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Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting Tel: (860) 728-4527

September 11, 2020

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

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

Dear Attorney Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is filing the attached Sub-Petition No.1293-SWV-01 with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"), regarding maintenance work within its transmission right-of-way in South Windsor and Vernon, Connecticut. The work includes replacing 13 existing wood transmission structures with new weathering steel transmission structures.

Eversource notified the officials of the municipalities of South Windsor and Vernon 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 and Cross Sections 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: South Windsor and Vernon

Sub-Petition 1293-SWV-01

Project: 1606/1724 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project

Structure Locations: 13 Transmission Line Structures located in South Windsor and Vernon, 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 1606/1724 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 Line between Ellington Road in South Windsor and a location just south of Legion Drive in Vernon. The 1606/1724 Line, in its entirety, is a 115-killovolt double circuit line that extends from Barbour Hill Substation in South Windsor to Rockville Substation in Vernon. Of the structures that will be replaced, 13 structures require an increase in structure height to comply with current clearance requirements. These 13 structures to be replaced are a mix of wood H-Frame and three-pole 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 13 existing wood structures with new weathering steel structures. The H-frame structures, 6106, 6112 and 6133, will be replaced with H-frame structures of the same design. The existing three-pole structures, 6103, 6103A, 6107, 6107A, 6111, 6111A, 6125, 6125A, 6127 and 6127A, will be replaced with two-pole structures.

### 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 existing ROW utilizing existing and proposed new permanent 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.
- b) Collectively, the Work Activities would result in approximately 19,304 square feet ("SF") of temporary wetland impacts from the temporary use of matting required for the construction of the access road (±5,540 SF) and combined work pad for structures 6127 and 6127A (±13,764 SF).

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

- g) Increases in the heights of the 13 replacement structures will vary from 4.5 feet to 28 feet to comply with current clearance requirements with an average height increase of approximately 14 feet.
- h) There are no 100-year flood zones in the Work Areas.
- 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 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.
- 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 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. <u>Access:</u>

Some new permanent access roads would be constructed 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 within 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 as follows:

### South Windsor

- Ellington Road for Structure 6133
- Dart Hill Road for Structures 6127 and 6127A
- Avery Street for Structures 6125 and 6125A

### Vernon

- Talcottville Road for Structures 6112, 6111 and 6111A
- Regan Road for Structures 6107 and 6107A
- Legion Drive for Structures 6106, 6103 and 6103A

By:

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager - Transmission Siting

# ATTACHMENT B

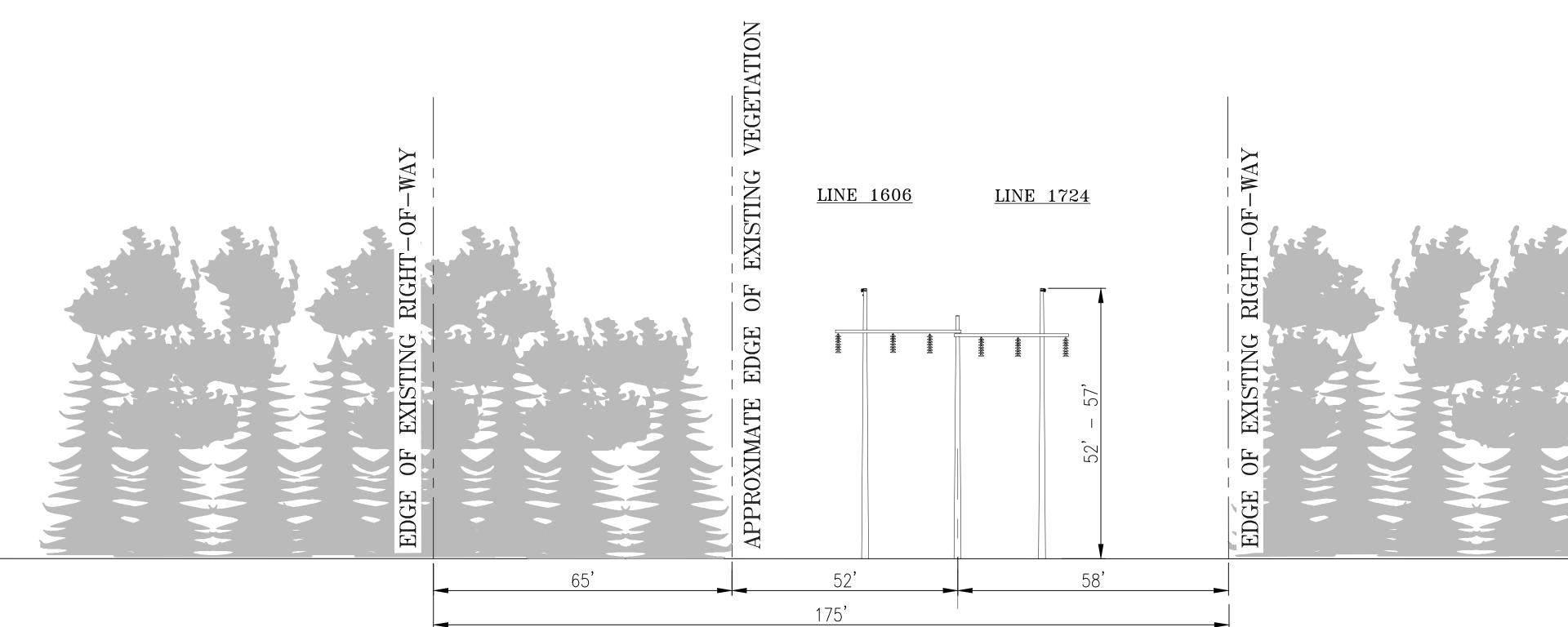
PHOTOGRAPHS

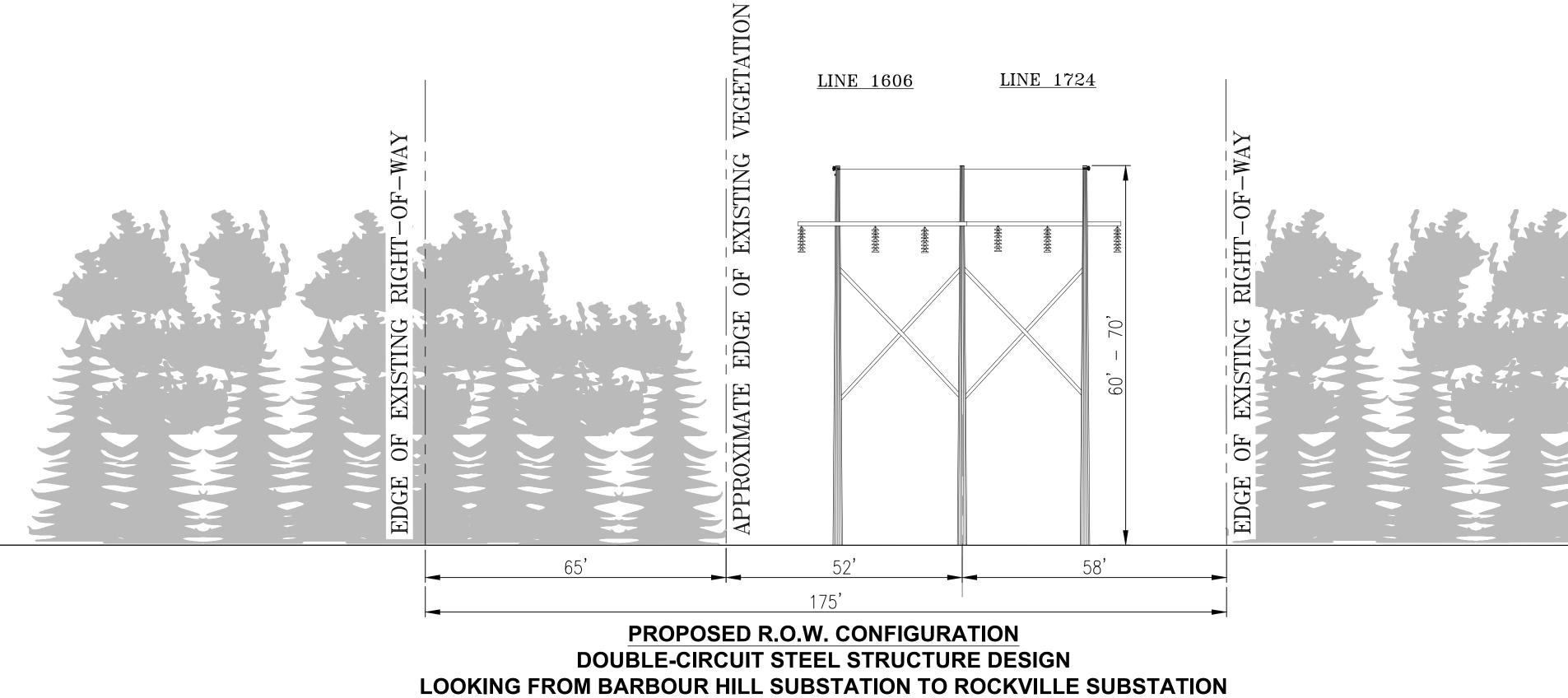


