

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

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

April 30, 2021

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

Re: Eastern Connecticut Reliability Solution – Modifications to Killingly Substation

Dear Ms. Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") is requesting a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to the Killingly Substation in the Town of Killingly, Connecticut ("Petition").

Prior to submitting this Petition, Eversource representatives briefed Killingly officials about the Project and provided written notice to all abutting property owners of the proposed work and also of the filing of this Petition with the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"). A list identifying the notified property owners is provided in the Petition.

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.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting

Enclosure

cc: Mary Calorio, Town Manager, Town of Killingly

THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY doing business as EVERSOURCE ENERGY

PETITION TO THE CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL FOR A DECLARATORY RULING OF NO SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT FOR THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE KILLINGLY SUBSTATION IN THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY, CONNECTICUT

1. Introduction

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") hereby petitions the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need ("Certificate") is required pursuant to Section 16-50g et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes for the proposed modifications to the Killingly Substation (the "Project") that are described herein. Eversource submits that a Certificate is not required because the proposed modifications would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect.

2. Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the proposed Project is to implement one of the system solutions determined by the Independent System Operator – New England to address multiple thermal overloads and low voltage violations in the Montville Substation to Killingly Substation corridor caused by contingency scenarios where multiple stations were fed radially from a single 115-kV line or a weak 69 kV network out of Montville Substation. This component of the proposed solution is to add a 25.2 MVAR capacitor bank to the A1 bus of the 115-kV breaker-and-a-half design at Killingly Substation. The proposed modifications within the Killingly Substation will mitigate the effects of the identified contingencies and improve reliability of the transmission system.

3. Project Description

The Project consists of modifications to the Killingly Substation located on Eversource's approximately 5.58-acre property at 216 Park Road in Killingly, as shown on <u>Attachment A</u> – "Aerial Map". The existing Substation is a 345- to 115-kV facility, with one (1) 345-kV to 115-kV transformer, two (2) 345-kV transmission circuits, and four (4) 115-kV transmission circuits, The planned modifications include expansion of the fenced area by approximately 0.16 acre in the northern corner of the Substation to accommodate a new capacitor bank and to allow for continued vehicular access to the western portion of the Substation. Details of the proposed modifications are described below and are shown on <u>Attachment B</u>: "Killingly Substation - General Arrangement - Plan & Sections – Connecticut Siting Council":

- Installation of one (1) new 25.2 MVAR capacitor bank,
- Install one (1), 115-kV manual operated disconnect switch,
- Install one (1) 115-kV independent pole operated synchronous close breaker,
- Install three (3) air core current limiting reactors,
- Install four (4) 115-kV rated lightning arrestors (LAs),
- Install one (1) new 115-kV rated resistor potential device (RPD),
- Expand the fenced area of the Substation in the northern corner by approximately 0.16 acre, and
- Install one (1) retaining wall along the expansion area, approximately 200 feet long

4. Construction Methods

The Project would be constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with established industry practices and the Company's Best Management Practices ("BMPs"). Construction-related vehicular traffic would utilize the existing Substation access road from Park Road in

Putnam. Project-related traffic is expected to be temporary and highly localized in the vicinity of the Substation. Construction activities would include the following:

Access Road Improvement

Access to the Substation will utilize the existing road from Park Road and then along an existing access road on Eversource property north and outside of the fenced substation (See Attachment A). Erosion and Sedimentation ("E&S") controls would be installed as necessary before the commencement of any improvements that might be required.

Clearing/Vegetation Removal

Most of the work area has little vegetation that would need to be removed and is already cleared due to the existence of the overhead transmission lines (the 1607 and 1742 Lines).

However, a small amount of tree clearing (approximately 600 square feet) and grub clearing (approximately 800 square feet) will be needed along the western edge of the proposed expansion area.

Retaining Wall

Due to the topography in the proposed expansion area, an approximately 200 foot retaining wall, ranging in height from five feet to 20 feet, will be built along the northern perimeter of the expansion area. A new perimeter fence will be installed on top of the retaining wall. The area inside the retaining wall in the expansion area will be filled to create a level area to locate the proposed new equipment.

Grading

No other significant grading is required outside of the expansion area and proposed retaining wall.

