



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 29, 2024

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- SBM-01 (Southington, Berlin, Meriden)** – 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. **Request for Project Changes.**

Dear Kathleen Shanley:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated May 24, 2024 regarding project changes to the Petition No. 1293 sub-petition for the above-referenced section of transmission line that was approved by the Council on May 24, 2021. The proposed project changes will occur along Eversource right-of-way and on Eversource property and include the replacement of two additional transmission structures and work area modifications on the 345-kV 3754/3041 Transmission Lines in the municipalities of Southington, Berlin, Middlefield and Meriden.

The new replacement structures are necessary due to recent in-field surveys that identified the existing structures as deteriorated. The new structures will be located in close proximity to the existing structures and would be 4.5 feet taller than the existing structures to comply with National Electrical Safety Code standards. The work areas will be accessed using existing gravel roads, temporary roads and new gravel roads.

In addition, project changes associated with the work areas for four replacement structures are proposed due to safety and environmental concerns. Eversource would utilize temporary matting, as necessary, to minimize impacts to flood zones, wetlands and natural diversity database areas.

Pursuant to the Council's March 31, 2017 Declaratory Ruling, the May 24, 2021 decision on this sub-petition, and the November 8, 2022 decision on an Amendment to the approved sub-petition, your request for the proposed project changes is hereby approved.

This approval applies only to the project changes dated May 24, 2024.

Please be advised that deviations from the standards established by the Council in the Declaratory Ruling are enforceable under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50u.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/RDM

- c: Honorable Mark H. Kaczynski, Mayor, Town of Berlin (mkaczynski@town.berlin.ct.us)
Honorable Kevin Scarpati, Mayor, City of Meriden (kscarpati@meridenct.gov)
Honorable Paul Chaplinsky, Jr., Town Council Chairperson, Town of Southington
(pchaplinsky@southington.org)
Honorable Robert Yamartino, First Selectperson, Town of Middlefield (ryamartino@middlefieldct.org)

Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead – Transmission Siting
Tel: (860) 728-4654

May 24, 2024

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

Re: Sub-Petition No. 1293-SBM-01: 3754/3041 Transmission Lines Structure Replacement Project – Sub-Petition pursuant to Condition 2 of the Connecticut Siting Council Sub-Petition Approval: Amendment No. 2 – Additional Structure Replacements and Minor Changes (Towns of Southington, Berlin, Meriden, Middletown, and Middlefield)

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On April 23, 2021, the Connecticut Light and Power Company, doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource"), filed a Sub-Petition for the above-referenced project with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding asset condition maintenance work within its 3754/3041 transmission line right-of-way ("ROW") in Southington, Berlin, and Meriden Connecticut. On May 24, 2021, Eversource received Council acknowledgement to replace 21 existing transmission structures within the ROW. On November 4, 2022, Eversource filed an Amendment (Amendment No. 1) to replace an additional 11 existing transmission structures within the ROW, also due to asset condition, and received acknowledgement from the Council on November 8, 2022.

The 3754/3041 Project has experienced delays due to a number of factors and structures identified in the Sub-Petition and in Amendment No. 1 have yet to be replaced¹. During recent inspections of the Project ROW, Eversource determined that the last two remaining wood structures supporting the 3754/3041 transmission lines² structures, 9529 and 9535, are demonstrating signs of asset condition in the form of splitting and cracking caused by weather and age (Attachment A – Photos). At this time, the structure damage is considered moderate, however, Eversource anticipates that the structures will continue to degrade, and replacement would be required in the near future. Therefore, Eversource is proposing to incorporate this structure replacement work with the current Project work to avoid the need to revisit the ROW in the near future for this additional structure replacement work.

In addition, after further evaluation of the structure replacement activity associated with Structure 8654, approved under Sub-Petition 1293-SBM-01, and Structures 9524, 9564, and 9574, approved under

¹ On March 6, 2024, the Council granted Eversource an extension of time until May 24, 2025, to complete the maintenance improvements associated with the above-referenced Sub-Petition and Amendment No. 1.

² The 3754/3041 Transmission Lines Structure Replacement Project ROW is between Southington Substation, in Southington, and Black Pond Junction, in Meriden.

Amendment No. 1, Eversource is proposing minor changes to the work areas. Please see revised map sheets 1, 5, 6 and supplemental map sheets 6A, 9A, 9B and 9C in Attachment B; “3754/3041 Lines - Structure Replacement Project” “Sub-Petition Map Set”, dated April 20, 2021, revised May 10, 2024.

In support of the proposed additional structure replacements and proposed minor changes, the following work (“Work Activities”) will be performed:

- Replace two existing single-circuit wood H-frame structures, structures 9529 and 9535, with new single-circuit weathering steel H-frame structures (Map Sheets 6 and 6A, respectively). To comply with current conductor clearance requirements, the heights of replacement structures will each be increased in height by 4.5 feet. Replacement Structure 9529 will have an overall height of 70 feet and replacement Structure 9535 will have an overall height of 74.5 feet;
- Install matting at Structure 8654 alongside the southern edge of the proposed work pad to increase the size of the work area (Map Sheet 1). The additional space is needed to allow crews and equipment to safely perform the structure replacement activities;
- Install a second matted access road to the work pad at Structure 9524 to improve the flow and safe passage of construction vehicles around replacement Structure 9524 and existing Structure 8678 (Map Sheet 5);
- Install additional matting at Structure 9564 alongside the northern edge of the proposed work pad to increase the size of the work area (Map Sheet 9A). The additional work pad space is needed to allow crews and equipment to safely perform the structure replacement activities³; and,
- Convert a portion of the proposed stone work pad at Structure 9574 to temporary matting for additional protection within the NDDB area (Map Sheet 9B).

