BEAUMONT HWY

Location BEAUMONT HWY

Mblu 221//50//

Acct# D0043300 Owner SPAULDING CORY R &

YEISLEY LESLIE A

Assessment \$10,900

PID 1525

Building Count 1

Current Value

	Assessment					
Valuation Year	Improvements	Land	Total			
2018	\$0	\$10,900	\$10,900			

Owner of Record

Owner

Address

SPAULDING CORY R & YEISLEY LESLIE A

Co-Owner

4142 MARINER BLVD #408

SPRING HILL, FL 34609

Sale Price

\$97,500

Certificate

Book & Page 318/862

Sale Date 08/13/2020

Instrument 28

Ownership History

Ownership History						
Owner	Sale Price	Certificate	Book & Page	Instrument	Sale Date	
SPAULDING CORY R & YEISLEY LESLIE A	\$97,500	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T	318/862	28	08/13/2020	
DAVIS JACKSON W & PATRICIA C	\$0		0108/0421	29	01/01/1900	

Building Information

Building 1 : Section 1

Year Built:

Living Area:

Replacement Cost:

\$0

Building Percent Good:

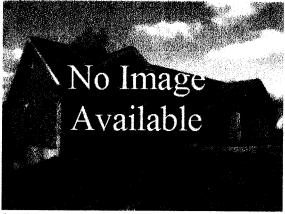
Replacement Cost Less Depreciation

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Less Depreciation: \$0	Building Attributes Field Description Vacant Land
Buildi	ng Attributes
Field	Description
Style	Vacant Land
Model	A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR
Grade:	
Stories:	
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Occupancy	
Exterior Wall 1	
Exterior Wall 2	
Roof Structure:	
Roof Cover	
Interior Wall 1	tion to the first term of the second property
Interior Wall 2	e e en la companya de la companya d
Interior Flr 1	
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Heat Fuel	
Heat Type:	The second secon
AC Type:	e de la composition de description de la composition della composi
Total Bedrooms:	AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY
Total Bthrms:	
Total Half Baths:	CPC CPC ARCHITECTURE TO THE SECURITY PROCESS OF THE SECURITY SECUR
Total Xtra Fixtrs:	The second secon
Total Rooms:	
Bath Style:	THE SECTION OF THE PARTY OF THE
Kitchen Style:	
Kitchens	Commission of the second secon
Insulated	
Usrfld 103	10 TO
Usrfld 104	
Usrfld 105	
Usrfld 106	
Usrfid 107	
Num Park	
Fireplaces	TOTAL TOTAL CONTRACTOR OF THE
Gas Fireplaces	Maria Maria (
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Usrfld 305	no come mentro construire de la construi
Usrfld 900	
Usrfld 901	MAN BARA TARA MANANCIANA MANANCIA MANAN
Usrfld 303	

Building Photo



(http://images.vgsi.com/photos/LebanonCTPhotos//default.jpg)

Building Layout

(http://images.vgsi.com/photos/LebanonCTPhotos//Sketches/1525_1525.jr

Building Sub-Areas (sq ft) <u>Legend</u>

No Data for Building Sub-Areas

Extra Features

- ;	processing the control of the contro	
1	Extra Features	<u>Legend</u>
- 1		
	No Data for Extra Features	

Land

Land Use

Land Line Valuation

Size (Acres)

Frontage

Use Code Description

6100

FOREST

Zone

RΑ

Neighborhood 11 Alt Land Appr

Category

No

Depth 0 Assessed Value \$10,900

64.84

0

Outbuildings

Outbuildings

<u>Legend</u>

No Data for Outbuildings

Valuation History

Assessment					
Valuation Year	Improvements	Land	Total		
2020	\$0	\$10,900	\$10,900		
2019	\$0	\$10,900	\$10,900		
2018	\$0	\$10,900	\$10,900		

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716 BEAUMONT HWY

Location 716 BEAUMONT HWY Mblu 221/ / 47/ /

Acct# L0100000 SPAULDING CORY R & Owner

Assessment \$530,530 PID 1522

Building Count 1

Current Value

Valuation Year	Valuation Year Improvements Land Total						
2018	\$460,930	\$69,600	\$530,530				

Owner of Record

Owner SPAULDING CORY R & Sale Price \$650,000

Co-Owner YEISLEY LESLIE A Certificate

Address 716 BEAUMONT HWY Book & Page 0300/0867 LEBANON, CT 06249 Sale Date 11/29/2016

> Instrument 30

Ownership History

Ownership History						
Owner	Sale Price	Certificate	Book & Page	Instrument	Sale Date	
SPAULDING CORY R &	\$650,000		0300/0867	30	11/29/2016	
LYMAN RONALD E	\$0		0296/0627	31	12/15/2015	
LYMAN JACQUELINE A & RONALD E TRUSTEES	\$0		0272/0556	29	07/08/2011	
LYMAN RONALD E	\$0		0271/0760	29	05/12/2011	
LYMAN JACQUELINE & RONALD E- TRUSTEES	\$0		0254/0914	29	03/17/2008	

Building Information

Building 1: Section 1

Year Built: 1999 Living Area: 7,573 **Replacement Cost:** \$762,525 82

Building Percent Good: Replacement Cost

Less Depreciation: \$625,270

Building Attributes Field Description Style Cape Cod

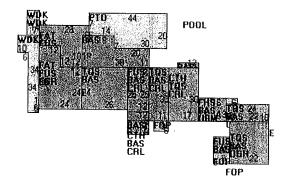
	Model	Residential
	Grade:	Very Good
	Stories:	2 Stories
	Occupancy	2
	Exterior Wall 1	Clapboard
	Exterior Wall 2	
	Roof Structure:	Gable/Hip
	Roof Cover	Asphit/Archite
	Interior Wall 1	
	Interior Wall 2	Drywall/Sheet
	Interior FIr 1	
	Interior FIr 2	Hardwood
	The control of the co	Carpet
	Heat Fuel	Gas
	Heat Type:	Forced Air
	AC Type:	Central
	Total Bedrooms:	8 Bedrooms
	. Total Bthrms:	6
	Total Half Baths:	1
	Total Xtra Fixtrs:	2
	Total Rooms:	18
	Bath Style:	Modern
	Kitchen Style:	Above Average
	Kitchens	2
	Insulated	Yes
	Usrfld 103	
	Usrfld 104	
	Usrfld 105	
	Usrfld 106	4
	Usrfld 107	
	Num Park	
	Fireplaces	1
	Gas Fireplaces	2.00
	Usrfld 101	
	Usrfld 102	
	Usrfld 100	
-	Usrfld 300	
	Usrfld 301	
	Usrfld 302	Property and the second
1	Usrfld 304	The second control of
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	Usrfld 305	THE CHARLES AS A SECOND CONTRACT OF THE CONTRA
	Usrfld 900	No
	Usrfld 901	No
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Building Photo



 $(http://images.vgsi.com/photos/LebanonCTPhotos/\\ \land 00\\ \land 00\\ \land 99\\ \land 4.jpg)$

Building Layout



 $(http://images.vgsi.com/photos/LebanonCTPhotos//Sketches/1522_1522.jr$

	Building Sub-Areas (sq ft)				
Code	Description	Gross Area	Living Area		
BAS	First Floor	3,503	3,503		
TQS	Three Quarter Story	2,232	1,897		
FUS	Finished Upper Story	1,557	1,557		
FAT	Finished Attic	1,176	470		
FHS	Finished Half Story	208	146		
CRL	Crawl Space	1,200	0		
СТН	Cathedral Ceiling	570	0 -		
FGR	Garage	720	0		
FOP	Open Porch	120	0		
PTO	Patio	782	0		
UBM	Unfinished Basement	448	0		
UGR	Basement Garage	528	0 :		
WDK	Wood Deck	520	0		
		13,564	7,573		

Extra Features

		Extra Features		Legend
Code	Description	Size	Value	Bldg #
wst	Wood Stove	1.00 UNITS	\$1,640	1

Land

Land Use

1011

Use Code Description

cription One Family + Accessory Unit

Zone RA Neighborhood 12

Alt Land Appr No

Category

Land Line Valuation

Size (Acres) 10.49

Size (Acres) Frontage

0

Depth 0

Assessed Value \$69,600

Outbuildings

m white a constraint of the co	Outbuildings <u>Leg</u> s						
Code	Description	Sub Code	Sub Description	Size	Value	Bldg #	
LNT	LEAN-TO			640.00 S.F.	\$1,920	1	
FGR1	GARAGE-AVE			960.00 S.F.	\$15,310	1	
SPL2	IG POOL-VINYL			648.00 S.F.	\$8,910	1	
CAN	CANOPY		The second secon	1008.00 S.F.	\$3,020	1	
WDK	WOOD DECK			400.00 S.F.	\$2,400	1	

Valuation History

Assessment			
Valuation Year	Improvements	Land	Total
2020	\$460,930	\$69,600	\$530,530
2019	\$460,930	\$82,300	\$543,230
2018	\$460,930	\$82,300	\$543,230

0-51. 226A-66



Know all Men by these Presents:

•	That-h we, WILLIAU P. PARKHURST and MART C. PARKHURST
	Lebanon
	Said easement, privilege and right of way horein granted, covers any land, or interest therein, owned by me, us within thirty feet measured at right angles to and setting the measured at right angles to and wasterly of, the following described line of location whether such line of location is, at the point opposite such land, on my, our land, on the highway or on land of some other party.
	Said line of location Begins at an iron pin in the southerly boundary line of land now or formerly of Ross and Mike Kollar said pin being about 524.8 feet westerly (as measured along said southerly boundary line) from the intersection of the westerly boundary line of land now or formerly of John Griffin and the said southerly hard line of land now or formerly of

John Griffin and the said southerly boundary line of Rose and Mike Rollar; thence S 110 - 25' W about 1187 feet to an iron pin at an angle; thence S 26' - 50'E about 609 feet to the Old Hayward Fond Road (so called) and land now or formerly of Jane E. and Harry N. Bruce.



Said electric lines may consist of poles, towers, other supporting structures (which may be substituted one for the other at any time), circuits, cables, wires, cross arms, guy wires, anchors, guy stubs and other fixtures and appurtenances, any or all of which constituent parts of sold electric lines may be erected, relocated, replaced, repaired or changed in number, size or type from time to time.

Together with the right to trim, cut, take down and remove at any and all times such trees, parts of trees, limbs, branches, underbrush and structures within or projecting into the above described right of way as in the judgment of the grantee may interfere with or endanger any of said electric lines or their operation, whenever they

Together also with the right to enter upon, pass and transport materials, along and over said right of way to and from adjoining lands of others or highways.

Reserving, however, to myself, ourselves, and to my, our, heirs and assigns the right to use the land, except for structures, beneath said electric lines and elsewhere within said right of way, but no use of the land whatsoever, shall interfere with or obstruct the rights herein granted or endanger said electric lines or their operation, whenever they are erected.

If any part of the above described land upon or over which said electric lines shall be located is now or shall hereafter become a public street or highway or a part thereof, permission, as provided in the General Statutes of Connecticut relating to adjoining land owners, is hereby given to the grantee to use that part for the purposes and the manner above described.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said granted and bargained easoment, privilege and right of way and its appurtenances to said grantee and to its successors and assigns forever, to its and their own proper use and

And I, we, the granters, do hereby covenant and agree for myself, ourselves, and my, our, heirs, executors And it we, the grantors, do nereby covenant and agree for myself, ourselves, and my our, heirs, executors and administrators, with the grantee and its successors and assigns, that, at and until the ensealing of these presents, it, we, arm are, lawfully solved of the above bargained premises in fee simple, that it, we, have full right, title and authority to grant and convey the foregoing rights and privileges, and it we, further, by these presents, bind myself, ourselves, and my, our, heirs, executors and administrators forever to warrant and defend the same

to the said grantee and to its successors and assigns forever against all claims and demands whatsoever.

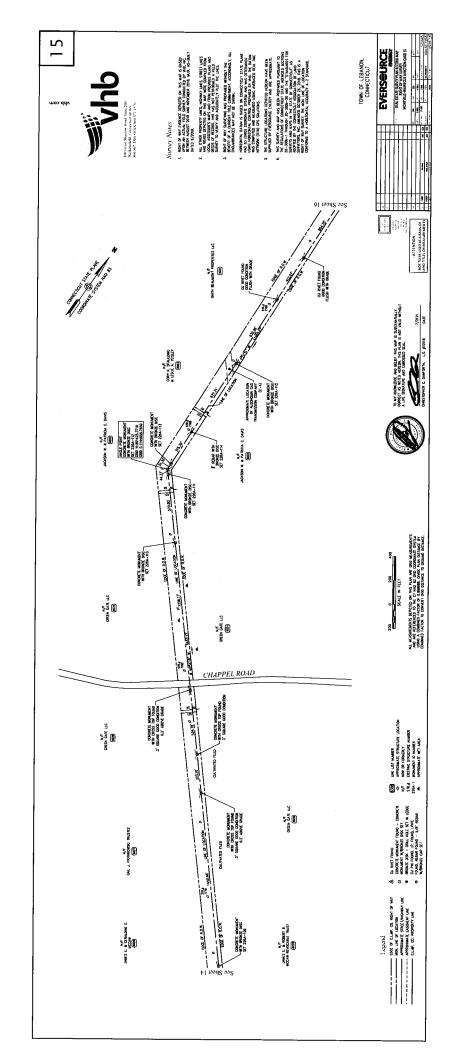
The said electric lines shall remain the property of the grantee, its successors and assigns, In the presence of: . [Seal.] State of Connections March County of New London Personally appeared before me TILLIAM F. PARKHURST and MARY C. Signers and sealers of the foregoing instrument and acknowledged the same to be their

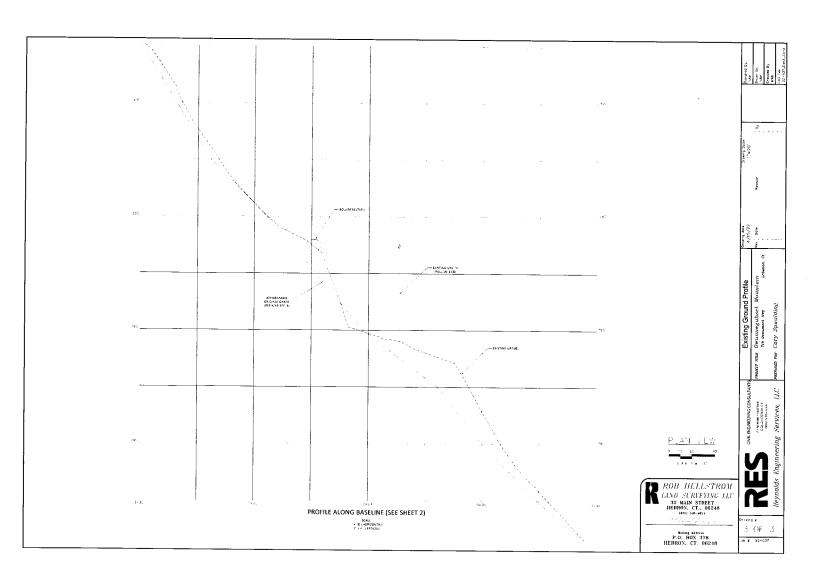
Notary Public.

