

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

July 30, 2020

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-SI-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in Simsbury, Connecticut. The work includes replacing 9 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipality of Simsbury 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: Simsbury

Sub-Petition 1293-SI-01

Project: 1042 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: 9 Transmission Line Structures located in Simsbury, 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 1042 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 1042 Line in Simsbury between Northeast Simsbury Substation and a location just east of Hayes Road. The 1042 Line, in its entirety, is a 115-kilovolt line that extends from the Northeast Simsbury Substation, in Simsbury to North Bloomfield Substation, in Bloomfield. Of the structures that will be replaced, nine structures require an increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements. These nine 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 9 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 access roads, as well as some temporary access roads (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 however, in some locations, it has secured rights for off-ROW access routes to minimize the amount of proposed access roads that would need to be installed within the ROW.
- b) Collectively, utilizing existing and temporary access roads, the Work Activities would result in approximately 93,873 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the temporary use of matting required for the construction of access roads and work pads for six structures as follows:

Wetland Number	Structure Number	Construction Work Pads Temporary Impacts (SF)	Access Roads Temporary Impacts (SF)
W1	40103	±13,266	±138
W2	40103	0	±19,637
W2	40106	±10,000	±7,651
W2	40107	±10,000	±6,754
W2	40108	±735	0
W5/CTW6	40108	±4549	0
W5/CTW6/CTW12	40109	0	±4,539
W5/CTW12	40109	±7,706	0
W13	40111	±8,053	±845
Subtotals	s:	±54,309	±39,564
TOTAL:		±93,	873

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 confirmed Vernal Pools ("VP") are located in proximity to the proposed Work Areas; however, one Potential Vernal Pool habitat has been identified ("PVP1"). A portion of the existing access to Structure 40108 would be located within the Potential Vernal Pool Envelope ("PVPE") associated with PVP1. This existing access is well established and would not be widened or altered and no vegetation removal is required. Therefore, no adverse impacts to PVP1 or the PVPE are anticipated from the proposed Work Activities.
- d) Based on review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CTDEEP") Natural Diversity Database ("NDDB"), the Work Activities associated with the access roads and work pads for Structures 40103, 40106, 40107, 40108, 40109, and 40111 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 for conductor clearance and 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 SWCA Environmental Consultants ("SWCA") revealed one National Register of Historic Places property, the Farmington Canal. The Farmington Canal, now known as the Farmington Canal and Heritage Trail, a paved bike and pedestrian path, intersects the ROW near Structure 40103. In addition, a portion of the existing access to Structures 40103 and 40108 crosses the trail. Temporary low-profile steel plating will be installed at these crossing locations to protect the canal property and trail. Based on these protective measures, existing conditions, the like-for-like design of the replacement structure at Structure 40103, and the modest height increase of 5 feet at Structure 40103, none of the proposed Work Activities would permanently impact this historic property or substantially change views of the ROW. No other National Register of Historic Places properties or Historic Districts are located within 500 feet of Work Areas.

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

- g) Increases in the heights of the 9 replacement structures will average approximately 5 feet.
- h) Work Activities associated with Structures 40103, 40106, 40107, 40108, 40109 and 40111 are located partially or entirely within the mapped 100-year flood zone associated with the Farmington River. Eversource would utilize its BMPs to minimize any impacts to the flood zone by utilizing temporary construction matting and 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 is anticipated from the proposed Work Activities.
- 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.
- Vernal pool protective measures will be incorporated into the Eversource BMPs during construction.
- Any NDDB recommended rare species protective measures will be incorporated into Eversource's BMPs during construction.
- Potential impacts to the 100-year flood zone would be avoided with adherence to the BMPs and the use of temporary construction matting.
- 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 will be stabilized and revegetated as needed. After the establishment of permanent ground cover, Eversource's contractor will 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 use existing access roads to facilitate access to structures within the ROW and existing access roads in upland areas may be hardened and widened at turning areas to facilitate the safe passage of construction vehicles. Construction matting will be used for temporary access roads in wetlands, as well as in maintained lawn upland areas. The matting will be removed upon completion of the Work Activities and the areas restored, as necessary.