Eversource submits that the proposed additional structure replacements and minor work pad changes would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-50k, based on the following factors:

- All Work Activities would take place in areas within Eversource's property and existing ROW utilizing existing access roads and one new permanent access road at Structure 9535 (collectively the "Work Areas"). Some of the existing access roads would be improved. Eversource can access each of the structure replacement locations utilizing its existing rights.
- As detailed on Map Sheet 6A, the Work Activities associated with the proposed structure replacement activities at Structure 9535 would result in approximately 5,876 square feet (“SF”) of additional temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary construction matting. As detailed on Map Sheet

³ The adjoining work areas at jurisdictional Structure 9564 and non-jurisdictional structure 8722 will be shared for the structure replacement activities taking place at both locations.

9A, the Work Activities associated with the proposed change to the access road and work pad at Structure 9564 would result in approximately 26,022 SF of temporary wetland impacts from the use of temporary construction matting⁴. In addition, as detailed on map sheet 9B, the proposed change to the work pad at Structure 9574 would reduce the temporary wetland impacts by 69 SF. Work would be conducted in accordance with Eversource's Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements), April 2022 ("BMPs"). Construction will also comply with the Connecticut Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines and Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual, effective March 30, 2024.

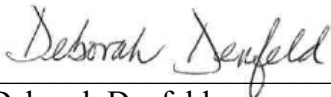
- No vernal pools or vernal pool envelopes are located in proximity to the proposed Work Areas of the two structures proposed for replacement or the proposed changes to the work pads in this Amendment.
- Based on review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CTDEEP") Natural Diversity Database ("NDDB"), the Work Activities associated with Structures 9564 and 9574 are proposed within an NDDB area and wetland jurisdictional area and therefore 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. Work will also be conducted in accordance with Eversource's BMPs to further avoid or minimize impact to terrestrial habitats that may support state-listed species. With these protective measures, no adverse impacts to state-listed species are anticipated.
- The Work Activities will not require any tree clearing. However, Eversource may need to undertake tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing for conductor clearance and/or to improve access to portions of the Work Areas.
- A Phase 1A cultural resources 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, the Work Areas were classified to contain no/low archaeological sensitivity and Heritage advised that no additional examination is recommended.
- Eversource will access the Work Areas by entering its ROW from existing access points off Partridge Drive in Southington for Structure 8654, Heritage Drive in Berlin for Structure 9524, Summit Wood Drive in Berlin for Structure 9529, Beaver Lake Road in Meriden for Structure 9535, Preston Avenue in Meriden for Structure 9564, and Meriden Road (State Route 66) in Meriden for Structure 9574.
- One new permanent access road would be constructed in an upland area within the ROW to facilitate access to Structure 9535. Existing access roads in upland areas may be hardened and widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles.

⁴ The adjoining work areas associated with Structure 9564 and the adjacent non-jurisdictional structure 8722 will be shared for the structure replacement activities taking place at both locations.

- Work Activities associated with Structure 9535 are located partially within the mapped 100-year flood zone associated with Beaver Pond and adjacent wetlands. Eversource would utilize its BMPs to minimize any impacts to the flood zone by utilizing temporary construction matting and/or by not placing fill that would increase the elevations of the existing or proposed road surfaces or work pads to ensure that the floodplain hydrology would not be adversely affected. With these protective measures and the use of the BMPs, no adverse impact to the 100-year flood zone would result from the proposed Work Activities.
- 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.
- Any changes in electric and magnetic field levels outside the ROW would be negligible.
- Temporary environmental effects from construction will be mitigated as referenced in Sub-Petition 1293-SBM-01.
- Prior to submitting this amendment Eversource representatives briefed property abutters and officials in the Municipalities of Southington, Berlin, Meriden, and Middlefield concerning the project modifications.

Eversource herewith respectfully requests approval for the requested Amendment to Sub-Petition 1293-SBM-01. Enclosed please find an original and three copies of this submission. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on this submittal.