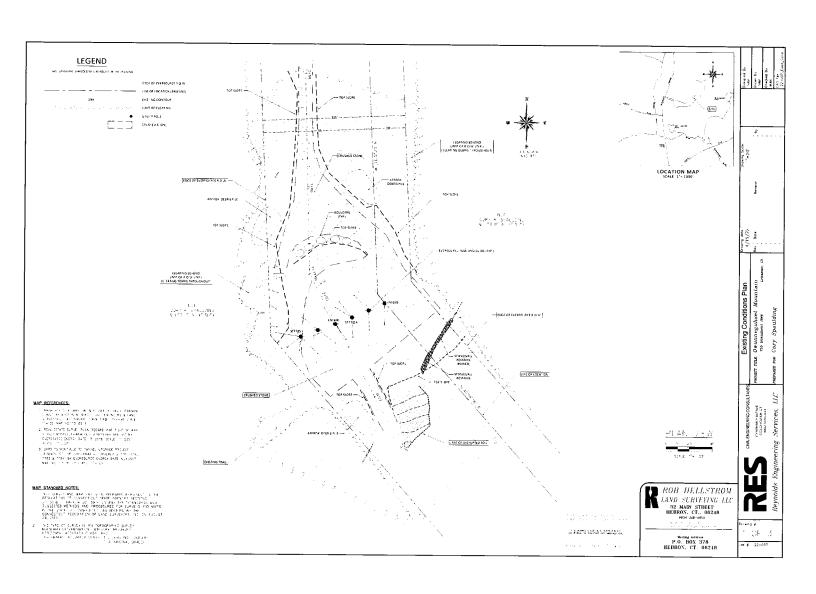
WILLIAM F. PARKHURST and Mary C. Parkhurst

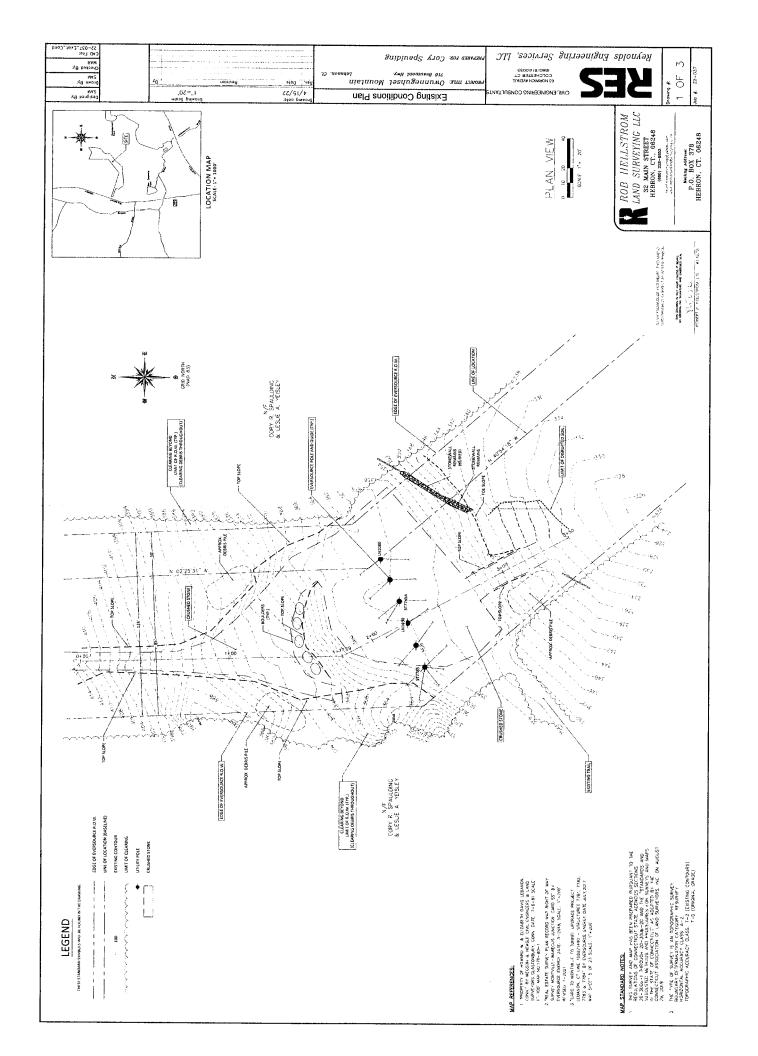
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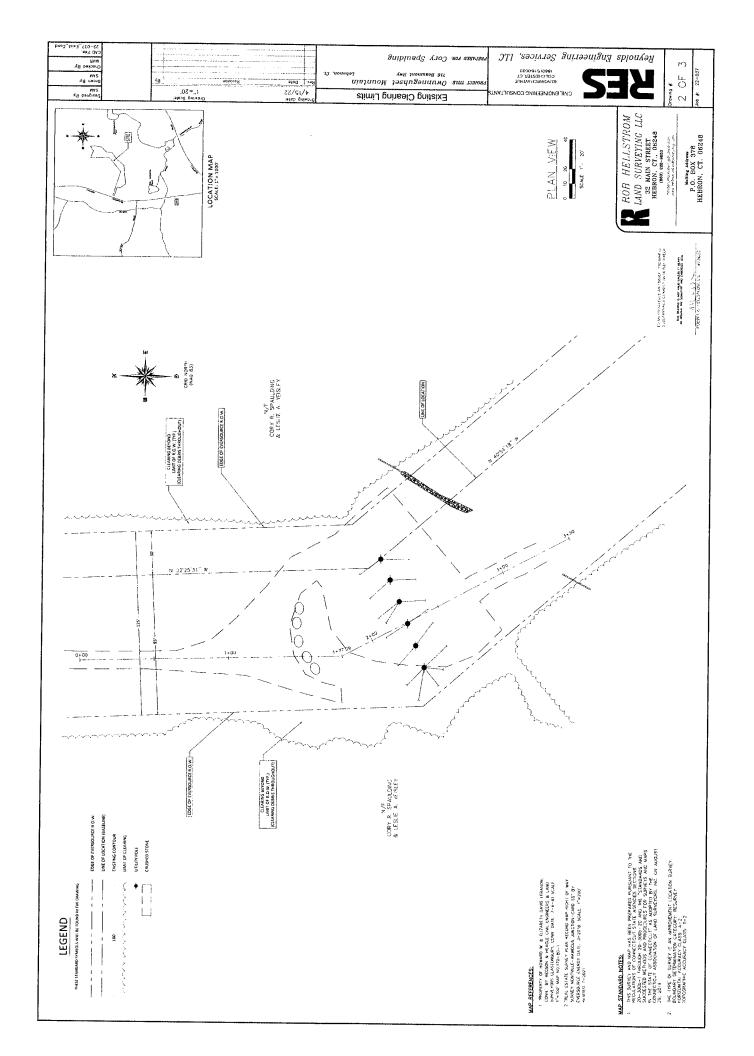
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Soil & Wetland Studies
 Water Quality Monitoring • GPS
 Environmental Planning & Management
 Ecological Restoration & Habitat Mitgation
 Aquatic, Wildlife and Listed Species Surveys
 Application Reviews • Permitting & Compliance

November 27, 2022

Mr. Dwight Merriam, Esq. 80 Latimer Lane Simsbury, CT 06089

RE: Assessment of Environmental Impacts on land owned by C. Spaulding & L. Yeisley 716 Beaumont Hwy., Lebanon, CT, in & adjacent to the Eversource Right-of-Way by Eversource's Maintenance Activities

REMA Job No.: 21-2453-LEB8

Dear Attorney Merriam,

At your request, REMA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES ("REMA") has evaluated the environmental and ecological impacts of maintenance activities by Eversource Energy along an approximately 1,800-foot-long right-of-way (ROW) segment in Lebanon, Connecticut.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared on behalf of the plaintiffs, Cory Spaulding, and Leslie Yeisley; this Eversource ROW traverses their 10.5-acre subject property at 716 Beaumont Highway. Information sources for the report include the following:

Annotated map of the Spaulding-owned ROW segment prepared by Landscape Architect Jeff Gebrian, dated 12/09/21. This map shows locations of environmental features extending from the pad at Pole #7784 at the south end of the ROW segment, to the pad at Pole #7788, at the north end.

Assessment of Environmental Impacts RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022





- P REMA's field inspections on November 21st, and December 14th, 2021, and May 24th, 2022 of ecological conditions along this ROW segment, and in adjacent forest owned by Mr. Spaulding and his wife. <u>Attachment 1</u> is an annotated photo-record of these inspections.
- The ROW maintenance application for this segment, required under Petition 1293.
- On-line natural resource information, such as USDA-NRCS soil survey, and CTECO mapping, including bedrock geology, topography, and CTDEEP aerial photos taken on various dates, in different seasons. See <a href="https://discrete.org/resource.com/resourc

Ecological impacts along this ROW segment were assessed by Sigrun Gadwa and George Logan, of REMA. Each has 30 years of experience investigating wetland and upland ecological communities in Connecticut, and in the planning and implementation of habitat restoration and mitigation. Issues related to invasive plants have been a particular focus. Sigrun has an MS in Plant Ecology from the University of Connecticut at Storrs, and a BS in Biology from Brown University. George Logan has a BS and an MS in Natural Resources from URI (University of Rhode Island). George is a certified ecologist, and both are registered soil scientists, and professional wetland scientists.

In summary, the following maintenance activities have caused adverse environmental impacts. Restoration has not taken place following multiple types of vegetation and soil disturbance caused by ROW maintenance activities.

- 1. Tree and shrub cutting along forest edges and within the ROW. In addition to the direct losses, increased light levels after logging to widen the ROW are accelerating invasive plant infestation of forest edges, on Spaulding land.
- . Tree and shrub cutting along forest edges and within the ROW;
- 3. Woody debris deposition; and fill deposition for access roadway construction, and for construction of pads to support equipment to erect the taller steel poles;
- 4. Soil compaction and disturbance by heavy equipment also damaged existing herbaceous plants and soils along the ROW, and fostered colonization by noxious invasive plant species, especially common mugwort (Artemisia vulgaris).

RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022 Page 3



0 BACKGROUND

Eversource Energy Corporation holds an easement allowing maintenance activities along this ROW segment owned by Mr. Cory Spaulding and his wife, Leslie Yeisley. The maintenance activities of concern took place after the CT Siting Council had approved Eversource's 2017 sub-petition application for ROW maintenance activities, submitted, as required under Petition 1293.

In November 2016, when Mr. Spaulding and his wife purchased their hilltop home, the ROW that traversed their property was a densely vegetated shrubland, with hundreds of red cedars, of varying sizes, and a relatively narrow dirt access path. It was typical of thousands of linear miles of ROW, selectively managed as shrubland by CT Light and Power, since the 1960's. The aerial photo record (2006, 20012, and 2016 CTDEEP Spring season photos) shows this ROW segment being managed as shrubland, known to provide excellent habitat for shrubland birds, rare New England cottontail rabbits, and other wildlife (Askins 1994). Though woody growth in 2017 was not tall enough to threaten the electric wires, it provided woody habitat linkage between the forested habitats to the east and west of the right-of-way. This minimized forest fragmentation by the powerline ROW in the larger landscape, allowing higher diversity and densities of area-sensitive wildlife species (Askins 1994).

The extent of cutting and filling in Eversource ROW's increased dramatically, both statewide and along the Spaulding ROW segment, following a major switch in ROW vegetation management methods. This occurred after the CT Siting Council granted Petition 1293 in 2017, agreeing that "no certificate of environmental compatibility and public need" would be required for ROW pole replacement and access improvement work. Petition 1293 also included assurance by Eversource that vegetation and soil disturbance would be followed by appropriate restoration. In their response to Petition 1293, the Siting Council had concluded that the ROW maintenance work "was not expected to have a substantial adverse effect on the environment or the ecology, nor would they damage exiting scenic, historic, or recreational values." However, multiple adverse environmental impacts related to ROW maintenance along the Spaulding/Yeisley ROW segment are evidence that this conclusion is incorrect. The Spaulding/Yeisley property has been harmed, as well as the public trust.

Beginning in 2019 at this site, instead of selective removal of tree saplings, leaving shrubs in place, the entire right-of-way was cut short, using very large mowing equipment. As shown

RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022





placement over existing vegetation to build a broad, gravel access road, followed by grading is at Pole # 7786. ROW corridors were also significantly widened. Widening extended outside the ROW easement onto Spaulding land, by 7 to 16 feet, just north of the pad at Pole along forest edges where partial shade allows the highest herb diversity. Restoration of and gravel placement to construct three large pads for replacing wooden poles with taller steel poles. The pad at Pole #7784 was constructed in 2018, and the most recently constructed pad #7786. Wood chips and small woody debris have been strewn over the ROW, most thickly in the 2019 CTDEEP spring aerial photo, Eversource maintenance also included extensive fill damage to soil and vegetation was not carried out.

SITE OVERVIEW 3.0

3.1 Landscape Setting

The roughly 1,800-foot-long ROW segment under consideration is in a hilly part of eastern Lebanon, adjoining sizable blocks of undeveloped forest. Farmland becomes more important in the landscape, to the south and east of the subject ROW segment, as shown on Figure 1 (see Attachment 2). Nearby is the Algonquin natural gas ROW, with a dense meadow cover type. As shown on the 2019 CTECO summer aerial photo, the subject ROW segment adjoins forested tract, to the east is a mile long, north to south, and about a half a mile wide. West of this ROW segment is another unfragmented, forested area, with a diameter of about a quarter mile. The surrounding road network is widely spaced, with a low proportion of commercial and residential land uses. Beaumont Highway (Rt. 289) is 0.4 miles, on average, from the substantial core forest habitat, defined as forest more than 300 feet from an edge. The largely ROW. Chappell Road is 0.2 miles to the south, and Bogg Lane is about 0.75 miles to the east.

Prior to the major maintenance policy change, the Eversource ROW contributed to landscape fragmentation only to a limited extent because the dominant cover type along the ROW was shrubland rather than open terrain, as described in the second paragraph of Section 2.0. Nevertheless, ecological integrity is still very good in the larger site vicinity, Forested areas near the subject ROW include both steep, rocky hillsides; rich, slope-base forest; and forested riparian habitat along Susquetonscut Brook. The ROW passes down the steep southern slope of Owunnegunset Hill, with a nearly 200-foot drop in elevation. Besides

RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022



this hill, three other nearby hills also have summits 500 to 600 feet in elevation, and very steep, east- to south-facing slopes, that are largely forested. The topographic variation is associated with the diversity of ecological communities.