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

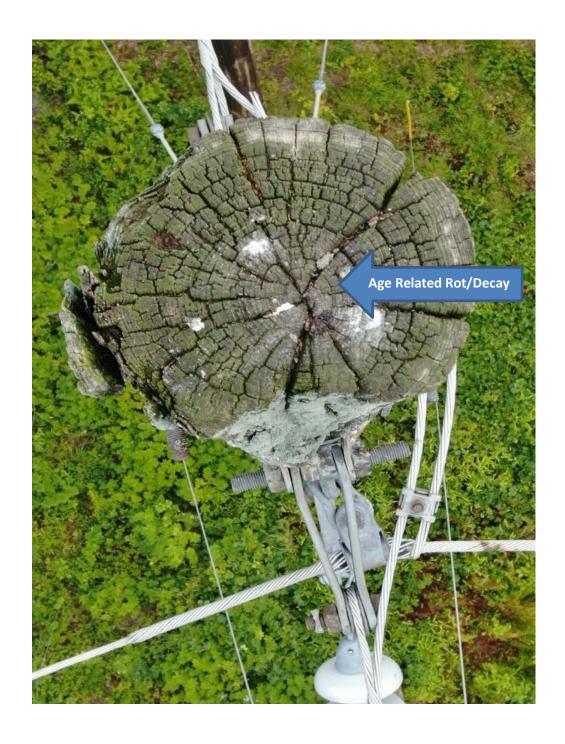
- Hopmeadow Street for Structures 40101, 40103, 40106, 40107, 40108 and 40109
- Tariffville Road for Structure 40111
- Hayes Road for Structure 40112
- Mountain Road for Structure 40115

By:

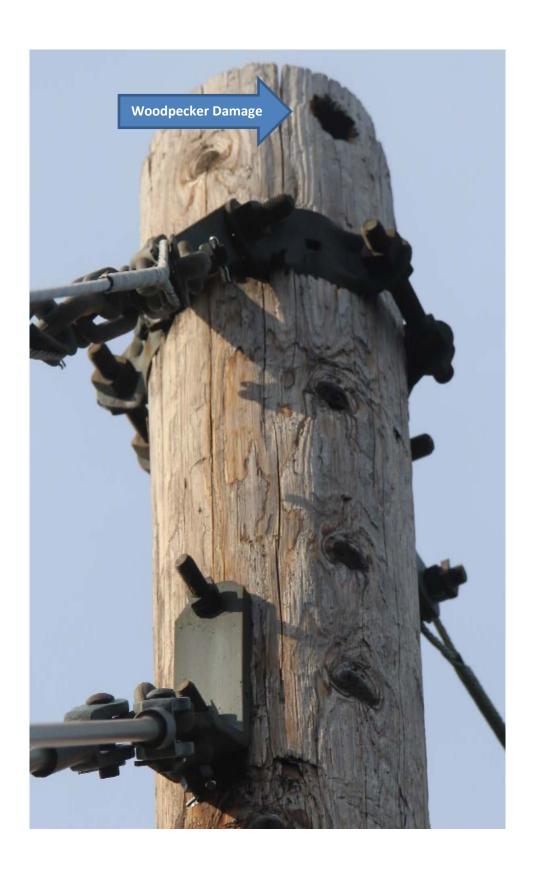
Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

# ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS





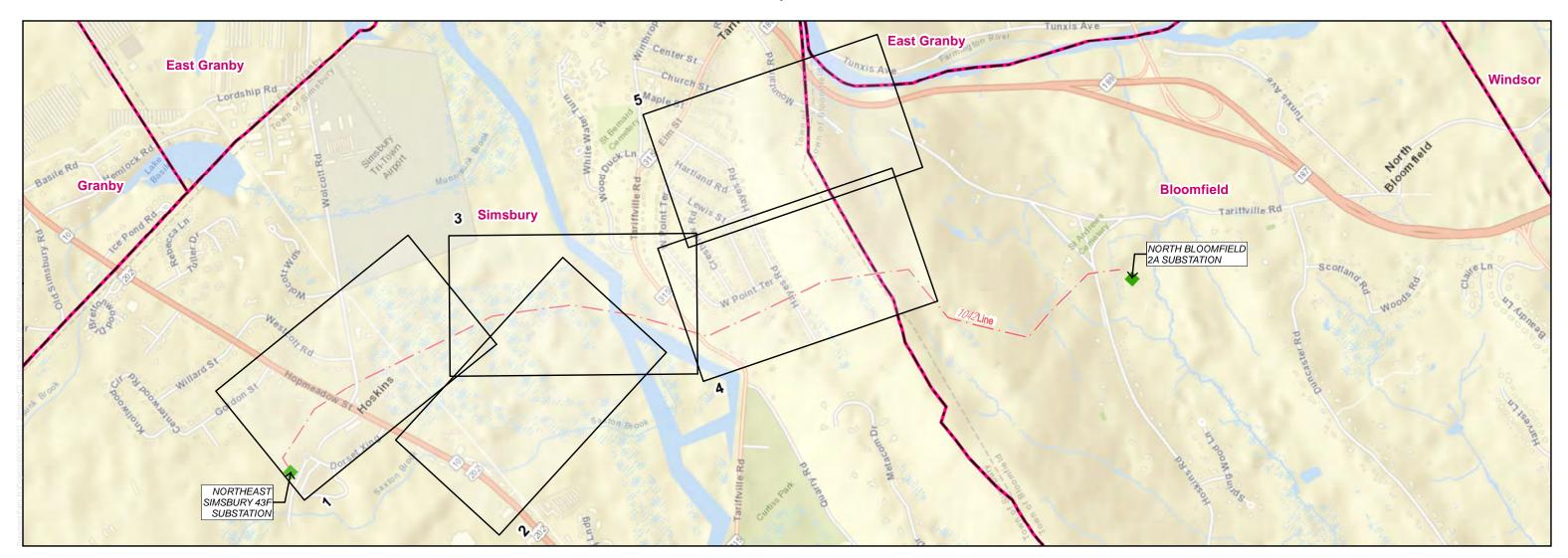




# ATTACHMENT C MAPS

# **1042 LINE-STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Simsbury, CT Sub-Petition Map Set Date: July 27, 2020