Sincerely,



Deborah Denfeld
Team Lead - Transmission Siting
deborah.denfeld@eversource.com

cc: Mark H. Kaczynski, Mayor, Town of Berlin
Kevin Scarpati, Mayor, City of Meriden

Attachments:

A - Photos

B – Map Sheets 1, 5, 6, 6A, 9A, 9B and 9C, revised May 10, 2024

ATTACHMENT A
PHOTOGRAPHS

Structure #9529



Structure #9535



ATTACHMENT B

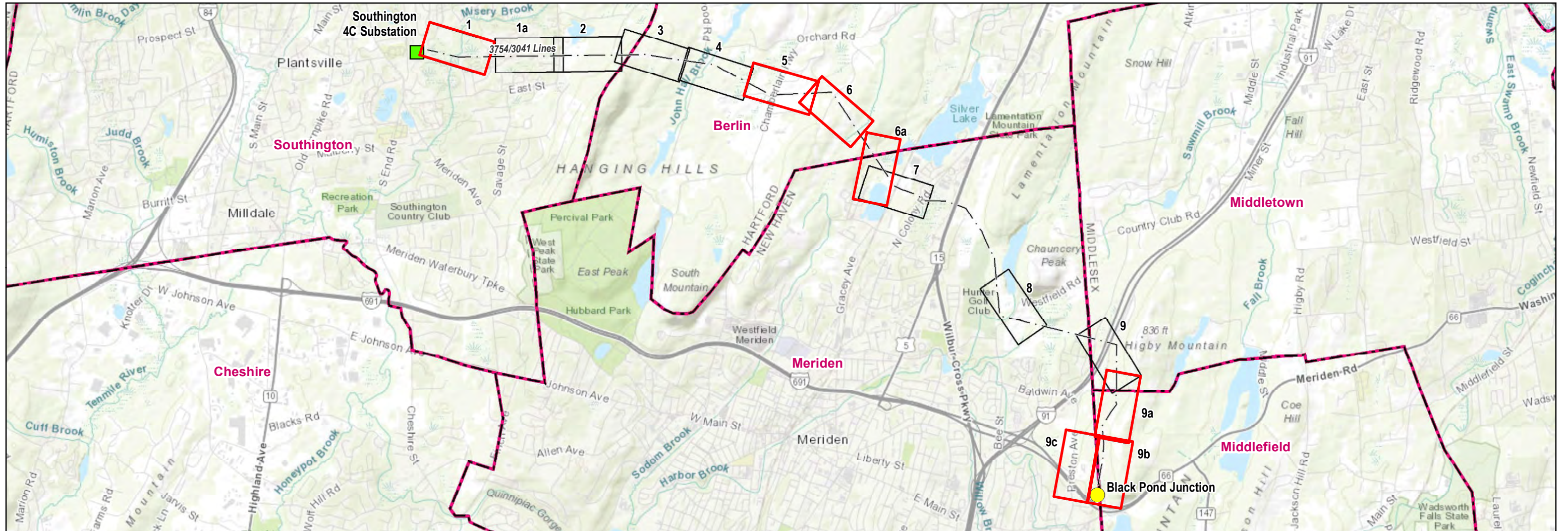
MAPS

3754/3041 Lines - Structure Replacement Project

SOUTHINGTON, BERLIN, MERIDEN, MIDDLETOWN, MIDDLEFIELD, CT

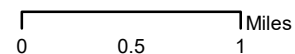
Sub-Petition Map Set

Date: April 20, 2021
Revised May 10, 2024



Legend

- Junction
- Substation
- Map Sheet
- Municipal Boundary



INDEX OF FIGURES

Title Sheet / Index Map
Abutter Tables & Map Sheets 1-9C

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS
1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project
2	05/10/24	2 structures added to project 4 work pads revised

