

## Attachment E

### Vernal Pool Survey

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Wetland Delineation • Wetland Assessment & Permitting • Wildlife Surveys • Fisheries & Aquatics • GIS Mapping • Forestry

## VERNAL POOL SURVEY RESULTS

Eversource Energy Eastern Connecticut Reliability Project  
Ledyard Junction to Mystic Upgrade Project  
Ledyard, Groton and Stonington, Connecticut

Submitted To:

Eversource Energy  
107 Selden Street  
Berlin, CT 06037

Prepared By:



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Date: 7/1/2022

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Appendix A: Vernal Pool Photographs

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

On Behalf of Eversource Energy Company, Davison Environmental LLC conducted vernal pool surveys on the 1280 Transmission Line as part of the Eastern Connecticut Reliability Project (“the Project”). Field surveys were conducted across all wetlands in the Project area on April 1, 4, 10, 12 and 14 by Biologists Eric Davison and Alex Malvezzi. Potential vernal pool locations were determined by Davison Environmental during wetland delineation work conducted during December 2021.

## **2.0 GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING**

The Project area is located in southeastern Connecticut, beginning at Ledyard and running south and east through northern Groton and terminating in the village of Mystic in Stonington. The Project traverses multiple glacial till ridges and interspersing stream valleys. Ridge systems include Gungywamp Hill, Vinegar Hill and Quoketaug Hill, interspersed with the stream valleys and watersheds of Ledyard Reservoir, Haley’s Brook, Whitford Brook and Pequotsepos Brook. From a regional perspective, the Project area lies within the northern limits of the *Long Island Sound Coastal Lowland* ecoregion near its northerly transition to the *Southern New England Coastal Plains and Hills*. The *Long Island Sound Coastal Lowlands* ecoregion is the coastal strip occurring in southern Connecticut and Rhode Island that borders Long Island Sound and Block Island Sound. It includes low elevation rolling coastal plain, tidal marshes, estuaries, sandy dunes and beaches, and rocky headlands. This ecoregion has one of the mildest climates of New England. The coastal hardwood forests contain black, red, and white oaks, hickories, and black cherry, often with dense thickets of greenbrier.

## **3.0 VERNAL POOLS DEFINED**

Vernal pools are ephemeral waterbodies that provide critical breeding habitat for forest-dwelling amphibians, particularly mole salamanders (*Ambystoma spp.*) and wood frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*) as well as a variety of aquatic insects.

Many vernal pool definitions have been developed by both regulatory agencies as well as conservation organizations. While these definitions vary slightly, they all include the same common critical characteristics.

In Northeastern U.S., a recognized source utilized by both the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as well as the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers New England District

(ACOE) regarding the classification and protection of vernal pools is a document developed by Calhoun and Klemens (2002), entitled: *Best development practices: Conserving pool-breeding amphibians in residential and commercial developments in the northeastern United States* (the “BDP Manual”, hereinafter). The BDP Manual provides the following operational definition of vernal pools:

*“Vernal pools are seasonal bodies of water that attain maximum depths in the spring or fall, and lack permanent surface water connections with other wetlands or water bodies. Pools fill with snowmelt or runoff in the spring, although some may be fed primarily by groundwater sources. The duration of surface flooding, known as hydroperiod, varies depending upon the pool and the year; vernal pool hydroperiods range along a continuum from less than 30 days to more than one year. Pools are generally small in size (<2 acres), with the extent of vegetation varying widely. They lack established fish populations, usually as a result of periodic drying, and support communities dominated by animals adapted to living in temporary, fishless pools. In the region, they provide essential breeding habitat for one or more wildlife species including Ambystomid salamanders (*Ambystoma* spp.), called “mole salamanders” because they live in burrows), wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*), and fairy shrimp (*Eubranchipus* spp.).”*

The ACOE Connecticut General Permit (effective December 15, 2021) defines vernal pools as follows: Vernal pools are depressional wetland basins that typically go dry in most years and may contain inlets or outlets, typically of intermittent flow. Vernal pools range in both size and depth depending upon landscape position and parent material(s). In most years, Vernal pools support one or more of the following obligate indicator species: wood frog, spotted salamander, blue-spotted salamander, marbled salamander, Jefferson’s salamander and fairy shrimp. However, they should preclude sustainable populations of predatory fish.