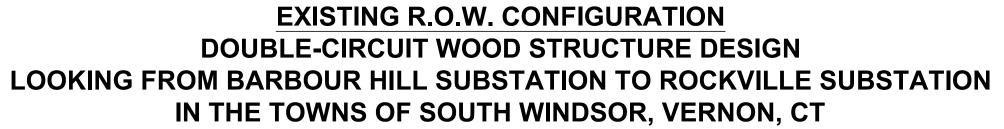








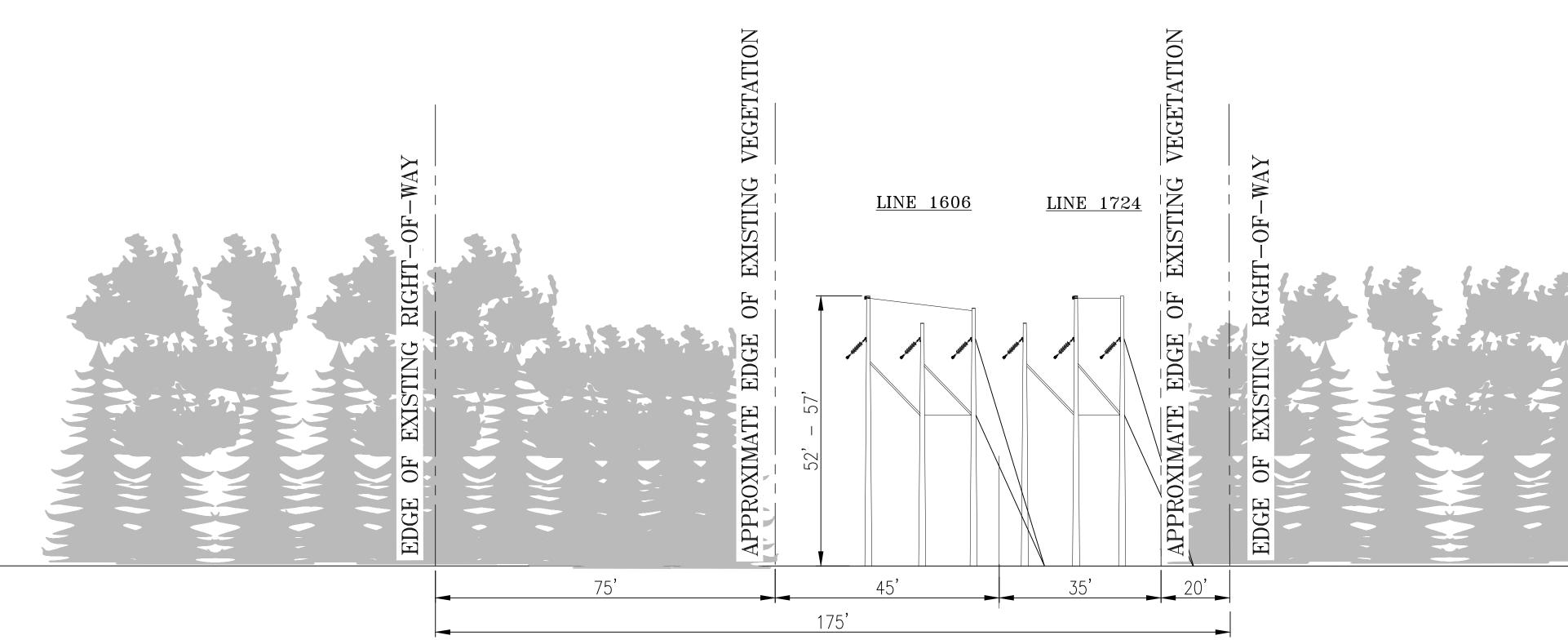


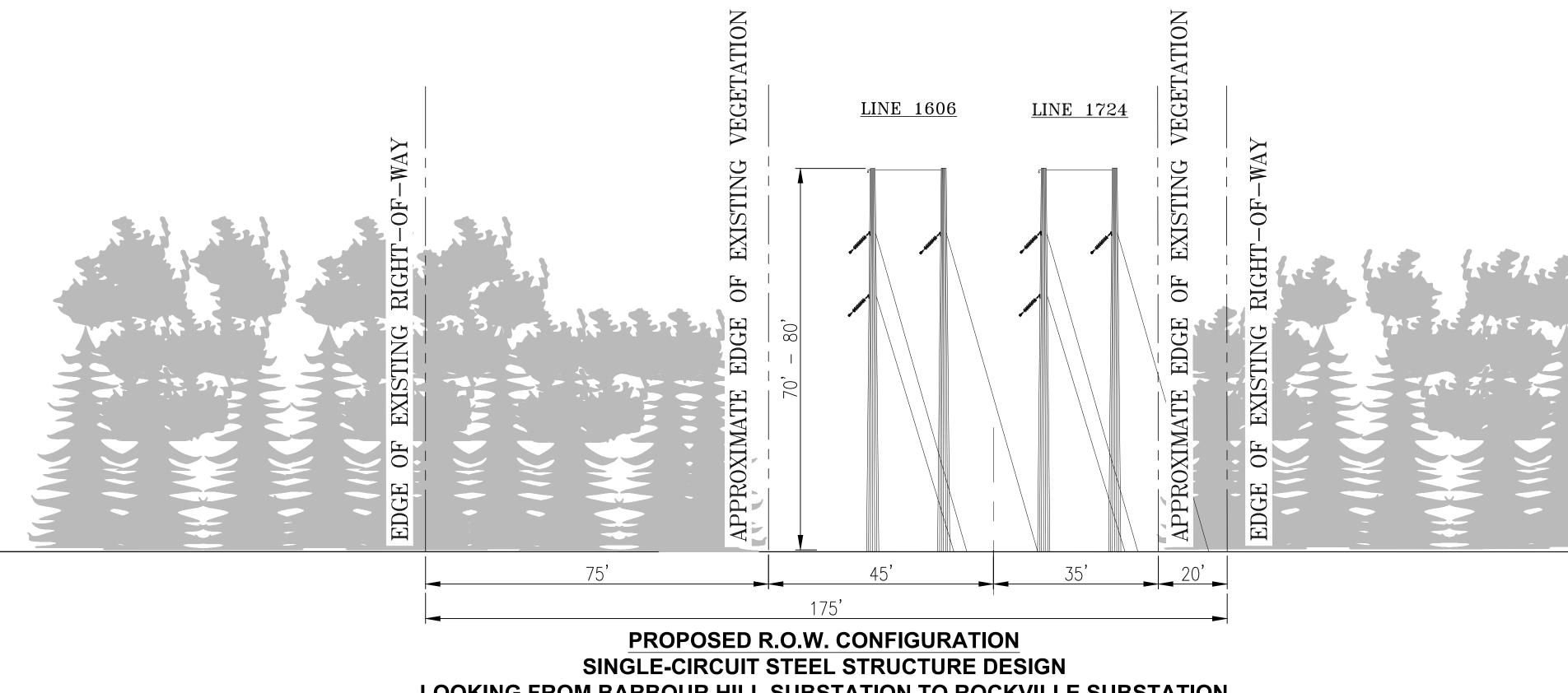


PROPOSED 115-kV LINE 1606/1724