Susquetonscut Brook flows westerly across the ROW about 100 feet south of the Spaulding-owned ROW segment, at the base of a long, steep hill, before joining Burgess Brook, another sizable perennial stream. Near the ROW, Susquetonscut Brook is bordered by extensive wetlands. A quarter mile upstream, the brook is impounded as 3.3-acre Hayward Pond. These additional habitat classes, including emergent marsh, increase wildlife support potential for the ROW vicinity. We note that in addition to widespread "backyard" bird species, Eastern towhee and wood thrush were both observed in late May (probably breeding) in forested habitat at the edge-of the ROW. Both are declining neotropical migratory species. Towhee uses both forest edge habitat and shrubland and wood thrush breeds in moderate-sized forest blocks as well as forest interiors.

Significance

A site's ecological integrity affects the significance of the impacts to natural habitats, described below. Natural lands adjacent to this ROW segment are expected to support a diverse assemblage of wildlife and flora and high-quality ecological communities, in contrast to a hypothetical ROW in an urbanized, highly fragmented area.

3.2 ROW Conditions

3.2.1 Topography and Soils

Topography along the ROW is similar to that in adjacent forest. The highest elevation is at the far north end at the intersection with the grassy Algonquin Pipeline ROW, just north of Pole Group #7788. Proceeding southerly, a 125-foot ROW section slopes gently down to the isolated northern wetland. Next, the 200-foot section down to Pole Group #7786, has a gentle south-easterly slope, though the grade is nearly level on the west side. The access road crosses to the west side along this gently sloping stretch, and is not severely eroded.

The next four-hundred-foot-long section has approximately forty percent slopes. Soil Mapping Unit 73E occupies a roughly 1,000-foot-long section along the southern section of this ROW segment, and the forested, Spaulding/Yeisley-owned land, both to the east and to

RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022



the west (see <u>Attachment 3</u>). Mapping Unit 73E is the Charlton & Chatfield Complex with "15% to 45% slopes, very rocky." Bedrock is as close as 20 inches from the surface in Chatfield soils.

3.2.2 Upland ROW Vegetation

Upland ROW vegetation cover types and different stages of mugwort infestation are shown in Photos 2-1 through 2-6. At the northern pipeline crossing, the vegetation cover-type is dense, grassy meadow with native species like black-eyed Susan and prickly dewberry, and minimal colonization by mugwort.

All along the access road, mugwort swaths, ten to twenty feet wide, are dense and mature, with five-foot tall dead stems, remaining from the 2021 growing season. Further back from the road, patches of young, spreading mugwort are dominant, interspersed with scattered common herbaceous colonizers, both naturalized and native. Plant cover is typically sparse, usually less than fifty percent cover on May 24^{th} , 2022. Young invasive vines and shrubs also have a significant presence, especially Asiatic bittersweet and multiflora rose, in the southern portion of the ROW.

Low native and naturalized ROW wildflowers include bluets, maiden pink, (*Dianthus deltoides*), white clover, common cinquefoil, plantains, and low spring mustard species. Some of the taller forbs are the goldenrods (*Solidago rugosa*, *S. altissima, and S. canadensis*), mulleins, common evening primrose, and summer daisy (*Erigeron spp.*). Asters were not identifiable in May but must be common, because pearl crescent butterflies were abundant on May 24th, 2022; asters are their larval host plant. Deer tongue grass is the most important graminoid species. Others include fescues, bent grasses, poverty oat grass, a variety of clumpforming sedges, and rosette-panic grasses. Examples are shown in Photos 1-7 to 1-10 (Attachment 1).

Though widespread and considered 'weedy,' they have aesthetic appeal and do support diverse pollinators and other insects. Several, like the plantains, and the sedges and grasses, are important seed-producers for winter birds, as are the perennial graminoids. Their loss is a significant adverse ROW impact, whether as a result of burial under gravel or woody debris, or compaction by heavy machinery, or competitive exclusion by invasive mugwort or Asiatic bittersweet.

RE: Eversource ROW Segment, 718 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT November 27, 2022



Larger plant species needing fertile, moist growing conditions have become established along the ROW perimeter at the low-elevation south end of the ROW near Susquetonscut Brook, first disturbed over three years ago. Invasive multiflora rose and Asiatic bittersweet are dominant, and are associated with blackberries, black raspberries, pokeweed, and orchard grass.

3.2.3 Isolated Wetland

Joe Pye weed, willow-herb (*Epilobium coloratum*), and sensitive fern were growing in a portion of the isolated wetland, near the crossing, where soils are saturated long enough to exclude mugwort. The woody wetland plants in this small area (<700 square feet) were a winterberry shrub (*Ilex verticillata*) and a shrub willow, and *Populus* saplings. However, this wetland is much larger (over 5,500 square feet in total per Eversource mapping). The remainder of the wetland is currently dominated by mugwort and other non-hydrophytic invasive shrubs like non-native honeysuckles and autumn olive. After soils have been disturbed, allowing colonization, mugwort can thrive in jurisdictional, seasonally saturated wetlands, provided the high watertable does not extend up into the near-surface root zone.

3.3 Adjacent Plant Communities

The forested hillsides bordering the ROW, within the subject property, support several different, high-quality ecological communities.

One well-developed example of the *rocky hillside forest community* is just west of the ROW, near Pole #7785, bordering the steepest ROW section. Diverse and aesthetically pleasing vegetation grows among exposed boulders, a "boulder wall," and talus. Ferns include marginal wood fern, fragile fern, common polypody, and evergreen wood fern. Representative wildflowers are doll's eyes (*Actaea pachypoda*.), Canada mayflower, and false Solomon's seal. Hickories are abundant, some very large. Unfortunately, invasives plants are starting to proliferate here, due to increased light levels from forest-edge clear-cutting several years ago. See Photos 5-2 to 5-8

East of Pole #7786 is another high-quality example of *rocky hillside oak-hickory forest*, depicted in Photos 1-4, 3-5, 5-3, and 5-4. A broad swath of the forest edge was recently clearcut, including a 7 to 16-foot-wide section located outside the ROW, on the subject

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property, east of Pole # 7786. Plant species documented there included hop hornbeam, pignut hickory, sugar maple, a triple-trunk red oak, Christmas fern, smooth aralia, Canada mayflower, white wood aster, and Pennsylvania sedge. Invasive species are entirely lacking.

The moist, slope-base forest community borders the south end of this ROW segment, on the west side. It is fed by mineral-rich hillside seepage. As is characteristic of slope-base forest, sugar maple is dominant, associated with low trees needing mineral-rich soil, like ironwood and hophornbeam. There are many spring wildflowers such as red trillium, wild geranium, enchanter's nightshade (Circaea canadensis), and prickly bedstraw (Galium asprellum). This part of the Spaulding/Yeisley property is a mature forest community with high aesthetic appeal, readily accessible from the access road off Beaumont Road. Photos 5-5 To 5-8 show invasive colonizers, adjacent to forest herbs after forest edger shearing has increased light levels.

3.4 Former Shrubland ROW Community

As Connecticut plant ecologists, Ms. Gadwa and Mr. Logan are familiar with the typical woody constituents of the diverse shrubland communities on rocky, acidic soils in the Eastern Connecticut Highlands. Sigrun Gadwa, assisted by other members of the Connecticut Botanical Society, has formally inventoried three such shrubland ROW segments. The most typical woody species are in the heath (Ericaceae) family: highbush blueberry, maleberry, sweet pepperbush, mountain and sheep laurel, and swamp azalea; common non-ericaceous shrubs are chokeberry, winterberry, arrowwood and maple-leaf viburnum, blackberry, raspberry, hazelnut, pussy willow, and spicebush. Scrub oak is occasional. Widespread dwarf shrubs are huckleberry, low-bush blueberries, meadowsweet, steeplebush, and sweet fern. Characteristic herbaceous plants also grow in small clearings between shrubs, and along the former, earthen access roadways.

The shrubland vegetation along this ROW segment was not inventoried prior to 2017, when Mr. Spaulding and his wife bought the property traversed by this ROW segment. However, the vegetation was probably similar to that along many other minimally disturbed shrubland ROW communities in the acidic, rocky highlands of Eastern Connecticut. They were also maintained using the prior vegetation management approach, used by Connecticut Light & Power. Evidence includes a remnant undisturbed forest edge at the far north end of this ROW

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segment, on the east side. Low-growing vegetation along that edge includes huckleberry, highbush blueberry, maple leaf viburnum, red cedar, and Pennsylvania sedge (See Photo 5-1.)

Provided native soils are minimally disturbed, significant ecological and aesthetic damage is not an unavoidable associated outcome of long-term ROW maintenance, at least in hilly, infertile, rocky terrain. Symbiotic relationships with soil biota allow the native shrubs to thrive in acidic, infertile rocky conditions; they include blueberries, laurels, maleberries, meadowsweet, and sweet fern. In such terrain, intrinsically challenging growing conditions for vegetation limit the speed and vigor of sapling growth, and of rank-growing/invasive understory vegetation, which needs frequent cutting.

4.0 ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

4.1 Direct Vegetation Losses

Extensive direct losses of vegetation and wildlife habitat occurred between 2018 and 2020 when brush-hogging/mowing at more frequent intervals (except within wetlands) replaced the long-standing former practice of selective tree sapling removal, while leaving shrubs intact. Most of the native shrubs in our region die when cut close to the ground every 3 years or so.

ROW widening by clearcutting forest edges also removed much vegetation. The recently cut swath on the west side of the ROW, north of Pole #7785 is up to 30 feet wide. ROW widening, and conversion to a low, open cover type has increased fragmentation of the local landscape, such that the other forested land within the subject property has become less valuable for wildlife, in particular for forest-interior species, and for birds that forage along natural forest edges and in shrublands.

Additional extensive direct habitat losses occurred wherever ROW vegetation was buried by the new wider gravel roadways or by gravel pads to support equipment for pole replacement. Mr. Spaulding's consultants have calculated the total area buried by gravel to be 1.5 acres. Pads were constructed several years ago, but remain bare or very sparsely vegetated, as shown in Photos 3-1to 3-3. They were not spread with stockpiled, salvaged local topsoil, as is the customary restoration practice. Nor were the compacted gravel pads spread with imported, pervious topsoil, or removed; these are all mitigation options discussed in the Siting Council's response to Petition 1293. If the pads were seeded, there has been negligible germination.

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Assorted clovers were observed on a cut slope adjacent to the nearly bare Pad #7784, likely from a seed mix.

Blooming in spring and/or early to mid- summer, the low woody ROW species listed in Section 3.4 are all important for pollinators, complementing assorted fall perennial wildflowers like goldenrods, *Eupatorium* species, and asters. Many yield juicy fruits, others produce numerous seeds. Shrub cover also provides ample nesting and insect-gleaning habitat. Slow-growing red cedars of all sizes were reported to be abundant in this cover type, before the brush-hogging (also seen on aerial photographs). They provide outstanding winter cover and oil-rich winter fruits.

We do not know exactly which subset of the many shrubland ROW species listed in the second paragraph of Section 3.4 used to grow along this particular section of ROW, or what their proportions were. One could argue that the former ROW shrubland may have consisted primarily of invasive shrubs. However, woody invasives are typically present only to a limited extent in a shrubland, where many years of continuous shrub cover have largely prevented colonization. Without data, we cannot be sure to what extent this was the case in this particular ROW segment. Woody invasive shrubs do provide some cover, nectar, fruit or seeds, and insect gleaning habitat for wildlife.

Researchers such as Dr. Robert Clark at the Great Hollow Nature Preserve & Ecological Research Center, in New Fairfield, Connecticut, and elsewhere are finding that significant foraging for arthropods by birds does take place on various invasive shrubs. However, the extent to which wildlife support by various invasive shrubs is less than that of native shrubs has not yet been well-researched (Seewagen et al 2020). Note that the herbaceous invasive, mugwort, lacks those redeeming qualities for wildlife and pollinators.

Regardless, the prior shrubland community surely had substantially higher wildlife and pollinator value than the current mugwort-dominated vegetation on this ROW segment, and far more value than barren gravel pad and roadway surfaces. This has been a major and significant environmental loss.

Additionally, direct vegetation losses have adversely impacted the aesthetic and recreational value of the Spaulding, Yeisley property. The prior community shrubland also had much higher aesthetic value, and more interest and appeal for the owners. Mr. Spaulding and his

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wife appreciate not only plants' beauty, but also their wildlife support function, e.g., shrub cover for cottontails, nectar-rich flowers for pollinators, and seeds and fruit for songbirds. Opportunities for enjoyment and observation of nature are much diminished, for the property owners and their guests, and for nature clubs and scout troops, or student groups that they might choose to host. The new vegetation management methods have eliminated most of the ecological values for fauna along the owners' ROW segment.

4.2 Woody Debris Deposition

<u>Tree-cutting</u> to widen the right-of-way, has been accompanied by deposition of woody debris piles over perennial right-of-way plants, as shown in Photos 1-1 to 1-6. After logging for recent ROW-widening, the large logs were trucked off-site; small, and moderate-size woody debris was left behind, in piles or scattered about. In two areas, that is, adjacent to Pole #7785 and #7786, stumps and woody debris were disposed of outside the ROW on Spaulding/Yeisley land. Disposition of the debris from initial brush hogging in 2019 and 2020 is not known.

Woodchip mulch and woody debris has buried many low-growing native plants like rosette panic grasses, multiple sedge species, poverty oat grass, and wildflowers like maiden pink and Canada cinquefoils (See Section 3.2.2). Burial has also prevented germination and/or seedling establishment of other plants. Herbaceous plants other than mugwort, currently present along this ROW, do have wildlife and pollinator value, though less overall, than in the prior shrubland community. Their loss is also a major adverse ecological impact.

Leaving woody debris in the ROW degrades its aesthetic value for the property owners, who enjoy passive recreation along the ROW. Debris piles are unsightly. They cover blooming wildflowers and mar views of scenic boulder outcrops on the ROW perimeter (See Photo 1-5).

As the woody debris and wood chips decompose, they also change the soil; phosphorus levels increase and the soil microbial community is altered. The soil becomes more suitable for various rank weeds, like mugwort, pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*), and cudweed (*Erechtites hieracifolia*), and less suitable for the more desirable sedges, native grasses, and wildflowers of low-nutrient, rocky, hillside soil. In the highlands of Eastern Connecticut, the native ROW plant species, are adapted to acidic, low nutrient soil. Many species, especially those in the Ericaceae family depend on soil mycorrhizae to extract sufficient nutrients. They

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have a competitive advantage in low-nutrient habitats against fast-growing, 'weedy' plants adapted to fertile soils. This advantage is undercut, when decomposing vegetation debris fertilizes soil, or when fertile topsoil is applied.

