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Office of The Attorney General
State of Connecticut

September 17, 2004

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CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

Pamela F. Katz
Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket No. 272 – Connecticut Light and Power Company and United Illuminating Company Application for a New 345-kV Electric Transmission Line Between Scovill Rock Switching Station in Middletown and Norwalk Substation in Norwalk

Dear Chairman Katz:

Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General for the State of Connecticut, hereby submits this letter in response to the request by the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) dated September 13, 2004 for comments regarding the topics that should be discussed at the evidentiary hearings scheduled for September 28 and 29, 2004. In that request, the Council proposed consideration of electric and magnetic field (“EMF”) mitigation, the Department of Transportation preferred routes and the East Shore alternative.

As the Council is well aware, at the present time it is unknown where, specifically, the Applicants will finally propose to place 345 kV transmission line underground. It is equally unknown how the Applicants will propose to configure any above-ground segments of the line. That is because the Reliability and Operability Committee (“ROC”) has yet to submit the results of its study. In their comments filed on September 16, 2004, however, the Connecticut Light and Power Company and the United Illuminating Company (“Applicants”) stated that “[g]iven the results of the ROC studies to date, it is reasonably likely that some portion of the proposed Project will have to be overhead”

The Attorney General fully recognizes and supports the need to resolve this proceeding as expeditiously as possible, and thus does not object to hearings being held on September 28 and 29, 2004 in this proceeding. In light of the peculiar posture of this proceeding, however, the Attorney General respectfully requests that the Council should seek to avoid holding hearings on topics in September that will have to be repeated once

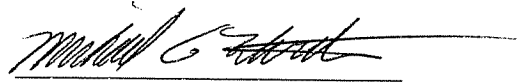
the ROC report is filed and the Applicants have proposed a specific route and configuration for the transmission line. The Council should respect the fact that many participants in this proceeding have limited resources available to litigate this case.

The topic of EMF mitigation provides a good example. During the recent technical session held by the Council on the issue of buffer zones, the Applicants indicated that buffer zones should be specifically designed to meet the needs of each point along the route. Since the issues of buffer zones and EMF mitigation are inextricably intertwined, in order to fully consider the EMF mitigation issue the Council and all participants in this case must know where, if anywhere, the Applicants propose to put the line overhead. As a result, it may be inappropriate to hold hearings on EMF mitigation measures before the ROC report is filed.

In the event that the Council chooses to hold hearings in September, the Attorney General respectfully requests that the Council not preclude the topics considered during those hearings from further consideration if necessary after the ROC report is filed.

Very truly yours,

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Cc: Service List