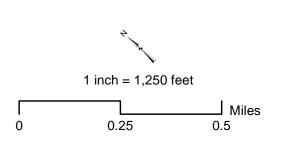


# Legend



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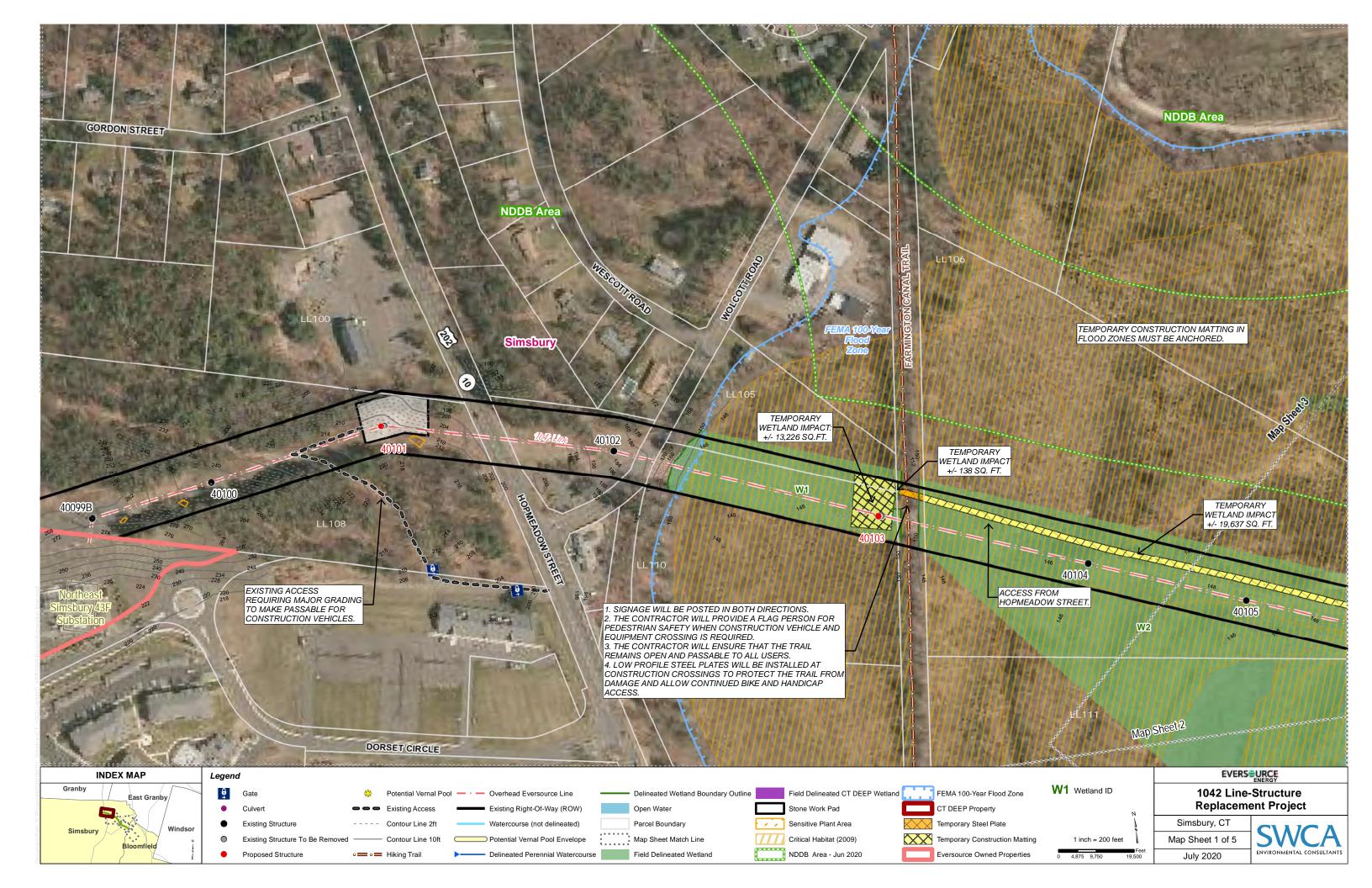




