

**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:** January 26, 2006

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** Norwalk Substation Expansion

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 0.79" of mixed precipitation (in the form of snow and rain) fell on 1/23 as reported by NOAA.

| Areas of Inspection                | Observation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Recommended Action                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways | - The catch basin near the Route 7 ramp receives a lot of off-site stormwater, and erosion and sedimentation are occurring here. 12/22-1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                                                                 | -The area should no longer be affected by any onsite sediment. The access road is paved and the swale is vegetated The silt fence could be removed. 12/1-1/26/06.                                                  |
| Foundation construction            | - Little "soil-disturbing" work was occurring on site. Some structural and electrical work was ongoing in and near the GIS building. 1/26/06.<br><br>- Work on a pole structure from a bucket truck/crane was occurring near the GIS building. 1/26/06.<br>- Structures were in the process of being removed from the electrified yard. 1/26/05 | -None at this time. The site remains largely contained. 1/26/06.<br><br><br>- None at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                           |
| Erosion and Sediment Controls      | - Stone is in place between the paved access and unpaved areas of the yard to prevent sediment tracking. 1/26/06.<br><br>-Some sand and sediment had previously accumulated at the paved area south of the GIS building and was migrating toward the catch basin. The catch basin is not protected with filter fabric. 1/19-                    | - The site remains contained- none at this time. 1/26/06<br><br><br>-Monitor sediment tracking from the disturbed areas to the pavement. Install filter fabric in catch basin if tracking continues. 1/19-1/26/06. |

| Areas of Inspection                                                        | Observation                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Recommended Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Erosion Controls Continued                                                 | 1/26/06.<br><br>- The overflow channel and natural overflow area were still flooded at this time due to high levels of the Norwalk River. 1/26/06.<br>- The topsoil stockpile remains well contained on site. 1/26/06. | - None at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                            | - Some sediment was noted collecting in the stone onsite at one of the access gates. This is a result of offsite stormwater 1/4-1/26/06.                                                                               | - Monitor stormwater flow and drainage patterns when possible. Watch for any erosive flows off site. 1/4-1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation                 | -Water was flowing fairly clear once again in both the natural and constructed overflow channel. Some minor erosion was noted along the top of slope 1/19-1/26/06.                                                     | - Sediment does deposit naturally along the channel. None at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| State species of concern, threatened and endangered species                | - No species of concern are located in this area of construction.                                                                                                                                                      | - N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted) | -No additional clearing is needed at this time. 1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                               | - Clearing was limited to what is necessary and it will continue to be monitored. 1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dewatering                                                                 | -Dewatering was not observed during this inspection. 1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                          | -None at this time. 1/26/06.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Blasting                                                                   | - No blasting is occurring on site at this time and it is not anticipated to be necessary.                                                                                                                             | - None at this time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Spills and Material Storage                                                | - A small drip was noted under the Ackerman equipment. Another small spot was noted near the towers at the northern portion of the site. The affected soil will be picked up. 1/26/06.                                 | In general:<br>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site.<br>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and all other material containers due to the sensitivity of the area. |

| Areas of Inspection                   | Observation | Recommended Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Spills and Material Storage continued |             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li><li>- Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling.</li><li>- All fuels and agents not in use should be covered and stored in the sheds and trailers before leaving for the day.</li></ul> |
| Additional Observations               |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, February 2, 2006

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 for Don Ukers

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**Date:** January 26, 2006

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** Plumtree Substation Expansion, Bethel

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 0.79" of mixed precipitation (in the form of snow and rain) fell on 1/23 as reported by NOAA.

| Areas of Inspection                                                                     | Observation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Recommended Action                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Access Roads                                                                            | - No new access roads have been constructed at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | - If the driveway needs to be plowed, keep snow/sediment piles away from the wetland swales adjacent to the driveway. 1/4-1/26/06                                                           |
| Foundation construction                                                                 | -Any remaining work is mostly electrical and within the control house.1/26/06.<br>-No further civil or earth disturbing work was noted on site at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                              | - The areas are all contained at this time.1/26/06<br><br>- Open excavations were not observed at this time. 1/26/06                                                                        |
| Erosion and Sediment Controls<br>(includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event) | - Although no silt fence is in place, the perimeter stone berm continues to work well to control the yard. 1/26/06<br><br>- The small remaining piles of sand/soil are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-1/26/06<br>- A small stockpile remains adjacent to the slab but was well within the site. 1/26/06 | -All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 1/26/06<br><br>-Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-1/26/06 |
| Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation                              | - Wetlands are located around the outskirts of the substation yard. The work within the substation yard has caused no observed sedimentation. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                                             | - The stone berm around the perimeter of the yard continues to prevent sedimentation and water from leaving the site and getting to the wetland edge. 1/26/06                               |

| Areas of Inspection                                                        | Observation                                                                                                                                                                                      | Recommended Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| State species of concern, threatened and endangered species                | -The sand pile has been surrounded with safety fence but there seems to be little evidence of a valid nest at this point. 8/19-1/12/06<br>- The pile may be removed when necessary. 9/15-1/26/06 | - Everyone at the substation also remains aware and will move machinery carefully in case the individual turtle returns in the spring. The nest does not appear to be valid at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                               |
| Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted) | - No vegetation outside of the substation yard will need to be cleared during the expansion work.                                                                                                | - N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dewatering                                                                 | - Dewatering was not observed during the inspection. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                     | - None at this time. 1/26/06                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Blasting                                                                   | - No blasting is occurring on site at this time.                                                                                                                                                 | - None at this time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Spills and Material Storage                                                | - No leaks or drips had been noted at the site at the time of inspection. 1/26/06                                                                                                                | - The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers.<br>- Keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. Check equipment status on a regular basis.<br>- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled. |
| Additional Observations                                                    | - Following completion of a few future scheduled activities, this substation can be removed from the inspection route. 1/26/06                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, February 2, 2006

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**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for Don Ukers



Norwalk Substation: Structures were being removed from the electrified yard. 1/26/06.



Photo on the left shows an overview of the yard and GIS building. Work was occurring on one of the poles here (bucket truck in background). Photo on the right is an overview of the yard at Plumtree Substation. 1/26/06.