4.3 Indirect Vegetation Losses - Competitive exclusion by Mugwort

The extent of the common Mugwort infestation along the ROW has been described in detail in Section 2.3.3. The high density of the tall mature mugwort infestation along the access road suggests that the road-building and pad-building materials were contaminated with mugwort propagules, both seeds and rhizome fragments. Mugwort readily colonized the disturbed roadsides which were unavoidably damaged by heavy equipment, and placement soil and gravel. Initial colonization by mugwort presumably occurred in 2017 and 2018, when the gravel access road was being built.

Herbs other than mugwort are most diverse and abundant in the areas where mugwort patches are younger and less extensive, such as where tree-cutting or grading took place most recently. This is evidence of competitive exclusion by mugwort. The newer mugwort patches, further away from the access road, lacked standing remains of tall flowering mugwort stalks. However, by the 2023 growing season, the mugwort will be full-height and will set seed in these areas, as well. Low-growing herbs can be quickly eliminated by a tall, dense mugwort patch. The proportion of meadow species other than mugwort will continue to decline. Only a few tall species, like goldenrods (*Solidago rugosa and S. altissima*) will persist for several more years because they are less shaded by mugwort, and also spread by rhizomes as well as seed. Most asters (not identifiable in May) may also be tall. However, whorled loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadrifolia*) is not tall enough to compete in a dense mugwort patch and the biennial summer daisies (*Erigeron* species) are too short-lived to compete successfully. However, hay-scented fern, which is locally abundant near Pole Group #7787, may be able to persist because its dense rhizome mat prevents mugwort establishment.

.4 Adverse Impact on Forest Edges

4.4.1 Direct losses

Impacts from tree-cutting along the Eversource ROW edges begin with direct losses of forest vegetation, including edge-adapted plant species such as sassafras and shadbush and multiple

Assessment of Environmental Impacts

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forest edge forbs that need partial shade. These edge plants are sparse or absent from the forest

Loss of high-quality avian foraging habitat is also important. Fast growing, tender foliage along forest edges supports higher densities of caterpillars and gleaning songbirds and tree Significantly higher rate of insectivory were recorded in forest edge habitats, than in forest frogs, than in forest interiors. A recent quantitative study supports this widely accepted fact. interiors (Luc et al. 2013). Along the eastern edge of the far north end of the Spaulding segment, where it crosses the Algonquin gas pipeline, is a classic example of a diverse, invasive-free edge, with complex structure. It serves as a "reference" edge habitat at this site (See Photos 5-1 and 5-2). A grave concern is that tree removal, to widen the ROW, extended outside the legal ROW in several areas, as documented by survey work, which has been entered into the record for this case. The largest such incursion is just east of Pole #7786. The impacted area was a highquality example of the rocky hillside forest community, as described above.

4.4.2 Indirect Adverse Impacts

on the Spaulding/Yeisley property. When natural, long-standing forest edges are "sheared colonization by invasive plant species, along a swath of forest extending up to fifty feet into the forest. Removal of border shrubs and saplings and the outer trees with many low tree branches, has much increased light levels and soil temperatures along most of the forest edges of this ROW segment. The seed bank in forest soils typically includes many bird-dispersed off," the new forest edges are "open." This has the unfortunate effect of accelerating improves rates of germination, seedling survival and seedling growth of invasive species. As ROW widening also results in harmful alteration to habitat located outside the ROW, but still invasive seeds. The additional light passing through an open forest edge significantly field ecologists we routinely observed invasive infestation along new or maintained forest Along this ROW segment, one can relate the progressive stages of invasive colonization of sheared forest edges to the time elapsed since the cutting occurred (See Photos 5-1 to 5-6). A severe advanced infestation may be seen just east of. Pole # 7784 area, where forest edge-

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intermediate stage infestation occurs just southwest of Pole #7785 up to the southern limit of brush-hogging and road construction. ROW brush-hogging and road construction was delayed along the southernmost segment until after 2020. The early stages of invasive colonization widening occurred in 2018, when that pad was built, coinciding with ash mortality. affect the western forest edge, extending 250 feet north of Pole #7784. This is a high-quality forest dominated by sugar maple and pignut hickory. Seedlings of Asiatic bittersweet, lapanese barberry, and winged $\it Euonymus$ were photographed next to forest wildflowers, ferns, and native tree seedlings, most of these desirable native plants will be enveloped and outcompeted by much faster-growing and taller invasives, within a few years.

would also lessen risks of future tree damage to powerlines. Excessively tall trees can be topped, and low-stature trees and tall shrubs can be planted in front of them, along the forest edge (or allowed to remain if already present). Future tree and sapling removal behind the planted low trees will not significantly increase light levels and the low trees will also serve as We suggest a maintenance alternative to creation of "open" forest edges. This alternative a windbreak. Maintaining a zone of tall shrubs and low trees at the edge of the ROW used to be an Eversource policy.

Increased Erosion 4.5

increased, especially in the steep southern portion of this ROW segment. This is due to diminished tree and shrub cover to intercept vegetation, and more exposed soil. Hillside soils Since the shrubland cover type was brush-hogged, runoff levels and soil erosion have are increasingly skeletonized. The increased runoff volumes from the large impervious pads stones as fine particles are washed away. Trails have become difficult for Mr. Spaulding and and stone-covered roadways have washed the fine sediment and gravel from between the larger his wife to use, either on foot or using their small four-wheeled recreational vehicle. Recreational value is diminished along the ROW because the trail down the steep southern portion of his ROW segment. Rather than remaining in place, germinating, and becoming established, a high proportion of seeds are washed downhill or fail to become established because the bony soil holds insufficient moisture for germination. Invasive seeds are also washed downhill, exported to the off-site Susquetonscut riparian corridor, along with the sediment washed off the steep

Assessment of Environmental Impacts

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These are admittedly not potential impacts on the Spaulding/Yeisley property but rather on the seeding annual herbs like sticktight and false-nettle, with great value for birds. Bare sediment Off-site sediment impacts were not investigated, or the extent of off-site mugwort colonization. public trust. We do point out that mugwort thrives in floodplain habitat, replacing heavydeposits are preferred sites for mugwort colonization.

CONCLUSION

vegetation. Indirect adverse impacts result from the proliferation of invasive plants, fostered by soil disturbance (creating favorable unvegetated seed beds for mugwort), introduction of Satisfactory restoration of groundcover, where disturbed, has not taken place. Mr. Spaulding and his wife have substantially reduced enjoyment of their property along their ROW section In conclusion, several different maintenance activities have resulted in direct losses of ROW invasive propagules during construction, and by increased light levels along forest edges. and in adjacent forests. This is due to reduced aesthetic value and also due to diminished opportunities to observe and appreciate wildlife, wildflowers, and scenic vistas. The new access roads have increased ATV use of the ROW. ATV noise disrupts wildlife, and further diminishes the owners' enjoyment of their property. The surrounding landscape has a low proportion of residential and commercial landuses, sizable unfragmented forested areas, and multiple habitat classes, such that the quality and biodiversity of wildlife and forest plant communities in the immediate vicinity of this ROW segment, that is, on the Subject Property, is expected to be high. The good ecological integrity and habitat diversity of the surrounding landscape has increased the magnitude of adverse impacts from ROW maintenance activities. It also increases the significance of ROW shrub removal and construction of unvegetated pads because the ROW is now fragmenting the forested landscape to a much greater extent. CTDEEP aerial photography shows that as recently as 2017, this ROW segment was occupied by a dense cover of shrubs, saplings, and nigh herbs. Losses of trees and shrubs, and herb clumps are accompanied by losses of wildlife habitat (cover & food) and by reduced climate & flooding moderation function. Based on this analysis, it is our professional opinion, that Eversource's ROW maintenance Spaulding and his wife. These activities have harmed the property's environmental and activities since 2017 have caused long-term adverse impacts on the property owned by Mr. ecological resources, including its plant communities and the wildlife that uses the property.

Assessment of Environmental Impacts

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Some activities also took place outside the Eversource ROW. Others were within the ROW and subject to the ROW easement, but the required restoration activities that should have reduced the extent of adverse impacts were never carried out.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions on the above.

Respectfully submitted,

REMA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES, LLC

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Professional Wetland Scientist (SWS)
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Sain N. Golm

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VIA HAND-DELIVERY

Attachments: 1: Annotated Photos

2: Figures

3: USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey

Attachment 1

Photo record

ATTACHMENT 1: PHOTO RECORD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Segment 1 - Photos 1-1 to 1-10:	iegment 1 - Photos 1-1 to 1-10: Tree-cutting & brush-hogging has eliminated much valuable habitat. The woody debris
Nutrients leach from rotting debris, overfertilizir	s, overfertilizing soil. This discourages native plants and fosters invasive, weedy species.

Segment 2 - Photos 2-1 to 2-10:	Invasive mugwort arrived during construction of gravel roads and pads. It has
negligible habitat value, and contii	negligible habitat value, and continues to spread, both by rhizomes and seed. Native herbs can compete with low, young
mugwort. A tall, dense, unsightly r	mugwort. A tall, dense, unsightly monoculture now borders the gravel roads in the north part of the ROW (built first).

The three large compacted gravel and stone dust pads are bare or sparsely vegetated.	g soil and seeding, as called for in Petition 1093. Nearly impervious, they increase the	volume of runoff from the site. Pads built to support the pole replacement operation eliminated a substantial habitat area.
Segment 3 - Photos 3-1 to 3-6:	They were not restored by adding soil and seed	volume of runoff from the site. F

No gravel was laid down where the access road crosses the one isolated wetland at	matting was used instead, as called for by the CT Siting Council. Native wetland vegetation	e south, where gravel resumes, adjacent vegetation is again dense mugwort.
egment 4 - Photos 1-1 to - 1-2:	he north end of the site; timber matting was use	orders this crossing. Just to the south, where gr

Segment 5 - Photos 5-1 to - 5-12:	Natural, undisturbed forest edge, and high quality forest communities along ROW
edges are altered by edge shearing	edges are altered by edge shearing to widen ROW's. Open forest edges let much additional light into forest communities at
south end of ROW. This fosters cole	south end of ROW. This fosters colonization & seedling growth of invasive Asiatic bittersweet, barberry, and burning bush,
that will outcompete forest wildflowers, ferns, & tree seedlings	owers, ferns, & tree seedlings

Photorecord: Environmental Impacts along Eversouce ROW at 716 Beaumont Hwy, Lebanon, CI







Photo 4: E. view of debris on Spaulding land, E. edge of ROW, N. of Pole 7784.





Photo 1-7: Debris & gravel fill bury perennial sedges and grasses, S. of Pole 7786.



Photo 1-6: Easterly view. Debris & new mugwort on outcrop S. of Pole 77



Photo 1-8: Buried grasses include native Danthonia spicata, near Pole 7786.





Photos 1-9 and 1-10: N. of Pole 7784 wildflowers inclclude maiden Pink, goldenrod, bluets, cinquefoil, & clover: typical current ROW plants impacted by debr



Photo 2-1: View northerly towards Pole 7787, of mugwort on distrubed roadside



Photo 2-2: Northerly view to Pole 7785: former forest edge, W. side of ROW.

Photorecord: Environmental Impacts along Eversouce ROW at 716 Beaumont Hwy, Lebanon, CT

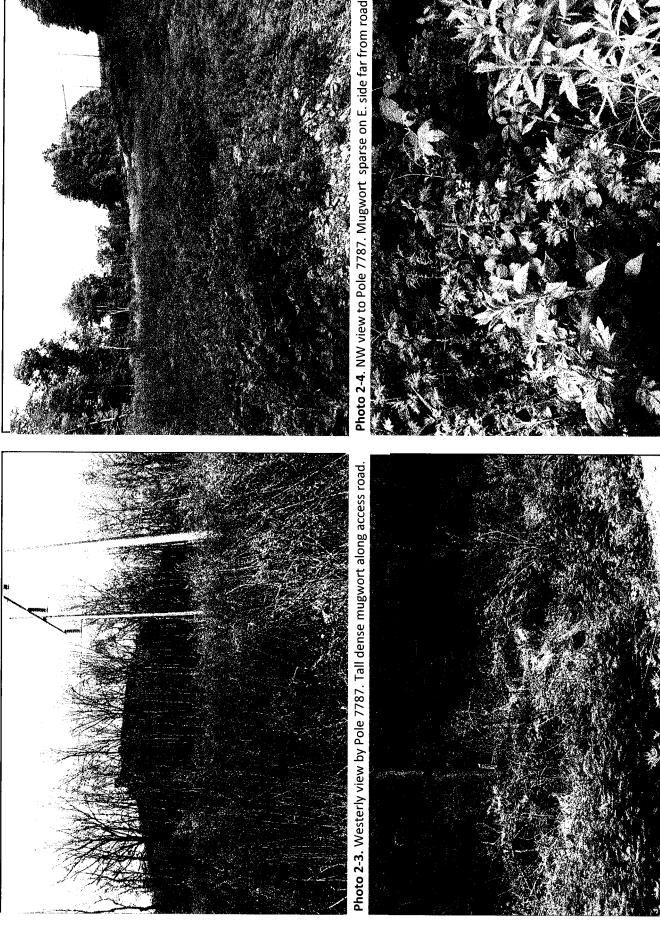


Photo 2-5: E. view. Mugwort on rock outcrop; disturbed roadside by Pole 7787

Photo 2-6: Mugwort, with dissected leaves, competing with goldenrods.

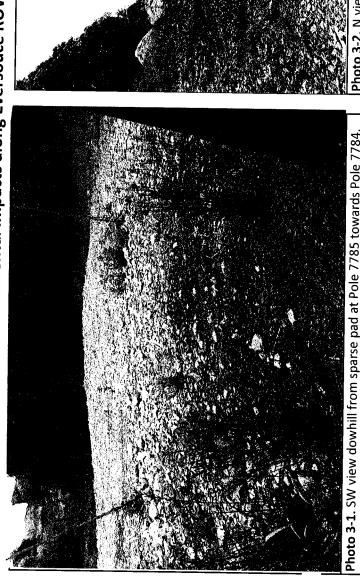


Photo 3-1. SW view dowhill from sparse pad at Pole 7785 towards Pole 7784.

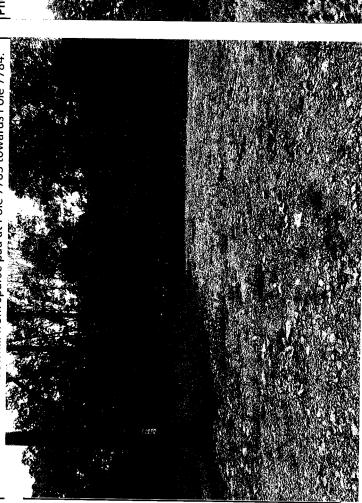


Photo 3-3: W. view of forest edge from large, sparse gravel pad N. of Pole 7786.