Foundation Installation

The proposed modifications will require new concrete foundations. Foundation installation work would require the use of equipment such as excavators, dump trucks, concrete trucks, and light duty trucks. If groundwater is encountered, pumping (vacuum) trucks or other suitable equipment would be used to pump water from the excavations. The water would then be discharged in accordance with applicable local, state and federal requirements. Excavated soils that are generated during construction activities would be stored or spread in an upland area within Eversource's property, to the extent practicable. Excavated materials that cannot be utilized as backfill would be disposed in accordance with applicable regulations. As needed, additional grounding materials may be installed, depending on site-specific soil conductivity.

Equipment Assembly/Installation/Removal

The proposed equipment, components and hardware would be delivered to the Substation using flat-bed trucks. The equipment either will be pre-assembled or assembled on-site and installed. Equipment and materials will be staged on-site prior to installation. Workers' personal vehicles will be parked on-site, and construction trailers and vehicles will be stored on-site. After installation, the area around the installed equipment will be backfilled and graded with crushed stone.

Construction Schedule and Work Hours

Eversource proposes to begin construction in September 2021 and expects to complete construction by December 31, 2021. Normal work hours would be Monday through Saturday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Sunday work hours and/or evening work hours past 7:00 PM may be necessary due to delays caused by inclement weather and/or outage constraints. In the event this is necessary, the Council, Town and abutters will be provided notice of the proposed Sunday and/or evening work hours.

- **5.** The Project would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect or cause a significant adverse change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics because:
 - a) Environmental Effects
 - Eversource's review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("CT DEEP") Natural Diversity Data Base ("NDDB") indicates that the Project is located within a NDDB polygon. However, due to the location of, and limited size of the expansion, there are no regulatory triggers that necessitate submission of an NDDB Review Request.
 - Eversource does not anticipate the need to disturb or clear any wetland vegetation. The closest wetlands are located to the east of the existing road into the Substation from Park Road and as shown on <u>Attachment A</u>. The proposed modifications are not located within a 100- or 500-year flood zone.
 - A Phase 1A Cultural (archaeological and historical) Resources Assessment of previously recorded cultural resources on file with the

Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") was completed by Heritage Consultants ("Heritage") during March 2021. Eversource is awaiting concurrence from SHPO that the Project would have no adverse impacts to cultural resources.

 The Project would not affect groundwater or surface water resources or cross any aquifer protection areas. No public supply reservoirs are in the vicinity of the Project. Lastly, the Project would not affect public/private water supply wells. Based on Aquifer Protection Areas ("APAs") mapping maintained by CT DEEP, there are no APAs within or proximate to the Project. The Project is not located within a public water supply watershed and no public supply reservoirs or public water supply wells are located within the Project area. No private water supply wells were observed within the Project area during field investigation activities.

Eversource would require its contractors to employ best practices for the proper storage, secondary containment, and handling of diesel fuel, motor oil, grease and other lubricants, to protect water quality within the Project area. Construction activities would conform to Eversource's BMPs, as well as to the requirements of Project-specific plans, which would be prepared prior to the commencement of construction.

Project construction would conform to best management practices for E&S controls, including those provided in the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control ("Connecticut Guidelines") and Eversource's BMPs.

Typical E&S control measures include, but are not limited to, straw blankets, hay bales, compost filter socks, silt fencing and gravel antitracking pads. Silt fence would be installed prior to construction to intercept and retain sediment and/or construction materials from disturbed areas and prevent such materials from discharging to water resources. Temporary E&S control measures would be maintained and inspected throughout the Project to ensure their integrity and effectiveness. Following completion of construction, seeding and mulching or finished surface treatments would be completed to permanently stabilize the areas disturbed by the work outside the modified Substation fence. The temporary E&S control measures would remain in place until the Project work is complete and all disturbed areas have been stabilized.

- The Project will not require a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan ("SWPCP") because disturbances would be less than 1 acre.
- Short-term, localized effects on air quality may result from the Project construction work, primarily from fugitive dust and equipment emissions. To minimize the amount of dust generated by construction activities, the extent of exposed or disturbed areas at any one time would be minimized. Vehicle emissions will be limited by requiring contractors to properly maintain construction equipment and vehicles, and by minimizing the idling time of equipment and vehicles, including diesel construction equipment, in accordance with Connecticut regulatory requirements. Temporary gravel tracking pads would be installed at points of construction vehicle ingress/egress from the ROW to minimize the potential for equipment to

track dirt onto local roads. To further minimize dust, water may be used to wet down disturbed soils or work areas with heavy tracking as needed.