The physical characteristics of a vernal pool (e.g., landform, hydrology, vegetation) can vary widely, but can generally be classified into two types - “classic” or “cryptic”. Classic vernal pools are natural isolated depressions in forested uplands with no hydrologic connection to other wetland systems. They are generally well-defined (i.e., have an abrupt wetland-upland boundary) and are typically concentric or oblong in shape.

Cryptic vernal pools are depressions or impoundments embedded within larger wetlands. Cryptic vernal pools are the most common type of pool in Connecticut, and often occur within seasonally flooded portions of red maple (*Acer rubrum*) dominated forested wetlands.

#### 4.0 VERNAL POOL INDICATOR SPECIES

Several species of amphibians depend on vernal pools for reproduction and development. These species are referred to as “indicator species” (Calhoun and Klemens, 2002). In Connecticut, indicator species include:

##### Mole Salamanders

- Blue-spotted salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*)
- Spotted salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*)
- Jefferson salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*)
- Marbled salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*)

##### Frogs

- Wood frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*)

##### Invertebrates

- Fairy shrimp (*Branchiopoda anostraca*)

The wood frog and the spotted salamander are the two most common indicator species in Connecticut, occurring statewide. Fairy shrimp also occur statewide but are relatively uncommon.

The marbled salamander is relatively common statewide but is rare or absent from higher elevation areas of the state found within the northwest uplands and highlands as well as the northeast hills ecoregions. Marbled salamander are known to occur in the vicinity of the Project area (Klemens, et. al. 2021).

Less common indicator species include three State-listed species: the blue-spotted salamander (complex and pure diploid) and Jefferson salamander. These species are habitat specialists that have a more limited distribution in the State than other mole salamanders as described in Klemens et. al. 2021. These species do not occur in the vicinity Project area.

In addition to indicator species, vernal pools also support what are referred to as “facultative vernal pool species”. These are species that utilize but do not necessarily require vernal pools for reproductive success. Examples of facultative species include spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*) and four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*). These species may breed or feed in vernal pools but are also capable of carrying out all phases of their life cycle in other types of wetlands or waterbodies. Evidence of breeding by facultative species alone is not considered indicative of a vernal pool.

## 5.0 SEASONAL ACTIVITY PERIODS OF INDICATOR SPECIES

Table 1 summarizes the seasonal activity of vernal pool amphibian indicator species. Most vernal pool indicator species breed in the late winter or early spring (March-April), with newly metamorphosed amphibians emerging from pools in June-July, with dispersal into the adjacent forest continuing into October. The exception to this is the marbled salamander which breeds in late summer and early fall (August-September), with metamorph emergence occurring from May – July. Table 1 also notes the seasonal periods in which vernal pools and vernal pool wildlife are particularly susceptible to impact from construction related activities that occur within or near (i.e., within approximately 100') vernal pools. These seasonal periods, noted as periods of “high sensitivity”, include the migration/breeding period and the metamorph emergence/early dispersal periods. During these times, amphibians occur at higher density within or immediately adjacent to the pool. Thus, the risk of impact either via direct mortality or disruption of migration and breeding is greater during the high sensitivity periods.

Table 1: Seasonal activity periods for vernal pool indicator species

<b>SPRING BREEDERS</b>		
Wood Frog, Spotted Salamander, Jefferson Salamander, and Blue-spotted Salamander Complex		
NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY	Pools are dormant	
MARCH - APRIL	Migration, breeding and egg deposition	
APRIL - JUNE	Egg hatching and larval development	
JUNE - OCTOBER	Metamorphosis and juvenile dispersal	
<b>HIGH SENSITIVITY PERIOD 0-100FT</b>	MARCH - APRIL	High densities of adults migrating to and from breeding pools
	JUNE - JULY	High densities of metamorphs disperse from breeding pools into the adjacent forest
<b>FALL BREEDERS</b>		
Marbled Salamander		
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER	Migration, breeding and egg deposition	
NOVEMBER - MAY	Egg hatching and larval development	
MAY - JULY	Metamorphosis and juvenile dispersal	
<b>HIGH SENSITIVITY PERIOD 0-100FT</b>	AUGUST-SEPTEMBER	Adults migrate to breeding pools
	MAY - JULY	High densities of metamorphs disperse from breeding pools into the adjacent forest

## 6.0 TERRESTRIAL (NON-BREEDING) HABITAT

Vernal pool wildlife favor terrestrial forested habitat adjacent to vernal pools during the non-breeding period (Colburn, 2004). These habitats are where they shelter and feed beneath surficial cover objects (e.g., rocks, logs) or in fossorial small mammal burrows.