PREPARED FOR:
EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

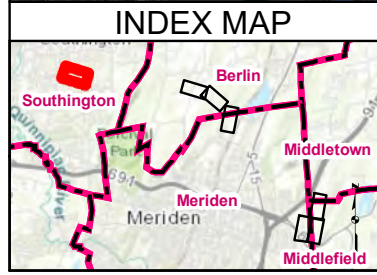
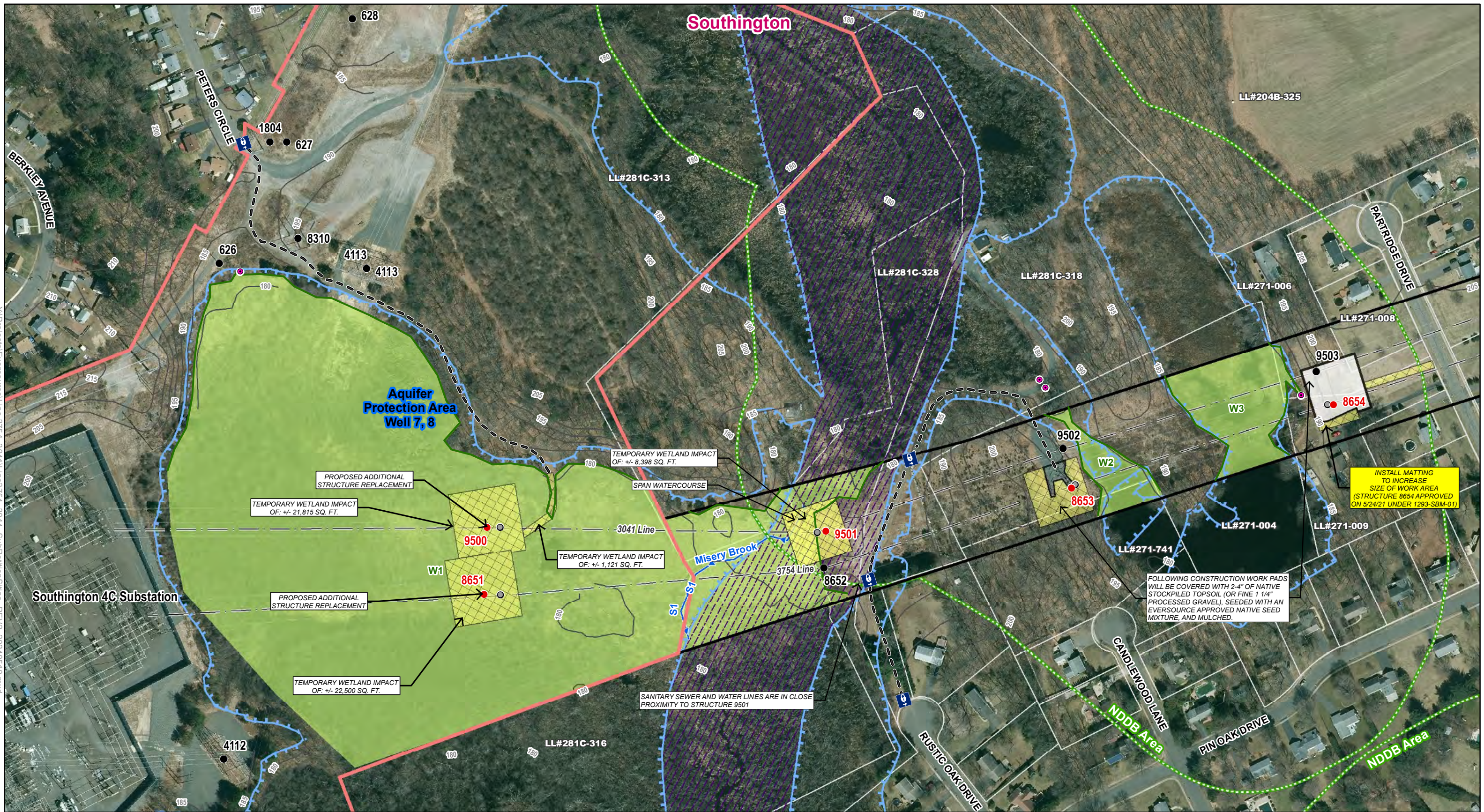
PREPARED BY:

AECOM

500 Enterprise Drive
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

**3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 01 Abutters List**

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-004	SOUTHINGTON TOWN OF	151 CANDLEWOOD LN	SOUTHINGTON	CT
271-006	SCHIESSL KARL J & TERRI L	218 PARTRIDGE DR	SOUTHINGTON	CT
271-008	KNOPF LAUREN	206 PARTRIDGE DR	SOUTHINGTON	CT
271-009	COLLIN MELANIE	182 PARTRIDGE DR	SOUTHINGTON	CT
271-741	SOUTHINGTON TOWN OF	170 CANDLEWOOD LN	SOUTHINGTON	CT
281C-313	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO	297 BELLEVIEW AV	SOUTHINGTON	CT
281C-316	SOUTHINGTON TOWN OF	381 BELLEVIEW AV	SOUTHINGTON	CT
281C-318	SOUTHINGTON TOWN OF	165 RUSTIC OAK DR	SOUTHINGTON	CT
281C-328	SOUTHINGTON TOWN OF	229 EAST ST	SOUTHINGTON	CT



Legend	
● Existing Structures <small>Str Label</small>	□ Stone Work Pad
○ Existing Structure to be Removed	— Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
● Proposed Structure <small>Str Label</small>	— Delineated Perennial Watercourse
— Existing Access	— Field Delineated Wetland
▨ Existing Gravel	— Rare Species (Dec. 2023)
▨ Temporary Construction Matting	— Aquifer Protection Area
— FEMA 100-year Flood Zone	— FEMA Floodway
— Overhead Eversource Line	— Existing Right-of-Way
— Existing Right-of-Way	— Eversource Owned Property
— 5' Contour Line	— Culvert
	— Gate
	— Parcel Boundary
	— LLNs/Property Owner

1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO		
2	05/10/24	2 Structures added to project 4 Work pads revised	CM	TO		

