

July 21, 2021

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

Re: Shunock Substation Upgrade

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) requesting a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to the Shunock Substation located at 25 Pendleton Hill Road in the Town of North Stonington, Connecticut (“Petition”).

Prior to submitting this Petition, Eversource briefed North Stonington and Stonington officials about the proposed work and the filing of this Petition with the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”). A list identifying the abutting property owners who were notified of the Shunock Substation Upgrade are provided in Attachment D: Shunock Substation List of Abutters.

Eversource is submitting this filing electronically and will be providing a hard copy original and fifteen copies to the Council, along with the requisite \$625 filing fee.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting

Enclosure

cc: Michael Urgo, North Stonington First Selectman
Danielle Chesebrough, Stonington First Selectman

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 EXISTING
SUBSTATION IN THE TOWN OF NORTH STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT

1. 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 modifications to the Shunock Substation (the “Project”) that are described herein. Eversource submits that no such Certificate is 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 improve system reliability and eliminate low- and high-voltage criteria violations by adding a new +50/-25 MVAR synchronous condenser. This Project is part of a larger suite of projects that, together, will alleviate current Eastern Connecticut voltage violations in the Mystic to Kent County (Rhode Island) corridor that were identified by the Independent System Operator of New England (“ISO-NE”) in its 2029 Eastern Connecticut Reliability Needs Assessment. The proposed modifications at the Substation will mitigate the identified contingencies and improve reliability in the Eastern Connecticut area.

3. Project Description

The Project consists of modifications to the Shunock Substation (“Substation”), which is located on Eversource’s property at 25 Pendleton Hill Road in North Stonington, Connecticut. The Substation is a facility with 115-kilovolt (“kV”) and 13.8-kV equipment. Two 115-kV transmission lines terminate at the Substation (Line 1870 and Line 1465) and there are two 115-kV to 13.8-kV transformers, and five 13.8-kV distribution circuits located at the Substation. The proposed Project would include the installation of a third 115-kV to 13.8-kV transformer, a synchronous condenser and associated heat exchangers, 115-kV circuit breakers and disconnect switches, and ancillary equipment. The synchronous condenser will be located in an approximately 45 feet by 50 feet enclosure, 25 feet in height. The controls for the synchronous condenser would be located in a separate enclosure, approximately 40 feet by 15 feet in size and 12 feet in height.

To accommodate the proposed additional equipment, it would be necessary to expand the area of the Substation by approximately 34,168 square feet. The Substation footprint and existing fence line on east side of the Substation would need to be extended to the east by approximately 132 feet to accommodate the synchronous condenser and associated equipment. Along the southern edge of the Substation, an approximately 154-foot long section of the existing Substation fence would also be extended approximately 33 feet south of the existing location to provide sufficient space for the new transformer, conduits and associated equipment. The design of the extended fence sections would be consistent with the existing fencing (seven feet tall with one and one quarter inch mesh and one foot of three-strand barbed wire). The expansion would also require the relocation and replacement of Structure 7867 and the addition of a retaining wall, as well as grading and drainage. The proposed modifications to the Substation are shown on Attachment A: Shunock Substation General Arrangement and on Attachment B: Shunock Substation Petition Map.

Details of the proposed scope of work are as follows:

- a) Install one (1) +50/-25 MVAR synchronous condenser;
- b) Install five (5) 115-kV, 3000A manually operated disconnect switches;
- c) Install three (3) 115-kV, 3000A 40kA circuit breakers;

- d) Install three (3) 115-kV capacitor coupled voltage transformers (“CCVT’s”);
- e) Install one (1) 115-kV to 13.8-kV, 50-MVA transformer;
- f) Install one (1) relay and control enclosure for protection and control equipment approximately 15 feet wide, 40 feet long;
- g) Install one (1) machine hall enclosure for the synchronous condenser and associated 13.8-kV switchgear equipment approximately 45 feet by 50 feet);
- h) Install two (2) outdoor heat exchangers;
- i) Structure 7867, a wood three pole structure on the 1870 Line will be shifted approximately ten feet to the south west to allow for substation expansion and replaced with a weathering steel pole increasing less than ten feet in height (the existing and proposed structure are depicted on Attachment A: General Arrangement Plan and Attachment C: Petition Map);
- j) Install a concrete retaining wall just inside the expanded fence area, approximately 390-feet long with a varied height of 0.05 feet to 22.5 feet;
- a) Install an infiltration basin outside the southern portion of the fence approximately 69 feet in length, 61 feet in width and 5 feet deep;
- b) Install two (2) 13.8-kV, 1.5-MVA station service transformers;
- c) Install primary and backup relaying, battery systems and protection panels for the above scope;
- d) Install task lighting around the synchronous condenser and circuit breaker, and light emitting diode (“LED”) lighting for security;
- e) Install lightning protection for new or modified, equipment; and,
- f) Install new below grade raceway between the new equipment and the existing enclosure and new synchronous condenser.

