



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 23, 2023

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 petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed 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.

Dear Deborah Denfeld:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than June 13, 2023. Please submit an original and 15 copies to the Council's office and an electronic copy to siting.council@ct.gov. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and in accordance with Section 16-50j-12 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Council requests all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Please be advised that the original and 15 copies are required to be submitted to the Council's office on or before the June 13, 2023 deadline.

Copies of your responses are required to be provided to all parties and intervenors listed in the service list, which can be found on the Council's website under the "Pending Matters" link.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melanie Bachman", written in a cursive style.

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

c: Kathleen M. Shanley, Eversource Energy (Kathleen.shanley@eversource.com)

**Petition No. 1567 - Eversource
1637/1720 Lines Rebuild Project
Norwalk, Wilton, Weston, Connecticut**

**Interrogatories
May 23, 2023**

Notice

1. Referencing Petition p. 32, were there any additional comments received from the Towns of Wilton and Weston or the City of Norwalk or abutting property owners since the filing of the Petition? If so, what were their concerns, and how were these concerns addressed?

Existing Facility Site

2. Referencing Petition p. 2, what public utility uses/rights are identified under the easements along the existing ROW?
3. Under Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-2a(29), “**Site**” means a contiguous parcel of property with specified boundaries, including, but not limited to, the leased area, right-of-way, access and easements on which a facility and associated equipment is located, shall be located or is proposed to be located. Is the “Project area” described in the Petition synonymous with the existing facility “site?” Explain.
4. Referencing Petition p. 11, define the terms “maintained ROW” and “full ROW.”
5. Referencing Petition p. 4, of the 4.0 miles of Project ROW, how many miles of Project ROW are in located in each of the municipalities of Norwalk, Weston and Wilton?
6. Referencing Petition p. 7, after the structure replacements for Sub-petitions 1293-WT-01 and 1293-WI-01 and the structure replacements for the project, what number of existing structures would remain and when is replacement of those structures anticipated?
7. Referencing Petition Map Sheet 2, Structures 957-1 and 957-2 are marked for replacement with new Structures 957 and 957A, respectively; however, these structures were also marked for replacement in Council Sub-Petition No. 1293-WI-01, approved by the Council on May 17, 2021 and completed on February 18, 2022. Explain why such structures need to be replaced again.
8. Referencing Petition Map Sheet 7, are existing Structures 19797 and 19797A the same as proposed Structures 933(1) and 933(2) on Council Sub-Petition 1293-WT-01 Map Sheet 2?
9. When was the most recent vegetation management conducted in the ROW? What work was performed?

Project Development

10. Is the proposed project identified in any ISO-New England, Inc. (ISO-NE) needs and solutions analyses? Is the proposed project on the ISO-NE Regional System Plan (RSP), Project List and/or Asset Condition List? If yes, identify.
11. Are any generation facilities listed on the ISO-NE interconnection queue associated with the proposed project? If so, please identify the generation facilities and the queue position.

12. What is the total estimated cost of the project? Of this total, what costs would be regionalized, and what costs would be localized? Estimate the percentages of the total cost that would be borne by Eversource ratepayers, Connecticut ratepayers, and the remainder of New England (excluding Connecticut) ratepayers, as applicable.
13. Referencing Petition p. 22, compare the cost of utilizing weathering steel poles vs. galvanized steel poles.
14. How does the project relate to other proposed, planned or constructed Connecticut reliability and asset condition projects?

Project Construction

15. Referencing Petition p. 4, would Eversource need to obtain Connecticut Department of Transportation Encroachment Permits to cross Routes 7, 33, and 53 or any other state roads within the Project area? Explain.

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

16. In addition to Eversource's Best Management Practices, what other specific environmental mitigation measures and/or monitoring would be conducted for construction within environmentally sensitive areas?
17. Has Eversource developed a Protection Plan for wetlands, watercourses and vernal pools, including applicable environmental inspections and duties, in its construction plans for the project? If yes, submit such plan. If no, when would such a plan be developed?
18. Would Eversource implement the same mitigation measures and/or use the same construction methods (ex. watercourse crossings, secured mats in flood zone areas, etc.) for areas of the Project as were implemented and used in Sub-Petitions 1293-WI-01 and 1293-WT-01? Explain how these areas overlap.
19. Referencing Petition p. 14 and Sub-petitions 1293-WI-01 and 1293-WT-01, what portions of the existing facility site are common to the Phase 1A Cultural Resources Assessment Survey that was conducted for the structure replacements in 2021?
20. What measures would be taken, if necessary, to determine if excavated soils are suitable for reuse or redistribution in other Project areas?
21. Referencing Petition pp. 20 and 21, would the re-classification of the Northern Long-eared Bat from federally threatened to endangered affect the USFWS Information, Planning, and Consultation determination? Explain.
22. How would new conductor and OPGW installation avoid contact with water at crossings?