

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

Kathleen M. Shanley

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

November 24, 2021

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

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

Eversource notified the officials of the municipality of Somers, Ellington, and East Windsor of Eversource's submission of the Sub-Petition (see Proof of Notice) and sent copies of the Sub-Petition to owners of directly abutting properties (see Proof of Notice).

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Enclosed please find an original and three (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

Towns: Somers, Ellington, and East Windsor

Sub-Petition: 1293-SEEW-01

Project: 3419 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: 9 Transmission Line Structures located in Somers, Ellington and East Windsor,

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 3419 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.

Nine structures require replacement on a portion of the 3419 Line between Billings Road in Somers and Rockville Road in East Windsor, Connecticut. The 3419 Line in its entirety, is a 345-kilovolt ("kV") line that extends from Barbour Hill Substation in South Windsor, Connecticut, to Ludlow Substation in Ludlow Massachusetts. To comply with current clearance requirements, each replacement structure will need to be taller than the associated existing structure.

With the exception of Structure 8577, which is a weathering steel H-frame replaced in 2017, the structures to be replaced are wood H-frame structures that require replacement due to asset conditions. Structure 8577 will be replaced with a new weathering steel H-frame required to address a recently identified clearance concern caused by the geometry of the lines as they traverse from the adjacent angle structure, 8576, to Structure 8577, causing the conductor to be in a position that does not comply with clearance requirements. To comply with clearance requirements, the height of Structure 8577 will be increased by 4.5 feet and moved 10 feet south and 2.5 feet west from its existing location towards Structure 8576. Modifying the height of the existing structure to correct the clearance concern is not feasible. In addition, the existing cross arm assembly and hardware, which support the lines, cannot be modified to fix the clearance concern without creating new clearance concerns and undermining the structure's ability to support the lines.

Eversource plans to conduct transmission structure replacement work to remediate damage caused by structure age, weather, and woodpecker activity and to address the clearance concern at Structure 8577 described above. The following work ("Work Activities") will be performed:

 Replace eight existing wood structures and one existing weathering steel structure with new weathering steel structures. Each replacement structure will be of the same design as its corresponding 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 in areas within Eversource's property and existing ROW utilizing existing access roads and one proposed new permanent gravel road to access Structure 8579, 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.
- b) Collectively, utilizing existing and temporary access roads, the Work Activities would result in approximately 28,765 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the temporary use of construction matting required for the construction of access roads and work pads for two structures as follows:

Wetland	Structure	Construction Work Pads	Access Roads
Number	Number	Temporary Impacts (SF)	Temporary Impacts (SF)
W40	8559	0	±11,185
W50	8546	±10,000	±7,580
Suk	ototals:	±10,000	±18,765
TC	TAL:	±28,	765

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 Natural Diversity Database ("NDDB"), no Work Areas are proposed within NDDB buffered areas. Therefore, the Work Areas would not be subject to a 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 Activities will not require any tree clearing. However, Eversource will need to undertake tree trimming and/or vegetation removal/mowing to establish required conductor clearance, to improve access roads, and/or to install work pads within 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 Register of Historic Places properties/districts or archaeological sites within 500

feet of the Work Areas. Based on the results of the Phase IA and a Pedestrian Survey, three of the work pad locations and one of the access road locations were identified to possess a potential for moderate to high archaeological sensitivity and Heritage recommended a Phase IB Cultural Resource Assessment and Reconnaissance Survey (shovel pit testing). Fieldwork for the Phase IB is currently underway. Any additional investigations recommended by Heritage will be conducted and any subsequent protective measures recommended by Heritage will be incorporated into Eversource's BMPs during construction, as needed. Therefore, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed Work Activities.

- g) The height increase of each of the nine replacement structures will be approximately 4.5 feet to comply with current clearance requirements.
- h) Work Activities associated with Structure 8546 will be undertaken partially within the mapped 100-year flood zone associated with Ketch Brook. Eversource would utilize the BMPs to minimize any impacts to the flood zones by utilizing anchored temporary construction matting and/or by not placing fill that would increase the elevations of the 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 impacts 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. 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.
- Potential impacts to wetlands and watercourses will be mitigated with the use of temporary construction matting and adherence to the BMPs.
- Potential impacts to the 100-year flood zone would be avoided with adherence to the BMPs and the use of temporary anchored 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 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:

One new permanent access road would be constructed in an upland area to facilitate access to structure 8579. 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 within wetlands, as well as in agricultural fields. 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 its ROW from existing access points on public roads as follows:

Somers

• Billings Road for structure 8606.