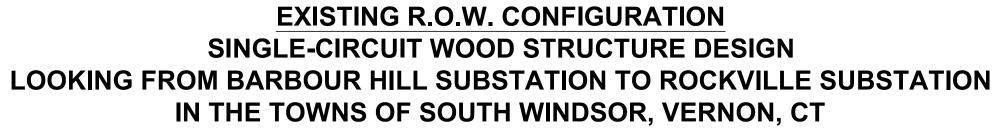
IN THE TOWNS OF SOUTH WINDSOR, VERNON, CT

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LOOKING FROM BARBOUR HILL SUBSTATION TO ROCKVILLE SUBSTATION IN THE TOWNS OF SOUTH WINDSOR, VERNON, CT



PROPOSED 115-kV LINE 1606/1724

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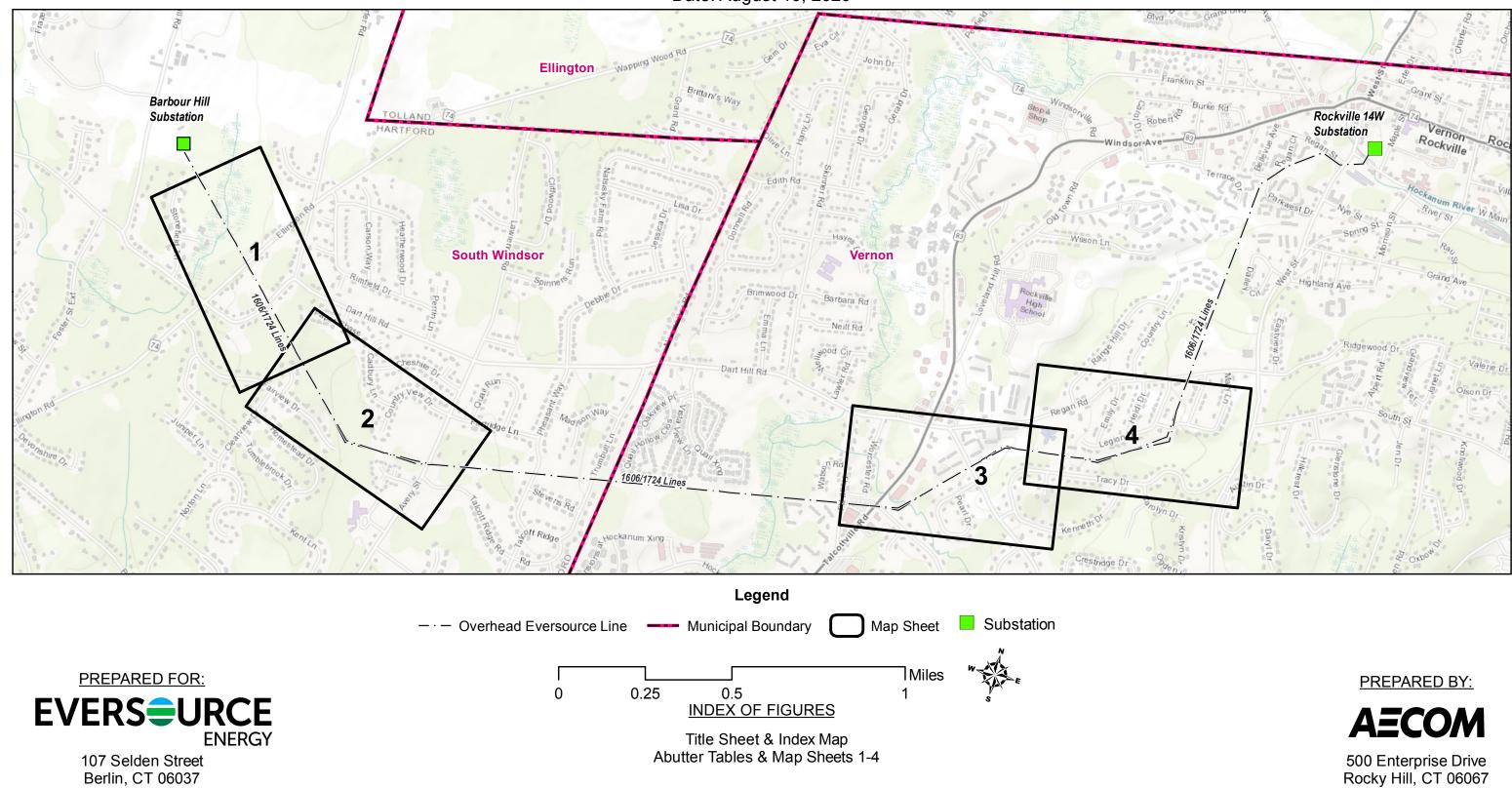
### ATTACHMENT C