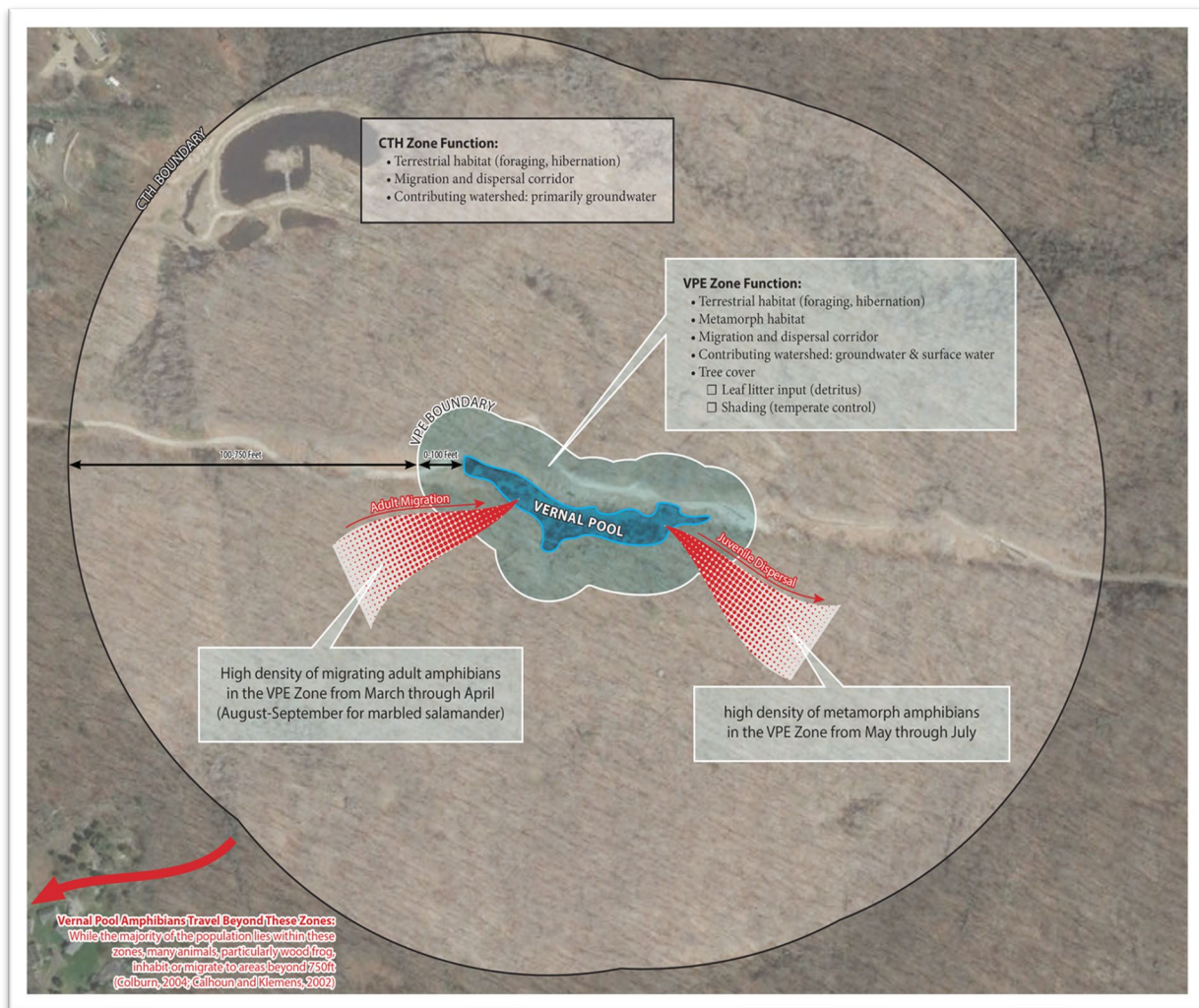
Forests not only provide habitat, but the trees adjacent to vernal pools are critical to vernal pool ecology as they contribute to the food web (via detritus inputs), help maintain cool water temperatures, and affect pool hydrology (Colburn, 2004).