Ellington

- Sadds Mill Road (State Route 140) for structure 8579.
- Broad Brook Road for structures 8578 and 8577.
- Frog Hollow Road for structures 8561, 8559 and 8558.

East Windsor

Rockville Road for structures 8546 and 8545.

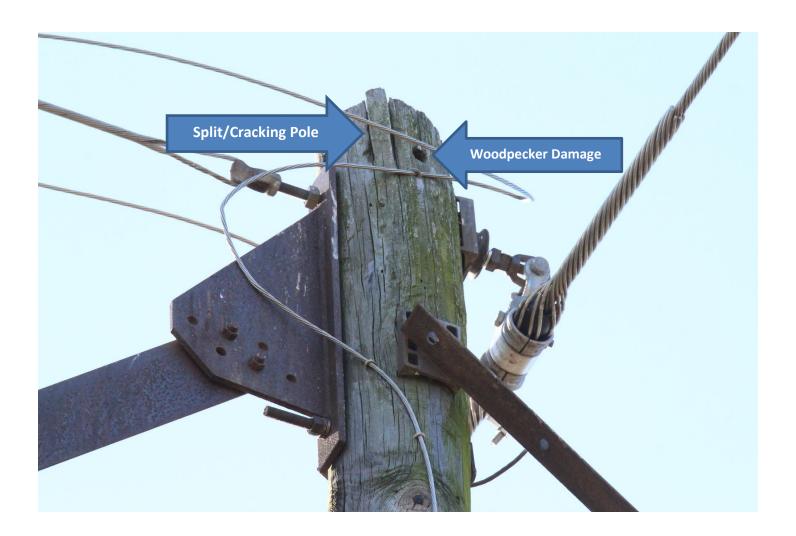
By:

Kathleen M. Shanley

Manager - Transmission Siting

ATTACHMENT B PHOTOGRAPHS





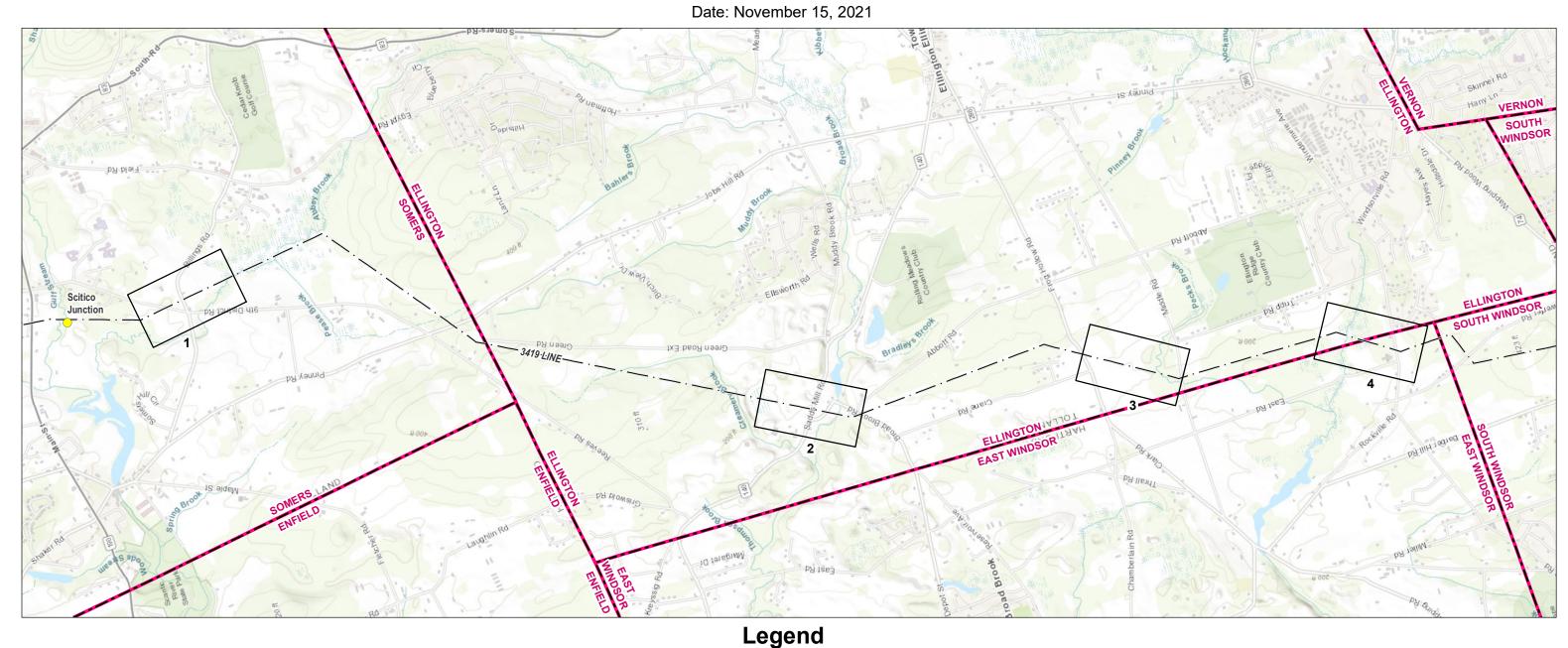




ATTACHMENT C MAPS

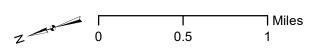
3419 Line - Structure Replacement Project

