



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 11, 2023

James McCaw, Chair  
Inland Wetlands Commission  
Town of Lebanon  
579 Exeter Road  
Lebanon, CT 06249  
[PChester@lebanonct.gov](mailto:PChester@lebanonct.gov)

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 Chairman McCaw:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the Town of Lebanon Inland Wetlands Commission's correspondence dated May 11, 2023, concerning the above-referenced petition. Thank you for taking the time to provide the Council with the comments.

This petition will be placed on a future Council meeting agenda for discussion and decision. Please note that you can view all of the documents related to this petition on our website at [portal.ct.gov/csc](http://portal.ct.gov/csc) under the "Pending Matters" link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and agenda.

Before reaching a final decision on any petition, the Council carefully considers all of the facts contained in the record that is developed by the Council, the petitioner, parties and intervenors to the petition, and all of the concerns received from members of the public who submit written statements to the Council.

Copies of your correspondence will be distributed to the service list for the petition.

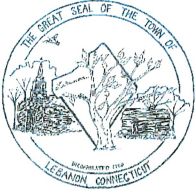
Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

MAB/MP/lm

c: Service List  
Council Members



Town of Lebanon  
***Inland Wetlands Commission***

579 Exeter Road, Lebanon, CT 06249  
(860) 642-2006

May 11, 2023

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

Re: Petition No. 1566, CL&P/Eversource Energy, Card Substation to Wawecus Junction Upgrade

Dear Ms. Bachman,


The Town of Lebanon Inland Wetlands Commission is contacting you in regards to the Petition 1566 during its comment period to address concerns by the CSC petition by CL&P/Eversource. The majority of this project lies within the Town of Lebanon.

Eversource, without question, needs to maintain their ROWs and has our support. That being said, we hope there is an adequate amount of oversight and accountability in the future. In the past, we and other residents have witnessed areas left with steep grade and erosion due to a lack of maintenance along this route. Proper remediation of these areas needs to be confirmation. It is encouraging that mechanical methods along with hand removal of vegetation is planned instead of the spraying of herbicides. Being an agricultural community, sensitive to the increasing environmental stresses on our ecosystems, the ROW corridors are becoming more and more important for many species of concern. It has been noted that these ROW have provided habitats for uncommon species of concern.

Pollinators and migratory birds are in decline in our state. Herbaceous shrubs along the ROW provide habitats for both these important biological entities. It seems the rotational period of mowing is not addressed but should be considered and noted. Eversource cites low impact methods in resource sensitive areas such as wetlands and vernal pools. These methods have not been identified in the Petition. It would be detrimental to their environment if a herbicide such as Roundup were to be used.

Thank you for your consideration in these matters. We all have a vested interest in making these ROW's in our state safe and more productive and not just a space to maintain.

Sincerely,

  
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James McCaw, Chair

Cc: First Selectman Kevin Cwikla