Photo 3-4: Westerly view. Sparse compacted ground S. of pad at Pole 7786

Photorecord: Environmental Impacts along Eversouce ROW at 716 Beaumont Hwy, Lebanon , CT



Photo 3-5. E. view. Cut & stone fill encroaches on Spaulding land, by Pole 7786.



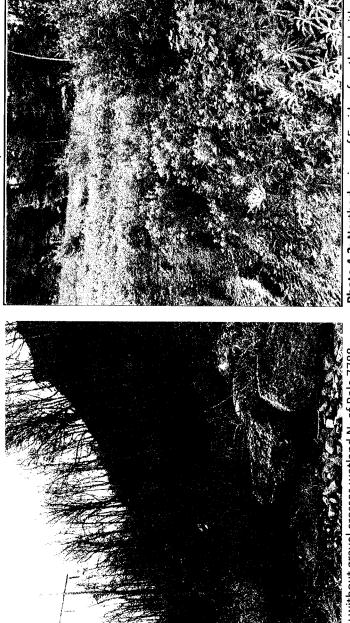


Photo 4-1: E. view. Roadway without gravel crosses wetland N. of Pole 7788.

Photo 4-2: Northerly view of E. side of wetland with willow & aspen.

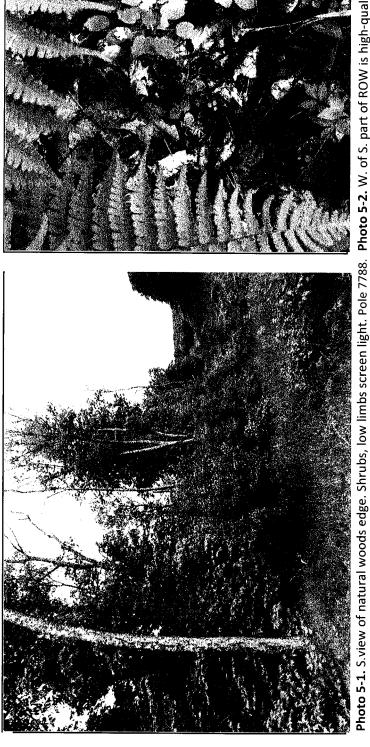








Photo 5-5. Bittersweet seedlings threaten wild geraniums in rich slope-base forest Ph



voods. Photo 5-8: Invasion started earlier near Pole 7785, after logging to build pad.

Photo 5-7: On W. side of ROW, open logged edge lets light into slope-base woods. Photo 5



Photo 5-9. In steep, rocky forest multiflora rose smothers false Solomon's seal.



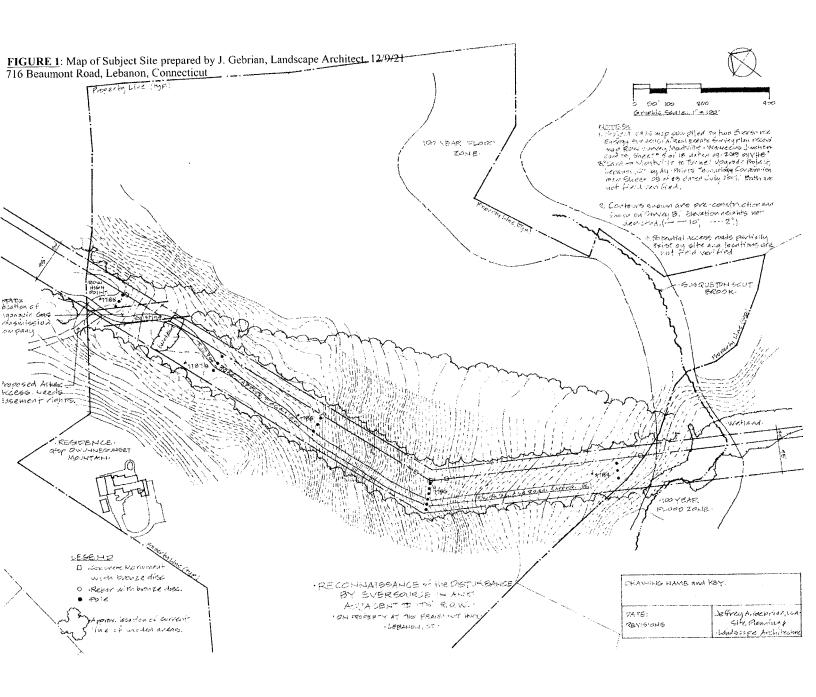


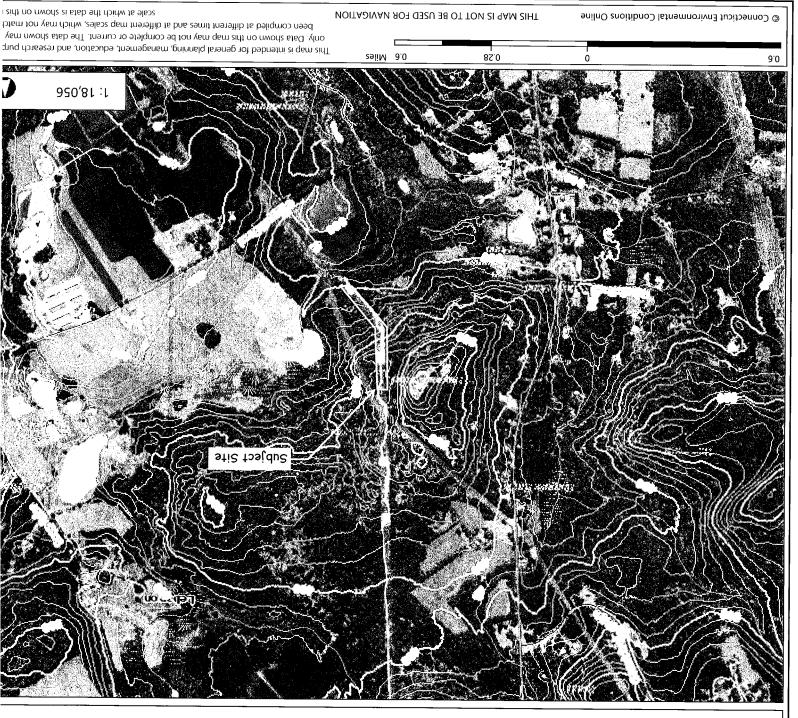
7785, Photo 5-12: Moist woods E.of 1st pad (7784) has 40' of continuous invasives.

Photo 5-11: Burning bush & Christmas fern on west side of ROW, near Pole 7785, Pl

Attachment 2

Figures 1, 2, and 3





Pole Area #7784 First Pad built at Yeisley Property line. See Approximate Spaulding Figure 1 (J. Gebran for topography, tree I and property lines. Algonquin Gas pipeline Invasive proliferation along woods edges is far advanced due to additional tight in forest edge zone, steep terrain ree cutting along woods edges proliferation Invasive Eroded gravel terrain steep Pad at Pole Area #7786 in forest due to additonal light proliferation debris placemeht (not built yet in 2020) ree-cutting & nvasive outside ROW Pad at Pole Area #7785 Eversouce Right of Way severe mugwort infestation (as seen on a 2/2020 aerial photo) 716 Beaumont Hwy., Lebanon, CT all along gravel road Soogle Earth FIGURE 3: SUBJECT SITE

Attachment 3

USDA-NRCS Soils Map

9/28/2022 Page 1 of 3

Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey

Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA

MAP LEGEND

Soil Map—State of Connecticut (Eversource ROW, 716 Beaumont Twy, Lebanon)

Area of In	Area of Interest (AOI)	ar:	Spoil Area
	Area of Interest (AOI)	4 (3)	Stony Spot
Soils		É	Very Stony Snot
	Soil Map Unit Polygons		very storily spor
?	Soil Map Unit Lines		Wet Spot
概	Soil Map Unit Points	\Diamond	Other
Special	Special Point Features	;	Special Line Features
Э	Blowout	Water Features	ures
Ø	Borrow Pit		Streams and Canals
Ж	Clay Spot	Transportation	rtion Rails
্	Closed Depression	}	Interstate Highways
≻ Ę	Gravel Pit	*.	US Routes
s 2	Gravelly Spot		Major Roads
Ø	Landfill		Local Roads
Calling.	Lava Flow	Background	<u> </u>
7	Marsh or swamp		Aerial Photography
缪	Mine or Quarry		
0	Miscellaneous Water		
0	Perennial Water		
Þ	Rock Outcrop		
+	Saline Spot		
* *	Sandy Spot		
1	Severely Eroded Spot		
ú	0.01.10.10		

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements. Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required. This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: State of Connecticut Survey Area Data: Version 21, Sep 7, 2021

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger. Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Data not available.

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

> Slide or Slip Sodic Spot

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Sinkhole

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Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
17	Timakwa and Natchaug soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes	2.1	1.6%
23A	Sudbury sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	1.0	0.8%
38C	Hinckley loamy sand, 3 to 15 percent slopes	0.2	0.1%
60B	Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	ro,	4.3%
209	Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	0.6	0.4%
G09	Canton and Charlton soils, 15 to 25 percent slopes	0.3	0.2%
618	Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	9.	3.8%
62C	Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams, 3 to 15 percent slopes, extremely stony	0.6	7.0%
62D	Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams, 15 to 35 percent slopes, extremely stony	10.3	8.0%
73C	Charlton-Chatfield complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	13.2	10.3%
73E	Charlton-Chaffield complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, very rocky	55.6	43.2%
76E	Rock outcrop-Hollis complex, 3 to 45 percent slopes	14.0	10.9%
86D	Paxton and Montauk fine sandy loams, 15 to 35 percent slopes, extremely stony	4.2	1.9%
103	Rippowam fine sandy loam	9.8	7.6%
Totals for Area of Interest		128.9	100.0%

9/28/2022 Page 3 of 3

Action Requested;

'n

- 1. We request the Council to conduct an investigation into all the false information contained in the official record of petition 1566 and allow us to come before the Council to explain where the record is false, why it is false, and why it is germane to the present proceedings. We request you allow us to detail the specific illegal work done on our property and show the Council in the law where and why this work is illegal.
- 2. We request that the Council conduct a site visit to our property to see with their own eyes the past environmental damage, the past illegal work, and how the work proposed in petition 1566 will further damage our property. We also request that the Council during this site visit to determine if petition 1566 accurately depicts the present conditions and environmental issues on our property as required by a petition before the Council.
- 3. We request that the Attorney General investigate the actions of Attorney Bachman in the manipulation of the timing of items to come before the Council and the legal advice she provided the Council in reference to our hearing request.
- 4. We request the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute those that have submitted false statements and false documents in the official record of petition 1566 including ALL of Attorney Bachman's false statements contained in the June 22, 2023 staff memo.
- We request the Attorney General to investigate the failure of the Councils Executive Director to take action or notify the Council when notified of illegal acts performed by Eversource in 2021 and 2023.
- We request the Attorney General and the Council to investigate on a statewide basis if Eversource has complied with the requirement

- to notify the Council, town, and property owners when performing any claimed "exempt work" or "non jurisdictional" work.
- 7. We request the Attorney General and the Council investigate why the Council web site is completely void of public notifications of exempt work as detailed in RCSA § 16-50j-58 and further detailed in the April 2013 Council memo titled Modification of Existing Energy Facilities.
- 8. We request the Attorney General and the Council investigate the amount of revenue lost by the State of Connecticut by Eversource's failure to file and pay the required \$625 fee for each exempt notification that Eversource failed to file with the Council as detailed in the April 2013 Council memo titled Modification of Existing Energy Facilities.
- 9. We request the Attorney General and Council to determine statewide how many pole replacement projects were performed by Eversource that are not detailed in Council petitions and verify if this work required Council approval in a petition or notification. We have identified 32 sites for this 12.5 mile transmission line that were replaced with no Council approval, 2 of which were replaced on our property by Eversource who has claimed exempt work but failed to notify the Council, town and property owner as required by law.
- 10. Request the Attorney General to determine how the Council should proceed with petition 1566 considering the false record, false statements, denial of a hearing based upon false statements, and the illegal acceptance of the petition in contradiction of the property owner notification requirements.
- 11. We request the Council to ask the Attorney General for an expedited review of the law to determine if a hearing can be held by the Council after the 60-day action period.
- 12. We request that the Council require Eversource to detail what specific work they plan on doing on our property in petition 1566

rather than allowing Eversource to state we will evaluate that later or we will figure that out when we do the work. As property owners we have the right to review in advance and object to proposed work however we find ourselves in the position of not being able to exercise our legal rights because the petition fails to detail the specific work that they are proposing to do, how they are going to do the work, and what specific land disturbing activity will be involved with the proposed work.

- 13. We request the Council to immediately relieve Attorney Bachman from having any participation in petition 1566 and to request the Attorney General to appoint a new acting Council attorney.
- 14. We request the Council to take all actions that a prudent person would take when confronted with the situation presently before the Council.

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

July 23, 2023

Siting Council Petition 1566

From:

"Cory Spaulding" <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

<siting.council@ct.gov>, <melanie.bachman@ct.gov>

Subject:

Siting Council Petition 1566

Date:

May 4, 2023 3:17 PM

Melanie Bachman,

We phoned in today to ask some questions and set up an appointment to meet with you however we were instructed to e mail you first for both items.

We are writing you in reference to Siting Council petition 1566. We are going to be submitting a request for intervenor and party status for this petition. Our question is that as we understand it the petition must be submitted 5 days before a scheduled hearing, however no hearing has been scheduled yet, so we are unsure of the deadline date for filing the petition.

The second issue is that the petitioner, Eversource Energy mailed our notification to the wrong address, our mailing address for the property impacted by the petition, that is on file with the Town of Lebanon Assessor, is 716 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon CT. 06249 however the petition notice was mailed Florida for unknown reasons. This notification error resulted in a two week delay in our notification. We received the notification of Council filing a short time ago on April 26, 2023.

Could you tell us how this late notification impacts any regulatory deadline dates for our filing for intervenor and party status or any other regulatory deadlines that may apply to this petition.

Due to the volume of documentation that we will be submitting with our petition, we will be delivering it in person to your New Britain address as well as delivering it to the petitioner by the same means, in person.

We would like to personally deliver the petition to you as well as ask you some general questions regarding the scheduling of the hearing, our proposed participation, how to most efficiently accomplish our presentation of evidence, and what technology is available at the hearing to present information meaning, projector screens to show exhibits and photographs and so on. Can we set a date and time for these questions and the delivery of the petition?

We can be reached by phone at 352 263 9226, by mail at the above address or by e mail at coryspaulding@earthlink.net

Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

RE: Siting Council Petition 1566

From:

Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

To: Cc: Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>, CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>

DENFELD, DEBORAH < deborah denfeld@eversource.com >, Shanley, Kathleen M

Subject:

<kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>
RE: Siting Council Petition 1566

Date:

May 5, 2023 4:34 PM

Attachments:

PE 1566 SCHEDULE REV2 05052023-s.pdf

Good afternoon, Mr. Spaulding.