MAPS

# **1606/1724 LINE - STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

# South Windsor & Vernon, CT Sub-Petition Map Set

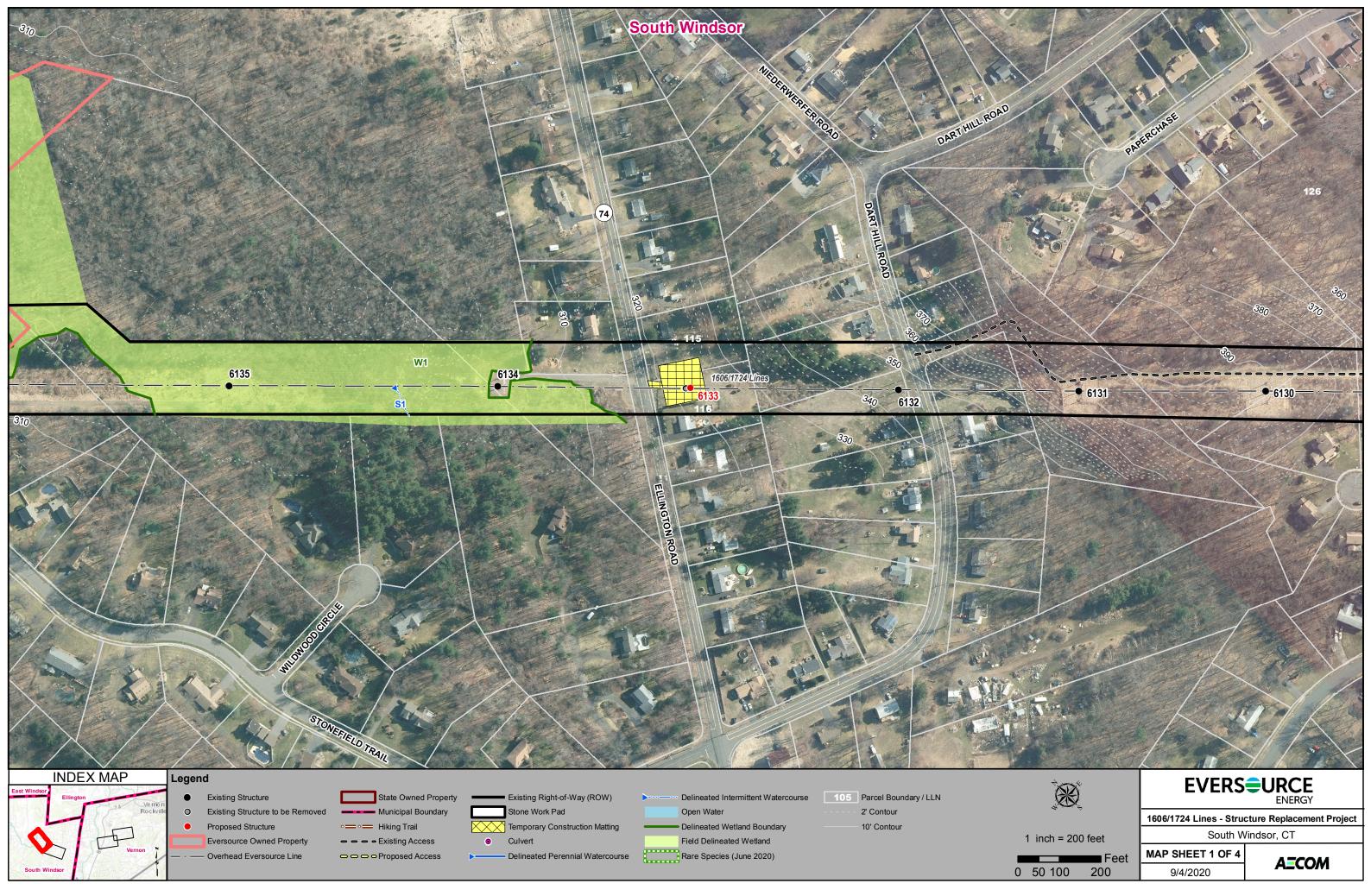
Date: August 10, 2020



### 1606/1724 Lines Structure Replacement Project Sub-Petition Map Sheet 01 Abutter's List

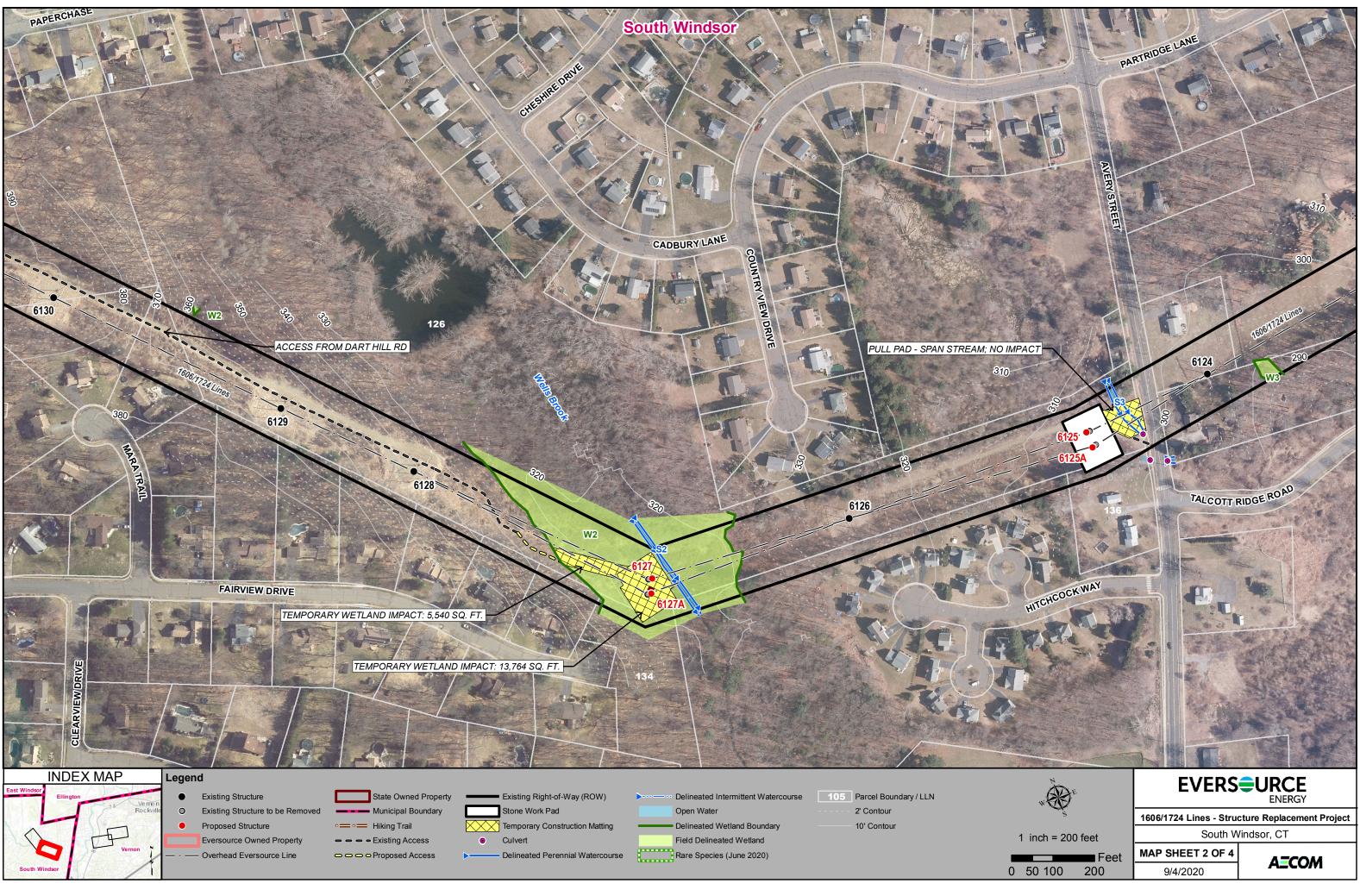
Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
115	Mary Varley	2773 Ellington Road	South Windsor	СТ
116	Robert E Wilder Jr	2759 Ellington Road	South Windsor	СТ