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project

Southington, CT

Map Sheet 1 of 9

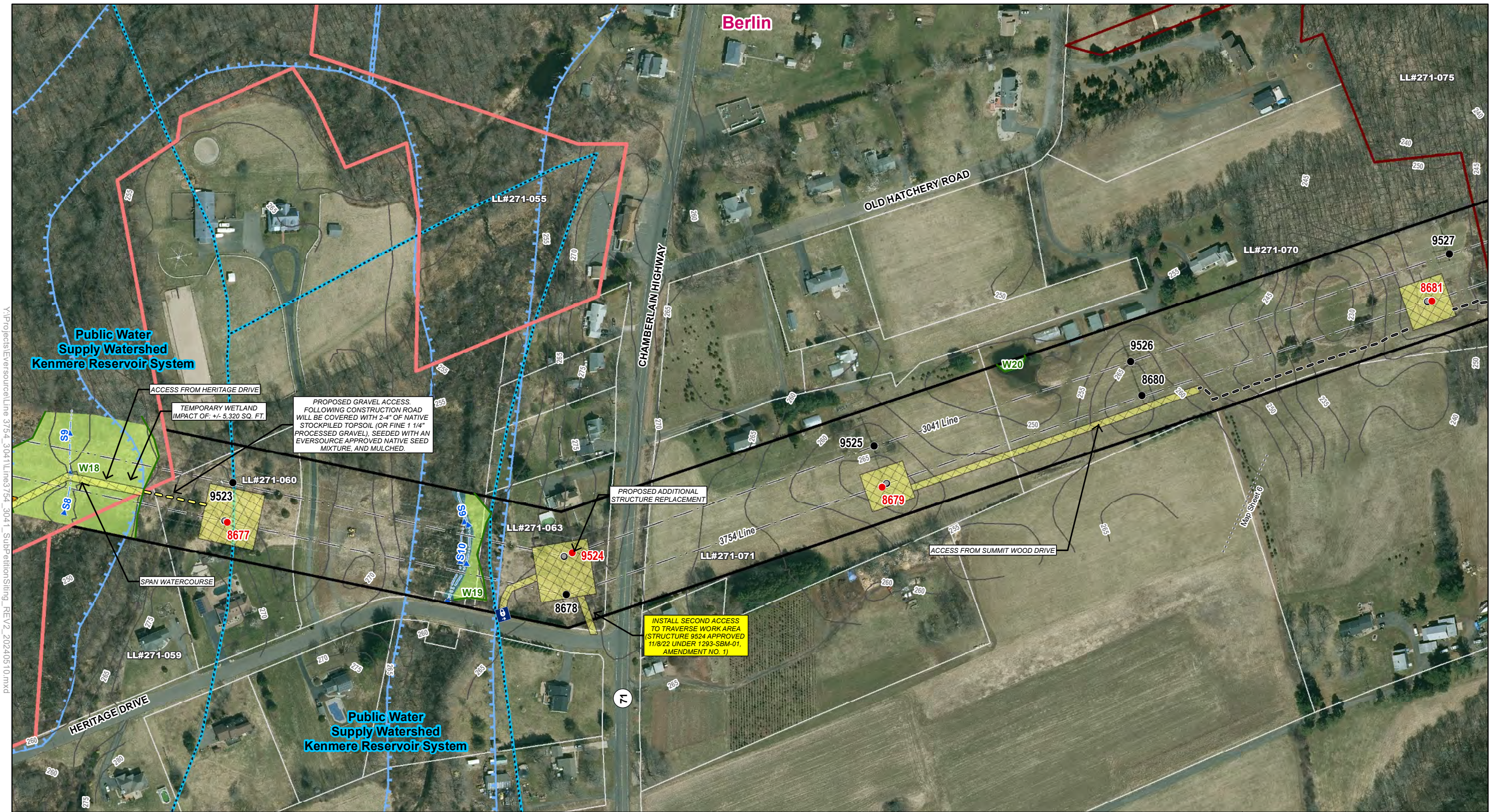
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Revised 05/10/24

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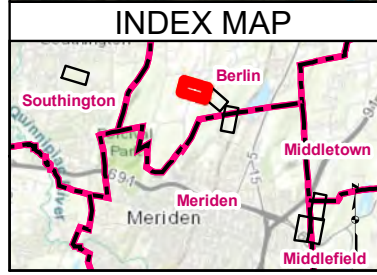
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3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 05 Abutters List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-055	YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY	0 ORCHARD RD	BERLIN	CT
271-059	MALLOY BRIAN	104 HERITAGE DR	BERLIN	CT
271-060	INTURRI JOSEPH JR	84 HERITAGE DR	BERLIN	CT
271-063	BELLIZZI KEITH M	2014 CHAMBERLAIN HWY	BERLIN	CT
271-070	ROCHE JAMES C & ROCHE DORIS B (LU)	86 OLD HATCHERY RD	BERLIN	CT
271-071	CARREIRO JAIME	2009 CHAMBERLAIN HWY	BERLIN	CT



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Legend	
● Existing Structures Str Label	— Delineated Intermittent Watercourse
○ Existing Structure to be Removed	■ Field Delineated Wetland
● Proposed Structure Str Label	■ Open Water
— Existing Access	■ State-Owned Property
— Proposed Access	■ Public Watershed Protection Area
■ Temporary Construction Matting	■ FEMA 100-year Flood Zone
— Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline	— Overhead Eversource Line
— Eversource Gas Pipeline (Approx.)	— Existing Right-of-Way
— Existing Right-of-Way	■ Eversource Owned Property
— Eversource Owned Property	— 5' Contour Line
— 5' Contour Line	■ Gate
■ Gate	— Parcel Boundary
— Parcel Boundary	105 LLNs/Property Owner

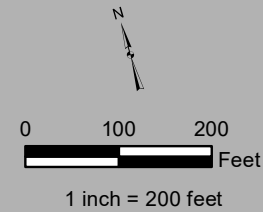
1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO		
2	05/10/24	2 Structures added to project 4 Work pads revised	CM	TO		

