



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 9, 2022

Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager – Transmission Siting
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270
Kathleen.shanley@eversource.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1486** – The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed 400/500 Lines Rebuild Project consisting of the upgrade of the existing No. 400 69-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line to 115-kV and the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along 8.6 miles of the existing No. 400 electric transmission line within existing Eversource electric transmission line right-of-way between Ledyard Junction in Ledyard and Tunnel Substation in Preston; and the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 4.9 miles of the existing No. 500 69-kV electric transmission line within existing Eversource electric transmission line right-of-way between Hallville Junction in Ledyard and Tunnel Substation in Preston Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than March 30, 2022. Please submit an original and 15 copies to the Council's office and an electronic copy to siting.council@ct.gov. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and in accordance with Section 16-50j-12 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Council requests all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Please be advised that the original and 15 copies are required to be submitted to the Council's office on or before the March 30, 2022 deadline.

Copies of your responses are required to be provided to all parties and intervenors listed in the service list, which can be found on the Council's website under the "Pending Matters" link.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MB/RM



**Petition No. 1486 - Eversource
400 Line - 500 Line Upgrade Project**

Interrogatories

1. What is the total estimated cost of the project? Of this total, what costs would be regionalized, and what costs would be localized? Estimate the percentages of the total cost that would be borne by Eversource ratepayers, Connecticut ratepayers, and the remainder of New England (excluding Connecticut) ratepayers, as applicable.
2. Identify all other permits required to perform the proposed work.
3. Would notice to the Federal Aviation Administration be required for any of the proposed replacement structures? If yes, would marking and/or lighting be required for any of the proposed replacement structures?
4. Referencing Petition p. 41, were there any comments from the Town of Preston, Town of Ledyard or property owners? If so, what were their concerns, and how were these concerns addressed?
5. Describe the construction plan for the 400 Line. What is Eversource's contingency plan to maintain power to residents and businesses in the area during line outages?
6. Referencing Petition pp. 17-18, what is the status of the Phase II Archeological Survey and consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office regarding structure heights?
7. Referencing Petition p. 18, 400 Line - why is it necessary to relocate 4 structures from upland areas to locations within wetlands?
8. Can the total amount of tree clearing in uplands and/or wetlands be reduced by aligning the conductors a sufficient distance away from the existing edge of the right-of-way (ROW) managed area?
9. Referencing the Petition Map sheets;
 - a) Structures 7037 through 7053- can expansion of the maintained ROW be avoided by relocating the 400 Line clearance zone to the current maintained area of the ROW?
 - b) Structures 7054 through 7070 – is it possible to install the new 400 Line in the location of the abandoned 500 Line, thereby reducing the amount of tree clearing required along the edge of the ROW?
 - c) Structures 7071 – 7105 - why is it necessary to expand the maintained portion of the ROW to the east when there appears to space within current maintained area of the ROW to accommodate the rebuilt 400 and 500 Lines?
10. Referencing Petition p. 22, what is the status of the CT DEEP and the US Army Corps of Engineers permits for working within wetlands and vernal pools?
11. Referencing Petition p. 27, what is the status of CT DEEP NDDB review?
12. In addition to Eversource's Best Management Practices, what other specific environmental mitigation measures and/or monitoring would be conducted for construction within environmentally sensitive areas?