## Map Sheet 1 of 5

#### 1042 Line Structure Replacement Project

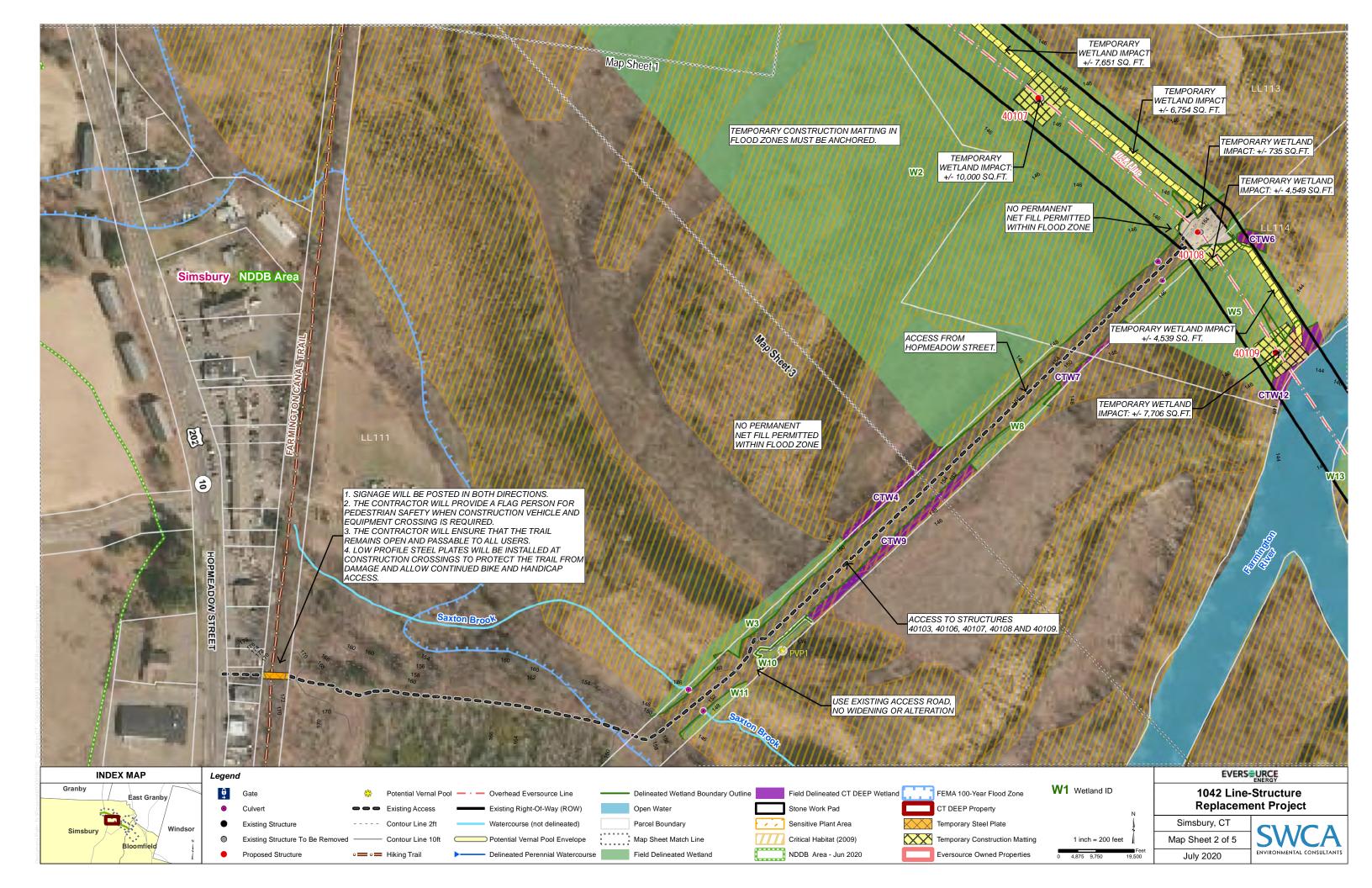
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	State
100	STATE OF CONNECTICUT	1541 HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
105	ANDERSON EDWIN AND CHARI L CHESTER	28 WOLCOTT ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ
106	ANGERAMI ROCCO V TRUSTEE AND ELEANOR	WOLCOTT ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ
108	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
110	HOGAN VIRGINIA M	WOLCOTT ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ
111	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ



## Map Sheet 2 of 5

#### 1042 Line Structure Replacement Project

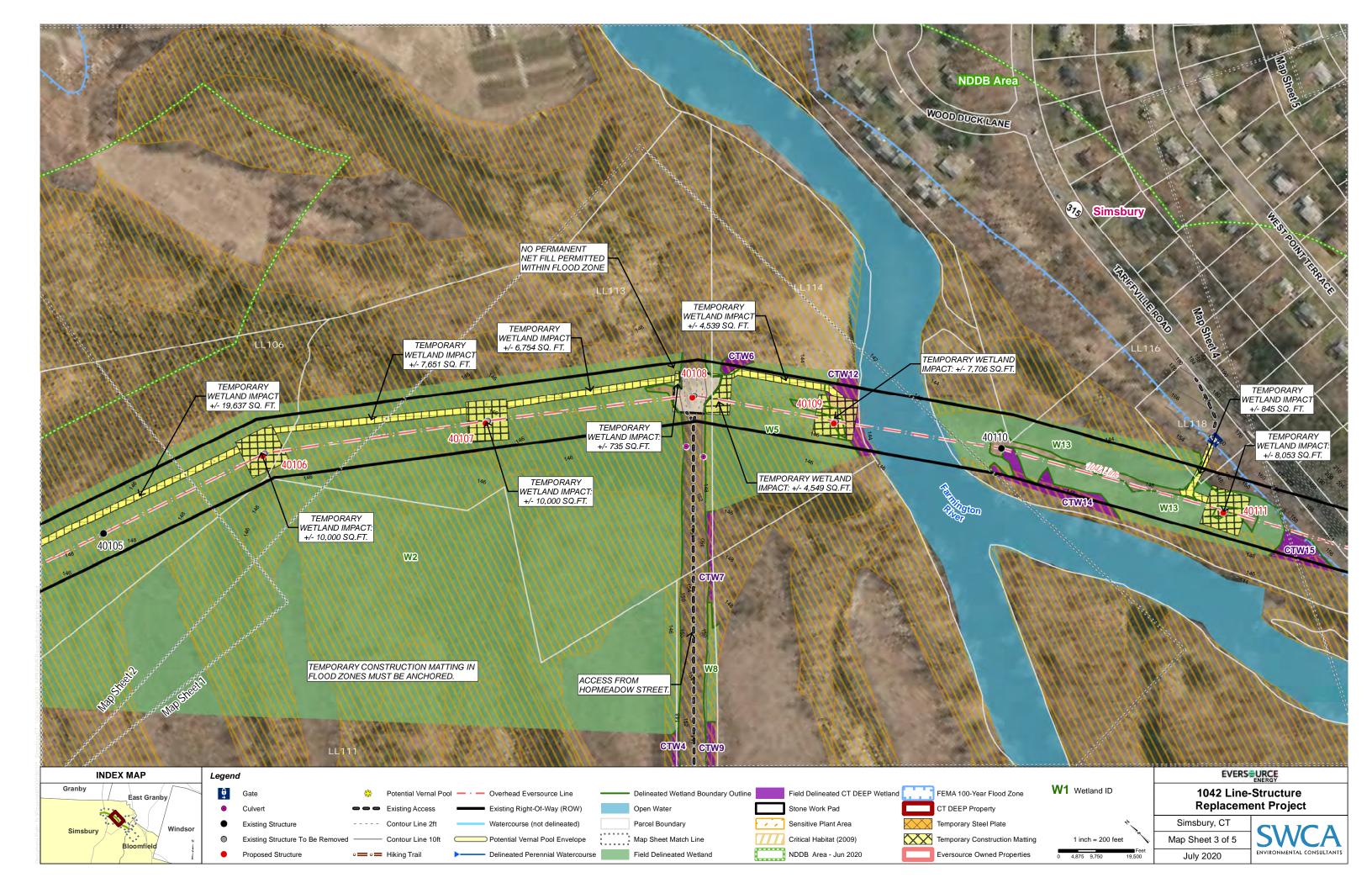
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	State
111	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
113	TOWN OF SIMSBURY	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
114	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ



