Meeting Minutes

Meeting of November 10, 2016

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Chairman Stein at 1:01 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Robert Stein James J. Murphy, Jr.
Chairman Vice Chairman
Larry Levesque Philip T. Ashton
(designee for Acting Chairman Betkoski) Michael Harder
Michael W. Klemens Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.

Council Members Absent:

Robert Hannon (designee for Commissioner Klee)

Staff Members Present:

Melanie Bachman Acting Executive Director/Staff Attorney Fred Cunliffe Supervising Siting Analyst Christina Walsh Supervising Siting Analyst Robert Mercier Siting Analyst Michael Perrone Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Carriann Mulcahy

Minutes of October 27, 2016.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the minutes of October 27, 2016, seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 421 - Phoenix Partnership LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 158 Edison Road, Trumbull, Connecticut. Transfer of Certificate.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Transfer of Certificate, seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 468 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Bethel, Danbury, and Brookfield, which consists of (a) construction, maintenance and operation of a new 115-kV overhead electric transmission line entirely within existing Eversource right-of-way and associated facilities extending approximately 3.4 miles between Eversource's existing Plumtree Substation in the Town of Bethel to its existing Brookfield Junction in the Town of Brookfield; (b) reconfiguration of two existing 115-kV double-circuit electric transmission lines at Eversource's existing Stony Hill Substation in the Town of Brookfield; and (c) related substation modifications. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision & Order.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision & Order, as amended, seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed with Mr. Levesque abstaining.

PETITION NO. 1226 - Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of the new 115-kV Towantic Switching Station to be located adjacent to the Towantic Generating Station on Woodruff Hill Road, Oxford, Connecticut and the proposed modifications within existing right-of-way to its existing 1575 and 1585 115-kV electric transmission line extending 6.1 miles from Bunker Hill Substation, located at Clough Road, Waterbury, south through Middlebury to the proposed Towantic Switching station and reconductoring of its existing 1575 115-kV electric transmission line extending one mile from the proposed new switching station south to Structure 1446 (Oxford Tap) located near the Oxford Substation, Commerce Drive, Oxford. Structure Relocation Request.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the relocation of the approved transmission structure 1496A about 60 feet to the north with the conditions noted in the staff report, seconded by Dr. Klemens. Mr. Murphy amended the motion to include the additional condition that Eversource submit a wetland restoration plan and invasive species control plan to the Council, seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION NO. 1251 - Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed rebuilding and reconductoring of approximately 3.8 miles of its existing No. 900 69-kV transmission line within existing right of way between Skungamaug Substation and Mansfield Junction in Coventry, Connecticut, and related transmission line structure improvements. Decision.

Mr. Lynch moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the condition that Eversource submit a Development & Management Plan to reduce permanent impacts from access road construction, seconded by Mr. Ashton. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION NO. 1252 - Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed replacement of an existing 70-foot tall telecommunications facility with a new 120-foot tall telecommunications facility at property owned by Eversource Energy used as a service center and maintenance yard located at 22 East High Street, East Hampton, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Harder moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report and the recommendation that Eversource work with the abutting property owners regarding landscaping for additional site screening, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION NO. 1254 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed installation of a small cell wireless telecommunications facility to be attached to the existing sign structure on the roof of the Kingdom Alliance Corp. building located at 327 Huntington Street, New London, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, seconded by Mr. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION NO. 1255 - Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed Branford Double-Circuit Tower Split Project that includes modifications to the existing electric transmission line structure No. 4800, installation of a new electric transmission line structure No. 4782 and the separation of two existing 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line circuits located within existing Eversource electric transmission line right of way between Interstate 95 and Eversource's Branford Substation facility, East Main Street, Branford, Connecticut. Decision.

Mr. Levesque moved to approve this petition with the conditions noted in the staff report, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Matters.

The following calendar events were also discussed:

- Tuesday, November 15, 2016, evidentiary hearing session beginning at 11:00 a.m. for Docket No. 470 at the Connecticut Siting Council, Hearing Room 1, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Thursday, December 8, 2016, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** Energy/Telecommunications meeting, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Thursday, December 15, 2016, evidentiary hearing session beginning at 11:00 a.m. for Docket No. 470 at the Connecticut Siting Council, Hearing Room 1, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Thursday, December 22, 2016, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** Energy/Telecommunications meeting, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.

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Adjournment.

Mr. Ashton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Klemens. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Stein adjourned the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Stein Chairman

RS/cm