Somers, Ellington & East Windsor, CT Sub-Petition Map Set



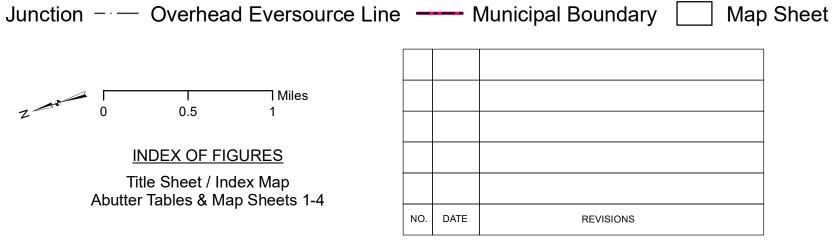


107 Selden Street Berlin, CT 06037



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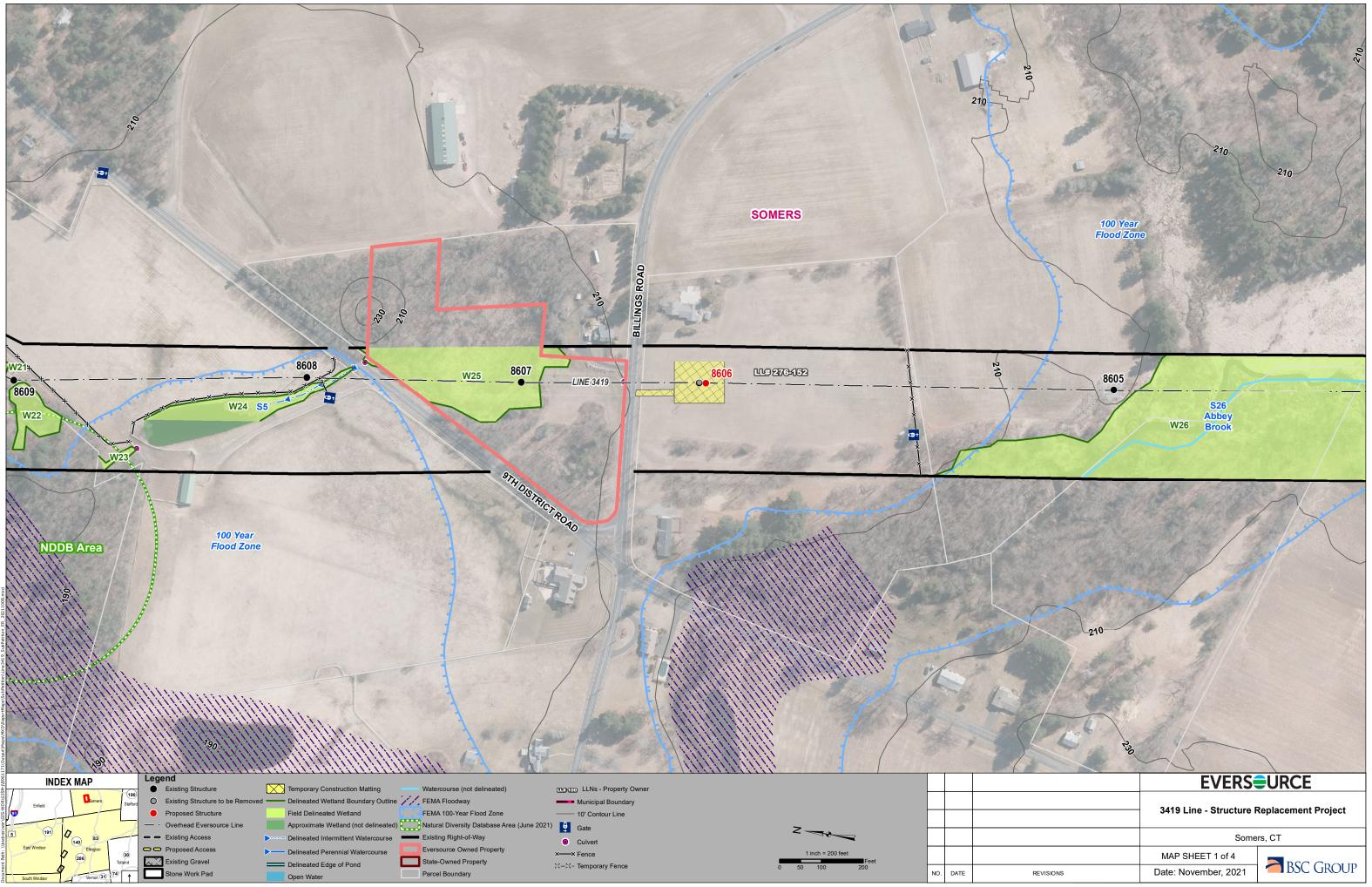


PREPARED BY:



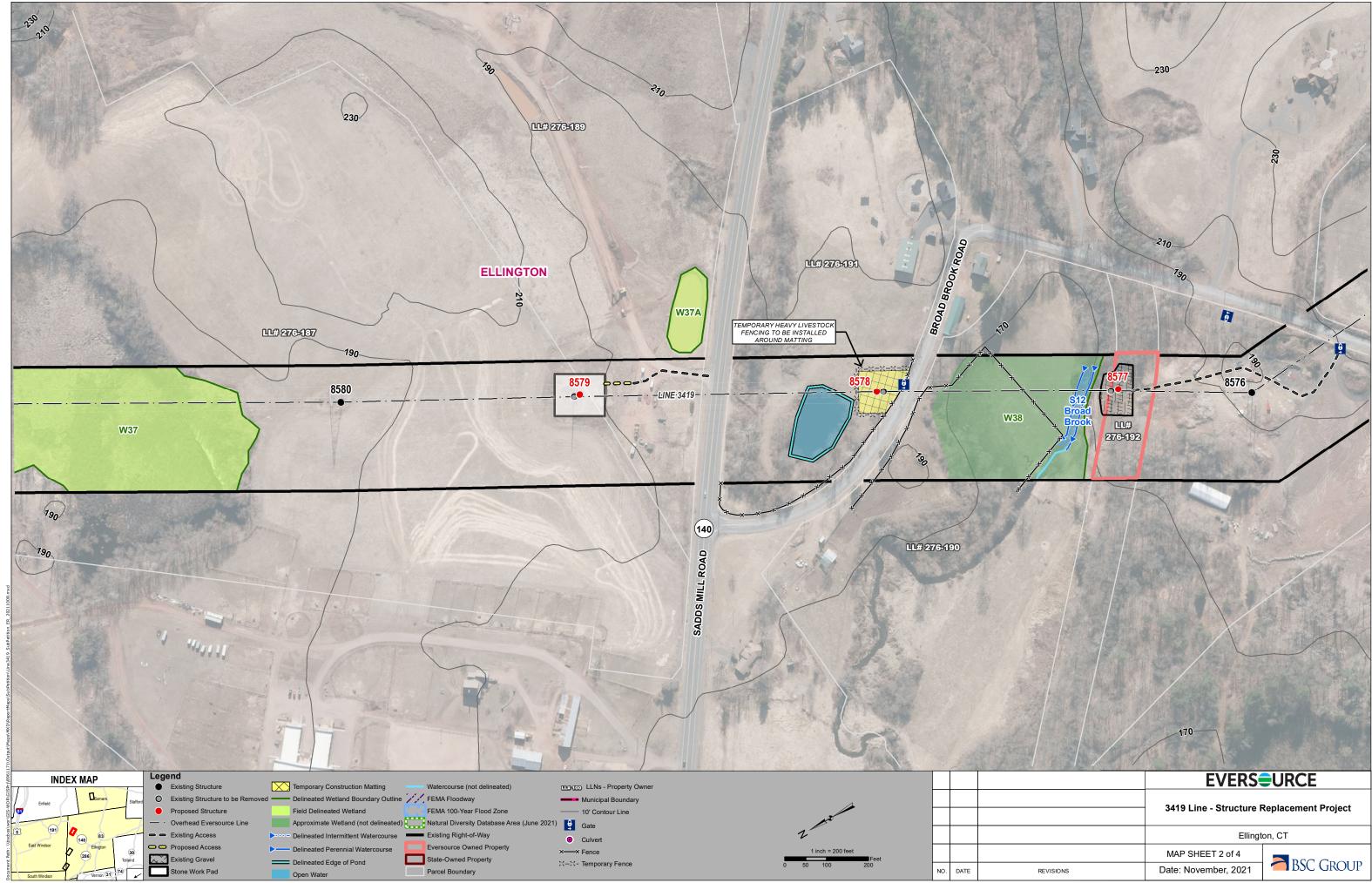
3419 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List Map Sheet 1 of 4

Line List	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Site Address	Town	State
276-152	ELAINE F	FRIEDMAN	200 BILLINGS RD	SOMERS	СТ