Thank you for your email. It is nice to hear from you again.

In response to your first question, **if a public hearing is not held**, the petition for a declaratory ruling is processed "on the papers" and a request for party or intervenor status may be submitted at any time prior to the deadline for a final decision while a petition for a declaratory ruling is pending with the Siting Council. **If a public hearing is held**, a request for party or intervenor status may be submitted no less than 5 days before the public hearing is scheduled. The deadline for a final decision on this petition is October 9, 2023. It is discretionary to the Siting Council whether or not to hold a public hearing on any petition for a declaratory ruling. Whether or not a public hearing is held, written questions may be submitted to the petitioner by any party or intervenor in accordance with a schedule developed by the Siting Council.

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https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CSC/Public-Participation/guides/info-guide-PI---petition-with-hearing_20210222.pdf

In response to your second question, we can certainly extend the public comment period an additional two weeks for you and other interested persons to more thoroughly review the petition for a declaratory ruling due to the delay in mailing. A revised schedule is attached and will be posted to the project webpage.

If you have any follow-up questions, please feel free to contact our office at your convenience.

Thanks. Have a nice weekend.

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq. Executive Director/Staff Attorney Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051 Office 860-827-2951 Cell 860-768-2548

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is intended only for the use of the individual(s) named above. Information in this e-mail or any attachment may be confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure by state or federal law. Any unauthorized use, dissemination, or copying of this message is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please refrain from reading this e-mail or any attachments and notify the sender immediately. Please destroy all copies of this communication.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cory Spaulding < coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

Sent: Friday, May 5, 2023 6:12 AM

To: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>; Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Fw: Siting Council Petition 1566

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Melanie Bachman,

We noticed in our e mail yesterday that we forgot to attach proof of the failure to promptly notify, please see the two attachments, copy of the envelope and notification letter addressed to Florida and a copy of the assessor property card listing the correct address of 716 Beaumont Highway Lebanon, CT. 06249.

We also forgot to mention that Eversource further compounded this failure to provide proper notification by neglecting to tell us of the filing in an in-person meeting held with us on 4/13/23. The notification letter is dated 4/11/23 and is signed by Heather Hayes, Project Manager. The letter was mailed on 4/12/23. On 4/13/23 we met with five Eversource contractor representatives at 716 Beaumont Highway in Lebanon CT. Hayes, the Project Manager, was at that meeting. This meeting was scheduled a week before the 4/13/23 meeting.

During this meeting we twice told Heather Hayes and all others in attendance of our desire and intent to file for intervenor and party status with the Council if the issues with the property were not resolved prior to the filing of the petition for new work by Eversource. At no time did any of the Eversource representatives, including Heather Hayes, who signed the notification letter, ever mention or notify us that the petition had already been filed with the Council.

We hope this additional information and the attachments will assist you in determining the proper remedy for Eversource's failing to properly notify a landowner who will be impacted by the work proposed in petition 1566.

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley -----Forwarded Message-----

From: Cory Spaulding < coryspaulding@earthlink.net >

Sent: May 4, 2023 3:17 PM

To: <<u>siting.council@ct.gov</u>>, <<u>melanie.bachman@ct.gov</u>>

Subject: Siting Council Petition 1566

Melanie Bachman,

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Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

Fw: Siting Council Petition 1566

From:

"Cory Spaulding" <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

<siting.council@ct.gov>, "Melanie Bachman CT Siting Council" <melanie.bachman@ct.gov>

Subject:

Fw: Siting Council Petition 1566

Date:

May 5, 2023 6:12 AM

Attachments: Exhibit 6 -Notification letter and envelope.jpg, Exhibit 7 - Town of Lebanon Property Record Card.pdf

Melanie Bachman,

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Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

----Forwarded Message-----

From: Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

Sent: May 4, 2023 3:17 PM

To: <siting.council@ct.gov>, <melanie.bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Siting Council Petition 1566

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Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

RE: Siting Council Petition 1566

From:

<coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

Bachman Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>, CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Cc:

DENFELD DEBORAH <deborah.denfeld@eversource.com>, Shanley Kathleen M

<kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Subject:

RE: Siting Council Petition 1566

Date:

May 15, 2023 2:31 PM

Melanie Bachman,

Thank you for the additional 2-week public comment period time. We have utilized this time to attempt to meet with Eversource to discuss petition 1566, however, to date, no meeting has occurred.

This leaves us with filing a petition for intervenor and party status which we plan to file in person later this week. We are also going to request that petition 1566 be dismissed by the Council under Section 22a-3a-2(e) for insufficient application. We will provide details for that request when we file our petition status request.

If you have any available time on your calendar for this Thursday or Friday (May 18 or 19th) we would like to meet with you to discuss a few items including our request for petition dismissal. We are hoping to coordinate a meeting time with you and our filing trip to New Britain. Sincerely.

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

----Original Message----

From: Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Sent: May 5, 2023 4:34 PM

To: Cory Spaulding coryspaulding@earthlink.net, CSC-DL Siting Council siting.council@ct.gov

Cc: DENFELD, DEBORAH < deborah.denfeld@eversource.com >, Shanley, Kathleen M

<kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Subject: RE: Siting Council Petition 1566

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If you have any follow-up questions, please feel free to contact our office at your convenience.

Thanks. Have a nice weekend.

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.

Executive Director/Staff Attorney Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051 Office 860-827-2951 Cell 860-768-2548

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From: Cory Spaulding coryspaulding@earthlink.net

Sent: Friday, May 5, 2023 6:12 AM

To: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>; Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Fw: Siting Council Petition 1566

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Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

----Forwarded Message----

From: Cory Spaulding < coryspaulding@earthlink.net > Sent: May 4, 2023 3:17 PM

To: < siting.council@ct.gov>, < melanie.bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Siting Council Petition 1566

Melanie Bachman,

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Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley

Eversource sub petition for replacement of structure STR 7885

From: Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To: melanie.bachman@ct.gov <melanie.bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Eversource sub petition for replacement of structure STR 7885

Date: Jul 28, 2021 7:11 PM

Attachments: A60BE5D3BAB0401A81A83ED0CBC8EF8E.png

Melanie Bachman,

I have also sent this e mail to siting.council@ct.gov. I was unsure to whom I should address this question.

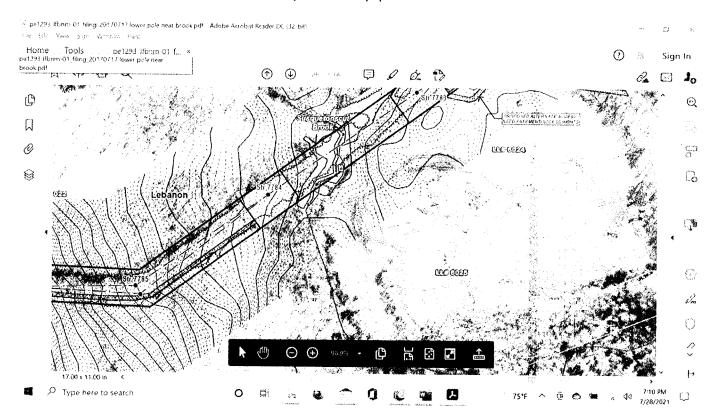
I am looking for the Eversource sub petition for the replacement of structure str 7785 located in Lebanon Connecticut. The structure is located between Chappell Road and Bender Road in Lebanon CT. It is located on property now owned by Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley. The former owner is Jackson W and Patricia C Davis.

I have pasted a screen shot of the pole from project PE 1293 lfbnm-01 (pdf page 26) which replaced pole str 7784. I have checked all the Lebanon filings twice and cannot locate the petition for this pole replacement. I is a corner pole and is labeled on this map below.

I am having problems with Eversource being un-responsive to damage they did to my property and would like to see the specifications for what Eversource stated that they were going to do when they replaced these poles.

Sincerely, Cory Spaulding

I can be reached by phone at 352 263 9226 if you have any questions.



Sent from Mail for Windows 10



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov Web Site: portal ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 30, 2021

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting Eversource Energy P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141

RE:

SUB-PETITION NO. 1293-LFBNM-01 (Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah, Norwich Montville) – Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvements statewide to

comply with the updated National Electrical Safety Code clearance requirements.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of email correspondence, dated July 28, 2021, from Cory Spaulding of Beaumont Highway Lebanon (LL Number 6602) regarding construction work within the electric transmission line right-of-way on his property in the area of Structure 7785 (Map 5) associated with the above-referenced sub-petition.

The Council approved the sub-petition on August 16, 2017. Eversource notified the Council that construction of the project was completed on May 17, 2019.

On March 18, 2018 the Council approved a project modification to relocate an access road between Structures 7804 and 7805. On April 26, 2018, the Council approved a project modification to relocate an access road and work pad changes for Structures 6339 and 7655. No other project modification requests were received.

In his correspondence, Mr. Spaulding states that his property has been damaged in the area of Structure 7785. Although replacement of this structure was not part of the referenced sub-petition, a temporary access road extending along a steep slope from Structure 7786 to Structure 7784 was specified to provide access for the replacement of Structure 7784. It appears that instead of a temporary matting access road as specified in the sub-petition, a gravel access road was constructed on the steep slope to access Structure 7784.

Pursuant to the Council's Petition No. 1293 Declaratory Ruling of March 31, 2017 and the Council's August 16, 2017 decision on this sub-petition, the Council requests information regarding the type of access road that was installed to facilitate construction on Structure 7784 and the current condition of the access road from Structures 7786 to 7784, including, but not limited to, drainage issues and any extensive grading performed to install the road. Furthermore, since the gravel access road was installed without the Council's approval, provide a plan to mitigate environmental impacts caused by the installation of the road.

Please submit the requested information and written response to the Council by August 27, 2021.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman

Executive Director

From: Cory Spaulding coryspaulding@earthlink.net

Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 7:11:10 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Subject: Eversource sub petition for replacement of structure STR 7885

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Melanie Bachman.

I have also sent this e mail to siting conneil a et.gov. I was unsure to whom I should address this question.

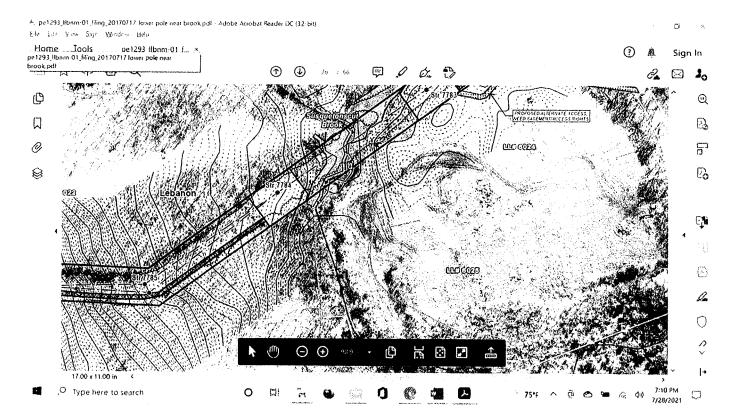
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Sincerely, Cory Spaulding

I can be reached by phone at 352 263 9226 if you have any questions.





56 Prospect Street P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting Tel: 860-728-4527

August 24, 2021

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

RE: SUB-PETITION NO.1293-LFBNM-01 (Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah, Norwich, Montville) — Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvement statewide to comply with the National Electric Safety Code.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

I am in receipt of your letter, dated July 30, 2021, requesting information with respect to the type of access road installed by Eversource Energy ("Eversource"), relative to the subject Sub-Petition, to facilitate access to Structure 7784 and the current condition of the access road from Structure 7786 to Structure 7784 including, but not limited to, drainage issues and extensive grading and a plan to mitigate impacts caused by installation of the road.

At this time, I can confirm that the type of access road that was installed at this location was a gravel road and not a matted road as depicted on the approved plans. As you have indicated, the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") approved two requests for project changes that included changes to access roads, but none at this location. The Siting Analyst assigned to this project mistakenly thought that material changes to access road construction in upland areas was not jurisdictional to the Council as long as the road remained in the same alignment and Eversource apologizes for this oversight.

With respect to the current property owner's concerns about the location and drainage issues, all original drainage features installed during the road's initial construction have been re-established. Vegetation debris left in the right-of way has also been removed. Regarding the other concerns raised by Mr. Spaulding, Eversource Field Outreach Representatives have made outreach to Mr. Spaulding to schedule a site visit with him to review his clearance questions and restoration requests but have not received a response to date. Eversource remains committed to working with Mr. Spaulding and responding to any questions or concerns that he may have.



56 Prospect Street P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Kathleen M. Shanley Manager – Transmission Siting Tel: 860-728-4527

Should you or other Council members have any questions regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at kathleen.shanley@eversource.com or telephone at (860) 728-4527.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Shanley

c: Cory Spaulding, 716 Beaumont Highway, Lebanon, CT 06249 (coryspaulding@earthlink.net)

PETITION NO. 1429 1768 LATTICE TOWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT JUNE 2021

1. <u>LATTICE TOWER REPLACEMENTS AND TRANSMISSION LINE MODIFICATIONS</u>

During June crews completed overhead electrical work, removed temporary construction matting, where feasible_ and continued restoration activities.

Eversource also continued to perform routine inspections to verify the integrity of erosion and sedimentation controls and to monitor work in or adjacent to sensitive natural resource areas.

2. MINOR DEVELOPMENT & MANAGMENT (D&M) PLAN CHANGES

The work performed in June did not require any changes or deviations from the approved Partial Development and Management Plan.

3. **ACTIVITY SUMMARY TABLE**

ROW Vegetation Management (% Complete)	Access Roads/ Work Pads (% Complete)	Foundation Installation: # of Foundations/# Installed (% Complete)	Structure Installation: # Structures/#Install ed (% Complete)	Wire Stringing (% Complete)	Structure Removal (% Complete)	Restoration (% Complete)
100%	100%	8/8; 100%	68/68; 100%	100%	100%	64%

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

From:

Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

Fontaine, Lisa <Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>

Cc:

<melanie.bachman@ct.gov>, <siting.council@ct.gov>

Subject:

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Date:

Aug 27, 2021 9:14 AM

Lisa,

I am reaching out to you again in that I have not heard back from you on previous e mails or phone calls. I note that the due date to respond that you provided Eversource has passed. I have not heard directly from Eversource other than their filing a false complaint with the State Police last week and attempting to have me arrested. I guess asking a large Utility Company to fix the damage they did can be a little uglier than I first thought.

I have conducted further reviews of the area where the poles were replaced under the Siting Council Permit and have additional information to provide regarding activities that they performed in that replacement project. They have performed significant work in direct contradiction to their own engineering and environmental best management requirements as established by Eversource in their published 2016 construction requirements manual. I wish to address these issues with the Council. Could you please enlighten me as to the format for this process. Sincerely Cory Spaulding 352 263 9226.