## Map Sheet 3 of 5

#### 1042 Line Structure Replacement Project

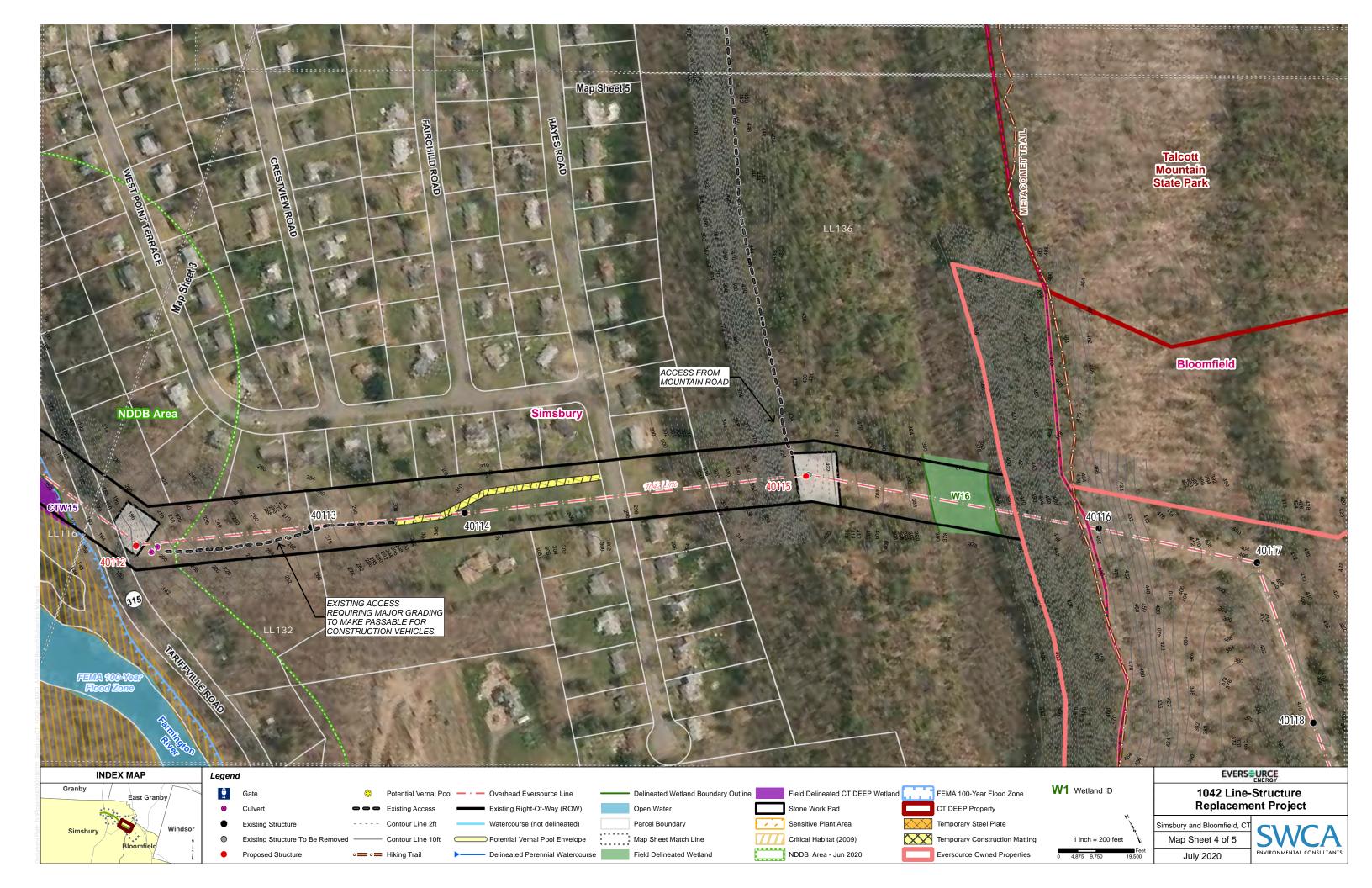
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	State
106	ANGERAMI ROCCO V TRUSTEE AND ELEANOR	WOLCOTT ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ
111	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
113	TOWN OF SIMSBURY	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
114	RIVER BEND DEVELOPMENT CT LLC	HOPMEADOW STREET	SIMSBURY	СТ
116	BOTTICELLO WILLIAM C	6 TANAGER CIRCLE	SIMSBURY	СТ
118	TARIFFVILLE FIRE DISTRICT	TARIFFVILLE ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ



## Map Sheet 4 of 5

#### 1042 Line Structure Replacement Project

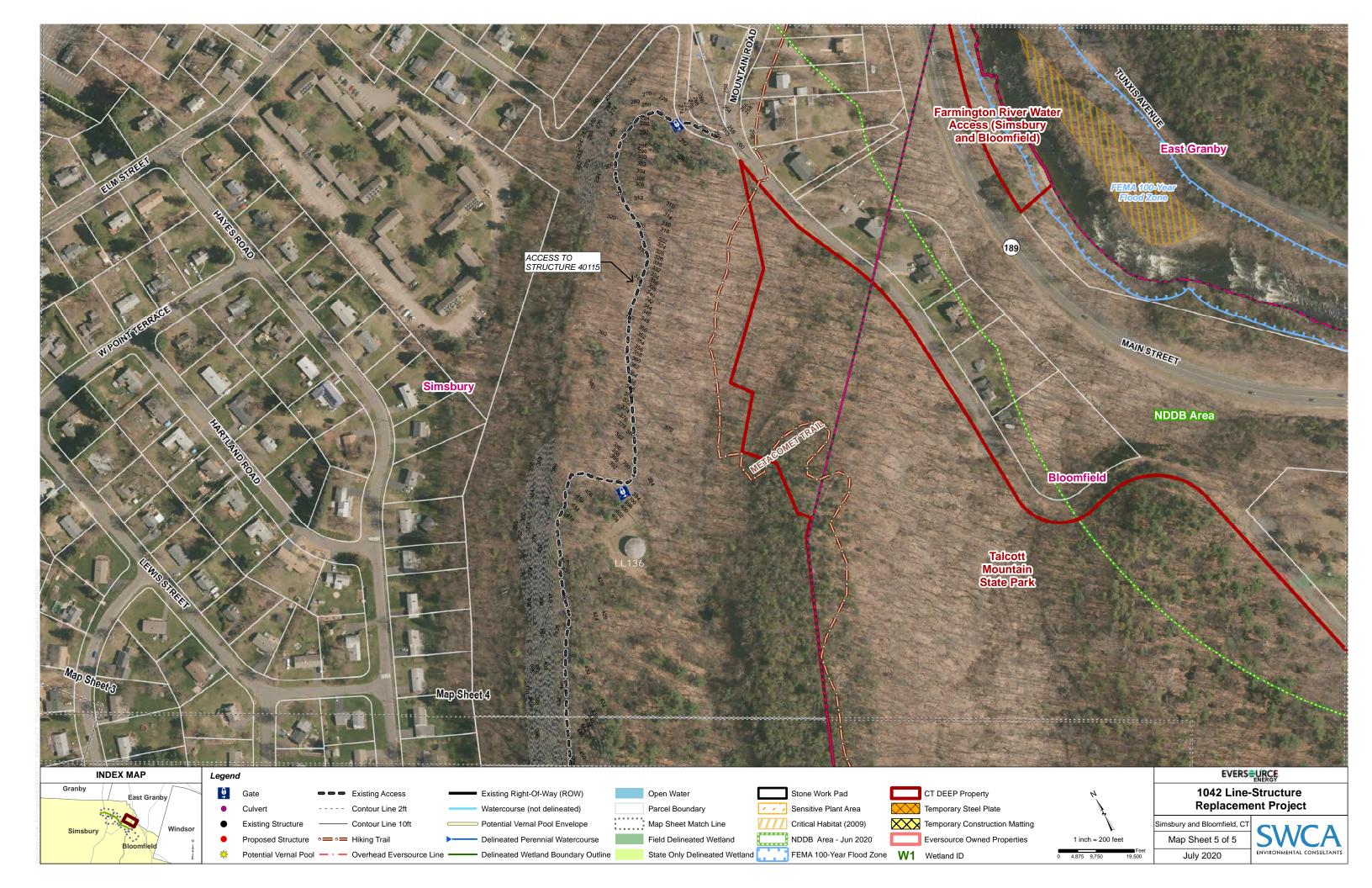
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	State
132	DAHLIN ERIC EST OF	110 TARIFFVILLE ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ
136	TOWN OF SIMSBURY	MOUNTAIN ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ



## Map Sheet 5 of 5

#### 1042 Line Structure Replacement Project

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	City	State
136	TOWN OF SIMSBURY	MOUNTAIN ROAD	SIMSBURY	СТ



# ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



July 30 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 Simsbury. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting Sub-Petition No. 1293-SI-01 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 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.

#### **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-SI-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 <a href="mailto:ProjectInfo@eversource.com">ProjectInfo@eversource.com</a>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

#### Michael "Mick" Collins

Michael "Mick" Collins Eversource Project Manager – Transmission Projects

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT	)
COUNTY OF HARTFORD	) ss. 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 30, 2020, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-SI-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipality listed below and 12 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 Simsbury CT Eric Wellman, First Selectman 933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, CT 06070

> Vames 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 official seal.

Signature

Notary Public / My Commission expires

Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No.

9/3393