3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project

Berlin, CT

Map Sheet 5 of 9

4/20/21
Revised 05/10/24



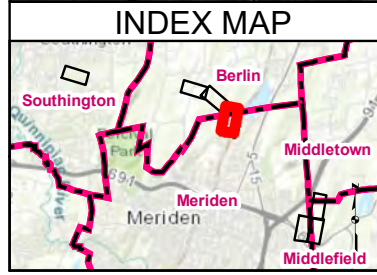
**3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 06 Abutters List**

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-070	ROCHE JAMES C & ROCHE DORIS B (LU)	86 OLD HATCHERY RD	BERLIN	CT
271-075	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	120 OLD HATCHERY RD	BERLIN	CT
271-080	BERLIN TOWN OF	0 SUMMIT WOOD DR	BERLIN	CT
271-081	COCCOMO BROTHERS ASSOCIATES LLC	0 SUMMIT WOOD DR	BERLIN	CT
271-082	COCCOMO BROTHERS ASSOCIATES LLC	0 SUMMIT WOOD DR	BERLIN	CT
271-084	BERLIN TOWN OF	0 ORCHARD RD	BERLIN	CT

3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 06a Abutters List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-084	BERLIN TOWN OF	0 ORCHARD RD	BERLIN	CT
271-087	MERIDEN CITY OF	0 NORTON LN	BERLIN	CT
271-088	MERIDEN CITY OF	129 EMPIRE AVE	MERIDEN	CT
271-090	MERIDEN CITY OF	1 BEAVER LAKE RD	MERIDEN	CT

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Legend		Str Label	
●	Existing Structures	■	Temporary Construction Matting
○	Existing Structure to be Removed	■	Stone Work Pad
●	Proposed Structure	—	Railroad
—	Existing Access	—	Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
—	Proposed Access	—	Field Delineated Wetland
■	Existing Gravel	—	Rare Species (Dec. 2023)
—		—	5' Contour Line
—		—	Sewer Line
—		—	FEMA 100-year Flood Zone
—		—	Overhead Eversource Line
—		—	Existing Right-of-Way
—		—	Municipal Boundary
—		—	Parcel Boundary
—		—	LLNs/Property Owner
—		—	Culvert
—		—	Gate

1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO		
2	05/10/24	2 Structures added to project 4 Work pads revised	CM	TO		

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

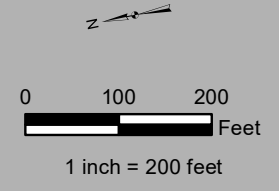
3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project

Berlin and Meriden, CT

Map Sheet 6a of 9

4/20/21
Revised 05/10/24

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3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 09a Abutters List

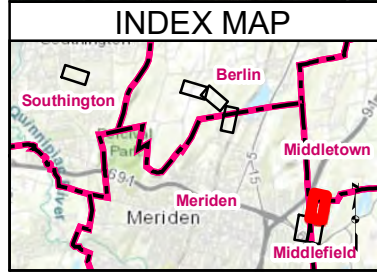
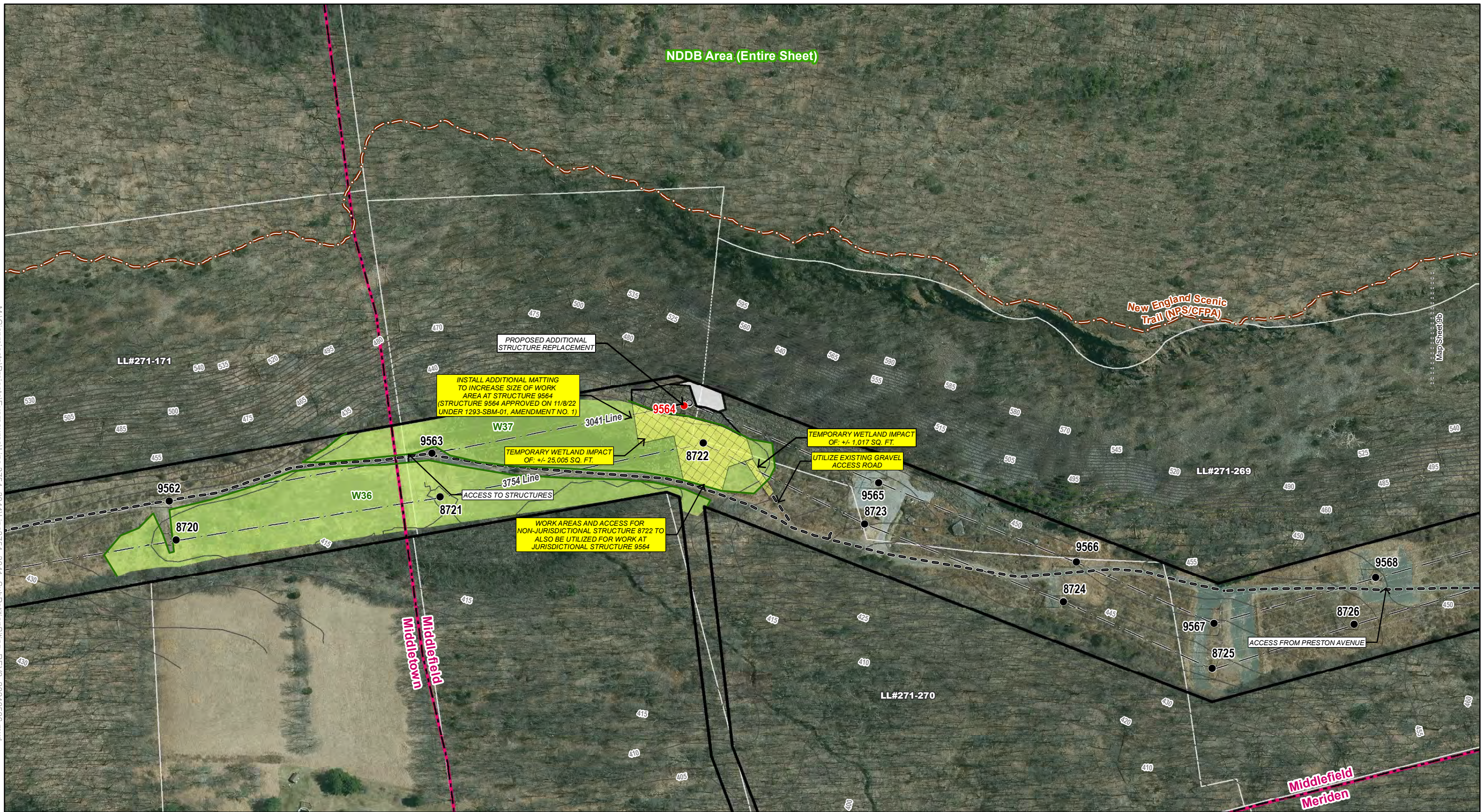
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-171	NATURE CONSERVANCY INC	PRESTON AVE	MIDDLETOWN	CT
271-269	NATURE CONSERVANCY INC THE	MERIDEN RD & RT 66	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-270	NATURE CONSERVANCY INC THE	MERIDEN RD & RT 66	MIDDLEFIELD	CT

