

DOCKET NO. 153 - An application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a new substation and its connection to an existing 115-kV transmission line on a 6.1 acre site owned by CL&P located about 1/2 mile south of Route 34 and about 640 feet to the east of Great Ring Road in the Sandy Hook section of the Town of Newtown, Connecticut.

Connecticut

Siting

Council

April 7, 1993

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 new substation and its connection to an existing 115-kV transmission line off of Great Ring Road in the Sandy Hook section of the Town of Newtown, Connecticut, including effects on the natural environment; ecological integrity and balance; forests and parks; scenic, historic, and recreational values; air and water purity; fish and wildlife; and public health and safety are not disproportionate either alone or cumulatively with other effects compared to need, are not in conflict with the policies of the State concerning such effects, and are not sufficient reason to deny the application. Therefore, the Council directs that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, as provided by section 16-50k of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), be issued to the Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a new substation and its connection to an existing 115-kV transmission line off of Great Ring Road in the Sandy Hook section of Newtown, Connecticut.

The facility shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this matter, and is subject to the following conditions:

1. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, the magnetic fields at short-term maximum load operating levels from the facility including the new transmission connection and distribution line feeders, shall not exceed the magnetic field exposure levels at the edges of the right-of-way (ROW) and site boundaries as projected by CL&P in CL&P Exhibit 2, pre-hearing question 18 of the proceeding. Within six months after the commencement of this facility's operation, the Certificate holder shall measure the magnetic fields under average operating conditions with an extrapolation for peak conditions at these same locations for Council approval for compliance with this condition.

2. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, the electric fields at short-term maximum load operating levels from the facility including the new transmission connection and distribution line feeders, shall not exceed the electric field exposure levels at the edges of the ROW and site boundaries as projected by CL&P in CL&P Exhibit 2, pre-hearing question 18 of the proceeding. Within six months after the commencement of this facility's operation, the Certificate holder shall measure the electric fields under average operating conditions with an extrapolation for peak conditions at these same locations for Council approval for compliance with this condition.
3. The Certificate holder shall comply with all future electric and magnetic field standards promulgated by State or federal regulatory agencies. Upon the establishment of any new standards, the facilities granted in this Decision and Order shall be brought into compliance with other such standards as soon as practical.
4. The Certificate holder shall modify the existing 115-kV transmission line configuration to further reduce magnetic field levels in the construction area through phase cancellation of the three existing conductor wires on both sides of Great Ring Road.
5. The Certificate holder shall not commence clearing or construction of this substation until it has secured Council approval of a Development and Management (D&M) Plan which includes the following elements:
  - a. A final site plan showing the phased placement of all substation equipment, structures, and buildings within the substation perimeter consistent with the proposed use and time of use for this substation;
  - b. A plan to adequately identify and mark the boundaries of the 6.1 acre parcel as the site of a high voltage electric substation;
  - c. A selective tree cutting plan to preserve those trees which would be compatible for screening;
  - d. A landscaping plan showing the locations and types of plantings to screen the facility;
  - e. An erosion and sediment control plan to protect the inland wetlands on the site, consistent with the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control as amended;
  - f. Provisions to construct a solid architecturally-treated wall, if and when necessary, to attenuate excessive noise generated by the substation and further screen the substation with an appearance consistent with existing area land uses;

- g. Provisions for noise monitoring and attenuation; and
  - h. Installation of intrusion alarms and remote full-time substation monitoring.
6. The Certificate holder shall provide to the Council notification of the following events not less than two weeks in advance of their occurrence:
- a. Commencement of construction for the substation and transmission line connection, including site clearing;
  - b. Commencement of substation testing; and
  - c. Commencement of operation.
7. The Certificate holder shall notify the Council if and when substation operations terminate.
8. The Certificate holder shall provide the following to the Council:
- a. Quarterly progress reports, to be submitted to the Council starting with the commencement of site clearing and ending with the commencement of substation operation; and
  - b. A first year operating report, to be submitted to the Council within three months after the conclusion of the first year of operation, to include:
    - 1. As-built drawings of all buildings and structures;
    - 2. The final total cost of the project; and
    - 3. Information relevant to the overall condition, reliability, and operation of the substation.
9. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, this Decision and Order shall be void if all construction authorized herein is not completed within five years of the effective date of this Decision and Order, within five years after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved, or within the time planned and approved by the Council's D&M plan for future phased-in construction.

