

DOCKET NO. 141 - A joint application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company and the United Illuminating Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 115kV electric transmission line and related telecommunications equipment between the United Illuminating Company's Pequonnock Substation in Bridgeport and the Connecticut Light and Power Company's Ely Avenue Junction in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Connecticut  
Siting  
Council  
September 18, 1991

#### DECISION AND ORDER

Pursuant to the foregoing Findings of Fact and Opinion, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) finds that the effects associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 115kV transmission line and related telecommunications equipment extending from the United Illuminating Company's Pequonnock Substation, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, to the Connecticut Light and Power's Ely Avenue Junction, in Norwalk, Connecticut, within an existing Metro North Commuter Railroad right of way (ROW), including effects on the natural environment; ecological integrity and balance; public health and safety; scenic, historic, and recreational values; forests and parks; air and water purity; and fish and wildlife are not disproportionate either alone or cumulatively with other effects when compared to need, are not in conflict with the policies of the State concerning such effects, will not pose an undue hazard to persons on property along the area traversed by the line, and are not sufficient reason to deny the application and therefore directs that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, as provided by Section 16-50k of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), be issued jointly to the United Illuminating Company and to the Connecticut Light and Power Company for the construction, operation, and maintenance of an overhead 115kV transmission line; its connections at Pequonnock Substation, Bridgeport and Ely Avenue Junction, Norwalk; and related telecommunications equipment within the Metro North Commuter Railroad ROW and the Ely Avenue Junction facility.

1. The transmission line, substation modifications, and related telecommunications system shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this proceeding, and subject to the following conditions:
  - a. The Certificate Holders will jointly develop plans with the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Metro North Commuter Railroad for construction activities, including night and weekend construction and scheduling.

- b. The magnetic fields from the new transmission line at maximum operating amperages shall not exceed 200mG at the edges of the right-of-way (ROW). Compact spacing and reverse phasing of conductors shall be used to reduce magnetic fields. The Certificate Holders shall measure the magnetic fields at the edge of the ROW on the north and south sides of the railroad under normal and peak operating conditions, from the same locations as described in the application, within six months after commencement of operation to confirm compliance with this condition to the Council.
  - c. The electric fields from the new transmission line shall not exceed 1.6kV/m at the edges of the ROW. The Certificate Holders shall measure the electric fields at the edge of the ROW on the north and south sides of the railroad under normal and peak operating conditions, from the same locations as described in the application, within six months after commencement of operation to confirm compliance with this condition to the Council.
  - d. The Certificate Holders shall comply with all future electric and magnetic field standards promulgated by State or federal regulatory agencies. Upon establishment of any standards, the facilities granted in this Decision and Order shall be brought into compliance with such standards as soon as practical.
2. The Certificate Holders shall, prior to the commencement of any project construction, submit the following items as part of an overall Development and Management (D&M) Plan for Council approval, modification, or denial within 45 days of the Council's receipt of such plan, as required in Section 16-50j-60 through 16-50j-62, and Section 16-50j-75 through 16-50j-77 of the Regulations of State Agencies. All plans are to include detailed provisions for design, placement, implementation, and scheduling. The Certificate Holders may consult with Council staff in the preparation of the D&M Plan.
    - a. Final one inch to 100 feet scale plan showing the line route; all access roads, access and site clearing, and grading; structure placements; substations; telecommunications equipment; reinforcements of existing structures, bridge abutments, and railroad stone walls; and drainage relocations, culvert locations, and other modifications to the ROW. The final plan shall, to the maximum extent possible, preserve and protect wetland areas and the natural vegetative buffer adjoining the ROW;
    - b. A finalized erosion and sedimentation control plan identifying the placement, use, and removal of all control measures placed during construction. Such plan shall comply with the State of Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control;

- c. A dust control and monitoring plan including guidelines for identification of fugitive dust and mitigation measures for such fugitive dust;
- d. A blasting control plan including identification of blasting locations, procedures for explosive use, and provisions for notification of blasting sites and scheduling to adjoining property owners;
- e. A final site plan at a scale no less than 1/8 inch to 1 foot, for placement of all equipment, structures, foundations, and other modifications to Pequonnock Substation;
- f. Profiles at a scale no less than 3/16 inch to 1 foot, of all equipment, structures, foundations, and other modifications to Pequonnock Substation;
- g. A final site plan at a scale no less than 1/8 inch to 1 foot, for placement of all structures, foundations, microwave reflector, equipment building, and other modifications to Ely Avenue Junction;
- h. The specifications of the microwave reflector to be placed on structure No. 3052 and the electronic equipment to be located within Ely Avenue Junction;
- i. Profiles at a scale no less than 3/16 inch to 1 foot, of all equipment, structures, foundations, and other modifications to Ely Avenue Junction;
- j. Final design and specifications of structures placed adjacent to the Norwalk Railroad Station in the South Norwalk Railroad Station Redevelopment Area, as reviewed by Starrett Housing Corporation and after resolution of all legal questions regarding the rights of the landowners;
- k. Final design, specifications, and placement of any secondary lightning shield wire and supporting structures placed above railroad catenary structures between Pequonnock Substation, Bridgeport and Sasco Creek Substation, Westport;
- l. Final design, specifications, and placement of structures associated with a temporary line tap at Sasco Creek Substation;
- m. Final plans for the ultimate disposal of excess construction materials; and
- n. A final construction schedule of all locations for the substation and line junction modifications, transmission line, telecommunications system, temporary line tap, interconnections, testing, and start-up.

3. The Certificate holders shall provide to the Council notification of the following events two weeks in advance of their occurrence:
  - a. Commencement of construction;
  - b. Commencement of transmission line testing;
  - c. Commencement of transmission line operation;
  - d. Commencement of microwave telecommunications system testing;
  - e. Commencement of microwave telecommunications system operation;
  - f. Termination of electrical or telecommunications service for periods exceeding seven days; and
  - g. Changes to the facilities to conform with any federal or State electric or magnetic field standards.
4. The Certificate holders shall provide the following reports to the Council:
  - a. Quarterly progress reports, starting with commencement of construction and ending with the commencement of transmission line operation.
  - b. A first year operating report, to be submitted to the Council within three months after conclusion of the first year of operation to include:
    - (1) The "as built" drawings of the line including substation and line junction modifications for any changes of the approved D&M Plan;
    - (2) The final cost of the project;
    - (3) The overall condition and reliability of the transmission line and telecommunications system, and other information relevant to the operation of the substation and transmission line including specifications of outages including dates, causes, and length of outage; and
    - (4) The removal date of any temporary line tap at Sasco Creek Substation.
5. When available, the Certificate Holders shall provide the Council with copies of all final permits and agreements, including ROW easements and acquisitions for new accessways, prior to the commencement of construction.
6. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, this Decision and Order shall be void if all construction authorized herein is not completed within three years of the effective date of this Decision and Order or within three years after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved.

Pursuant to CGS Section 16-50p, we hereby direct that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order be served on each person listed below, and notice of issuance shall be published in the Bridgeport Telegram-Bridgeport Post, the Fairfield News Citizen, the Westport News, and The Hour.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of State Agencies.

The parties and intervenors to this proceeding are:

PARTIES	ITS REPRESENTATIVE
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INTERVENORS

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