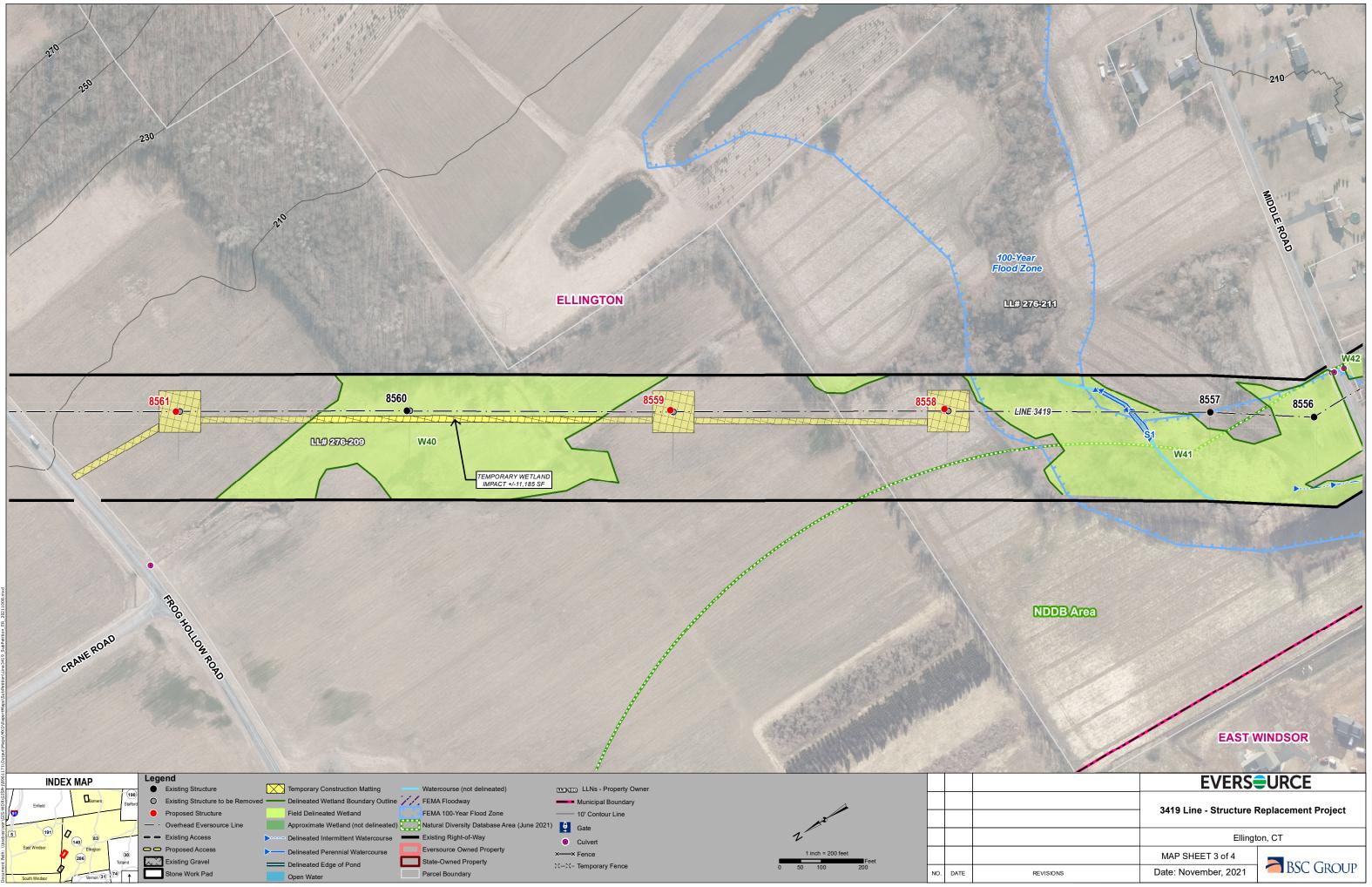
3419 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List Map Sheet 2 of 4

Line List	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Site Address	Town	State
276-187	JUDITH D +GILBERT IRENE H CO-TRS	NORWOOD	0 SADDS MILL RD	ELLINGTON	СТ
276-189	SADDS MILL ASSOCIATES LLC		0 SADDS MILL RD	ELLINGTON	СТ
276-190	EDWARD L	DECARLI	140 SADDS MILL RD	ELLINGTON	СТ
276-191	MICHELLE M	TORROMEO	4 BROAD BROOK RD	ELLINGTON	СТ
276-192	CONNECTICUT LIGHT + POWER CO		0 BROAD BROOK RD	ELLINGTON	СТ