- No publicly accessible scenic or recreational resources were identified adjacent to or near the Substation. The closest recreational area is Natchaug State Forest which is located approximately 1,500 feet west of the Substation.
- Electric and magnetic field levels at the boundary of the Substation property would not change as a result of the modifications.
- b) Radio and Television Interference

There would be no change to the existing television or radio interference at the Substation.

c) Sound Pressure

Sound-pressure levels at all points along properties lines would continue to meet state regulations set out in Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §§ 22a-69-1 et seq.

d) Visual Impacts

The Project would result in some minor changes to the visual character of the Substation, though Eversource does not believe that the change would result in a substantial deviation from the existing character of the Substation since none of the proposed equipment will exceed the height of the equipment currently located in the Substation. The Substation is largely surrounded by forest and commercial buildings with the Providence Worcester Railroad tracks to the west and is only

visible from certain locations along Park Road. Accordingly, the Project would not result in a detrimental change to the existing Substation from nearby residences.

e) Substation Security Measures and Lighting

The Substation will use the existing security measures including security cameras, and an alarm system. Additional low impact lighting will be installed in the proposed expansion area of the Substation as necessary for safety and security purposes.

6. Municipal and Property Owner Outreach

In April 2021, Eversource consulted with the municipal officials in the Town of Killingly to brief them on the proposed Project. Additionally, Eversource has provided representatives of the Towns with written notice of the Petition filing.

In April 2021, Eversource conducted outreach to property owners abutting the Killingly Substation property. In conjunction with the submission of this Petition, all abutting property owners were notified of the filing and provided information on how to obtain additional information on the Project, as well as how to submit comments to the Council. <u>Attachment C</u> includes the Letter to Abutters, the Affidavit of Service of Notice, and the List of Abutters. Eversource representatives will continue contact with adjacent property owners to provide advance notification as to the start of construction activities and will continue to update property owners throughout construction and restoration.

7. Conclusion

Section 16-50k(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is needed for proposed modifications of a facility that the Council determines would have a "substantial adverse environmental effect." Eversource respectfully submits that the proposed modifications would not result in a substantial adverse effect on the environment or ecology, nor would they damage existing scenic, historical or recreational values. Accordingly, Eversource requests that the Council issue a declaratory ruling that the proposed modifications would have no substantial adverse environmental effect and, therefore, no Certificate is required.

8. Communications regarding this Petition for a Declaratory Ruling should be directed to:

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting Eversource Energy PO Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141-0270 Telephone: (860) 728-4527

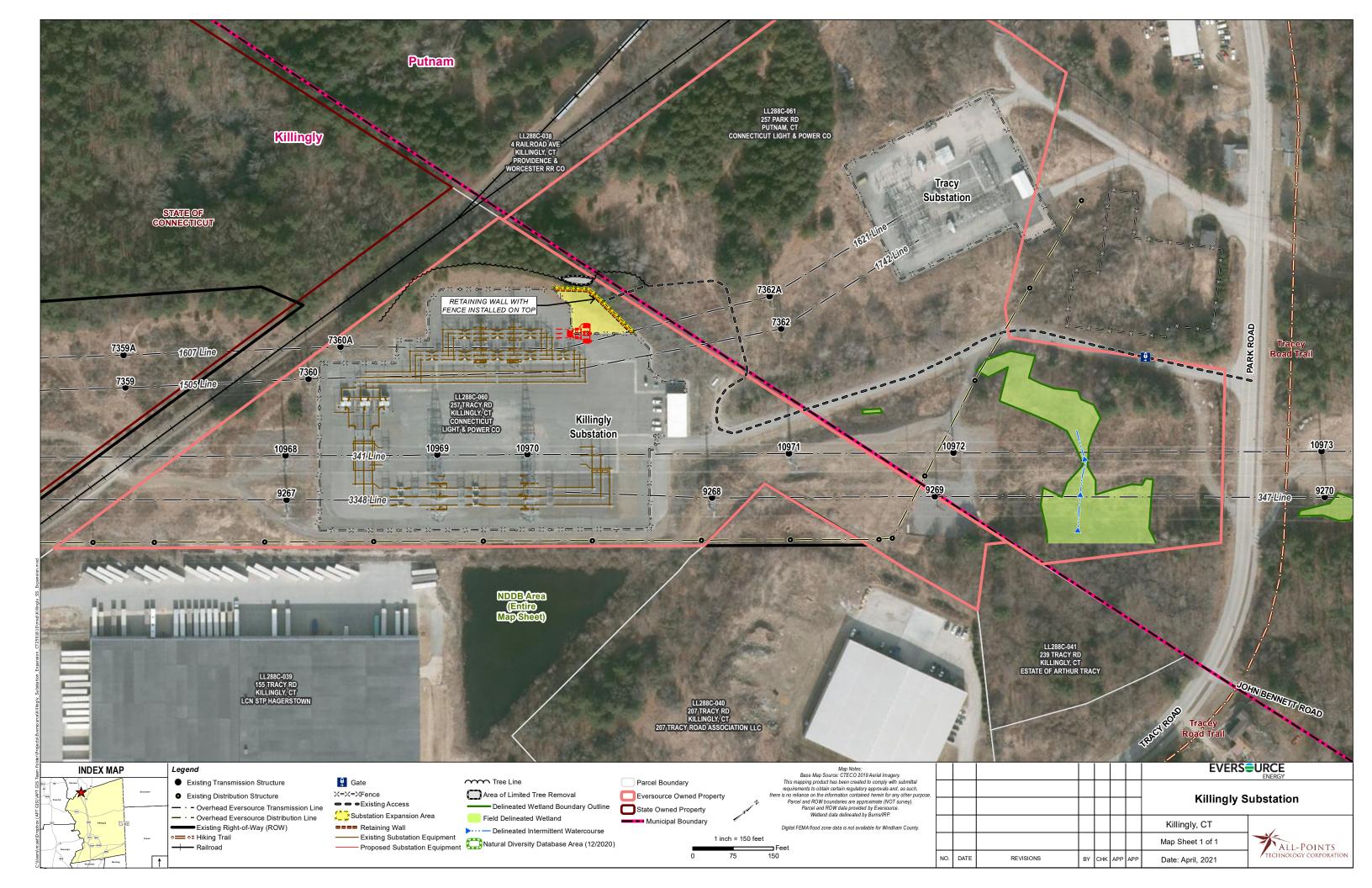
By:

Kathleen M. Shanle

List of Attachments

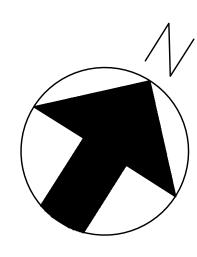
Attachment A: Killingly Substation – Aerial Map Attachment B: Killingly Substation – General Arrangement – Plan and Sections Attachment C: Letter to the Abutters, Affidavit of Notice of Service and List of Abutters

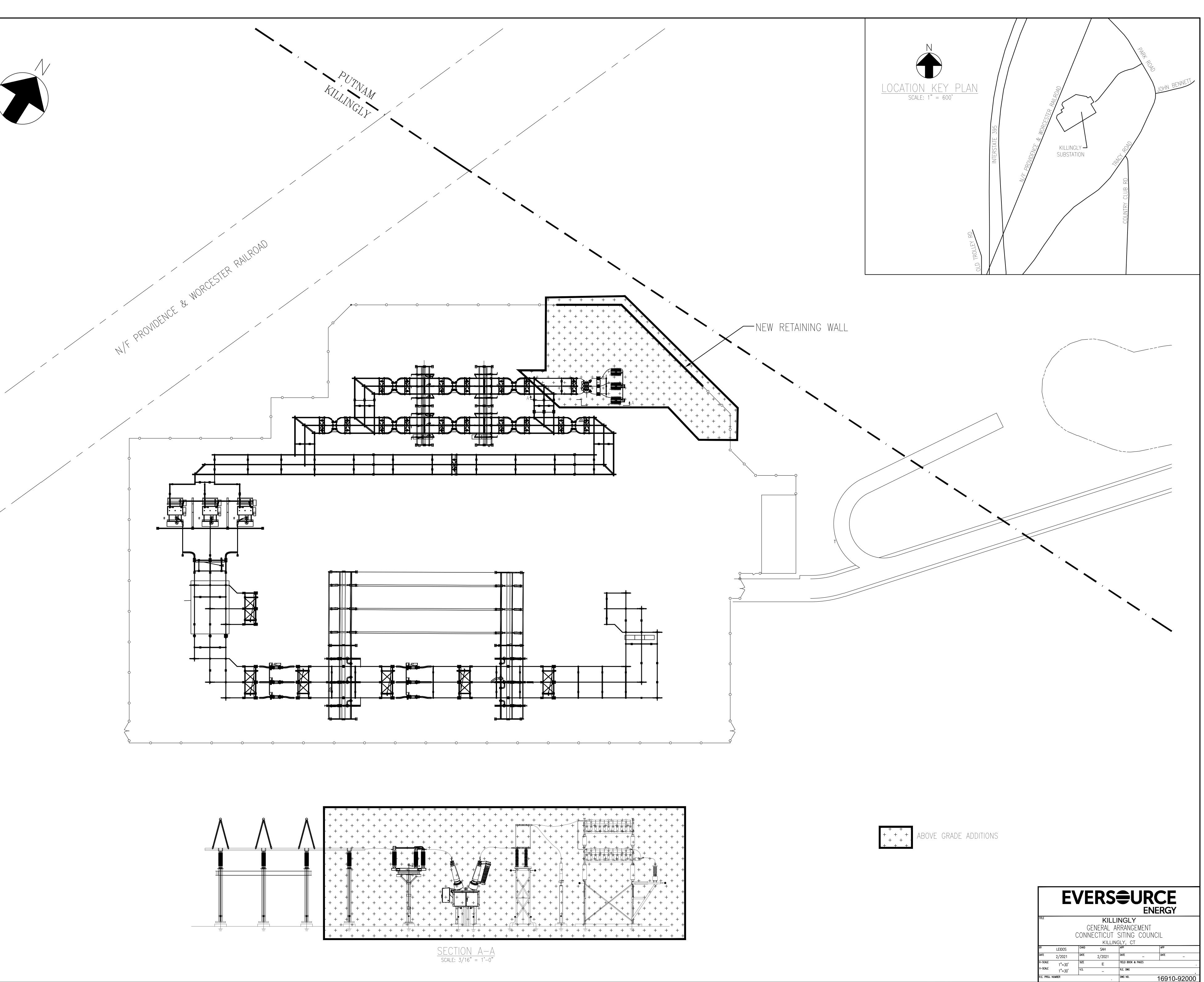
Attachment A: Killingly Substation - Aerial Map

