

September 7, 2023

VIA E-MAIL AND HAND-DELIVERY

Attorney Melanie Bachman
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: PETITION NO. 1566 - 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 Card Substation to Wawecus Junction Upgrade Project consisting of the replacement of electric transmission line structures along its existing 12.5-mile electric transmission right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) Nos. 1080/1490 and 1080/1070 Lines between Card Substation in Lebanon, Stockhouse Road Substation in Bozrah and Wawecus Junction in Norwich, Connecticut traversing the municipalities of Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah and Norwich, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements

Dear Attorney Bachman:

I am writing on behalf of the Petitioner, The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”), in response to the August 31, 2023 decision of the Connecticut Siting Council on various motions and requests filed by Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley (“the Intervenors”). In the decision, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) denied most of the Intervenors’ motions and requests, but it granted “Requested Action #12 for an additional discovery period *if the parties agree in writing to an extension of the 180-day final decision deadline in Petition 1566* for a period no longer than an additional 180 days beyond October 9, 2023.” (August 31, 2023 Decision) (Emphasis in original)

After careful consideration of this request, Eversource is writing to inform the Council that it does not agree to an extension to the decision date in this proceeding. While Eversource attempts to be accommodating to schedule modifications whenever possible, it is not feasible under the circumstances of this project, for the reasons described below.

Attorney Melanie Bachman
September 7, 2023
Page 2

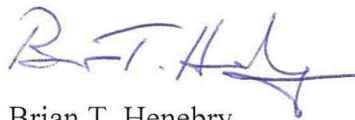
Of the structures identified for replacement, 32 structures, including Structures 7787 and 7788, are classified as asset condition replacements. Collectively, these structures have the following defects: split pole tops, rotten pole tops, wood decay, insect damage, rotten crossarms, woodpecker damage, excessive cracking, and deteriorated hardware. In accordance with Eversource's obligation to provide reliable service and its on-going practice, structures that have been identified as needing replacement due to asset condition require replacement as soon as that work can be scheduled, based on regulatory approvals and permits.

Delaying the replacement of these structures past the current project schedule would increase the risk of further damage or deterioration that could result in unplanned line outages, including during storm events, and thus, reduce the overall reliability of the transmission lines.

In addition to its concern regarding the impact of a delay of the decision on necessary asset condition replacements, Eversource has concerns, based on the history of this proceeding and the nature of the Intervenor's prior filings, that allowing additional time for discovery would not serve a productive purpose.

Despite its differences of opinion with the Intervenor on several issues, Eversource remains committed to working in good faith with the Intervenor on a restoration plan to attempt to address concerns they have raised regarding work within the right-of-way done in connection with previous projects. Eversource will continue to meet with and communicate with the Intervenor, regarding both the work to be done pursuant to this Petition, as well as restoration work in connection with issues they have raised regarding prior work in the right-of-way.

Very truly yours,



Brian T. Henebry

BTH/da

cc: Service List dated June 22, 2023 (attached)

LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS
SERVICE LIST

| Status Granted | Document Service | Status Holder (name, address & phone number) | Representative (name, address & phone number) |
|--|--|--|--|
| Petitioner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail | The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy | Deborah Denfeld Team Lead – Transmission Siting Eversource Energy P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141 Phone: (860) 728-4654 deborah.denfeld@eversource.com |
| Party and CEPA Intervenor (granted 6/22/23) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail | Cory R. Spaulding Leslie A. Yeisley 716 Beaumont Highway Lebanon, CT 06249 Phone: (352) 263-9226 coryspaulding@earthlink.net | |
| | | | |
| | | | |