



TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
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WOODBRIDGE, CONNECTICUT 06525

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EDWARD MAUM SHEEHY
FIRST SELECTMAN

July 14, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE – 1-860-827-2950 and Ground Mail

Colin C. Tait, Esq., Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket 272—Segment 2b D & M Plan

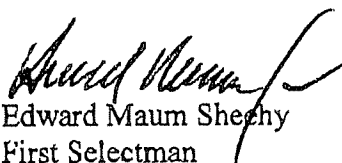
Dear Chairman Tait:

The Town of Woodbridge received copies of the final D & M Plan filed with the Siting Council on June 15, 2006. The Town sought input from property owners of record abutting the utility right-of-way. As of today, the Town has received comments from the following property owners:

1. William A. Root, 18 Center Road;
2. Peter J. Werth, 85 Rimmon Road;
3. Richard Traumer and Valerie Traumer, 392 Rimmon Road

I enclose their comments for your consideration.

Very truly yours,


Edward Maum Sheehy
First Selectman

enclosures

July 13, 2006

The Honorable Edward Maum Sheehy
First Selectman
Town of Woodbridge

Re: **Peter J. Werth, Jr. and Pamela Werth**
85 Rimmon Road
Woodbridge- Connecticut 06525
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Middletown Norwalk Project

Dear First Selectman Sheehy:

I write this letter on behalf of myself and my wife, Pamela Werth in response to your letter to Woodbridge residents dated July 6, 2006.

My comments and objections to the proposed deviations are as follows:

Pamela and I have lived at 85 Rimmon Road for more than twenty-three years. When we purchased our residence, we were aware of the utility easement across the westerly portion of the Congregation B'Nai Jacob property. It is a wide easement, well-mowed, and fairly distant from both our property and the Congregation's buildings. When this process began, we anticipated that the current easement over Congregation B'Nai Jacob would continue to be used in the same way except that the utility service running through it might be larger and more intensive.

I became aware that the repositioning of the utility lines was to come about only this past Spring. After being alerted to an article about the proposed settlement in the New York Times, I earnestly attempted to find out how it would affect my home. My employees and agents corresponded with the Connecticut Siting Council, but were told that the information, because of the settlement discussions, could not be disclosed. Copies of our emails to the Siting Council and its responses are attached.

In your letter of May 5, 2006, to the Middletown Norwalk Project Director, you included my attorney's comments, and noted that the Town had been told by John Guidinger, Technical Adviser, that the deviations and changes in the lines were not the

First Selectman Sheehy
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result of the settlement agreements. I believe the Hearing Notice from the Siting Council dated June 29, 2006 correctly states the case—that indeed, the deviations result from the settlement agreements.

It is now proposed that the utility poles be moved in the direction of our property to run on a right angle that appears to be parallel—unnecessarily—to our property line. It should be pointed out that the proposed location of the poles¹ which create the right angle is well more than 300 feet from both the Congregation's main building and from Ezra Academy, and if they were brought to the 300 feet to those buildings, the impact on our property would be substantially reduced. One of the major consequences of moving the power line closer to our property is clearing the trees and vegetation that is required to be done on either side of the utility line.

We have been told that by John H. Guidinger, Environmental Coordinator, that the clearing was to be 185 feet, which by our measurements, means that 65 feet of path will be barren in the direction of our property.

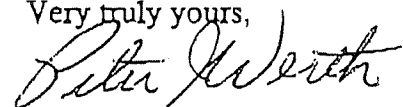
The proposed location of the utility poles creates an unnecessary and substantial burden on the environment, particularly our view shed that would be obstructed and diminished if this deviation is approved. The poles can be moved further from our property while still honoring the 300 feet margin of the proposed settlement.

While I do not agree that the utility lines should be deviated from the original approval granted by the Siting Council, they can, nevertheless, be repositioned in a way that minimally affects our enjoyment of our property and its view shed, and still accomplish the goal of the Congregation to move the lines further from its buildings.

I have attached to this letter a diagram from the current D & M outlining the current location of the easement and its proposed deviation, and have marked it to show an alternative route that is more direct, and attempts to meet our family's concerns as well as those of our neighbors.

