



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

February 14, 2024

Deborah Denfeld
Team Lead – Transmission Siting
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141
deborah.denfeld@eversource.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1567** - The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy Declaratory Ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the 1637/1720 Lines Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along its existing 4.0 mile electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) Nos. 1637 and 1720 Lines between Grist Mill Road in Norwalk, Norwalk Junction in Wilton, and Weston Substation in Weston, Connecticut traversing the municipalities of Norwalk, Wilton, and Weston, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. **Compliance with Condition Nos. 2, 3 and 4.**

Dear Deborah Denfeld:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated February 12, 2024 regarding compliance with Condition Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of the Declaratory Ruling issued by the Council on September 15, 2023 for the above-referenced facility. The correspondence includes identification of staging areas at 837 Seaview Avenue in Bridgeport and provisions for erosion and sedimentation controls; the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Stormwater Permit; and invasive species control plan for Copts Brook wetlands, in accordance with Condition Nos. 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

Therefore, the Council acknowledges that Condition Nos. 2, 3 and 4 have been satisfied. This acknowledgment applies only to the conditions satisfied by the February 12, 2024 correspondence.

Please be advised that deviations from the standards established by the Council in the Declaratory Ruling are enforceable under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50u.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melanie A. Bachman".

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MB/MP

c: Service List dated July 20, 2023
Kathleen M. Shanley, Eversource Energy (Kathleen.shanley@eversource.com)



56 Prospect Street
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06103

Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead– Transmission Siting
Tel: (860) 728-4654

February 12, 2024

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

Re: **PETITION NO. 1567** – 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 1637/1720 Lines Rebuild Project

Notice Pursuant to Conditions Nos. 2-4

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On September 15, 2023, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) considered and ruled that that proposed 1637/1720 Lines Rebuild Project (“Project”) would not have a substantial environmental effect and, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with certain Conditions to be met for the Project.

Eversource hereby provides a response to three Conditions to be submitted prior to commencement of construction:

- Pursuant to Condition 2, Identification of staging areas and provisions for erosion and sedimentation (E&S) controls, if necessary:
The staging areas are located on two paved portions of the property located at 837 Seaview Avenue in Bridgeport, CT. These staging areas are also being utilized for the work of Petition 1549 (1714 Line Rebuild Project). Since the staging areas are on the paved portions of this property that will not have any grading done, E&S controls will not be necessary. A map showing these staging areas is included as Attachment A.
- Pursuant to Condition 3, Submit a copy of the DEEP Stormwater Permit:
Permit No. GSN003939, dated July 1, 2023, referencing application No. 202303699 is included as Attachment B.

- Pursuant to Condition 4, submit a plan to control the potential spread of invasive species specifically in the work areas of Copts Brook and adjacent wetlands:
The Invasive Species Control Plan – Copts Brook Wetland is included as Attachment C.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Deborah Denfeld
Team Lead – Transmission Siting
deborah.denfeld@eversource.com

Attachments:

- A: Map of Staging Areas at 837 Seaview Avenue, Bridgeport, CT
- B: DEEP Stormwater Permit
- C: Invasive Species Control Plan – Copts Brook Wetland

Cc: Jeannie and Peter Rubsam (via email)
Matthew C. Mason, Esq. (via email)

ATTACHMENT A



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INDEX MAP



Legend

- Approximate Subject Property
- Staging Area /Material Laydown Yard
- Natural Diversity Database Area (June 2023)
- FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone

Map Notes:
Base Map Source: CT ECO
2019 Aerial Photograph
Subject Property and Laydown Yards
are Approximate (not from survey)



1 inch equals 250 feet
250 125 0 Feet

EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

**PROPOSED STAGING AREA/
MATERIAL LAYDOWN YARD
1714 LINE REBUILD PROJECT
837 SEAVIEW AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT**

Date: July, 2023



ATTACHMENT B



Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance

Notice of Permit Authorization

July, 01 2023

MARK PAPPALARDO
EVERSOURCE ENERGY SERVICE COMPANY
655 Winding Brook Dr
Glastonbury, CT 06033-4337

Subject: General Permit Registration for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering
Wastewaters from Construction Activities
Application NO.: 202303699

MARK PAPPALARDO:

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Water Permitting and Enforcement Division of the Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, has completed the review of the 1637/1720 Line (located at Grist Mill Rd, Norwalk) registration for the **General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities, effective 12/31/2020, modified 11/25/2022 (general permit)**. The project is compliant with the requirements of the general permit and the discharge(s) associated with this project is (are) authorized to commence as of the date of this letter. Permit No. GSN003939 has been assigned to authorize the stormwater discharge(s) from this project.

Questions can be emailed to deep.stormwater@ct.gov.

ATTACHMENT C

INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL PLAN

COPTS BROOK WETLAND

The 1637/1720 Lines Rebuild Project ("Project"), which is being developed by The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, consists of replacing structures and reconductoring the electric transmission lines along its 4.0-mile electric transmission line right-of-way ("ROW") between Grist Mill Road in Norwalk, Norwalk Junction in Wilton and Weston Substation in Weston, Connecticut, traversing the municipalities of Norwalk, Wilton and Weston. The Wetland Invasive Species Control Plan ("Plan") was prepared pursuant to Condition 4 of the Connecticut Siting Council's September 15, 2023, Declaratory Ruling for Petition No. 1567.

Immediately prior to the start of construction, the presence and extent of invasive plant species within the Copts Brook wetlands, *over a distance of approximately 2,450 feet*, will be confirmed and their location identified to document the existing conditions prior to commencement of construction. Particular attention will be given to areas that will be utilized by the Project, such as in-ROW access roads and structure work pad and pull pad locations.

