure replacements. The replacement structures will be of the same design and of similar appearance as the existing structures, which were installed in 1975, and thus will not adversely affect the visual character of the road.
- k) No impacts to local traffic are anticipated. Eversource will coordinate with the Town of Ridgefield regarding traffic controls to be implemented during construction.
- l) There are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas.
- m) No change in noise levels would result from the installation of the new structures and the applicable lines would continue to comply with the State of Connecticut noise regulations.
- n) 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.
- 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 to public roads to prevent tracking of soil onto local roads.
- 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 reach the Work Areas by entering and exiting the ROW from existing access points on Florida Road. One permanent access road would be improved to facilitate access to the Structures 3281 and 3281C within the ROW. Temporary construction matting will be used for Project work pads. The matting will be removed upon completion of the Work Activities and the areas restored.

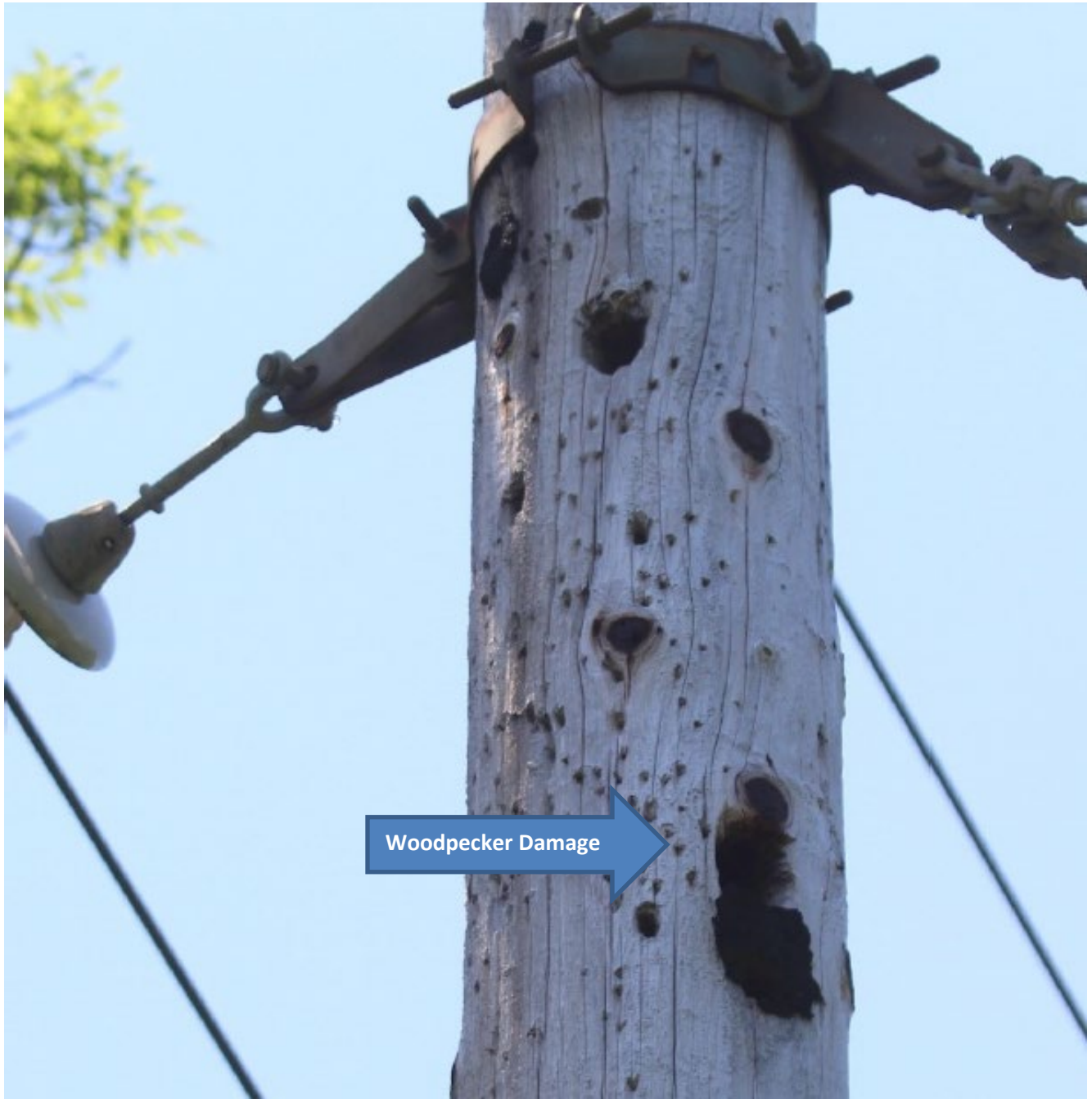
By:



Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager - Transmission Siting

ATTACHMENT B
PHOTOGRAPHS

Structure #3281



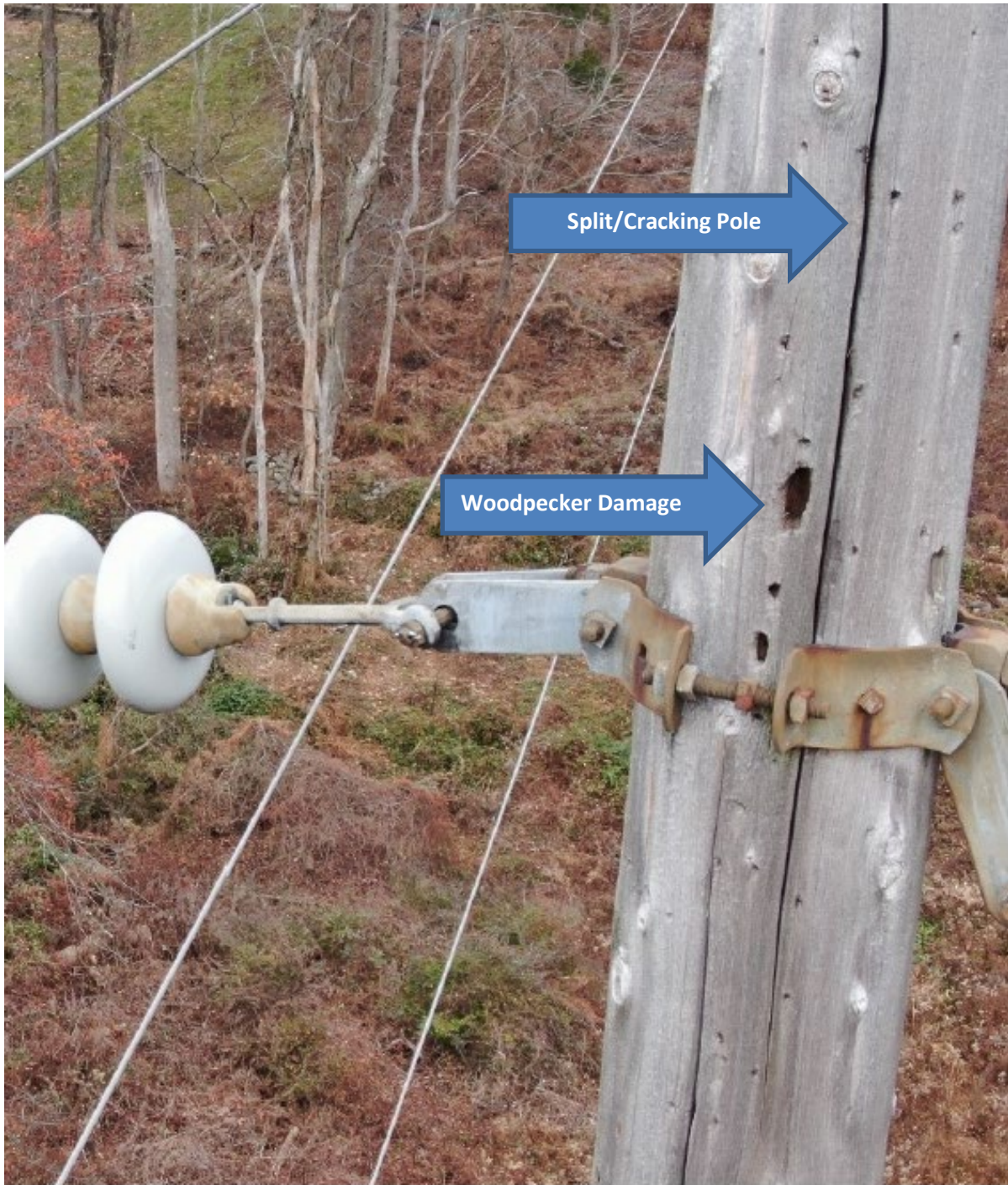
Structure #3281B



Structure #3281C



Structure #3281D



ATTACHMENT C

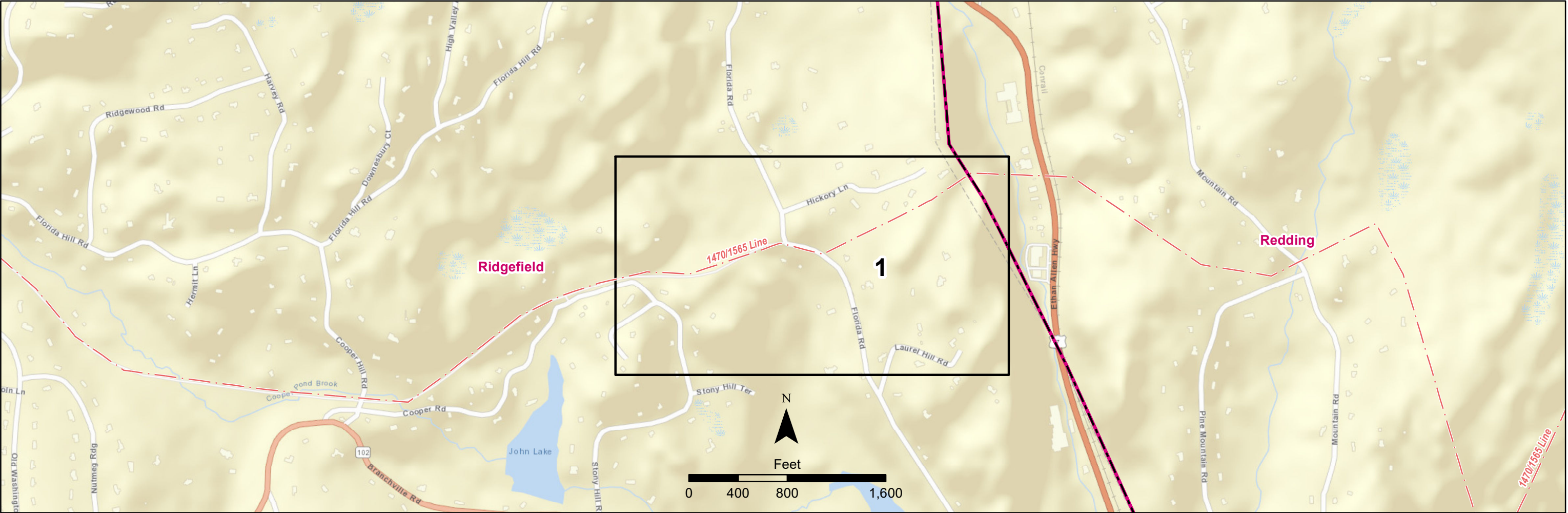
MAPS

1470/1565 Lines Structure Replacement Project

Ridgefield, CT

Sub-Petition Map Set

June 15, 2021



Legend

--- Overhead Eversource Line Map Sheet Municipal Boundary

PREPARED FOR:

EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

INDEX OF FIGURES

Title Sheet / Index Map
Abutter Tables & Map Sheet 1

PREPARED BY:

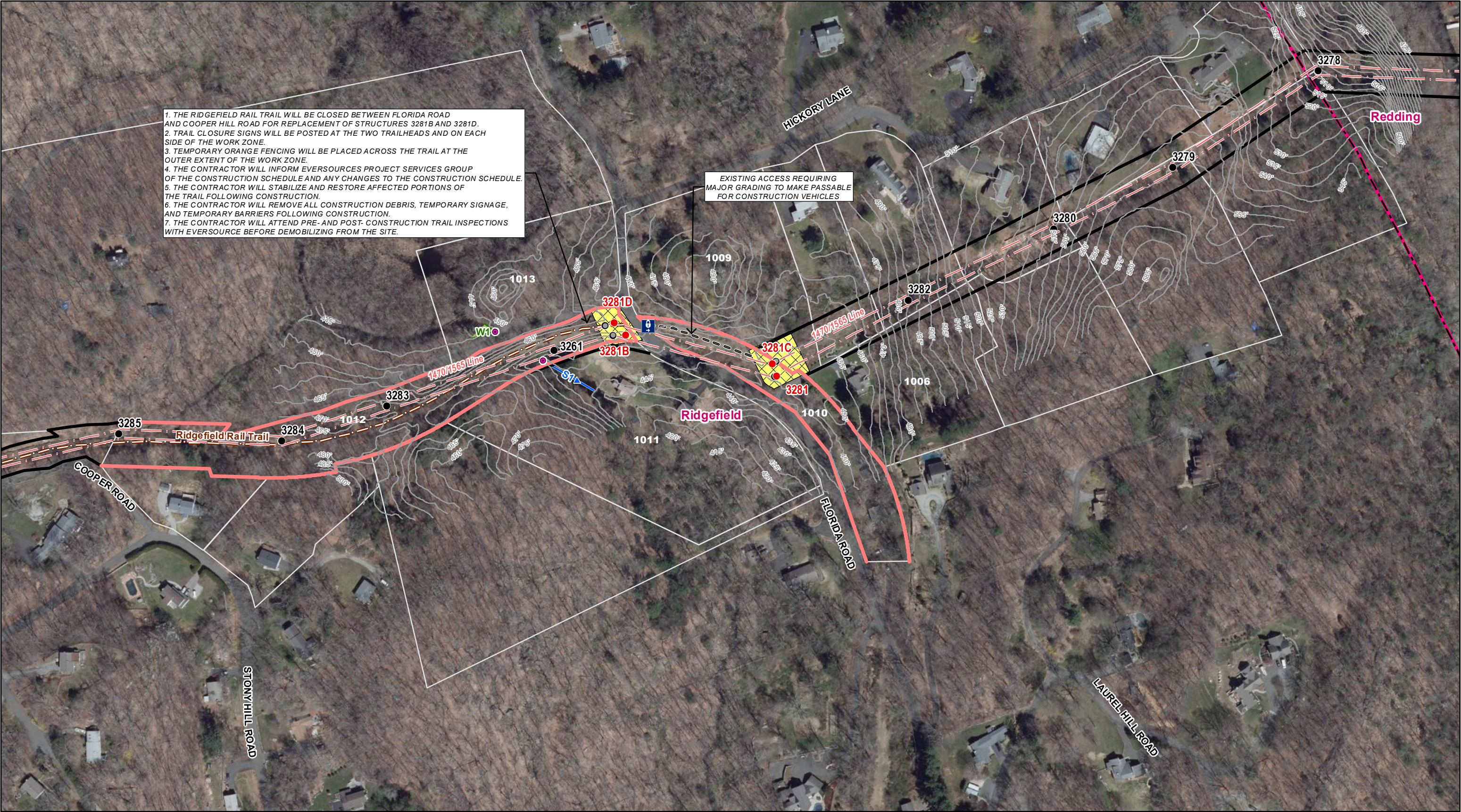
Tighe&Bond

213 Court Street
Middletown, CT 06457

1470/1565 Lines Structure Replacement Project

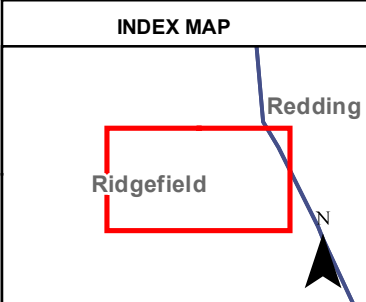
Map Sheet 1 Abutters List

Line List	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
1006	JILL P RAU	164 FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT
1009	STATE OF CONNECTICUT	182 FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT
1010	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT
1011	DANE H TASHIMA	175 FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT
1012	THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER COMPANY (EVERSOURCE)	FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT
1013	MICHAEL J & CHRISTEL AUTUORI	FLORIDA ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT



1. THE RIDGEFIELD RAIL TRAIL WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN FLORIDA ROAD AND COOPER HILL ROAD FOR REPLACEMENT OF STRUCTURES 3281B AND 3281D.
2. TRAIL CLOSURE SIGNS WILL BE POSTED AT THE TWO TRAILHEADS AND ON EACH SIDE OF THE WORK ZONE.
3. TEMPORARY ORANGE FENCING WILL BE PLACED ACROSS THE TRAIL AT THE OUTER EXTENT OF THE WORK ZONE.
4. THE CONTRACTOR WILL INFORM EVERSOURCE'S PROJECT SERVICES GROUP OF THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND ANY CHANGES TO THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE.
5. THE CONTRACTOR WILL STABILIZE AND RESTORE AFFECTED PORTIONS OF THE TRAIL FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION.
6. THE CONTRACTOR WILL REMOVE ALL CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS, TEMPORARY SIGNAGE, AND TEMPORARY BARRIERS FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION.
7. THE CONTRACTOR WILL ATTEND PRE- AND POST- CONSTRUCTION TRAIL INSPECTIONS WITH EVERSOURCE BEFORE DEMOBILIZING FROM THE SITE.

EXISTING ACCESS REQUIRING MAJOR GRADING TO MAKE PASSABLE FOR CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES



Legend			
● Existing Structure	○ Hiking Trail*	Temporary Construction Matting	