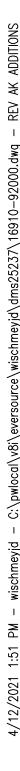


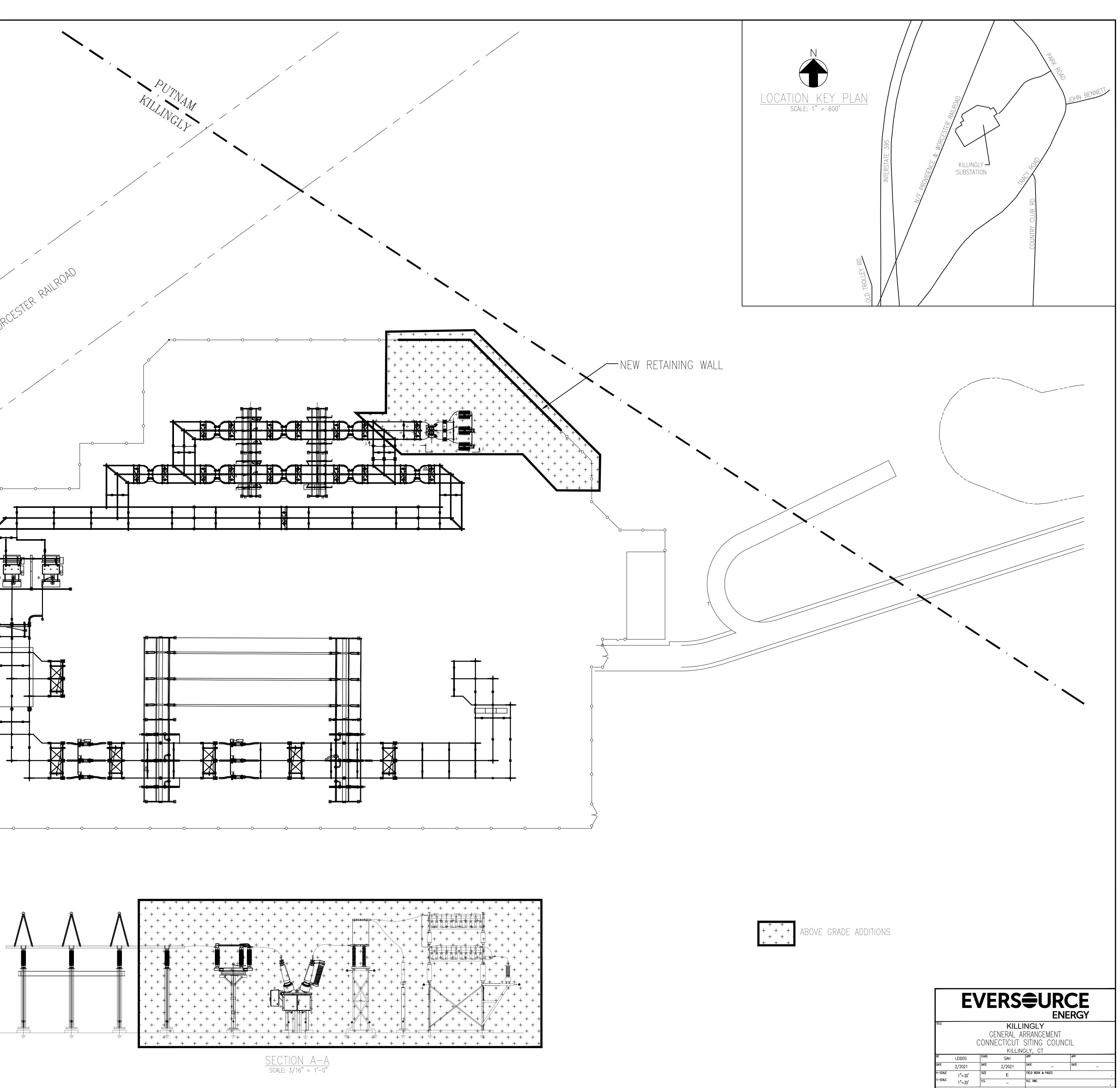
Attachment B: Killingly Substation – General Arrangement – Plan and Sections