Vernal pool amphibians disperse a significant distance into terrestrial forests surrounding the pool. A number of studies have documented dispersal distances of indicator species (Colburn 2004, Windmiller 1996, Semlitsch 1998). The BDP Manual utilized data from these and other sources to develop a two-zoned management area extending a total distance of 750' surrounding from the vernal pool. These zones are illustrated on Figure 1. The first zone, referred to as the Vernal Pool Envelope (VPE) includes lands within 100' of the pool's spring high water mark. The spring high water mark is the limit of peak flooding during the late winter or early spring. The second zone, referred to as the Critical Terrestrial Habitat (CTH) encompasses an area 100'-750' from the pool's spring high water mark.

These management zones provide several ecosystem support functions for vernal pools as illustrated on Figure 1. These include:

- Terrestrial habitat for amphibians
- Juvenile (i.e., newly metamorphosed) dispersal and staging habitat
- Migration and dispersal corridor
- Tree cover which provides
  - Leaf litter inputs as a source for detritus-based food web
  - Shading and hydroperiod influence
  - Contributing watershed (groundwater and surface water input)

Figure 1: Illustration of vernal pool management zones



## 7.0 SURVEY METHODS

Survey methods were designed to document breeding by amphibian indicator species. The simplest method to accomplish this is to locate and inventory egg masses in the case of spring breeders (e.g., wood frog), and larvae for the fall breeding marbled salamander. This work was done via visual and audial observations, and inventory of organisms inhabiting the water column and benthic habitat using a fine mesh (<1/4 inch) dipnet. Work was conducting under sunny skies wearing polarized sunglasses to maximize detection of egg masses and larvae. Capture and identification of breeding adults was not deemed necessary at this Site, as definitive identification of the breeding species by egg mass was straightforward based on the species that are known to occur in this region. Physical capture of breeding adults is a critical survey method for certain regions of the State where the potential exists for the presence of blue-spotted salamander

complex or Jefferson salamander complex, as differentiation of egg masses of these species from the common spotted salamander is not definitive. At such sites, the capture of breeding adults is warranted. However, these regionally restricted species do not occur within the region in which the Project occurs.

Examine of the physical characteristics of the pools included mapping the extent of the pool, characterizing pool hydrology (maximum depth and hydroperiod) and documenting the vegetative characteristics. The extent of the pool, or vernal pool basin boundary, is determined in the late winter-early spring during maximum flooding. This is determined by field locating the “spring high water mark” (Calhoun and Klemens 2002), which consists of demarcated the seasonally flooded portions of the wetland that are directly connected to observed egg masses. This boundary is mapped in the field using a Trimble GPS Unit capable of sub-meter accuracy, then plotted in ArcGIS as illustrated on the Map Set.

## 8.0 RESULTS

All wetlands were inspected for their potential to provide vernal pool habitat. Wetlands with a hydrology ranging from seasonally flooded to semi-permanently flooded were the focus of detailed investigation, as they would have the potential to support full development of amphibian larvae.

In total, 17 vernal pools were observed within the Project area. Vernal pool physical and biological characteristics are summarized in Table 2. Two vernal pool indicator species were observed the spotted salamander (*Amybystoma maculatum*) and wood frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*), along with one facultative species, the spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*). The spotted salamander was observed in all but Vernal Pool 10. Wood frog were observed in 13 of the 17 pools. The habitat in many of the pools was suitable for the marbled salamander, and they are known to occur in the region, but none were observed.

All of the vernal pools observed were cryptic pools, as opposed to classic. Cryptic pools are more common Statewide than classic pools, particularly in areas of glacial till surficial geology, for which most of the Project area is located.

Vernal pool hydrology was largely *seasonally flooded*. Wetlands with a seasonally flooded hydrology contain ponded water for extended periods during the growing season, typical from February through June, but usually contain no surface water during the latter part of the growing season. Pools with aquatic beds of submergent vegetation (pools 9 and 17) likely have a longer

hydroperiod, one classified as *semi-permanently flooded*, in which standing water is present throughout the growing season.