4. Construction Methods

The Project would be constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with established industry practices and in accordance with the Eversource’s *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut, Construction and Maintenance, September 2016* (“BMPs”). During construction, vehicular traffic would utilize the existing Substation access road from Pendleton Hill Road. Project-related traffic is expected to be temporary and highly localized in the vicinity of the Substation. Construction activities would include the following:

Staging

Equipment, materials, and construction vehicles will be staged on-site inside the Substation.

Clearing

Expansion of the Substation will require a total of approximately 0.46 acre of clearing, primarily in the expansion area on the eastern side of the Substation, but also on the southern side of the Substation for construction of the infiltration basin.

Equipment Assembly/Installation

Some foundation work will be required to support the new equipment and control enclosure. The equipment, control enclosures, replacement structure and associated hardware would be delivered to the Substation using flat-bed and light duty utility trucks. Some of the equipment components would be either pre-assembled or be assembled on-site prior to installation. After installation, the area around the installed equipment will be backfilled and graded with crushed stone. The replacement structure will be weathering steel. After installation of the replacement structure, the existing structure will be removed.

Construction Schedule

Eversource proposes to begin construction in November 2021 and complete construction and restoration by June 2023. Normal work hours would be Monday through Saturday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Sunday work hours 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, the Town and abutters will be provided notice of the proposed Sunday and/or evening work hours.

5. Existing Environment, Environmental Effects and Mitigation

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

- The Substation is located in a residential area with few close abutters. The Substation abuts a field delineated wetland, a Federal Emergency Management Act (“FEMA”) 100-year Flood Zone (“Flood Zone”) and a FEMA Floodway (“Floodway”). Eversource does not anticipate the need to disturb or clear any wetland areas. No work will be performed within the Flood Zone or the Floodway, avoiding environmental effects to these resource areas.
- Eversource's review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (“CT DEEP”) Natural Diversity Data Base (“NDDB”) map data identified that the proposed construction activities are not within a NDDB mapped polygon.
- Eversource's review of CT DEEP the New England Cottontail (“NEC”) Focus Areas data identified that this habitat overlaps the entire Project area. BMPs associated with NEC will address any potential impacts to this species.
- A cultural (archaeological and historical) resource review was conducted by Heritage Consultants, LLC (“Heritage”) in March 2021. The review consisted of an initial desktop resource review and pedestrian survey (“Phase 1A Cultural Resource Assessment” or “Phase 1A”), including review of previously identified archaeological sites and National/State Register of Historic Places properties situated within approximately 500 feet of the proposed project area. The literature review revealed that there is one previously identified archaeological site located within the boundaries of the Shunock Substation parcel. Previous assessments of this archaeological site included a Phase I survey and a Phase II National Register of Historic Places testing and evaluation that concluded that the site does not meet the criteria for additional evaluation as defined by the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no additional review was recommended by Heritage due to a lack of research potential. Heritage evaluated the other two archaeological sites identified within 500 feet of the Project area and found that they will not be impacted by the proposed construction activities.
- Results of the Phase 1A also found that the existing footprint of the Substation and the area to its northwest require no additional archaeological examination.

However, areas to the east and south of the Substation that contain low slopes and well drained soils have the potential to retain intact cultural deposits. These areas were investigated via the execution of a Phase 1B survey. The Phase 1B survey consisted of shovel testing in select locations and was initiated and completed in April 2021. The Phase 1B testing did not result in the recovery of any cultural material or the identification of any cultural features. Therefore, Heritage determined that the proposed activities would have no effect on cultural resources and no additional investigation of these areas is required. The results of the Phase 1B survey were provided to the State Historic Preservation Office.

