

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company’s Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** October 5, 2005

**Inspector:** Diana Walden and Lee Curtis

**Location:** Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane)

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** The area received only traces of precipitation since the last inspection as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ROW is accessible from Gallows Hill Road by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, and the access road previously used for the Archers Lane substation. All roads remain stable. 9/15-10/5/05</li> <li>-The low spots/wetland crossings remain stabilized with geotextile fabric and riprap. 9/29-10/5/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-All roads are in good shape. None at this time. 10/5/05</li> <li>- The wetland areas will be restored when all work in this section is completed (including future trenching) as this is considered temporary access. 10/5/05</li> </ul>
Foundation construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The riser structure just off Gallows Hill has been installed and active drilling continued at two other structure locations. 10/5/05</li> <li>- One location had water and mud in the drill hole and the crews were looking at ways to remove the water. 10/5/05</li> <li>- <b>Correction:</b> The CL&amp;P crew was removing a shield line from the existing poles not a static line as originally reported. 10/5/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-See other sections for further detail. 10/5/05</li> <li>- Make sure water and mud is contained when it is removed from the pit and not able to migrate to adjacent wetlands. 10/5/05</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event) Erosion and Sediment Controls</p>	<p>-Silt fence is still in place along the low wetland spots on the access path and was placed along the road in from Archers Lane. 10/5/05</p> <p>- Silt fence was installed downgradient of the second structure in from Gallows Hill. The area is very rocky here and difficult to toe in fence. 10/5/05</p> <p>- A small stockpile was in place as a result from the excavate for the foundation. 10/5/05</p>	<p>- Continue to maintain the silt fence and controls when necessary. 9/29/05</p> <p>- Haybales should be staked here to help prevent sediment from entering the adjacent wetland. Continue to maintain the fence when needed. 10/5/05</p> <p>- Again, make sure the fence here is well installed or there are haybales to help mitigate sedimentation. 10/5/05</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p>	<p>- The main access path in the ROW and the Archers Lane access crosses several low wetland spots. The D&amp;M plan allows for stone on geotextile fabric here to support continued crossings. 9/15-10/5/05</p>	<p>- None at this time, the crossings have been constructed. As the access is considered temporary, the stone be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 10/5/05</p>
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>- The overhead portions have been identified as having potential habitat for several state listed species, including several species of turtles and plants. This particular portion of overhead work includes the turtle habitat area. 9/15-10/5/05</p> <p>-The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since 10/5/05.</p>	<p>-Crews have been doing daily sweeps for any turtles in the work areas and noting the results of their efforts on daily construction reports. 10/5/05</p>
<p>Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)</p>	<p>-The ROW has been mowed in this section in order to allow for truck access and foundation construction. Vegetation that did not need to be removed was left in place on either side of the access path 9/15-10/5/05</p>	<p>-None at this time. In general limit clearing to those areas necessary. 10/5/05</p>
<p>Dewatering</p>	<p>- Typical dewatering will not be possible in the foundation hole due to the water/mud</p>	<p>-A compound may need to be added to evaporate the water or a berm may need to be set</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	mixture. 10/5/05	up to contain it. 10/5/05
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time except in the adjacent Archers Lane transition station. 10/5/05	-None at this time. 10/5/05
Spills and Material Storage	<p>- A hydraulic fitting broke on a machine immediately before the inspection. Crews had already noticed it and placed absorbent pads and buckets by the time the inspector arrived. A mechanic had also been called for repairs. 10/5/05</p> <p>- The crew reacted quickly to the situation and were going to be shoveling up affected soil and disposing of it properly. 10/5/05</p> <p>- The spill was reported to internal NU departments and dealt with appropriately. 10/5/05</p>	<p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site</p> <p>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> <p>- Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling. Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.</p>
Additional Observations		

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday October 12, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden



Overhead ROW: View of the riser structure recently installed just off Gallows Hill Rd. (10/5/05)

Photo on the left shows the active drilling at the next structure foundation. Photo on the right shows the



hole for the caisson/foundation with the thick muddy water to be removed. The stone dust created by the drilling accounts for the color. (10/5/05)





The pile of excavate from the structure foundation hole is immediately adjacent to the silt fence. Continue to maintain this fence well until this stockpile can be removed. Staked haybales would be a good addition here. (10/5/05)



View of the hydraulic leak being contained with the bucket and pads for the time being. Mechanics were on site and the affected soil will be shoveled up and removed. (10/5/05)