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: February 13, 2004

Inspector: Diana Walden

Location: Norwalk Substation Expansion

Storm/ Rain Event 1.36" of sleet, snow, and freezing rain on 2/6. Almost no precipitation since.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	- Slightly warmer weather had caused a small thaw in the top soil layer and access roads and the yard are increasingly muddy at this time. 2/4-2/13/04 - The deep frost layer is still in the soil providing support. Gravel or mat installation may be necessary in the spring to stabilize access roads. 2/13/04 -Gravel had been changed out in the pads in the yard and things look much cleaner. 2/13/04	- None at this time. Continue to monitor. 1/15-2/13/04 Freezing conditions are forecasted to return on 2/15/04 - None at this time. Continue to monitor. 2/13/04
Foundation construction	- Foundations for retaining walls are being constructed along the site. Work at the northern end of the site requires dewatering at this time. The bases are being installed. 2/13/04 - The foundation work continues within the yard. Excavation is controlled and	- Continue to monitor any potential impacts to the silt fence during work. 1/22-2/13/04

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	all areas are within the silt fence. 1/30-2/13/04 - Large trenches/excavations are opened for the retaining wall and underground work. 2/13/04	- The major trench work areas are being stabilized with well-constructed shoring for safety reasons 2/13/04
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	- Fairly frozen conditions and a little remaining snow cover at the site continue to prevent potential large issues however some thawing and subsequent muddiness has occurred. 2/4-2/13/04	- Overall the site continues to do well with no significant sedimentation or erosion issues. 1/22-2/13/04
	- Silt fence remains in place and is effectively preventing sediment from entering the river. 1/15-2/13/04 -The silt fence appears stable in almost all locations, including the recently repaired areas. One spot had been damaged by nearby equipment but new fence was waiting to be installed. 2/13/04	- Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. Some spots are very close to the river and will require the most monitoring. 1/15-2/13/04 - Keep up with silt fence repair as needed, and continue to be proactive 2/13/04
	- Topsoil is being stockpiled in large amounts and is contained by the outer barrier of silt fence at this time. 1/15-2/13/04 -The soil is fairly frozen and shows no indication of movement at this time. Silt fence is well in place here. 1/30-2/13/04	- The status of the stockpile and the weather will be monitored carefully in the next few months. A second barrier of silt fence should be placed at the toe of the pile at a feasible opportunity between now and a time when thawing begins to occur and rains are forecasted. Portions of the pile may have been utilized by this time. 1/15-2/13/04

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Erosion and Sediment Controls contd.	- The basin was free of snow and ponded water however it had accumulated a significant amount last week. 2/13/04 - The riprap swale showed signs of sedimentation heading to the basin. A haybale check dam here may increase the life of the basin and the riprap 2/13/04	- Continue to monitor the basin and outlets for any sediment laden flows 2/13/04 - Install a haybale to help prevent build up of sediment in the swale. A small gully was noted on the basin slope as well. Repair and stabilize any noted erosion. 2/13/04
	- Some piles of sediment were again noted beyond the silt fence at the northern end of the work area. 2/4-2/13/04	- If work needs to continue in this location, the silt fence should be extended to encompass it, otherwise, the piles should be graded back into place once again. 2/4-2/13/04
	- Soil removal activities have been halted for now. The exposed soil is a good distance from the silt fence and is under control at this time. 2/13/04 - The focus of activities here is now on excavating and building the retaining wall base. 2/13/04	- None at this time. When the excavation is completed in the future, the disturbed soil will be stabilized. 1/22-2/13/04
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	- The silt fence remains in place and it is effective in controlling the sediment on site. 1/22-2/13/04. - The bare area on the river bank near the sediment basin riprap outlet has been appropriately mulched with straw. 2/13/04 - An amount of water with some sediment did pass through the silt fence and enter the river system. This occurred as a result of dewatering and is detailed further in that section. 2/13/04	- Continue to monitor and maintain silt fence as necessary and monitor any flow from the basin outlet. 1/22-2/13/04 - Monitor the riverbank as well and make repairs as necessary. 2/13/04 - Measures were taken immediately to improve the situation and the discharge had little effect on the river system. It may be necessary to provide some repair to the bank if any erosion occurs.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
		2/13/04
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)	- Some of the trees removed as a result of the clearing near the wires were chipped and some will be taken off site. 2/13/04 - This area does seem fairly bare of vegetation right up to the silt fence and should be monitored carefully when thawing occurs. 2/13/04	- Removal of any stumps/root systems should not occur as branches are often the issue. 1/30-2/13/04 - The areas near the river still appear stable. There are no serious erosion issues. 1/15-2/13/04 - The more vegetation left in place at the river, the more stable the bank will be. 2/13/04
Dewatering	- For the first time on site, dewatering was necessary in some of the trench work. As part of building the base of the retaining wall, the area must be kept dry during the initial foundation placement. The trench hit high ground water and had to be dewatered. 2/13/04 - The discharge hose had been placed through filter fabric before going through haybales and silt fence but it froze over and the hose was placed directly against the haybales. Lack of filter time and the amount of water was causing some silty water to get through to the river. 2/13/04	- When the problem was identified, the crew responded immediately and pulled the hose back further from the silt fence. They created a gravel berm and a dissipater pad for the hose outlet. The water began looking clearer almost immediately. 2/13/04 - The water is still picking up some sediment which cannot be fully filtered by the silt fence and haybales. A small amount was still getting through to the river but appears to have negligible effects. 2/13/04 - Once the trenching advances a little further, the flow will be able to be discharged into the swale system to the large basin. 2/13/04