- The Project would not affect groundwater or surface water resources or any aquifer protection areas. Based on Aquifer Protection Areas (“APA”) 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 any Project-specific plans, which would be prepared prior to the commencement of construction.

- Project construction would conform to best management practices for erosion and sedimentation (“E&S”) control, 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 anti-tracking 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 and for compliance with the Connecticut Guidelines and Eversource's BMPs. 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.

- No publicly accessible scenic or recreational resources were identified within the Project area.
- Electric and magnetic field levels at the boundary of the Substation 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 Impact

The expansion of the Substation will be visible from Pendleton Road, including the new retaining wall. Eversource will contract with a landscape designer to design plantings for the front of the expanded Substation.

The most visually prominent feature of the Project would be the replacement of Structure 7867, a 70-foot tall, three-pole wood H-frame structure, which will be replaced by an approximately 80-foot tall, three-pole weathering steel structure on concrete foundations in approximately the same location. The replacement structure would need to be shifted slightly (approximately ten feet) south west of the existing structure to allow sufficient room for safe construction. The changes in height and location are not anticipated to be noticeable from off-site locations.

e) Substation Security Measures and Lighting

The Substation has existing security measures including security cameras, an alarm system and lighting for safety and security purposes. Additional security lighting would be added in the areas of the new equipment. The additional lighting would be manually controlled and only used as necessary for occasional night work.

6. Municipal and Property Owner Outreach

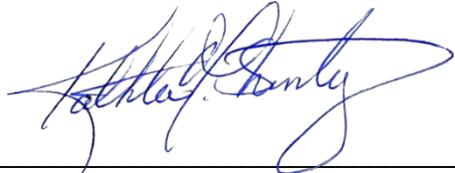
In June 2021, Eversource consulted with the municipal officials in the Town of North Stonington and Stonington to brief them on the proposed Project. Eversource also provided representatives of the Town of North Stonington and Stonington with written notice of the Petition filing. In conjunction with the submission of the Petition, all abutting property owners were notified of the filing and provided information on how to submit comments to the Council and how to obtain additional information on the Project. In addition, Eversource representatives will contact adjacent property owners via mail to notify them of the start of construction activities. Project representatives will also be available throughout the construction process to address any specific questions or concerns regarding Project or restoration activities.

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:

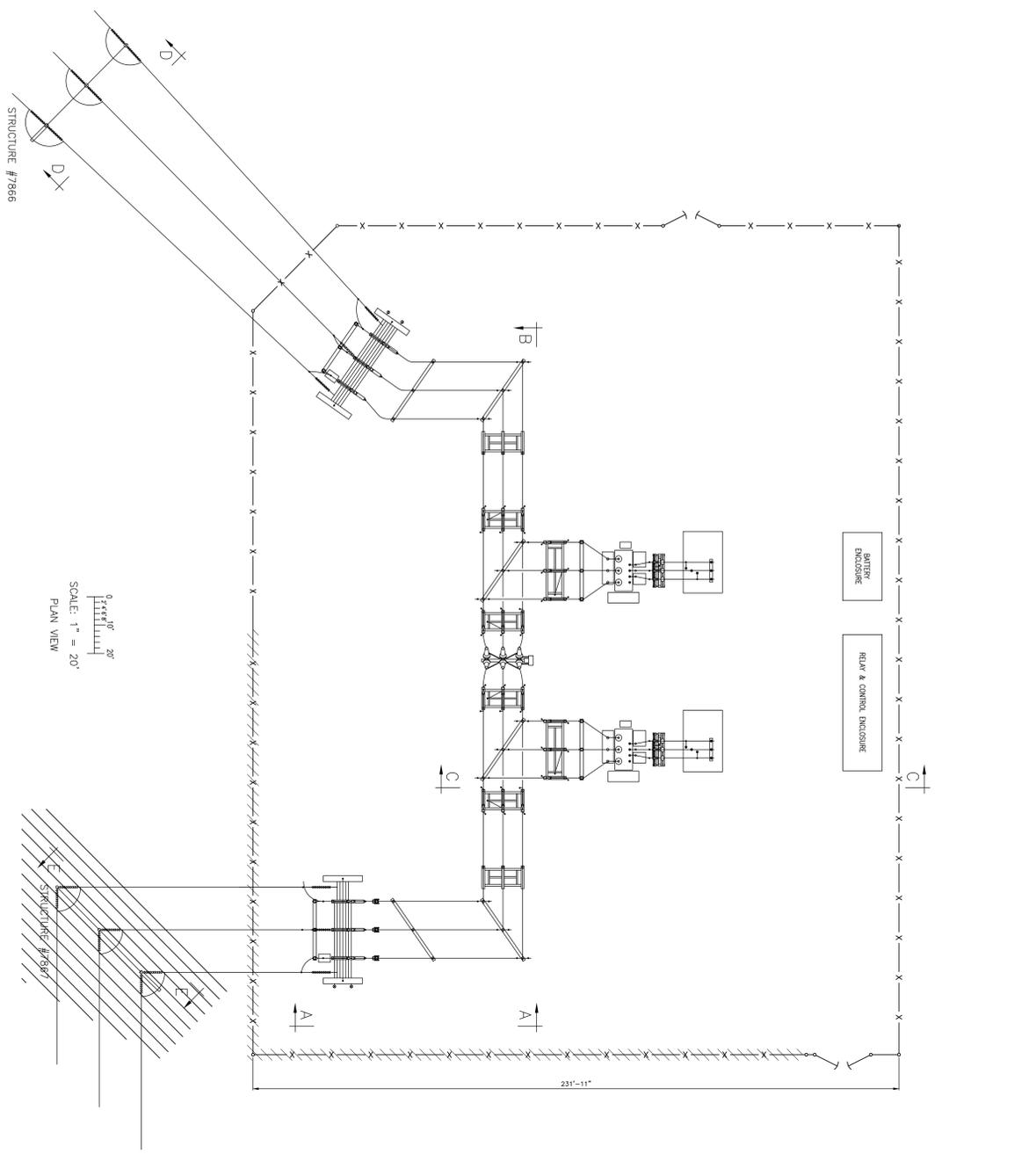
Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting
Eversource Energy
PO Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270
Telephone: (860) 728-4527

By: 
Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting

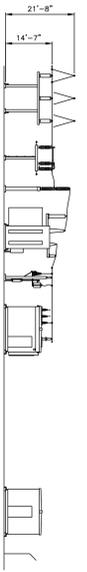
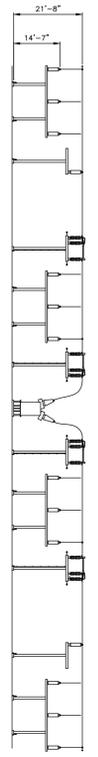
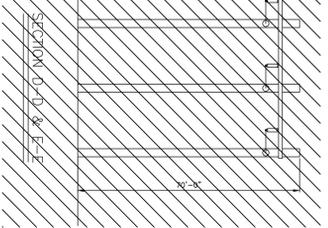
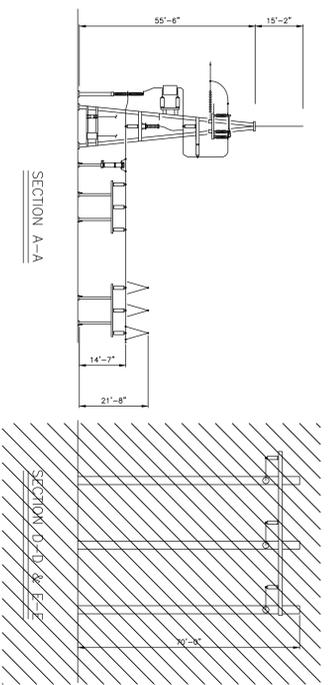
List of Attachments

- Attachment A: Shunock Substation, General Arrangement Plan — Connecticut Siting Council.
- Attachment B: Shunock Substation, Petition Map
- Attachment C: Letter to the Abutters and Affidavit
- Attachment D: Abutters List