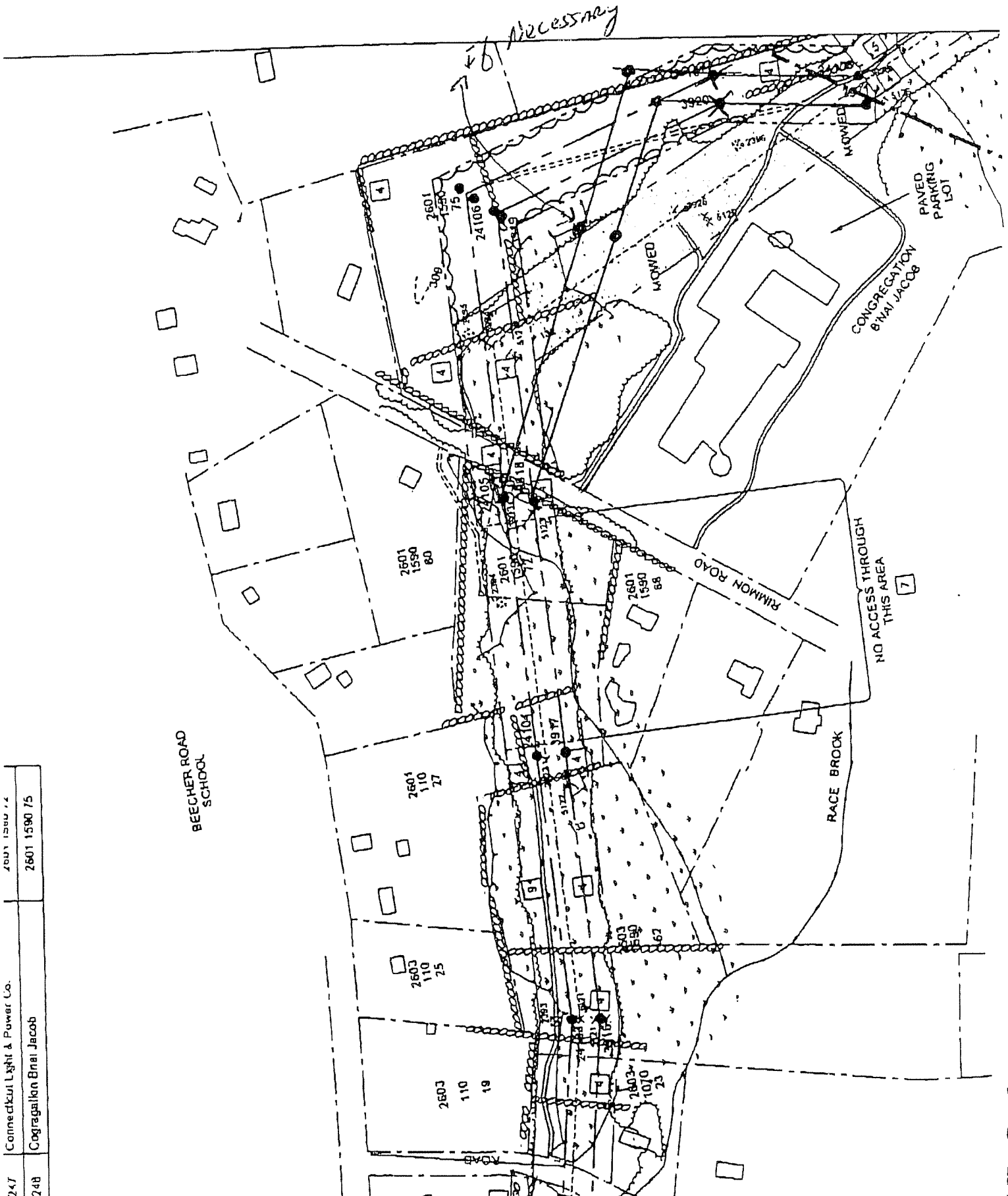
Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,


Peter Werth

¹ Nos. 24 106 on the map.

WERTH PROPOSAL 7/12/06



247	Connecticut Light & Power Co.	2601 1590 74
248	Cogregation Bnai Jacob	2601 1590 75

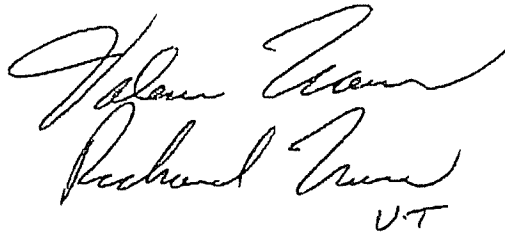
Richard and Valerie Traumer
392 Amity Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
(203) 397-8931
July 13, 2006

Attention: Edward Maum Sheehy

Dear First Selectman Edward Maum Sheehy,

We have a few concerns about the new notice sent out on July 6, 2006 about the Connecticut Seating Council plan for the Middletown-Norwalk Project and the corresponding maps and information that were available at the library. Our first concern is that the new map shows our property having a stone wall running along the road. Since there is no such stone wall, this detail requires attention and should be corrected. Another issue is that the electric tower set to be built on our property is 120ft opposed to the 84ft that many of the others are. If you could respond with an explanation that would be much appreciated. Another concern is the 300ft safety zone that was to be in place around the power lines. Our home is approximately 30ft and there have been no compromises like those seen with the JCC to adhere to the 300ft zone. They were given a parcel of land approximately 46% of its true value and the power lines were rerouted away from the buildings. Finally, section 12.2 of the Middletown-Norwalk Project states that the owners of the properties affected are required to deal with the earth and rocks unearthed from the excavation and that the residents have agreed to do this. We do not recall signing anything or agreeing to any contract. We also require an explanation for this. If you could respond to these concerns as soon as possible, it would be much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Richard and Valerie Traumer



