STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SITING COUNCIL

The Connecticut Light and Power Company and Docket 272 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) March 11, 2005 Substation in Milford, and Singer Substation in) Bridgeport, Modifications at Scovill Rock Switching Station and Norwalk Substation and the **Reconfiguration of Certain Interconnections**

PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT OF PSEG CONNECTICUT POWER, LLC

- I. Background regarding the original proposal for a location for the site of the Singer Substation, Bridgeport, Connecticut
 - 1. PSEG Power Connecticut, LLC ("PSEG Connecticut") is the owner and operator of the Bridgeport Harbor Station, an electric power generating facility that serves consumer power needs in Southwestern Connecticut and elsewhere. (Prefiled Testimony of Robert Parnell, April 8, 2004) ("Parnell Testimony") (PSEG Connecticut, Exhibit 1)¹ Bridgeport Harbor Station is the subject of a Certificate issued by the Connecticut Siting Council in Docket No. 27.
 - 2. As part of the construction of Segments 3 and 4 of the Project, the Applicants propose the construction of a substation in Bridgeport, Connecticut, which would

¹ The portion of the Record supporting each proposed Finding of Fact is referenced in parentheses after the relevant proposed finding.

- be the terminal point of Segment 3 and the commencement of Segment 4. That substation is to be known as the Singer Substation (Application, Volume 1, pp. E-4, E-5).
- 3. In the original Application, the Applicants proposed placing the Singer Substation at 280 Main Street, Bridgeport. That site was designated as Site 1 in the "Singer Substation Site Selection Study, September 2003, Application Vol. 6) ("Singer Study").
- 4. Site 1 is owned by PSEG Connecticut (Parnell Testimony).
- PSEG Connecticut maintains an operating warehouse on Site 1 (Parnell Testimony).
- 6. The warehouse utilizes most of the land on Site 1. (Parnell Testimony).
- 7. PSEG Connecticut uses the warehouse to store equipment, wire, and other material in connection with the operation of the Bridgeport Harbor Station (Parnell Testimony).
- 8. Construction of the Singer Substation on Site 1 would require demolition of the warehouse prior to the start of construction (Singer Study "Detailed Site Evaluation").
- 9. That warehouse space is necessary for PSEG Connecticut's current storage of equipment and materials, for storage during future construction, and for on-going operational requirements in connection with the operation of the Bridgeport Harbor Station (Parnell Testimony).

10. For the foregoing reasons, location of the Substation on Site 1 would have been detrimental to the current and future operations of the Bridgeport Harbor Station, a significant provider of power to the Connecticut market.

II. The change of the proposed Singer Substation Site to 182 Main Street

- 11. After the filing of the Application, PSEG Connecticut and the Applicants reached an agreement under which the Applicants would utilize land identified in the Singer Study as Site 8, rather than Site 1, as the location for the Singer Substation. (Prefiled Testimony of Roger Zaklukiewicz, April 8, 2004, p. 33)("Zaklukiewicz Testimony"); (Parnell Testimony).
- 12. Site 8 is located at 182 Main Street, directly across Atlantic Street from the proposed Site 1 (Testimony of John Prete, Hearing Transcript, April 20, 2004, p. 261)("Prete Testimony").
- 13. Site 8 is owned by PSEG Connecticut, except for a small portion, which is owned by PSEG Power Development, LLC. (Parnell Testimony)
- 14. PSEG Connecticut and PSEG Power Development, LLC have agreed to sell a portion of Site 8 to the Applicants for the location of the Singer Station (Parnell Testimony).
- 15. An agreement between PSEG Connecticut and the Applicants as to the location of the Singer Substation avoids a condemnation process which would place in jeopardy the proposed completion date of December 20, 2007. (Prete Testimony, p. 41).

III. Site 8 as an appropriate location for the Singer Substation

16. Site 8 is an appropriate location for the Signer Substation in terms of location, site size and the cost of the installation of the substation facilities.

A. Site 8 does not require any overhead wires.

- 17. Site 8 does not require any overhead wires entering or leaving the site.
- 18. The power lines entering Site 8 will be placed underground. (Prete Testimony p. 260); (Zaklukiewicz Prefiled Testimony, p. 35). Therefore, the City of Bridgeport's desire to avoid overhead lines will be met. (Prefiled Comments/Testimony of the City of Bridgeport, May 25, 2004).