Attachment A: General Arrangement Plan

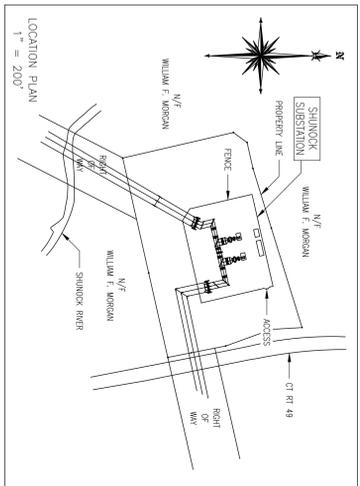


0 1/4" = 1' = 20"
SCALE: 1" = 20'
PLAN VIEW



- REFERENCE DRAWINGS 20201:
- 10001 LOCATION APPROVAL PLAN
 - 10002 PG 1 SITE DEVELOPMENT & GRADING
 - 10002 PG 2 DRAINAGE DETAILS
 - 10002 PG 3 FENCE AND GATE DETAILS
 - 11001 SITE PREPARATION
 - 22206 SITE LANDSCAPE PLAN AND DETAILS
 - 92001 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN & SECTION - CSC

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SCALE: 1" = 20'



REV AN REMOVALS



SHUNNOCK SUBSTATION											
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN & SECTION - CSC											
PLAN & SECTION VIEW											
NORTH STONINGTON, CT											
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Attachment B: Petition Map



INDEX MAP

Legend

- Proposed Structure
- Existing Structure to be Removed
- Existing Structure
- Overhead Eversource Line
- Tree Line (trunk line)
- Proposed Tree Line
- Gate
- Existing Fence for Substation Expansion
- Proposed Substation Equipment
- Proposed Substation Equipment Additions/Upgrades
- Access Road to be Improved
- Proposed Retaining Wall
- Proposed Underdrain/Drainage System
- Limit of Disturbance for Substation Expansion
- Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline
- Field Delineated Wetland
- Approximate Wetland (not delineated)
- Open Water
- Confirmed Vernal Pool Extent
- 100' Vernal Pool Envelope
- Delineated Intermittent Watercourse
- Delineated Perennial Watercourse
- Existing Riprap Swale
- Natural Diversity Database Area (6/2021)
- NE Contoural Focus Area
- Suitable Spadefoot/Habitat/Limit of Survey
- FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone
- FEMA Floodway
- Parcel Boundary
- Eversource Owned Property
- 5' Contour Line

Base Map Source: CT/EO 2019 Aerial Imagery.
 This mapping product has been created to comply with submitted requirements to obtain certain regulatory approvals and, as such, there is no reliance on the information contained herein for any other purpose.
 Wetland Data Source: F&O 2/4/2020 and Eversource Survey at Substation.
 Aerial Photo Field Verified by DE 4/2021 (Approximate boundary).
 ROW boundaries are shown in red. Parcel boundaries are shown in black. Structure footprints, ROW, and Parcels are approximate (NOT from survey).

Map Notes:

1 inch = 150 feet
 0 75 150 Feet

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Shunock Substation and 1870S Line Structure Replacement Project

North Stonington, CT
 Map Sheet 1 of 1
 Date: July, 2021



Attachment C: Letter to Abutters and Affidavit

July 21, 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 Shunock Substation Upgrade Project ("Project"), is necessary to ensure the continued reliability of the transmission system. The Project work would be located entirely on Eversource Substation property. The proposed modifications include:

- Addition of a synchronous condenser and associated equipment.
- Extension of the existing substation fence to accommodate the new equipment. An approximately 214-foot long section of the substation fence would be extended approximately 132 feet east, and an approximately 154-foot long section of the substation fence would be extended approximately 33 feet south on substation property.
- Relocation and replacement of one existing three-pole wood structure with a three-pole weathering steel structure.
- Tree and vegetation removal as needed for the Project work.

What You Can Expect

Pending receipt of 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 the end of 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

Attachment D: List of Abutters

Owner (First Name)	Owner (Last Name)	Co-Owner (First Name)	Co-Owner (Last Name)	Address (Mailing)	City (Mailing)	State (Mailing)	Zip Code (Mailing)
JOSE M.	PACHECO	IRIA M.	PACHECO	15 CANARY ST	PAWCATUCK	CT	06379
JUDITH	MALAVASOS ET			131 STILLMAN	NORTH	CT	06359
CONGERIES REALTY LLC	ALS	MPT/FINANCE		RD	STONINGTON	CT	06339
CHARLES S.	DUFTON			P.O. BOX 3008	MASHANTUCKET	CT	06339
				20 PENDLETON	NORTH	CT	06359
				HL	STONINGTON	CT	06359