Richard Traumer
V.T

RECEIVED

JUL 13 2006

July 10, 2006

Mr. Ed Sheehy, First Selectman
Woodbridge Town Hall
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Re: **Objection to Proposed Realignment of CL&P ROW
Between the Jewish Community Center (JCC) and my home**

Dear Mr. Sheehy:

We have spoken and met before on this topic and I wanted to reiterate my **strong objections to the proposed realignment** of the powerlines. Please include this letter with the Town's formal response to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) regarding the filed D&M Plan. My attorney is away at present and we have not had an opportunity to discuss intervening in this matter but may file a petition with the CSC at its hearing in Woodbridge in an effort to protect my interests.

As you may know, I previously testified at the CSC public hearing held in Woodbridge and submitted written comments at that time as well. I continue to believe that the best solution for the citizens of Woodbridge is to place the powerlines underground from where they cross Route 63 north of Route 114 (Center Road). However, the CSC ruled otherwise and directed that the existing ROW between my property and the JCC be used for the upgrade. In brief, my concerns regarding the proposed realignment of the ROW are:

- This proposed realignment, in settlement of a lawsuit brought by the JCC, et al, will have serious, negative impacts upon my property by bringing the cleared ROW from a distance of greater than 300 feet to within 75 feet of my backyard and property line. My concerns are all familiar to you: EMF, property values, visibility of the lines and poles, forest clearing, wetland mapping, wildlife issues including vernal pools, erosion and sedimentation control, staging areas, future herbicide use, Lyme disease, etc. etc.
- I received no notice of this intrusive change from either the JCC or CL&P. Proper notice would have allowed me, and others similarly affected, adequate time to gather and submit evidence to the CSC regarding the extent of impacts upon our properties, time to prepare testimony, time for my own experts to study the proposed changes in order to cross-examine the applicant, time to file an intervention petition, etc.

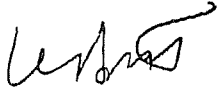
Root / CSC
July 10, 2006

- I recently spent a substantial sum (plus sweat equity) in clearing woodland at the rear of my property, along the border with the JCC, to create a private picnic and camping area for the enjoyment of my daughter and family. Now, we will be sitting in the shadow of the humming, 125' high powerlines with the cleared and maintained ROW for a view.
- I suggest that the filed D&M Plan for this section of the powerline upgrade be completely scrapped in favor of the earlier CSC-approved alignment or the Town's preferred alternative – burying this section of the powerline within the existing ROW or surrounding roads. I do not need to point out that the JCC was built upon land encumbered by the CL&P ROW and was granted permission to build its parking lot beneath the power lines. To shift the perceived risk of harm from their encumbered property onto my unencumbered property is an *unjustified taking*.
- In lieu of this remedy, I suggest the following technical improvements:
 1. The line can be shifted easterly toward the JCC and still meet a technically-supported, safe separation distance from the building. This achieves a greater separation from my property. Calculated EMF exposure to occasional occupants within the JCC building complex (which includes my family) are clearly significantly less than for a full-time single family home such as mine, and should be treated accordingly. And, I do not think there is much merit in buffering the remote corner of the JCC parking lot.
 2. Although no topography is supplied with the D&M map, my recollection is that poles 3932 & 24119 (former numbering) are proposed on a hilltop near the cemetery making them widely visible, from the east, north and west. Consider shifting them to lower topographic locations and using shorter poles since a wide separation distance is being maintained from the JCC.
 3. In conjunction with this suggestion, CL&P should plant an evergreen, deer-resistant, buffer here to shelter my property (and the cemetery) from the proposed ROW clearing zone.
 4. No construction notes or details were provided in the D&M plan and I am concerned about future use of the area (owned by the JCC) between the proposed, realigned ROW and my eastern property line on Center Road. I will object to any long-term or short-term use of this wooded area adjoining my yard for construction access, vehicle parking, equipment storage, soil / wood stockpiles, portable toilet facilities, etc. No tree removal appears to be needed in this buffer zone.
 5. As a certified, professional soil scientist and wetland ecologist, I can assure you that wetlands and watercourses are incompletely mapped here. Construction and access issues will be affected by revised ecological mapping of this area.

Root / CSC
July 10, 2006

Thank-you for the opportunity to comment on the D&M plan. Please call me at my office at Milone and MacBroom, Inc. in Cheshire (203-271-1773) or on my cell phone (203-415-5665). My e-mail address is billr@miloneandmacbroom.com.

William A. Root M. E. S.



18 Center Road
Woodbridge, CT 06515

Cc: Alan Smith, Esq.