Table 2: Summary of vernal pool physical and biological characteristics

Pool #	Map Sheet	Physical Characteristics		Indicator Species			Cover Type
		Parent Material	Maximum Depth (in)	Total Egg Masses		Presence	
				Amac	Lsyl	Tadpole/Larvae	
1	1	gt	10	21	1	Lsyl	PSS
2	2	gt	18	12	6		PSS
3	2	gt	16	35	75		PSS
4	4	gt	12	8	0	Lsyl	PSS
5	4	gt	12	49	0	Lsyl	PSS
6	5	gt	10	25	0		PSS
7	7	gt	18	69	0		PSS
8	7-8	gt	16	27	0		PEM
9	9	gt	12	85	2		PSS, PEM, AQ
10	11	go	6	0	3		PFO
11	11	gt	16	27	75		PSS
12	11	gt	12	7	100		PFO
13	13	gt	8	43	3		PEM
14	15	gt	8	32	7		PFO
15	18	gt	12	21	0		PSS
16	18	gt	18	20	100		PSS
17	22	gt	20	23	0		PEM, AQ
KEY							
Parent Material: glacial till (gt); glacial outwash (go); glaciofluvial (gf); glaciolacustrine (gl) Indicator Species: Ambystoma maculatum (Amac); Lithobates sylvaticus (Lsyl) Vegetation: palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS); palustrine forested (PFO); palustrine emergent (PEM); aquatic beds present (AQ)							

A total of 4 spotted turtle were observed within two different vernal pools. The spotted turtle is a facultative vernal pool species. The spotted turtle is widely distributed in Connecticut, and New England is the species' northeastern range limit. Many of Connecticut's reptiles that are near their northern range limit exhibit an affinity for the lower-lying warmer portions of the State. Spotted turtles are most abundant in areas of the State below 500 feet in elevation and become quite scarce and localized at higher elevations. Spotted turtles use a wide range of wetlands, including vernal pools, shrub swamps, forested wetlands, marshes, wet meadows, and the vegetated margins of ponds and lakes. They have complex habitat requirements, seasonally using a mosaic of wetland habitats, moving overland between these habitats. During the late winter and early spring upon emergence from hibernation, they often seek vernal pools for feeding and basking.

Spotted turtle are a State-listed species of special concern in Connecticut, and therefore the precise location of these turtles has been excluded from this report. As required under the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) Scientific Collectors Permit held by Eric Davison, (permit #1323001), *Special Animal Survey Forms* documenting these observations have been submitted to the CTDEEP.

Other amphibian species observed during survey work included spring peeper (*Pseudacris cruficer*) adults, green frog (*Rana clamitans*) adults and larvae and gray treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*) adult.

The dominant vegetative cover type within the vernal pools is palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS). Typical component shrub species included sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*). Component herbaceous plant species included tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*), skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*). Several pools contained aquatic beds of grasses and water milfoil (*Myriophyllum sp.*). Due to ongoing vegetation management, trees were largely absent from the portions of the pools located within the maintained right-of-way but. Where pools occurred along the margins of the maintained right-of-way, the cover type was palustrine forested (PFO), with a tree canopy dominated by red maple (*Acer rubrum*). Pools 7, 8, 13 and 15 contain infestations of the invasive non-native common reed (*Phragmites australis*).

## 9.0 RECOMMENDED PROTECTION MEASURES

Vegetation removal and/or tree trimming is proposed within VPEs. The following measures are recommended for those work areas:

1. Vegetation clearing work shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable during the high sensitivity breeding and migration period from early March through the end of April.
2. During vegetation removal, compatible species within the VPE must be protected to the maximum extent practicable at all times. Use of the following measures is recommended:
  - If vegetation must be removed, to the maximum extent practicable it should be done selectively either by hand or with equipment that can reach in and cut and remove it. Non-selective mowing of vegetation should only be used if it is absolutely necessary.
  - If use of equipment is required within the VPE, timber mats should be utilized at all times to support equipment and minimize soil disturbance.

- Girdling or topping of trees within the VPE should be considered an acceptable practice with the approval of Eversource Vegetation Management staff or their designated representative.
  - Minimize the removal of low growing vegetation within 25' of the Vernal Pool Depression (VPD).
3. If use of equipment is required within the VPE during the amphibian breeding season (early march through April) elevated timber mats should be utilized.
  4. Cut vegetation, or portions thereof, should be left in place within the VPE with the approval of Eversource Vegetation Management staff or their designated representative.
  5. Install and maintain erosion and sedimentation (E&S) control BMPs as necessary to protect water quality and to limit the potential for soil deposition into a VPD. Erosion control measures should be designed in a manner that allows unencumbered amphibian access to the vernal pool. Such measures may include, but not be limited to; straw wattles, and aligning erosion and sedimentation controls to avoid bifurcating vernal pool habitat. Plastic netting, which may be found in a variety of erosion control products (e.g., erosion control blankets, straw wattles, and reinforced silt fence), should not be used. Erosion and sedimentation control devices should be promptly removed upon final revegetation and stabilization of the ROW.