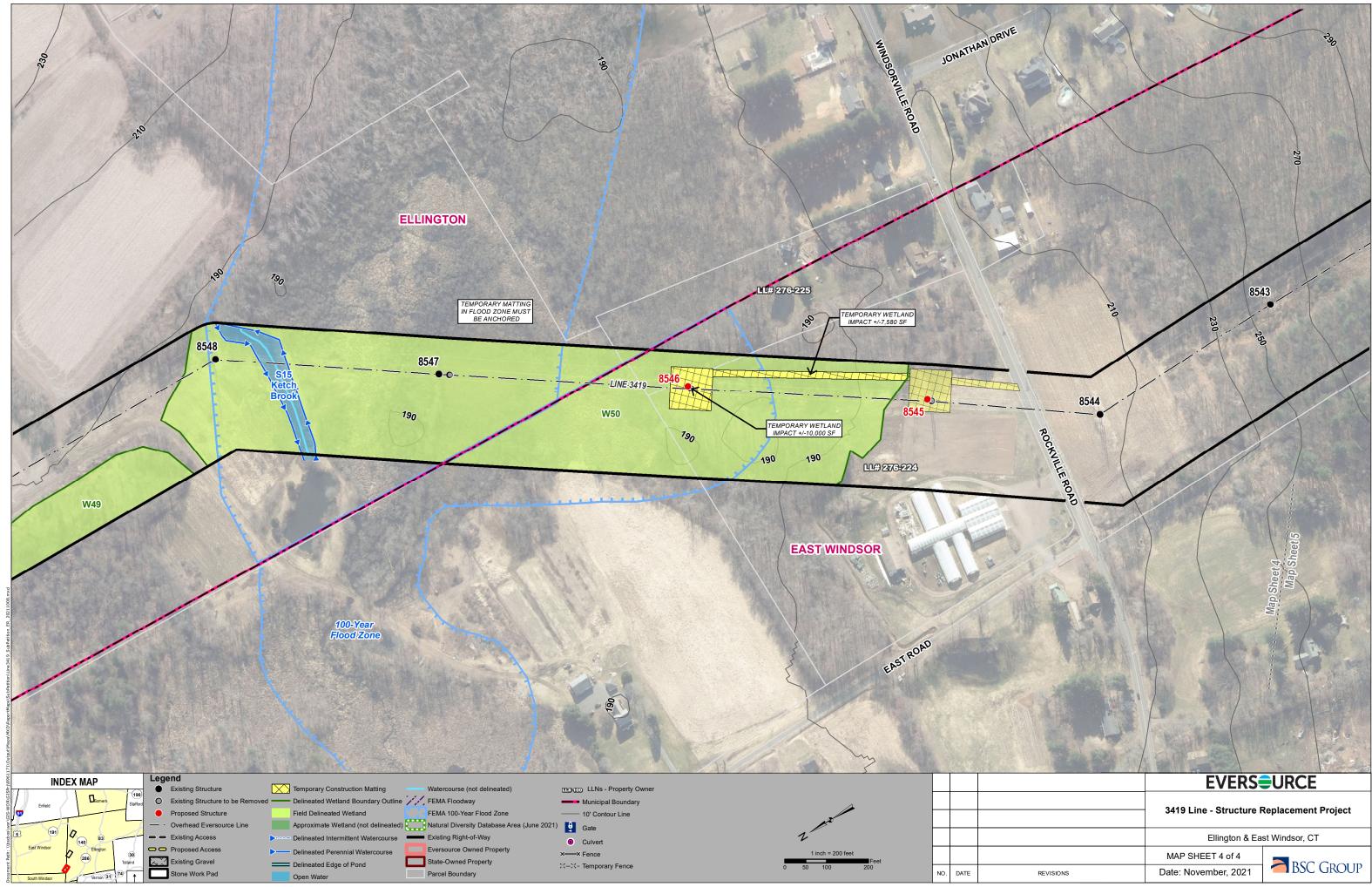
3419 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List Map Sheet 3 of 4

	Line List	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Site Address	Town	State
	276-209	GARDNERS NURSERIES INC		132 FROG HOLLOW RD	ELLINGTON	СТ
Γ	276-211	FRED JR	SPIELMAN	0 MIDDLE RD	ELLINGTON	СТ



3419 Line - Structure Replacement Project Abutters List Map Sheet 4 of 4

	Line List	Owner First Name	Owner Last Name	Site Address	Town	State
	276-224	PELL STRAWBERRIES HOLDINGS LLC		153 ROCKVILLE RD	EAST WINDSOR	СТ
F	276-225	KAREN	ALFORD	165 ROCKVILLE RD	EAST WINDSOR	СТ



ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE



November 24, 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 Somers, Ellington, and East Windsor. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting <u>Sub-Petition No. 1293-SEEW-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 nine structures due to structure age, weather, woodpecker activity and/or clearance requirements. The new structures will be weathering steel, with a finish that "weathers" or darkens over time. The new structures 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-SEEW-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,

Brendt Corcoran

Brendt Corcoran Eversource Project Manager – Transmission Projects

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

)) ss. Hartford

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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 November 24, 2021, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-SEEW-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipalities listed below and 9 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 Somers C.G. 'Bud' Knorr, Jr., First Selectman 600 Main Street Somers, CT 06071 Town of Ellington Lori Spielman, First Selectman 55 Main St., P.O. Box 187 Ellington, CT 06029 Town of East Windsor Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman East Windsor Town Hall 11 Rye Street Broad Brook, CT 06016
James L. Smith Project Siting Specialist
On this the <u>24</u> day of November 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 W. Lol
Officer of the Superior Court / Juris No. 413393