----Original Message----

From: Fontaine, Lisa <Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>

Sent: Jul 30, 2021 3:12 PM

To: Kathleen Shanley < kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Cc: coryspaulding@earthlink.net < coryspaulding@earthlink.net>, CSC-DL Siting Council

<Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Subject: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Please see the attached correspondence.

Lisa Fontaine
Fiscal Administrative Officer
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

P: 860.827.2969|F: 860.827.2950|E: lisa.fontaine@ct.gov

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

From:

Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

To:

Cory Spaulding coryspaulding@earthlink.net, Fontaine, Lisa <Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>

Cc:

CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>, Kate Shanley

<a href="mailto: kathleen.shanley@eversource.com

Subject:

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Date:

Aug 27, 2021 9:25 AM

Attachments:

Outlook-logo-small.png Response to CSC Letter re 1293 LFBNM 01.pdf

Mr. Spaulding,

Eversource responded to our correspondence on August 24, 2021. The response indicates a copy was e-mailed and mailed to you on that date. The deadline for Eversource to respond is today, August 27, 2021. The response is attached for your convenience.

According to the response, Eversource would like to schedule a site visit with you to address your questions and concerns. I've copied the representative from Eversource on this email.

Thank you.

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq. Executive Director/Staff Attorney Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051 860-827-2951



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From: Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 9:14 AM
To: Fontaine, Lisa < Lisa. Fontaine@ct.gov>

Cc: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>; CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

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Cc: coryspaulding@earthlink.net <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>, CSC-DL Siting Council

<Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Subject: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Please see the attached correspondence.

Lisa Fontaine Fiscal Administrative Officer CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL Ten Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

P: 860.827.2969|F: 860.827.2950|E: lisa.fontaine@ct.gov

· Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

From:

Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>, Fontaine, Lisa <Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>

Cc:

CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>, Kate Shanley

<K

<kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Subject:

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Date:

Aug 27, 2021 10:01 AM

Ms, Bachman,

Thank you for the prompt reply and attachment. The mail and e mail addresses in the letter are correct. No one from Eversource has contacted me by mail, e mail, or phone. I have copied Kate Shanley in this reply in the hopes that this will prompt some action from Eversource. Thank you for your assistance. Cory Spaulding 352 263 9226.

----Original Message----

From: Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Sent: Aug 27, 2021 9:24 AM

To: Cory Spaulding coryspaulding@earthlink.net, Fontaine, Lisa Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov

Cc: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>, Kate Shanley <kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Subject: Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

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Thank you.

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq. Executive Director/Staff Attorney Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051 860-827-2951



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Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 9:14 AM **To:** Fontaine, Lisa <Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>

Cc: Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>; CSC-DL Siting Council < Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

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Sent: Jul 30, 2021 3:12 PM

To: Kathleen Shanley kathleen.shanley@eversource.com

Cc: coryspaulding@earthlink.net <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>, CSC-DL Siting Council

<Siting.Council@ct.gov>

Subject: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Please see the attached correspondence.

Lisa Fontaine Fiscal Administrative Officer CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL Ten Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

P: 860.827.2969|F: 860.827.2950|E: lisa.fontaine@ct.gov

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

From:

Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>
Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Subject:

Re: PE1293-LFBNM-01 Council Letter regarding Construction Work

Date:

To:

Sep 1, 2021 3:21 PM

Ms. Bachman,

I am attempting to determine why Eversource Energy has not applied to the Council for all the pole replacement projects on my property.

I recently read your response to SHIPO in reference to petition PE 1293 in which you stated that not all work is under the jurisdiction of the

Council. In that letter you stated that routine maintenance and vegetation management is under the jurisdiction of FERC unless there is a <u>facility modification</u>. In my case with site 7785 for example, Eversource replaced 4 deteriorated wooden poles with 6 metal poles, cut down mature trees, installed an access road that did not previously exist, changed the entire landscape of the area where the poles are located, and they have also exceeded their 125 foot right of way by approximately 54 feet.

I have reviewed the implementing regulations for the Council and note that 16-50i (d) has modification defined as "significant change or alteration in the general characteristics of a facility"

I believe that all the work performed by Eversource on my property to date rises to the level of significant change and would like to know why this work was not handled via the sub petition process that the Council previously established.

On my property all sites involving pole replacements that were done by Eversource significantly changed the landscape and no sub petitions for those locations were applied for.

For location 7784 Eversource submitted a sub petition to the Council and then did not follow the details of the plan that they submitted to the Council. Let me rephrase this, Eversource grossly deviated from the submitted plans. In this submission by Eversource the map shows that each site has one dot and one existing structure. Each site has two poles which are two structures, site 7785 is listed with two structures yet contained 4 poles or structures. The map shows one power line running down the center of the easement, There are two lines spaced significantly apart, one for each pole. I could continue with many more mistakes but will stop for now in that my point is made, the maps are wrong.

I am asking for the Council to hold Eversource accountable for their actions and in this case also lack of actions. You wrote Eversource a letter requesting that they submit plans and environmental specifications for site 7784 yet in their response to you they basically said oops we made a mistake. I see no mention in their letter of their intent to comply with the Council request to submit plans and environmental data.

Please consider this e mail from me to be a request for the Council to require Eversource to submit to the Council sub permit applications for all sites located on my property that have been replaced to date.

For all sites, Eversource should be required to submit as built maps with elevation contours and prior to construction maps with contours so that myself and the Council can determine the environmental impact of the unpermitted work done to date.

Each project done on my property involved significant changes to the landscape which is part of the facility and site. Installing new roads and changing elevations of the land is not maintenance work and has significant potential for short and long term environmental impacts which do fall under the jurisdiction of the Council and rise to the level of significant change.

The legislation implementing the Council was designed to hold these utilities accountable for some semblance of environmental compliance so that the innocent land owner was not burdened with having to take that task on alone. I am simply asking for the Council to perform its duties as described in the implementing regulations.

I am available by phone to discuss this matter and invite you to come to Lebanon for a site visit, I would be happy to give you a tour and show you what I am describing.

Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding 352 263 9226





CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov www.ct.gov/esc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 7, 2021

Cory Spaulding 716 Beaumont Highway Lebanon, CT 06249 coryspaulding@earthlink.net

RE:

SUB-PETITION NO. 1293-LFBNM-01 (Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah, Norwich Montville) – Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvements to comply with the updated National Electrical Safety Code clearance requirements.

Dear Mr. Spaulding:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your additional correspondence dated September 7, 2021 concerning Eversource Energy's (Eversource) above-referenced request for approval to conduct transmission line maintenance activities to comply with the updated National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) standards on an existing electric transmission line that traverses the municipalities of Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah, Norwich and Montville. A decision to approve the requested maintenance improvements was rendered on August 16, 2017.

In reaching a final decision on a petition, the Council carefully considers whether the request to conduct maintenance improvements complies with the NESC standards. Please be advised that the Council developed a deliberate case-by-case process for the review and evaluation of Eversource transmission facility asset condition maintenance improvement requests to replace individual, existing electric transmission line structures throughout the state that are exhibiting deterioration due to cracking, splitting, rot, woodpecker damage, etc. to comply with updated NESC standards.

With reference to Structure No. 7785, structure replacements that require an increase in height to comply with NESC conductor clearance requirements are subject to the Council's jurisdiction. Structure replacements that do not require an increase in height to comply with the NESC are not subject to the Council's jurisdiction. Replacement of Structure No. 7785 did not require an increase in height. It is not subject to the Council's jurisdiction.

With reference to the access road, on your behalf, the Council sent a request to Eversource for information and plans on July 30, 2021. Eversource responded to the Council's request on August 24, 2021. In addition to addressing the re-establishment of the original drainage features along the access road. Eversource indicated it made outreach to schedule a site visit on your property to respond to any remaining questions and concerns you may have. To the Council's knowledge to date, this site visit has not occurred.



With reference to the Eversource right-of-way across the subject property, please be advised that the Council does not have the authority to interpret and/or enforce easements nor does it have the authority to negotiate, interpret or enforce any third party agreements. If you believe that Eversource is violating the easement they have across your property or that Eversource is violating an agreement they may have entered into with the previous owner of the property, contact an attorney.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/lm

c: Kathleen Shanley, Eversource Energy

Mathews, Lisa A

From:

Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

Sent:

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:50 AM

To:

Bachman, Melanie; Fontaine, Lisa; CSC-DL Siting Council

Cc:

Shanley, Kathleen M

Subject:

Work performed by Eversource under PE 1293 on land LL 6022 - Cory Spaulding -

Lebanon CT

Attachments:

Photo 1 Washout with subsoil steep hill 7785 2 mb.jpg; Photo 2 Washout lower area with photo of 7785 2 mb.jpg; Photo 6 Left side washout between 7785 and 7786 2 mb.jpg; Photo 3 7785 to 7784 upper steep slope wash out 2 mb.jpg; Photo 4 Washout lower part steep slope 7785 to 7784 2 mb.jpg; Photo 5 7785 side view slope failure 2

mb.jpg

Ms. Bachman,

Thank you for your most recent update.

Eversource in their August 24, 2021 letter to the Council stated that they had reestablished unspecified original drainage features and removed vegetation left in the right of way. This list by Eversource is nothing more than a word game to try to imply to the Council that these are all the issues involved and Eversource has fixed them. I can assure you this attempt by Eversource to minimize the damages and environmental issues falls far short of the items that need to be addressed.

How do you identify what needs to be fixed when you have no plans for what was done?

To give you an example of what gets discovered in this ongoing investigation, last week while inspecting the ongoing erosion issue that will be described below, I discovered three stone walls that protrude from the edge of the areas that Eversource has filled in. These areas were covered up by heavy vegetation and debris deposited by Eversource. Eversource buried three stone walls and failed to re-establish them. I also noted that these walls were conveniently NOT depicted on the Eversource submitted plans for site 7784.

How do you identify what needs to be fixed when you have no accurate plans for what previously existed?

In reference to the drainage features discussed by Eversource. As detailed in the attached photos 1, 2, and 6 taken September 2, 2021, the steep incline road built by Eversource between sites 7785 and 7786 has again washed out. The unspecified reinstalled drainage features have failed again. These window dressing features are nothing more than a band aid that Eversource has put on a severed artery.

Photos 3 and 4 depict the large filled in area and slope created by Eversource in the work done for sites 7785 and 7784. This 70 foot long Eversource road which traverses on a steep slope that did not previously exist has NO erosion protection measures installed. The road has washed out again.

Photo 5 depicts a side view of the easterly side of the fill area created by Eversource at site 7785 which is part of the road for site 7784. This area is exhibiting signs of slope failure. The top of the slope is sluffing off which indicates that the entire area filled by Eversource is sliding down the hill. When this type of failure happens it is usually caused by filling areas on steep slopes without proper compaction and without installing the proper engineering keys to prevent the slope from sliding down the hill. You have massive amounts of material placed on bedrock on a steep slope. This is a sure-fire recipe for the entire filled area to slide down the slope carrying with it with the power transmission lines and poles installed upon it.

Since Eversource did not submit a sub petition to the Council for the significant modifications done at this site, no engineering is available to review to see how this massive topographical change done by Eversource was actual constructed.

This is not an all-inclusive list of the issue, just a sampling.

In summary, the Council leaving Eversource to police themselves and " reach out to Mr. Spaulding" has resulted in no progress, more damages, and no answers to many questions. The ongoing erosion continues on and the Susquetonscut Brook which is at the base of this steep incline continues to fill up with sediment.

I would again like to ask for an explanation from the Council as to why Eversource is not required to apply to the Siting Council for work done at site 7785 considering that the work at this site involved

- * replacing 6 poles where 4 poles previously existed
- * realignment of a road that was not initially authorized, did not previously exist, and was supposed to be wetland mats
- * work that involved permanently installed features that are presently exceeding the right of way
- * work that involved the cutting down of mature trees
- * work that involved a 30 foot cut made into a steep embankment coupled with the admitted 400 tons of fill brought in that resulted in the extensive topography changes that are now unstable and eroding with every rain event.

The work done at site 7785 certainly meets the definition of modification which is significant change or alteration of the general physical characteristics and should have required a review by the Council of the planned work to see if it posed a significant environmental impact.

Presently at site 7785 we have extensive alternations to the physical characteristics, no sub permit application filed, no explanation as to why the work was done, no design specifications for what was done, ongoing environmental issues, and no environmental review by the Council.

We DO have the luxury of knowing that we DO have environmental issues and we DO have significant alternation to the general physical characteristics.

- * 16-50i. Definitions. As used in this chapter:
- * (d) " Modification " means a significant change or alteration in the general physical characteristics of a facility;

Let me be clear, Eversource's most recently assignment of a THIRD sub contract outreach representative who cannot answer any questions and has no authority to make any decisions is not a course to resolution.

Last week this THIRD outreach representative promised, as the previous two had also promised, to obtain a copy of the Eversource right of way to the property and a copy of the plans for all the work done on this property. The first two representatives did not produce the documents and I do not believe this one will either. I suspect that Eversource did the work at site 7785 without the necessary engineering and without any specific plans. I recently saw a new survey stake at this site so I suspect that Eversource by now has figured out that they have exceeded their right of way. Eversource now wants to cover this all up by sending the Council a letter attempting to minimize the problems and stating that they have fixed everything. The photo's do not lie, the problems are not fixed.

How does forward progress or a plan of resolution happen when no one has any specifications for what was done?

I would like to explain to you the irony of this entire matter. Eversource said in sub petition PE 1293 Ifbnm that they were going to access site 7784 via wetland matts which would produce minimal ground disturbance. Instead, they built

a road that has produced significant changes to the physical characteristics of this AGRICULTURAL classified land. If Eversource had simply been truthful about their intentions and allowed the proper reviews and notifications to be done perhaps someone would have realized that sites 7784 and 7785 already have door to door DIRECT access to Beaumont Highway via an existing abandoned town road known as the Old Mill Road. Access to these sites already existed and their was no need to build a new road.

The environmental mess that Eversource has now created to this AGRICULTURAL LAND was totally unnecessary.

In closing, I would like to know the status of a couple outstanding items.

- * Does the Council plan on letting Eversource police themselves in these matters?
- * Does the Council plan on requiring Eversource to submit plans and a sub petition application for site 7785 so the as built specifications can be obtained and a proper environmental review by the Council can be done?
- * Is the Council going to require Eversource to submit the " plan to mitigate the environmental impacts caused by the installation of the road" that the Council requested Eversource to submit to the Council in the July 30, 2021, letter?
- * Is the Council going to reopen sub petition PE 1293 Ifbnm and perform the required environmental review now that the Council has knowledge that the plans and specifications submitted by Eversource were not followed and that significant environmental issues exist with the work performed?

Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding

Work performed by Eversource under PE 1293 on land LL 6022 - Cory Spaulding - Lebanon CT

From:

"Cory Spaulding" <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

To:

"Melanie Bachman CT Siting Council" <melanie.bachman@ct.gov>, "Lisa Fontaine Siting Council"

<Lisa.Fontaine@ct.gov>, <siting.council@ct.gov>

Cc:

"Shanley, Kathleen M" <kathleen.shanley@eversource.com>

Subject:

Work performed by Eversource under PE 1293 on land LL 6022 - Cory Spaulding - Lebanon CT

Date:

Sep 7, 2021 8:49 AM

Attachments: Photo 1 Washout with subsoil steep hill 7785 2 mb.jpg, Photo 2 Washout lower area with photo of 7785 2

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- * work that involved a 30 foot cut made into a steep embankment coupled with the admitted 400 tons of fill brought in that resulted in the extensive topography changes that are now unstable and eroding with every rain event.

The work done at site 7785 certainly meets the definition of modification which is significant change or alteration of the general physical characteristics and should have required a review by the Council of the planned work to see if it posed a significant environmental impact.

Presently at site 7785 we have extensive alternations to the physical characteristics, no sub permit application filed, no explanation as to why the work was done, no design specifications for what was done, ongoing environmental issues, and no environmental review by the Council.

We DO have the luxury of knowing that we DO have environmental issues and we DO have significant alternation to the general physical characteristics.

- * 16-50i. Definitions. As used in this chapter:
- * (d) "Modification" means a significant change or alteration in the general physical characteristics of a facility;

Let me be clear, Eversource's most recently assignment of a THIRD sub contract outreach representative who cannot answer any questions and has no authority to make any decisions is not a course to resolution.

Last week this THIRD outreach representative promised, as the previous two had also promised, to obtain a copy of the Eversource right of way to the property and a copy of the plans for all the work done on this property. The first two representatives did not produce the documents and I do not believe this one will either. I suspect that Eversource did the work at site 7785 without the necessary engineering and without any specific plans. I recently saw a new survey stake at this site so I suspect that Eversource by now has figured out that they have exceeded their right of way. Eversource now wants to cover this all up by sending the Council a letter attempting to minimize the problems and stating that they

have fixed everything. The photo's do not lie, the problems are not fixed.

How does forward progress or a plan of resolution happen when no one has any specifications for what was done?

I would like to explain to you the irony of this entire matter. Eversource said in sub petition PE 1293 Ifbnm that they were going to access site 7784 via wetland matts which would produce minimal ground disturbance. Instead, they built a road that has produced significant changes to the physical characteristics of this AGRICULTURAL classified land. If Eversource had simply been truthful about their intentions and allowed the proper reviews and notifications to be done perhaps someone would have realized that sites 7784 and 7785 already have door to door DIRECT access to Beaumont Highway via an existing abandoned town road known as the Old Mill Road. Access to these sites already existed and their was no need to build a new road.

The environmental mess that Eversource has now created to this AGRICULTURAL LAND was totally unnecessary.

In closing, I would like to know the status of a couple outstanding items.

- * Does the Council plan on letting Eversource police themselves in these matters?
- * Does the Council plan on requiring Eversource to submit plans and a sub petition application for site 7785 so the as built specifications can be obtained and a proper environmental review by the Council can be done?
- * Is the Council going to require Eversource to submit the " plan to mitigate the environmental impacts caused by the installation of the road" that the Council requested Eversource to submit to the Council in the July 30, 2021, letter?
- * Is the Council going to reopen sub petition PE 1293 Ifbnm and perform the required environmental review now that the Council has knowledge that the plans and specifications submitted by Eversource were not followed and that significant environmental issues exist with the work performed?

Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Fen Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

> E-Mail: siting.council à et.gov Web Site: portal.et.gov/esc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 9, 2023

Cory Spaulding & Leslie Yeisley 716 Beaumont Highway Lebanon, CT 06249 coryspaulding@earthlink.net

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request, dated June 2, 2023

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 Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisley:

In response to your Freedom of Information Act request, dated June 1, 2023, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) reviewed its records for "any notification or exempt notifications sent to the Council by Eversource in reference to work performed," for Eversource electric transmission line Structure Nos. 7785 and 7786 located in Lebanon, Connecticut.

Please be advised that the Council does not have any records that are responsive to this request.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/laf

c: Council Members

----Original Message----

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From: Cory Spaulding <coryspaulding@earthlink.net>

Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2023 3:44 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie < Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov > Cc: CSC-DL Siting Council < Siting.Council@ct.gov >

Subject: Request for documents for Eversource work at sites 7785 and 7786.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Connecticut Siting Council,

Melanie Bachman,

Good afternoon Ms. Bachman,

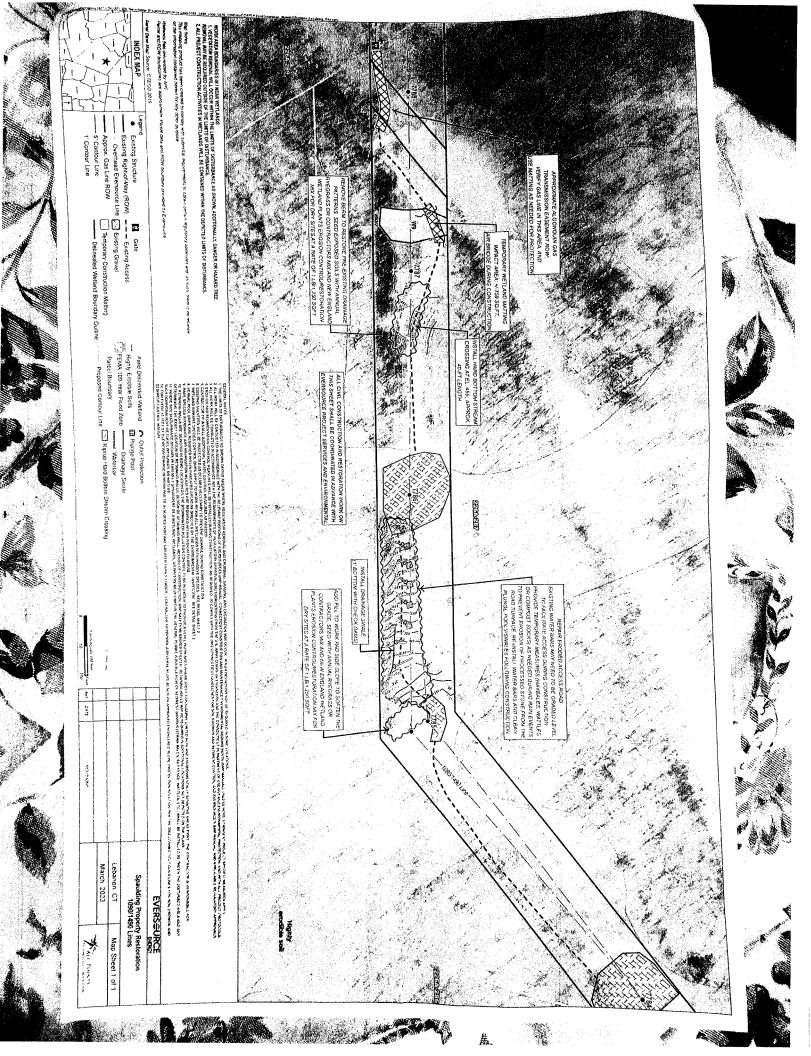
Eversource conducted work on my property without approval from the Siting Council at sites 7786 and 7785. This work was believed to have been done in 2021. On September 7, 2021 you advised me that the work at site 7785 was not under Council jurisdiction because it did not require an increase in height, please see the attached letter.

In reviewing the regulations, I am assuming that you were referencing The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies — RCSA § 16-50j-57(b) and also referencing the April 13, 2013 document produced by the Siting Council titled Modification of Existing Energy Facilities when you determined that this work was not under Council jurisdiction. In the April 13, 2013, memo, the Council references the required Council notification process detailed in 16-50j-58.

As noted in previous documents and exhibits sent to the Council, I have described the work Eversource performed at sites 7786 and 7785 as illegal and I maintain the work required permits from the Council because site 7785 was not a one for one replacement and both sites had a significant adverse change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics of the site. This information is detailed extensively in previous documents sent so I will not document this further here today. I would like to request from the Council copies of any notification or exempt notifications sent to the Council by Eversource in reference to work performed at these two sites. If you need additional information to complete this request, please let me know what is needed. If this request needs to be an FOI request them please consider this e mail to be such.

It is my intention to request for the June 12, 2023 Council meeting that the Council conduct an investigation into if permits were required for this work as I believe is allowed under 16-50j-41 – Council Investigations, but would like a copy of any documents Eversource may have filed prior to me filing this request. This previous work is directly related to petition 1566 in that the present petition proposes to utilize the illegal work, roads, and pads that were installed at these location.

Could you please tell me the cut-off date for adding items to the agenda for this meeting if in fact it would be acceptable to add this request to the others previously filed?



Cory Spaulding Leslie Yeisley 716 Beaumont Highway Lebanon CT. 06249

July 21, 2023

Senator Osten.

We have asked for your assistance in how to deal with dozens of false statements and misrepresentations of facts made to the Siting Council by Melanie Bachman, Siting Council Executive Director, and Council Attorney.

Most of these false statements and misrepresentations were made in written form in her June 22, 2023, staff memo to the Council. This memo was utilized by the Siting Council to deny our request for a public hearing.

Two Council members specifically verbalized during the hearing why they were voting to deny the hearing and the reasons they provided are one of the many false statements made by Attorney Bachman.

We have performed a detailed review of her false statements that were made in the June 22, 2023, memo in reference to our request for a hearing. We have attached this review to this email. This is only a partial listing of the false statements and misrepresentation of facts contained in the June 22, 2023 memo. We have tried to limit our review to the grossly false statements and ones pertinent to the request for a hearing rather than try to detail all of them.

Our issues with Eversource are quite simple. Eversource violated Connecticut laws by performing illegal infrastructure work on our property that we were never notified about, which required Council approval which was not obtained. As a result of the illegal infrastructure work performed, our property has been irreparably environmentally damaged.

We reported the illegal work and damages to Attorney Bachman in writing in August through September of 2021 and she ignored the illegal acts and took no action in reference to the environmental damage.

Eversource, in Siting Council Petition 1566 that was filed in April of 2023 has proposed to do more work on our property and utilize all of the illegal and unlawful infrastructure work previously constructed. The petition also details that the new work Eversource is proposing will do substantial additional damage to our property.

Since the petition proposes to utilize previous illegal work, without repairing any of the previous damage, and the proposed new work will do additional damage, we petitioned the Siting Council for a hearing so that we could bring these facts to their attention and hopefully require Eversource to remediate the previous damages before performing any more work on our property. This request for a hearing was denied by the Council on June 22, 2023, however the Council denial was based upon the false statements and misrepresentations made to the Council by Attorney Bachman. This is detailed in the two Council members statements during the hearing where they verbalized why they were voting to deny. A transcript of their statements during the hearing is contained in the memo review.

The review we have performed demonstrates that Attorney Bachman abused her position as Executive Director. She withheld critical information that she was aware of from the Council at a May 11,2023 Council hearing and then she delayed putting our request for hearing on the Council agenda until after a 60-day regulatory time frame had passed despite the fact that the Council held two meetings that were within the 60-day time frame.

When the Council met to consider our hearing request, Attorney Bachman submitted her memo that contains many false statements, including the false statement that our hearing request was made outside a 60-day action period. Our request was filed within the 60-day period. She then verbally, during the meeting and in writing in the memo, advised the Council that because we filed late the Council could not grant our request for a hearing because the Council was legally barred from scheduling a hearing after this 60-day regulatory period has expired. We also believe that her legal advice regarding the inability of the Council to schedule a hearing after this 60-day regulatory period is also false.

The review also shows how petition 1566, has been illegally put before the Council and how the 60-day action period was illegally manipulated and illegally applied to our public hearing requests.

The devil is in the details and unfortunately, we have had to go into great detail to explain the false statements and nefarious actions however when viewed in total these actions rise to the level of malfeasance, misfeasance and grossly unscrupulous conduct.

In performing the review, we found many of Attorney Bachman's false statements were repetitious throughout the memo which has forced us at times to be repetitious in identifying the false statements. For this we apologize.

What this boils down to is Attorney Bachman has deliberately maneuvered our request for a hearing to be denied by the Council based upon false information that she herself provided to the Council.

At this point in time, one would normally ask why would someone do this?

We are not positive of the motives however we do know that Attorney Bachman has been covering up the illegal acts of Eversource since 2021 when we first informed her of them in writing. With the new petition the illegal acts have resurfaced and since she ignored the illegal acts in 2021 and failed to notify the Council of them, she has no choice but to attempt to cover them up and prevent this illegal activity and her failure to take action from coming out in a public hearing before the entire Council.

Considering the false statements detailed in this review and the hundreds of others that are contained in the official record of petition 1566, for the Council to continue to move forward with this petition and continue to utilize legal advice from Attorney Bachman would be misfeasance by the full Council.

The petition 1566 official record contains statements, facts and documents that have been submitted by Eversource, Attorney Bachman and us. When these records are compared to each other it is obvious that someone has lied and submitted vast amounts of false information to the Council. Since the Council is charged with making fact-based decisions, we do not believe that a decision can be made until an

investigation is held to determine which facts are true, who has lied, and who submitted the false information to the Council.

The Council has the authority to investigate any matter at any time under RSCA 16-50j-41 – Council Investigations. We find it impossible for the Council to make a fact-based final decision until the truth of the facts they are relying upon is determined. At present, for the public hearing request, the Council has relied upon false facts and false statements in making their decision.

Many laws have been broken and we have detailed many of them in the petition 1566 official record and further expounded upon them in this detailed review.

What is at stake here is the rule of law, the truth, and if the Council is going to condone, sanction, and approve these illegal acts and this illegal work performed by Eversource by approving petition 1566.

The official record in petition 1566 is littered throughout with tainted and grossly false information. The only question left to be answered is if the Council is going to close a blind eye to these egregious acts and breach of public trust or if the Council is going to hold Eversource and Attorney Bachman accountable for their actions.

Attorney Bachman's actions have placed the entire Council in a legal quagmire that presently has no good solutions as we have detailed in the review.

In closing, we have also attached a document containing the specific actions we are requesting be taken as a result of the improprieties, false statements, and violations of law that we have detailed today and are contained in the official record of petition 1566.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cory Spaulding and Leslie Yeisle

Certification

I hereby certify that an electronic copy of the forgoing document was delivered to The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy at deborah.denfeld@eversource.com

56 Prospect Street Hartford CT.

Attention Deborah Denfeld Team Lead – Transmission Siting Eversource Energy P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141 Phone: (860) 728-4654

Cory Spaulding

July 31, 2023

Leslie Yeisley

Xai Gersley