● Proposed Structure	— Existing Access	Eversource Owned Property	
● Existing Structure to be Removed	— Proposed Access	Parcel Boundary	
● Culvert	— Existing Right-of-Way	Municipal Boundary*	
● Gate	— Delineated Perennial Watercourse		
— Overhead Eversource Line	— Delineated Wetland Boundary		
— 5' Contour	— Field Delineated Wetland		

Map Notes:

Base Map: CTECO Map Service, Ortho Imagery (2019).
Data: Data acquired by CTDEEP GIS Eversource Property and Parcel data provided by Eversource, August 17, 2020.

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.

0 50 100 200 Feet

1:2,400

1470/1565 Lines

Structure Replacement Project

Ridgefield, Connecticut

Mapsheet 1 of 1

EVERSOURCE

Tighe&Bond

June 2021

ATTACHMENT D
ABUTTER LETTER AND
PROOF OF NOTICE

July 8, 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 on or near your property in Ridgefield. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-RI-01 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 four structures due to structure age, weather, and/or woodpecker activity. The new structures will comply with current clearance requirements and provide continued reliability of the transmission system.

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.

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-RI-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

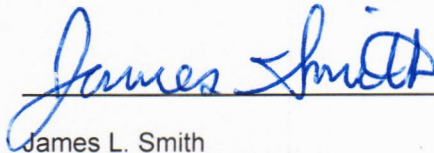
AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)
) ss. Hartford
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

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 08, 2021, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-RI-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipality listed below and 4 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 Ridgefield
Rudy Marconi, First Selectman
400 Main Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877



James L. Smith
Project Siting Specialist

On this the 8th day of July 2021, 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. 413393