



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](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

Web Site: [portal.ct.gov/csc](http://portal.ct.gov/csc)

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

February 8, 2024

Deborah Denfeld  
Team Lead – Transmission Siting  
Eversource Energy  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141  
[deborah.denfeld@eversource.com](mailto:deborah.denfeld@eversource.com)

RE: **PETITION NO. 1577** - 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 Frost Bridge to Noera Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 5 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1163 and 1550 Lines between Frost Bridge Substation in Watertown to Noera Substation in Waterbury, traversing the municipalities of Watertown, Thomaston, Plymouth and Waterbury, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. **Request for Project Change.**

Dear Deborah Denfeld:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated February 6, 2024 regarding a project change for the above-referenced Declaratory Ruling issued by the Council on September 1, 2023.

Pursuant to Condition No. 1 of the Council's September 1, 2023, Declaratory Ruling, the request to perform an additional 11.4 acres of clearing associated with Eversource's vegetation management maintenance program is hereby approved.

This approval applies only to the project change in the correspondence dated February 6, 2024.

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,

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director

MAB/MP



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

**Deborah Denfeld**  
Team Lead – Transmission Siting  
Tel: 860-728-4654

February 6, 2024

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

**Re: PETITION NO. 1577** – 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 Frost Bridge to Noera Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement and reconductoring of electric transmission line structures along approximately 5 miles of its existing electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1163 and 1550 Lines between Frost Bridge Substation in Watertown to Noera Substation in Waterbury, traversing the municipalities of Watertown, Thomaston, Plymouth and Waterbury, Connecticut, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. **Request for minor project changes.**

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On September 1, 2023, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) ruled that the above referenced Petition would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect and would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need. Condition 1 of the Project ruling indicates any project changes be delegated to Council staff for approval. The following change is proposed;

- In addition to the clearing and vegetation removal work associated with the active Frost Bridge to Noera Rebuild Project (“Project”) Eversource Vegetation Management has now scheduled vegetation management maintenance work within the same right-of-way (“ROW”) corridor. The vegetation management work is part of Eversource’s Transmission Right-of-Way Reliability Program<sup>1</sup> (“TRRP”) and will result in additional tree clearing outside the existing maintained edge of the ROW corridor along most of the ROW resulting in approximately 13.9 acres of total clearing.

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<sup>1</sup> TRRP is an Eversource vegetation management maintenance program designed to enhance system reliability by removing incompatible vegetation and widen the maintained area of the ROW to the easement edge or from approximately 100 feet off the outside conductor where the edge of the ROW is a good distance from the lines.

At the time of the Petition filing Eversource had indicated that the Project anticipated limited tree removal and limited pruning of side vegetation to complete the work activities and tree clearing of approximately 2.5 acres within the ROW where additional transmission line clearance was required. Eversource had anticipated that the Project would be completed before now, however, the Project's original schedule has been delayed due to a number of factors and the 2024 TRRP scheduled work is now aligning with the Project's construction schedule.

As detailed in the Petition, the width of the ROW within the Project area varies from approximately 115 feet to 280 feet. The TRRP work to be conducted in the wider sections of the ROW will include the removal of incompatible vegetation, including trees, from the ROW edge, closest to the transmission lines, to approximately 100 to 125 feet off the opposite edge of the ROW. This work will take place for approximately 2.05 miles from Frost Bridge Substation in Watertown to Boyden Street in Waterbury and for approximately 0.84 miles from North Main Street to Noera Junction in Waterbury. In the remaining narrower sections of the ROW, which are currently maintained throughout the entire width of the ROW, incompatible vegetation will be removed, as needed.

The municipal officials of Watertown, Thomaston and Waterbury and the abutters have been notified of the proposed vegetation management work. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead – Transmission Siting

Deborah.denfeld@eversource.com