

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@po.state.ct.us

www.ct.gov/csc

December 28, 2004

The Honorable Mary G. Fritz, et. al.
State House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

RE: **DOCKET NO. 272** - The Connecticut Light and Power Company and The United Illuminating Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a new 345-kV electric transmission line and associated facilities between the Scovill Rock Switching Station in Middletown and the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Dear Representative Fritz:

The Council is in receipt of your most recent correspondence, dated November 30, 2004, in which you and 20 other legislators, and two legislators-elect, request that the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) "stay the public hearings." I again thank you for your active interest and continued attention to this important proceeding and the time that you have expended to bring your views to the attention of the Council.

Regrettably, it is not possible to honor your request as outlined in your letter. As you are perhaps aware, the Council faces a statutory deadline in connection with this proceeding. Conn. Gen Stat. § 16-50p reads in part "the [C]ouncil shall (emphasis added) render a decision upon the record either granting or denying the application...within twelve months of the filing of an application...provided such time periods may be extended by the [C]ouncil by not more than one hundred eighty days with the consent of the applicant."

Docket 272, the subject of your letter, was filed with the Council October 9, 2003. Thus, the statutory deadline by which the Council must render a decision in this matter, provided under the clear and unambiguous language contained in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-50p, is April 7, 2005.

As of the date of this writing, there are exactly 118 calendar days remaining by which to abide by the statutory requirement cited above. The Council has several important evidentiary proceedings that must be held that involve cross examination of the Council's independent consultant (KEMA, Inc.), the authors of a study related to an underground DC alternative (ABB, Inc.), and the report of the Reliability and Operability Committee (ROC). Simply put, given the statutory time constraints outlined above the Council's

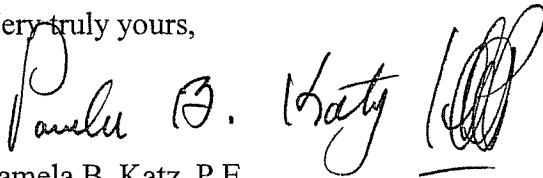


current schedule to achieve proper review of these matters is ambitious and aggressive and cannot accommodate further delay.

Representative Fritz, please rest assured that this Council remains fully committed to its duty under the tenets of P.A. 04-246, AAC Electric Transmission Line Siting Criteria, which creates a presumption that transmission lines of 345-kV and above shall be constructed underground where adjacent to certain facilities and land uses, including "residential areas," and further provides that the presumption may be overcome by "demonstrating to the [C]ouncil that it will be technologically infeasible to bury the facility." Indeed, our outside consultant, KEMA, was retained expressly for the purpose of aiding us in abiding by that new state law in every respect.

Again, I thank you and your colleagues for taking the time to share your views and concerns with me. I welcome your input. I trust you understand the basis for this response to your request and I hope you will continue to participate fully in this important matter.

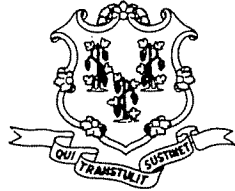
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela B. Katz". To the right of the signature is a circular stamp or seal, partially obscured by the ink.

Pamela B. Katz, P.E.
Chairman

PBK/SDP/laf

c: Service List
Robert L. Marconi, Esq. (AAG)



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1581

RECEIVED
DEC 02 2004

CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

November 30, 2004

Chairman Pam Katz
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

We, the following legislators, respectfully request that you, as Chairman of the Connecticut Siting Council, stay the public hearings on Docket 272 until a plan has been submitted by the utility companies which clearly shows alternative routes for the Transmission Lines that includes and clearly demonstrates routes underground as required by P.A. 04-246.

Sincerely,

Rep. Mary Fritz
Deputy Speaker
90th District

Rep Jim Amann
Majority Leader
118th District

Rep. Themis Klarides
114th District

Rep. Richard Roy
119th District

Rep. Vickie Nardello
89th District

Rep. J. Brendan Sharkey
88th District

Rep. Al Adinolfi
103rd District

Rep. James Spallone
36th District

Rep. Steve Dargan
115th District

Rep. Juan Candelaria
95th District

Rep. John Hetherington
125th District

Rep. Peter Villano
91st District

Rep. Lydia Martinez
128th District

Senator Fasano
34th District

Rep. Buddy Altobello
82nd District

Rep. Lawrence Miller
122nd District

Gail Slossberg
Senator Elect

Senator Win Smith
14th District

Rep. Gail Hamm
34th District

Rep. Louis Esposito
116th District

Rep. James Abrams
83rd District

Rep. Pat Dillion
92nd District

Paul Davis
Representative Elect