## **10.0 REFERENCES**

Calhoun, A.J.K. and M.W. Klemens. 2002. Best development practices: Conserving pool-breeding amphibians in residential and commercial developments in the northeastern United States. MCA Technical Paper No. 5, Metropolitan Conservation Alliance, Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, New York.

Colburn, E.A. 2004. Vernal pools, natural history and conservation. The McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company.

Klemens, M.W., Gruner, H.J., Quinn, D.P. and Davison, E.R. 2021. Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles in Connecticut. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Revision to State Geological and Natural History Survey Bulletin 112.

Mitsch, W.J. and J.G. Gosselink. 2007. Wetlands, fourth edition. John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

Semlitsch, R.D. 1998. Biological delineation of terrestrial buffer zones for pond-breeding amphibians. *Conservation Biology* 12:1113-1119.

Windmiller, B.S. 1996. The pond, the forest, and the city: Spotted salamander ecology and conservation in a human-dominated landscape. Ph.D dissertation, Tufts, University, Medford, MA.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Ecoregions GIS Data. Web link: <https://www.epa.gov/eco-research/ecoregion-download-files-state-region-1#pane-27>

VERNAL POOL PHOTOGRAPHS

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Photo 1: View of Vernal Pool #1.



Photo 2: View of Vernal Pool #2.





Photo 3: View of Vernal Pool #3.



Photo 4: View of Vernal Pool #4.



Photo 5: Secondary view of Vernal Pool #4 after summer drawdown.



Photo 6: View of Vernal Pool #5.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #6.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #7.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #8, looking north at *Phragmites* dominated area.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #8, southern end of pool where it discharges downslope.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #9.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #10.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #11.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #12.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #13.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #14.



Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #15.



Photo 8: View of Vernal Pool #16.





Photo 7: View of Vernal Pool #17.

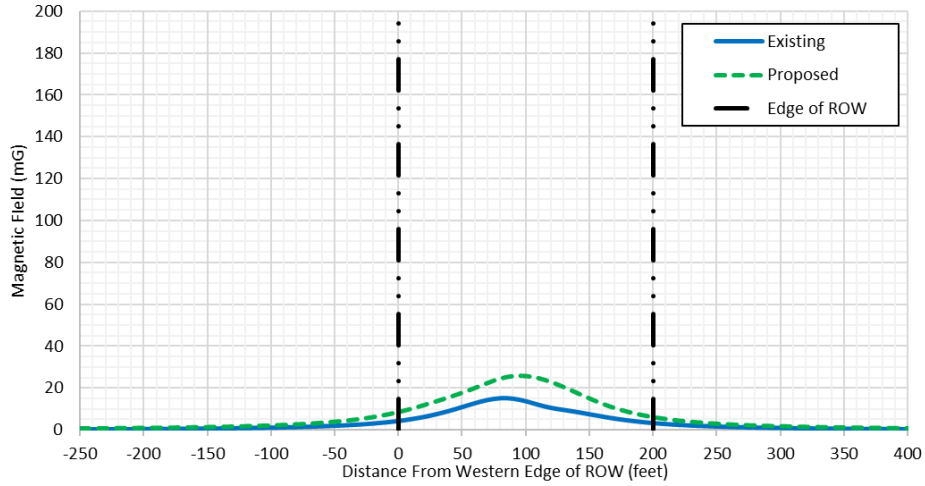
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## Attachment F

