

Via Hand Delivery and Electronic Mail

October 29, 2004

Pamela B. Katz  
Chairman  
Connecticut Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

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 Scovill Rock Switching Station in Middletown and Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut Including the Reconstruction of Portions of Existing 115-kV and 345-kV Electric Transmission Lines, the Construction of the Beseck Switching Station in Wallingford, East Devon Substation in Milford, and Singer Substation in Bridgeport, Modifications at Scovill Rock Switching Station and Norwalk Substation and the Reconfiguration of Certain Interconnections.

Dear Chairman Katz:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company and The United Illuminating Company (together, the "Companies") submit these comments in response to the Connecticut Siting Council's ("Council") October 22, 2004 request for comments concerning the appropriateness of taking administrative notice, in the above-referenced docket, of the transcript of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC") technical conference regarding Connecticut Transmission Infrastructure Issues that was held on October 13, 2004.

The Companies consider it appropriate for the Council to take administrative notice of the transcript of the FERC's technical conference, which is a part of the FERC record in FERC Docket No. PL04-14-000 et al. The issues discussed at the conference are pertinent to the Council's deliberations on the Companies' electric transmission project proposal. The conference provided a forum for federal, state and regional leaders and industry representatives to discuss issues impacting energy infrastructure in and around Connecticut. These issues included, among other things, proposals for new electric transmission, their impact on the region's electric reliability, implications for connectivity with the New England grid, electric and magnetic fields, and costs of the proposals and allocation of those costs. The FERC determined that these issues were important enough to justify a technical conference in Connecticut. Accordingly, since the issues discussed at the conference are germane to proceedings on the Companies' proposal, the Council should make the information part of the record by taking administrative notice of the transcript.

It is the practice of the Council to take administrative notice of documents similar to the FERC transcript. The transcript is a factual account of the discussion at the conference, as reflected in a transcript now publicly available in a FERC docket. There should be no dispute about the authenticity of the transcript and the comments contained therein. Further, the Council's ability to


use its experience, technical competence and specialized knowledge in evaluating the information is not undermined by the Council's taking administrative notice of the transcript.

Accordingly, the Companies submit that it would be appropriate for the Council to take administrative notice of the transcript. In the alternative, we understand that there has been opposition to taking administrative notice of the transcript, and therefore the Council could accept the statements made at the hearing and recorded in the transcript and power point presentations as statements of limited appearance, as it has done with statements of numerous interested members of the public and elected officials. The Power Point slides referenced in the transcript are published on FERC's web site, and can be provided to the Council at its request.

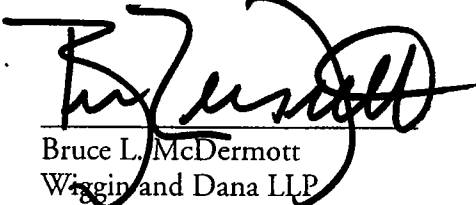
Very truly yours,

Applicants,

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