The following invasive species were identified within the Copts Brook wetland, and which includes wetland areas W14, W16 and W17 and Copts Brook:

- Multi-flora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)
- Common reed (*Phragmites australis*)

To avoid and minimize the potential for the spread of invasive plant species in the Copts Brook wetland as a result of work associated with the proposed Project, Eversource will implement standard Best Management Practices ("BMPs") described within its 2022 BMP Manual (*Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut, Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements, April 2022*) and as detailed in this Invasive Species Control Plan during construction. This Plan requires that all equipment and any construction matting (if utilized) be cleaned by the vendor prior to installation, including in the Copts Brook wetland. "Clean" is defined as being visually free of excessive plant matter (stems, flowers, roots, etc.) or soil prior to being brought to the Project site.

Any equipment and construction matting that have been placed or used within areas identified by the pre-construction evaluation as containing invasive species will be cleaned of plant matter (stems, flowers, roots, etc.) and excess soil at the site of the invasive species prior to being moved to other areas

of the Project to prevent the spread of invasive species from one area to another. Mats will also be cleaned prior to being permanently removed at the completion of the work.

Below are details regarding the construction BMPs to be followed during construction:

WETLAND INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL BMPS

TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF WETLAND INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES, EVERSOURCE WILL REQUIRE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS TO IMPLEMENT THE BMP PROCEDURES DESCRIBED BELOW, AS APPROPRIATE TO THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BEING PERFORMED. THE CONTRACTOR'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE ELEMENTS OF THIS PLAN WILL BE REVIEWED AND CONFIRMED DURING THE WEEKLY COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS THAT THE PROJECT WILL PERFORM FOR THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT:

- A. ALL CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND MATERIALS (E.G., TIMBER MATS) MUST BE CLEAN AND FREE OF EXCESS SOIL, DEBRIS, AND VEGETATION BEFORE BEING MOBILIZED TO THE PROJECT ROWS.
- B. TIMBER CONSTRUCTION MATS WILL BE USED IN WETLANDS DURING WORK TO MINIMIZE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES WITHIN A WETLAND BY PROVIDING A STABLE BASE FOR PROJECT EQUIPMENT.
- C. TO MINIMIZE THE POTENTIAL FOR SPREADING INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES FROM WETLAND-TO-WETLAND ALONG THE ROW, ANY EQUIPMENT WORKING IN OR TRAVERSING A WETLAND CONTAINING INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES WILL BE CLEANED PRIOR TO RELOCATING TO ANOTHER WORK SITE. CLEANING OF VEHICLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING THE TRACKS AND TIRES) WILL INVOLVE REMOVAL OF VISIBLE SOIL, DEBRIS, AND VEGETATION THROUGH THE USE OF BROOMS, SHOVELS, AND, IF NEEDED, COMPRESSED AIR.
- D. TIMBER CONSTRUCTION MATS OR EQUIVALENT WILL BE USED AT WETLAND AREA CROSSINGS SO CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES THAT FREQUENTLY TRAVEL ALONG IN-ROW ACCESS ROADS, SUCH AS PICKUPS CARRYING PERSONNEL OR MATERIAL DELIVERY TRUCKS, CAN AVOID DIRECT WETLAND INTERACTION.
- E. MATS USED IN WETLANDS CONTAINING INVASIVE SPECIES WILL BE CLEANED PRIOR TO RELOCATION TO OTHER WORK AREAS OR WETLANDS. CLEANING OF MATTING WILL INVOLVE DROPPING MATS TO SHAKE LOOSE ANY SEDIMENT AND DEBRIS.
- F. FINAL RESTORATION OF THE WORK AREAS TO USE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. "HAY BALE" EROSION CONTROLS, WHICH MAY CONTAIN NOXIOUS OR INVASIVE SEED STOCK OR PLANT MATTER, ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE USED ON SITE. THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE ALTERNATIVE SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION CONTROL MEASURES. TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE AND IF LOCAL SOURCES ARE AVAILABLE, UTILIZE STRAW BALES, WATTLES, COCONUT ROLLS, WOOD CHIP BAGS OR SILT FENCE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT WHEN EROSION CONTROLS ARE INSTALLED ADJACENT TO WETLANDS.
- G. UPON REMOVAL OF CONSTRUCTION MATS, OR OTHER BMPS, THE WETLAND/WATERCOURSE SHOULD BE INSPECTED FOR RUTTING OR DISTURBANCE. ANY RUTTING SHOULD BE RE-GRADED TO PRE-EXISTING CONTOURS WHILE TAKING CARE NOT TO COMPACT SOILS.
- H. DISTURBED WETLAND AREAS ARE GENERALLY ALLOWED TO REVEGETATE FROM THE NATURAL SEED BANK. HOWEVER, WITHIN THE COPTS BROOK WETLAND, DISTURBED WETLAND SOILS WILL BE RESTORED BY BROADCASTING A SEED MIXTURE CONTAINING NATIVE SPECIES REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AREA AND TREATED WITH A LAYER OF MULCH (I.E., STRAW; THE USE OF HAY AND/OR HAY PRODUCTS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED) UP TO ONE (1) INCH THICK TO ENHANCE MOISTURE RETENTION, DISSIPATE DISTURBANCE FROM PRECIPITATION, AND DETRACT SONGBIRDS FORAGING ON BROADCAST SEED.