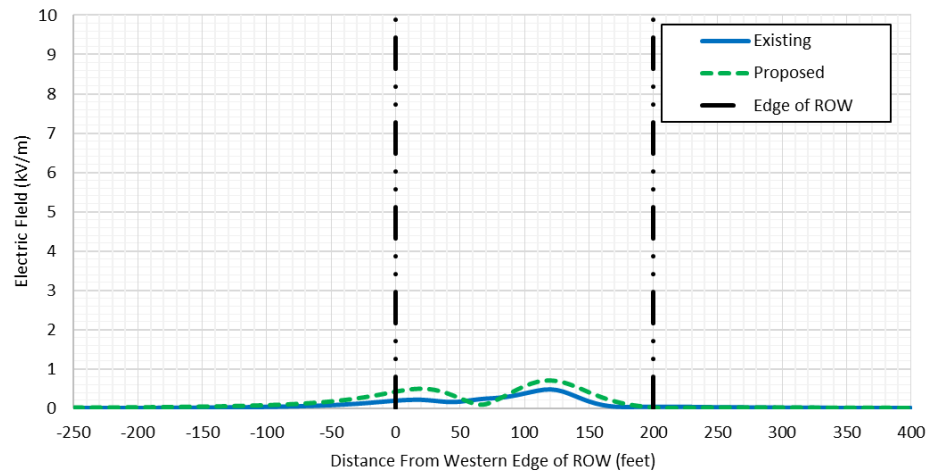
## EMF Graphs

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### Calculated Magnetic Fields (AAL) Groton Town Line (Structure 127) - Whipple Junction



### Calculated Electric Fields (AAL) Groton Town Line (Structure 127) - Whipple Junction



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## Attachment G

### Letter to the Abutters and Affidavit

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August 9, 2022

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 structure replacement project in your area.

### Proposed Project Information

The Project, called the Ledyard Junction to Mystic Substation Upgrade Project, will be taking place within the right of way on or near your property between an area off Whalehead Road in Ledyard to Long Cove Rd in Groton, as well as between Whipple Junction in Ledyard, Mystic Junction in Stonington, and the Mystic Substation off Greenmanville Ave in Stonington. The Proposed modifications include:

- Replacement of various existing wood structures with new steel structures, with a finish that "weathers" or darkens over time. Most of the structure replacements are due to the age and condition, and some structures will be replaced to comply with National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) clearance requirements. The existing structure heights range from 52 feet to 86 feet above ground level (AGL) and the new structures will range in height from 57 feet to 98 feet (AGL). The average height increase is approximately eight feet AGL.
- Installation of two new vertical steel monopole structures to support fiber optical communication cable.
- Select tree and vegetation removal within the right of way to comply with updated electrical standards.

In addition, we will replace the shield wire on the structures with Optical Ground Wire (OPGW). With these improvements, Eversource will improve electric reliability by enabling communication between substations.

### What You Can Expect

Pending all necessary approvals for this proposed work, construction is expected to begin in the fourth quarter of 2022. We anticipate completing construction, including restoration of affected areas, by the third quarter of 2023.

### Other Eversource Work

Eversource is planning to extend the 11B1 Distribution delivery system (Distribution line) within the existing Transmission 1280-line corridor between Whipple Junction (off Long Cove Rd) in Ledyard and Lambtown Road in Groton. The new Distribution line will run parallel with the Transmission 1280 line and this work will include the installation of approximately 63 new steel distribution poles. Tree removal along the southern edge of the right-of-way will be necessary. Please note this Distribution work is unrelated to the Ledyard Junction to Mystic Upgrade Project and petition filing; however, we are mentioning it here since it is also planned to occur in your area. In the coming weeks, we will provide you with additional information about this Project.

### For More 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](mailto: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](mailto: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,

*Taylor LaPierre*

Taylor LaPierre

Project Manager on Behalf of Eversource Energy Transmission

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT     )  
   ) ss. Hartford  
COUNTY OF HARTFORD     )

Sec. 16-SOj-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"). In accordance with that RCSA section, I hereby certify that I caused notice of proposed construction of The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy to be served by mail or courier upon the following municipal official:

Fred Allyn, III, Mayor  
Ledyard Town Hall  
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

John Burt, Town Manager  
Groton Town Hall  
45 Fort Hill Rd.  
Groton, CT 06340

Danielle Chesebrough, First Selectwoman  
Preston Town Hall  
152 Elm St.  
Stonington, CT 067378

I also certify that I caused notice of the proposed modifications to be served by mail or courier upon 279 owners of abutting properties shown on the maps in Attachment A in the Petition.

  
Susan J. Bellion  
Project Siting Specialist

On this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, 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.



Notary Public  
My Commission expires:

**SUSAN NAPOLITANO**  
Notary Public, State of Connecticut  
My Commission Expires 10/27