Attachment C: Letter to the Abutters, Affidavit of Notice of Service and List of Abutters

EVERSURCE

P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141-0270

April 30, 2021

Dear Neighbor,

At Eversource, we're always working to serve you better. We are submitting a petition to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for a proposed substation upgrade project in your area.

Proposed Project Information

The upgrade, called the Killingly Upgrade Project ("Project"), is necessary to ensure the continued reliability of the transmission system. The modifications include:

- Addition of a capacitor bank and other associated equipment at the Killingly Substation.
- Reconfiguration of a 214-foot section of the existing fence line.
- Expansion of the substation perimeter in northeast corner of the yard to accommodate the equipment.
- Installation of a retaining wall along the expansion area.
- Tree and vegetation removal as needed.
- Installation of lightning protection.

The Project would be located entirely within the existing substation property.

What You Can Expect

Once we receive all the necessary approvals for this proposed work, construction is expected to begin in the third quarter of 2021. We anticipate to complete construction, including restoration of affected areas, by spring 2022.

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.

Contact Information

Eversource is committed to being a good neighbor and doing our work with respect for you and your property. For more information please call our projects hotline at 1-800-793-2202 or send an email to ProjectInfo@eversource.com.

If you would like to send comments regarding Eversource's petition to the CSC, please send them via email to siting.council@ct.gov or send a letter to the following address: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director, Connecticut Siting Council, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051.

Sincerely,

Ken Roberts

Ken Roberts Eversource Project Manager - Transmission

Abutter	Map-Block-Lot	Owner (First Name)	Address (Full)	City	State	Zip Code
Number	Unit					••••••
288C-041	34-7	ESTATE OF ARTHUR TRACY	239 TRACY RD	KILLINGLY	СТ	06241
288C-040	34-6.1	207 TRACY ROAD ASSOCIATION LLC	207 TRACY RD	KILLINGLY	СТ	06241
288C-039	37-5	LCN STP HAGERSTOWN	155 TRACY RD	KILLINGLY	СТ	06241
288C-038		PROVIDENCE & WORCESTER RR CO	4 RAILROAD AVE	KILLINGLY	СТ	06241
288C-060	34-5	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO	257 TRACY RD	KILLINGLY	СТ	06241
288C-061	045/ / 042/ 000/	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO	257 PARK RD	PUTNAM	СТ	06260

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNTY OF HARTFORD

) ss. Hartford

Sec. 16-50j-40 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") provides that proof of notice to the affected municipalities, property owners and abutters shall be submitted with a petition for declaratory ruling to the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council"). Accordingly, I hereby certify that I caused notice of proposed modifications of The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy to be served by mail or courier upon the following municipal official:

Mary Calorio, Town Manager, Town of Killingly

I also certify that I caused notice of the proposed modifications to be served by mail or courier upon 4 owners of abutting properties shown on the map in Attachment A in the Petition.

Servan J. Bellion

Susan J. Bellion Project Siting Specialist

On this the 30th day of April 2021, before me, the undersigned representative, personally appeared, Susan J. Bellion, 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.

andre W. Lol

Signature

Notary Public/My Commission expires:

Officer of the Superior Court/Juris Number: 413393