9



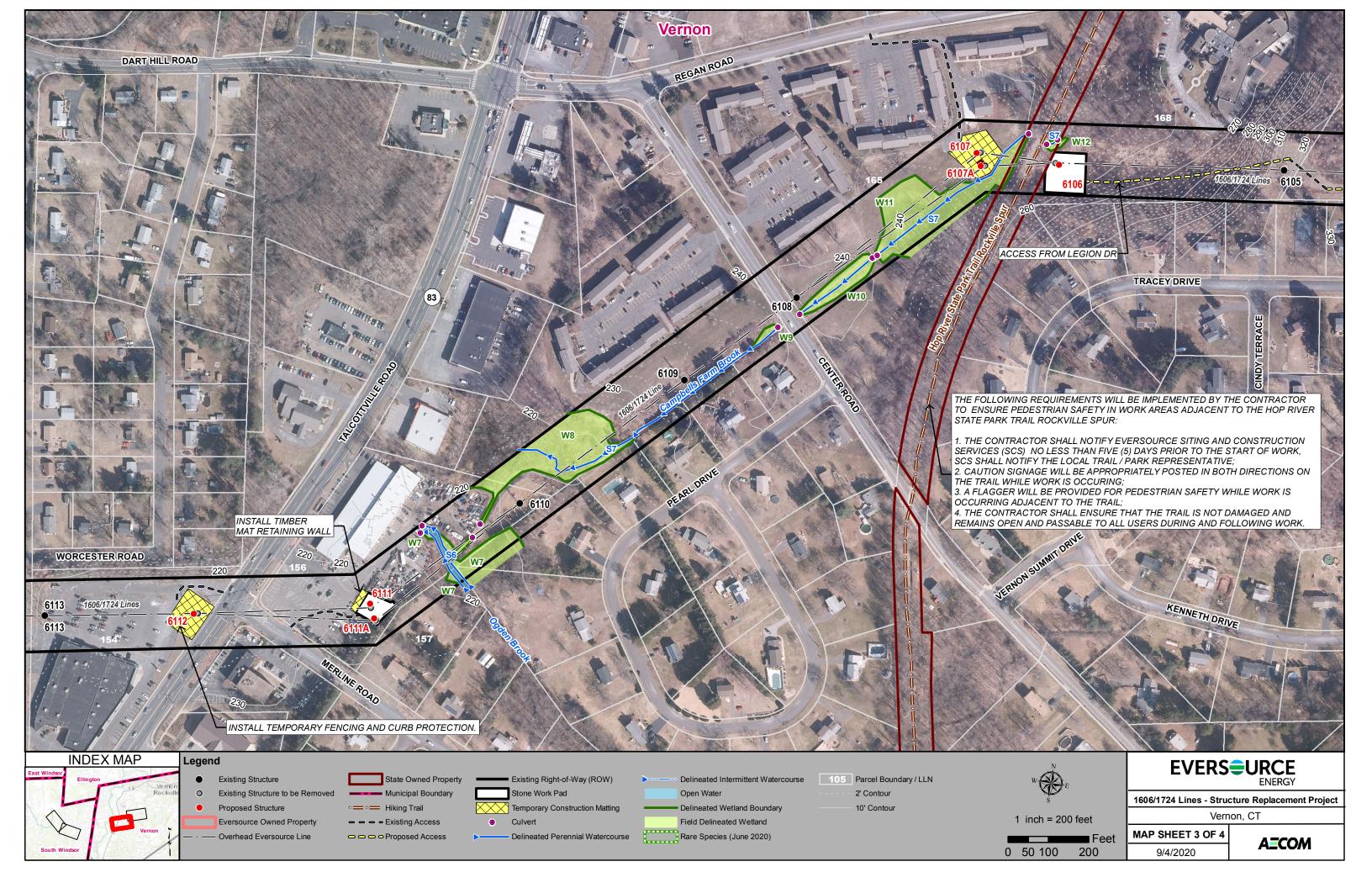
### 1606/1724 Lines Structure Replacement Project Sub-Petition Map Sheet 02 Abutter's List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
126	Town of South Windsor	35 Paper Chase	South Windsor	СТ
134	Town of South Windsor Open Space Land	255 Fairview Drive	South Windsor	СТ
136	Christopher & Cynthia L Brucker	1023 Avery Street	South Windsor	СТ



