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**Deborah Denfeld**  
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February 4, 2025

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

**Re: PETITION NO. 1640** – 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 Towantic Substation to Beacon Falls Junction Rebuild Project in the municipality of Oxford. **Compliance with Condition No. 9, and Condition No. 6**

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On January 23, 2025, the Siting Council considered and ruled that the above-mentioned Project would not have a substantial adverse 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.

In accordance with Petition Condition No. 9, Eversource hereby provides written notice to the Council that construction work will commence in two weeks for specific Project activities that are outside the Project limits of the DEEP Stormwater Permit applicability (Condition No. 2). Before commencing construction on the remaining portions of the Project, Eversource will submit to the Council a copy of the applicable DEEP Stormwater Permit pursuant to Petition Condition No. 2.

Additionally, a copy of the DEEP State Land Notification ("SLN") submitted to CT DEEP on August 29, 2024, pursuant to Petition Condition No. 6 is attached. Note that because all Project work within the Bridle Trail is within the Eversource right-of-way ("ROW"), no formal approval or Special Use License ("SUL") is required from CT DEEP.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Denfeld".

Deborah Denfeld  
Team Lead – Transmission Siting  
[deborah.denfeld@eversource.com](mailto:deborah.denfeld@eversource.com)

Attachment:  
DEEP State Land Notification

# COURTESY NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITY ON STATE-OWNED LAND

**Date of Submission:** August 29, 2024

**State Property and Location:** Larkin State Park Bridle Trail – Oxford

**Type of Project:** Structure Replacement Project

**Project Name:** Towantic Substation to Beacon Falls Junction Rebuild Project

**Description of the work (structure replacements, structure repairs, new transmission line, total area impacted, methods, materials, etc):**

The purpose of the Project is to remove 51 transmission structures and install 74 transmission structures in an approximately 5-mile section of the existing right-of-way (ROW) within Oxford, CT. The Project also includes replacing the existing conductor and shield wires. On the ground activities within state land (Larkin State Park Bridle Trail) consist of installing one new structure, Structure 19443, and a section (5,673 square feet) of timber matting for the work pad at Structure 19443 off the Larkin Bridle Trail in Oxford.

The proposed structure will not infringe on the well-established walking/bridle trail itself and will have a smaller footprint and physical appearance. Eversource is replacing the existing H-frame structure with a monopole weathered steel structure. It should be noted that the new mono pole structure shall be located closer to the trail in contrast to the existing structure based on engineering requirements.

Attachment A provides detailed mapping with the grey colored dot depicting the existing structure and the red dot is the location of the proposed structure. Attachment B provides a photograph of both locations (existing lattice tower on the left and a hand-held survey rod on the right depicting the new structure location).

During the engineering design of the Project, it was determined that horizontal clearance requirements and overall alignment, just to the south of Little River and the 500-year Flood Zone, were best met by placing the proposed Structure 19443 in this shifted south location. The work pad will be temporary in nature and the area will be restored following the removal of the work pad. No additional permanent access or work pads will be created within the state land. No road improvements are proposed. No tree clearing is proposed.

*Off ROW Tree Removal Required on state property:* \_\_\_\_ yes ☒ no

**Description of access onto and across the state property:** Eversource will use an existing access road off N. Larkey Road in Oxford to access and perform structure replacement work at Structure 19443. The existing access point and access road used within state land will not require any improvements beyond typical maintenance.

*Off ROW Access Required on state property:* \_\_\_\_ yes ☒ no

**Anticipated start date/duration of activities on the state property:** The project is anticipated to be implemented in January 2025.

**Environmental Review:**

New England Cottontail (NEC) Focus Area Status: The subject area is within a NEC focus area.

DEEP NDDDB Status: No work will occur as part of the project within NDDDB areas on this piece of state land.

Wetland Permitting Status: Project wide, there are approximately 171,519 square feet of temporary wetland impacts, associated with the placement of timber matting in wetland areas for site access roads and work pads, and 6,716 square feet of permanent wetland impacts, associated with stone fords and the installation of structures in wetland areas. A self-verification notification form will be submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers prior to the placement of temporary timber matting, stone fords, and structures in wetlands.

Cultural Resources: A Phase 1A cultural resources survey of the project site was conducted for the project in 2023. Five areas of the project were identified as areas of moderate/high archaeological sensitivity and were the subject of a Phase IB survey. The Phase IB survey divided one of the moderate/high archaeological sensitivity areas into two areas, for a total of six areas of moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. During the survey, no cultural materials, features, or soil anomalies were identified. As such, there are no anticipated impacts to cultural resources associated with this work.

Connecticut Siting Council Status: This project will be submitted to the Connecticut Siting Council.

**For more information:**

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T&D Rights of Way  
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Attachment A

Project Mapping







Attachment B

Photo



Existing steel structure 1447 to be removed. Location of new proposed structure 19443 indicated by yellow marker pole (red arrow). Larkin Bridle Trail to the right.