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time 2/13/04	- None at this time 2/13/04
Spills	- No spills were reported this week and none were observed during the inspection. 2/13/04 - The areas where the sheens were noted last week appeared clean this week during inspection. The absorbent pads and booms seemed to soak up a good portion of the substance and had been disposed of. 2/13/04	- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers due to the sensitivity of the area - Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. There may be new procedures implemented for this- i.e. walk around checks on equipment on a regular basis. - The practice of using "diapers" is highly encouraged for any vehicle or equipment with a known leak. - Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.
Additional/Miscellaneous Observations	- If any plowing is necessary, snow will remain on the work side of the silt fence and will not be deposited closer to the river. - The site continues to thaw slightly with the warmer weather and the surfaces are muddy. Freezing temperatures are forecasted to return in a few days.	

Next likely scheduled inspection: Friday February 20, 2004

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 L Walden*

VIEW OF EXCAVATIONS AND FOUNDATION CONSTRUCTION. ALL SOILS ARE WELL CONTROLLED IN THIS LOCATION 2/13/04

RUNOFF FROM THE MUDDY ACCESS ROAD IS ENTERING THE BASIN. IT IS WORKING AS INSPECTED BUT A HAYBALE CHECK DAM MAY PROLONG THE LIFE OF THE BASIN. 2/13/04

THE EXPOSED SOIL ON THE BANK BY THE RIPRAP OUTLET SWALE HAS BEEN MULCHED WITH HAY. 2/13/04

VIEW OF DEWATERING AREA. THE FILTER BAG WAS ABANDONED DUE TO FREEZING ISSUES. THE VELOCITY OF DISCHARGE WAS TOO GREAT AND TOO CLOSE TO THE EROSION CONTROL. 2/13/04

VIEW OF RIVERBANK BEYOND THE SILT FENCE. SOME SMALL AMOUNTS OF SEDIMENTS WERE GETTING PAST ALL BARRIERS. 2/13/04

CREWS RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY AND PULLED THE DISCHARGE HOSE FURTHER BACK. THEY BUILT A ROCK BERN AND DISSIPATER AREA. WATER LOOKED CLEARER. 2/13/04

SOURCE OF DEWATERING. THE BASE FOR THE RETAINING WALL MUST BE BUILT IN A FAIRLY DRY ENVIRONMENT AND WATER LEVELS WERE HIGH. 2/13/04

FOUNDATIONS FOR RETAINING WALL IN AREA OF RECENT SOIL EXCAVATION. 2/13/04

VIEW OF CLEAN GRAVEL PAD NEAR NEW CANAAN AVENUE. 2/13/04