NDDB Area (Entire Sheet)

New England Scenic Trail (NPS/CFPA)

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Map Sheet 9b



Legend	
● Existing Structures <small>Str.Label</small>	□ Stone Work Pad
○ Existing Structure to be Removed	— Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
● Proposed Structure <small>Str.Label</small>	■ Field Delineated Wetland
— Existing Access	□ Rare Species (Dec. 2023)
▨ Existing Gravel	— Overhead Eversource Line
▨ Temporary Construction Matting	— Existing Right-of-Way
— Municipal Boundary	— 5' Contour Line
— Parcel Boundary	— LLNs/Property Owner

1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO		
2	05/10/24	2 structures added to project 4 work pads revised	CM	TO		

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

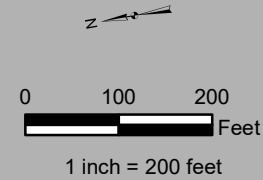
3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project

Meriden, Middletown and Middlefield, CT

Map Sheet 9a of 9

4/20/21
Revised 05/10/24

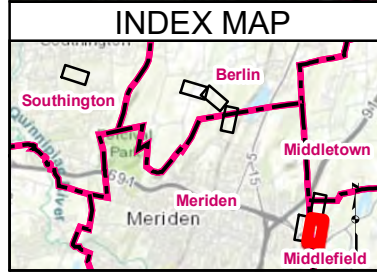
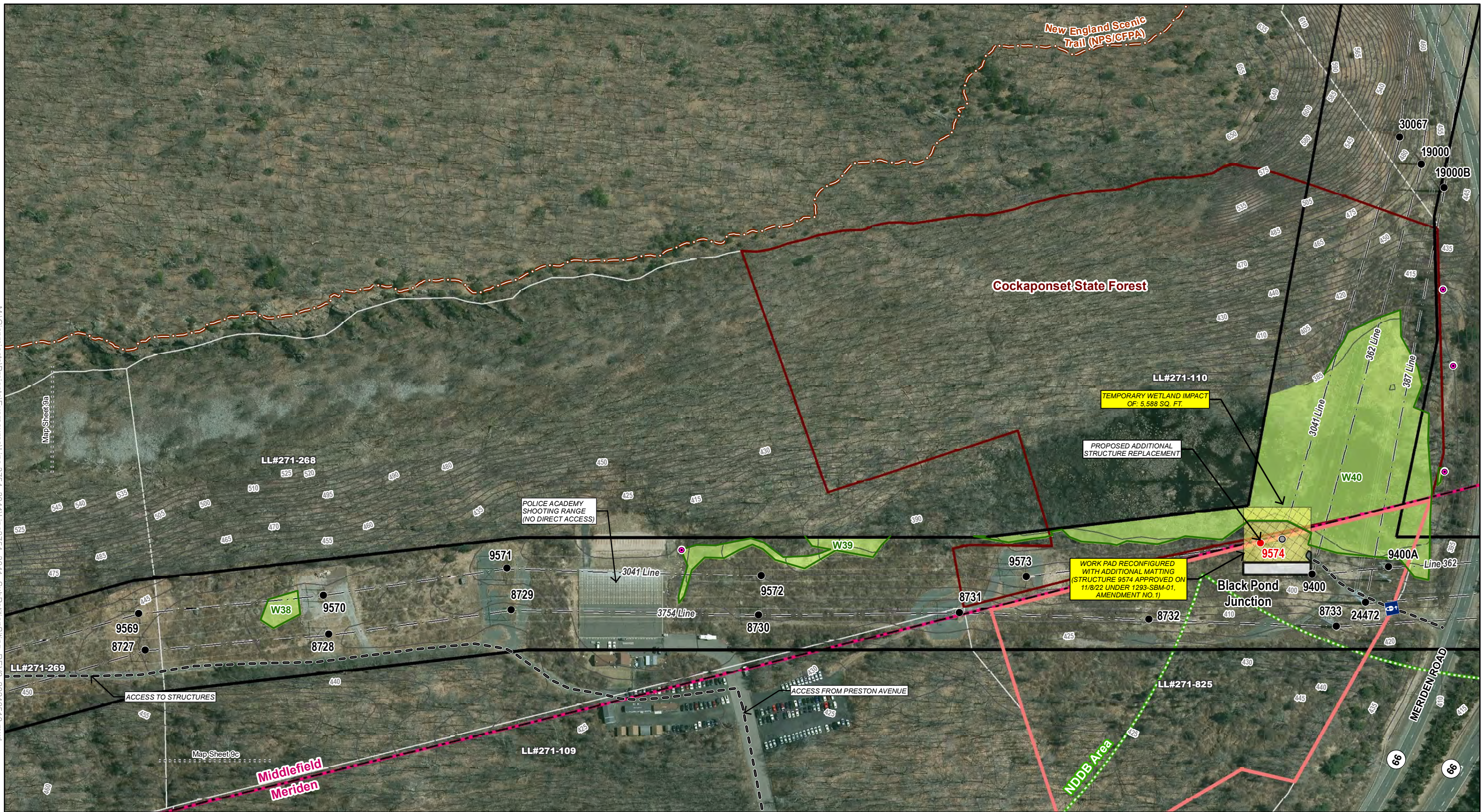
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3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 09b Abutters List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
271-109	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	285 PRESTON AVE	MERIDEN	CT
271-110	STATE OF CONNECTICUT	MERIDEN RD & RT 66	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-268	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	MERIDEN RD & RT 146	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-269	NATURE CONSERVANCY INC THE	MERIDEN RD & RT 66	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-825	MERIDEN CITY OF	255 PRESTON AVE	MERIDEN	CT

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Legend	
● Existing Structures <small>Str.Label</small>	□ Stone Work Pad
○ Existing Structure to be Removed	— Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