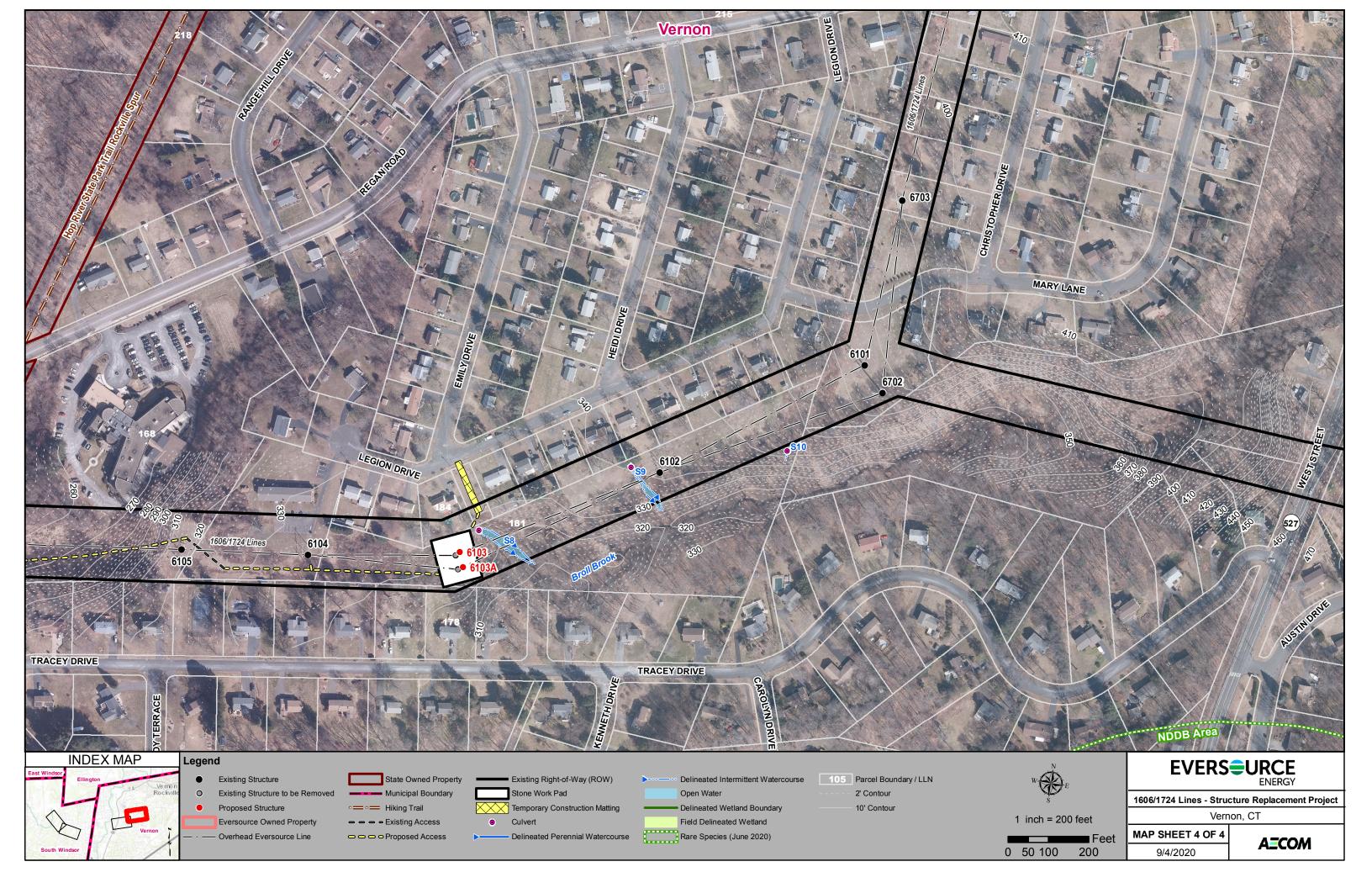
### 1606/1724 Lines Structure Replacement Project Sub-Petition Map Sheet 03 Abutter's List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
154	Shoppes at Eastview LLC	425 Talcottville Road	Vernon	СТ
156	Johansen Properties LLC	458 Talcottville Road	Vernon	СТ
157	Robert J & Virginia G McNulty	344 Merline Road	Vernon	СТ
165	JCM Associates LLC	336 Center Road	Vernon	СТ
168	Vernon Manor Health Care Center LLC	180 Regan Road	Vernon	СТ

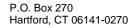


### 1606/1724 Lines Structure Replacement Project Sub-Petition Map Sheet 04 Abutter's List

Line List Number	Owner Name	Parcel Address	Town	State
168	Vernon Manor Health Care Center LLC	180 Regan Road	Vernon	СТ
178	Dimce Josevski	93 Tracy Drive	Vernon	СТ
181	Town of Vernon	Legion Drive	Vernon	СТ
184	Jack L & Doreen L Leng	88 Legion Drive	Vernon	СТ



ATTACHMENT D ABUTTER LETTER AND PROOF OF NOTICE





September 11, 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 South Windsor and Vernon. A Sub-Petition is a document with detailed information about the proposed upgrades. Eversource is submitting <u>Sub-Petition No. 1293-SWV-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 property.

As part of this project, we are proposing to replace a total of thirteen 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.

The safety of our employees, our customers, and the public is our top priority during the ongoing coronavirus public health crisis. Our commitment to safety, first and always, is continuous.

At the same time, Eversource must fulfill its foundational mission to deliver safe, reliable services to our customers. We continue to call on our employees and contractors to perform essential work, such as this proposed project, that maintains and improves the reliability of our networks, while also adapting our work practices to incorporate social distancing, heightened hygiene, and other best practices to protect their, and the public's, health.

### **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 <u>siting.council@ct.gov</u>. If you choose to send comments to the CSC, please reference <u>Sub-Petition No. 1293-SWV-01</u> 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,

Daniel Bailey

Daniel Bailey 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 September 11, 2020, I caused notice of the proposed maintenance activities including a copy of the Sub-Petition No.1293-SWV-01 of The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy ("Eversource") to be served on the municipalities listed below and 13 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 South Windsor, CT Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager 1540 Sullivan Avenue South Windsor, CT 06074

Town of Vernon, CT Daniel A. Champagne, Mayor 14 Park Place Vernon, CT 06066

James L. Smith Project Siting Specialist

On this the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of September 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,