B. Site 8 does not create any problems related to sound

19. The facility sound levels at Site 8 will be in full compliance with the most restrictive aspects of State and Local Noise Regulations. In fact, sound produced at that proposed site is expected to be less than the lowest background sound level measured at the nearest residences (Singer Substation Environmental Sound Evaluation, Cavanaugh Tocci Associates, April 10, 2004, p. 5)(Applicant's Exhibit 64).

C. There will be visual screening of the facility on Site 8

- 20. Although there are residences in the general area of both Site 1 and Site 8, the location is largely industrial. (Singer Study, pp. 9, 16).
- 21. The backup of the view of Site 8 from Main Street is the Bridgeport Harbor Station, which dominates the viewscape. (Prete Testimony, p. 265)
- 22. Despite the industrial nature of the area, the Site 8 facility will be shielded by an aesthetic wall between 35 and 40 feet in height. (Prete Testimony, p. 263-64).

- 23. The height and design of the wall were the result of discussions between the Applicant and the City of Bridgeport. (Prete Testimony, p. 264); (Zaklukiewicz Prefiled Testimony, p. 34).
- 24. The aesthetic wall will shield the facility from the street. (Prete Testimony, p. 264); (Prefiled Testimony of Louise Mango, April 8, 2004, pp. 26-27).
 - D. Placing the Singer Substation on Site 8 not only allows PSEG

 Connecticut to continue utilizing its warehouse on Site 1, but allows

 PSEG Connecticut to retain the use of more than one acre of Site 8
- 25. Site 8 is a 2.825 acre parcel of land (Singer Site Study, p. 14)
- 26. The Applicants will utilize gas insulated substation ("GIS") technology for construction of the substation on Site 8
- 27. Therefore, the substation facility will only require approximately 1.5 acres of land. (Prete Testimony, p. 265-66) (Zaklukiewicz Testimony p. 36 Revised)
- 28. This reduced facility size will leave approximately 1.3 acres of Site 8 for PSEG Connecticut to utilize for its own current uses and for laydown area for any potential future construction. (Zaklukiewicz Testimony, p. 34).
 - E. The total cost of acquisition of and facility construction on Site 8 does not exceed that on Site 1
- 29. Construction of the Singer Substation on Site 8 will eliminate the need for the demolition of the warehouse which presently occupies Site 1. (Zaklukiewicz Testimony, p. 36)
- 30. Because of the existence of the warehouse on Site 1, if the substation were located on that parcel, the Applicants would have to acquire the entire 2.3339 acre site.

- 31. The substation itself, however, will only occupy approximately 1.5 acres. (Zaklukiewicz Testimony p. 36)
- 32. If the substation is located on Site 8, the Applicants will only have to acquire those 1.5 acres, thus reducing land acquisition costs. (Zaklukiewicz Testimony, p. 36).
- 33. The smaller parcel size on Site 8 will require less wall construction than would be necessary on Site 1, thus reducing that element of construction costs. (Prete Testimony, pp. 262-63).

IV. The City of Bridgeport supports the location of the Singer Substation on Site 8

- 34. The City of Bridgeport and the Applicants met to discuss the location of the Singer Substation on Site 8. "We had a meeting with the City, the Director of Planning and Information in the Mayor's office. They did indeed submit a letter agreeing to this in spades." (Prete Testimony, p. 40)
- 35. The City of Bridgeport supports the siting of the proposed substation in Bridgeport at the alternative site [Site 8] (Testimony of Michael Nidoh, Director of Planning, City of Bridgeport, Hearing Transcript, June 3, 2004, p. 114) ("Nidoh Testimony"); Correspondence M. Nidoh to J. Prete, April 5, 2004, filed April 20, 2004 with Council as Municipal Correspondence ("Nidoh Letter").
- 36. No applicant, intervenor, resident or other individual or entity of any type has objected to the location of the Singer Substation at Site 8.

V. Conclusion

37. Based upon the foregoing findings, the Siting Council finds that, as a condition of the approval of the Application, the Applicants shall site the substation known as the Singer Substation on a parcel of approximately 1.5 acres to be located upon that parcel of land in the City of Bridgeport bounded by Main Street, Whiting Street, Atlantic Street and described as Site 8 in the "Singer Substation, Site Selection Study, September 2003", submitted as part of Volume 6 of the Application.

Respectfully submitted, PSEG POWER CONNECTICUT LLC

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing Proposed Findings of Fact has been mailed, via first class mail, postage prepaid, this 11th day of March, 2005 to the attached Service List:

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HARTFORD: 634614.02

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