● Proposed Structure <small>Str.Label</small>	■ Field Delineated Wetland
— Existing Access	■ Rare Species (Dec. 2023)
▨ Existing Gravel	■ State-Owned Property
▨ Temporary Construction Matting	— Overhead Eversource Line
— Existing Right-of-Way	— Parcel Boundary
■ Eversource Owned Property	■ LLNs/Property Owner
— Municipal Boundary	— 5' Contour Line
— Culvert	■ Gate

1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO		
2	05/10/24	2 structures added to project 4 work pads revised	CM	TO		
NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHK	APP	APP

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

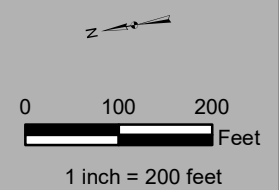
3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project

Meriden and Middlefield, CT

Map Sheet 9b of 9

4/20/21
Revised 05/10/24

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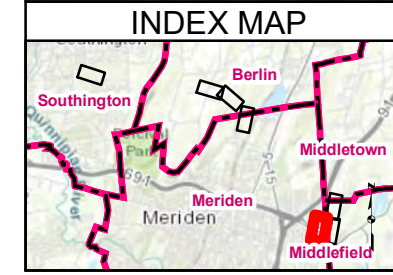


3754/3041 Lines Structure Replacement Project
Map Sheet 09c Abutters List

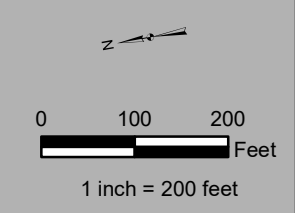
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271-109	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	285 PRESTON AVE	MERIDEN	CT
271-268	CONNECTICUT STATE OF	MERIDEN RD & RT 146	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-269	NATURE CONSERVANCY INC THE	MERIDEN RD & RT 66	MIDDLEFIELD	CT
271-825	MERIDEN CITY OF	255 PRESTON AVE	MERIDEN	CT



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Legend	
	Existing Access
	Rare Species (Dec. 2023)
	Existing Right-of-Way
	Eversource Owned Property
	Municipal Boundary
	5' Contour Line
	Parcel Boundary



1	10/11/22	11 structures added to project	DM	TO	
2	05/10/24	2 structures added to project 4 work pads revised	CM	TO	
NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHK	APP APP

3754/3041 Line Structure Replacement Project
Meriden and Middlefield, CT

Map Sheet 9c of 9
4/20/21
Revised 05/10/24