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 that notice of issuance shall be published in The Hartford Courant and The Newtown Bee.

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:

PARTY

The Connecticut Light and  
Power Company

ITS REPRESENTATIVE

Roger C. Zaklukiewicz  
Vice President  
Transmission and  
Distribution  
Northeast Utilities  
Service Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270  
(203) 665-6885

Philip M. Small, Esq.  
Senior Counsel  
Northeast Utilities  
Service Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270  
(203) 665-3214

INTERVENORS

Town of Newtown

ITS REPRESENTATIVES

Zita B. McMahon  
First Selectman  
Edmond Town Hall  
Newtown, CT 06470  
(203) 270-4201

The Honorable Julia B. Wasserman  
State Representative  
113 Walnut Tree Hill Road  
Sandy Hook, CT 06482  
(203) 240-8787

Richard M. Harmonay, Jr.  
26 Great Ring Road  
Sandy Hook, CT 06482  
(203) 426-5114

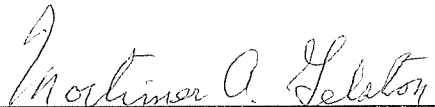
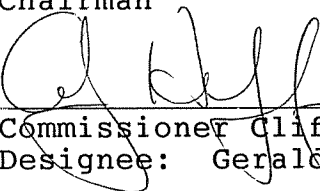
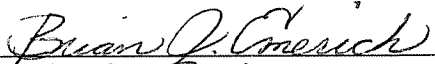
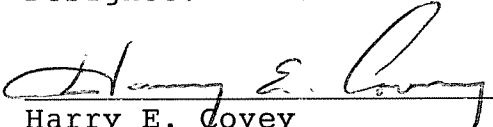

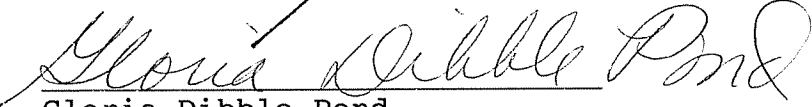
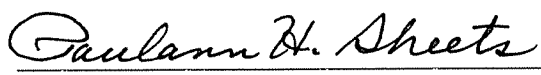
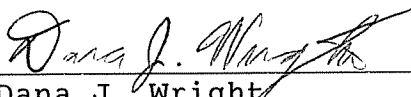
The Honorable William J. Varese  
State Representative  
21 Benedict Road  
Monroe, CT 06468  
(203) 261-8598  
Capitol Telephones  
(800) 842-1423 or  
(203) 240-8700

Thomas and Sue Davies  
29 Great Ring Road  
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Corinne A. McNerney and  
Kevin R. McNerney  
22 Great Ring Road  
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned members of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) hereby certify that they have heard this case, or read the record thereof, in DOCKET NO. 153 - An application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a new substation and its connection to an existing 115-kv transmission line on a 6.1 acre site owned by CL&P located about 1/2 mile south of Route 34 and about 640 feet to the east of Great Ring Road in the Sandy Hook section of the Town of Newtown, Connecticut, and voted as follows to approve the proposed Great Ring Road site:

<u>Council Members</u>	<u>Vote Cast</u>
 Mortimer A. Gelston Chairman	YES
 Commissioner Clifton A. Leonhardt Designee: Gerald J. Heffernan	YES
 Commissioner Timothy R.E. Keeney Designee: Brian Emerick	YES
 Harry E. Covey	YES
 Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.	YES
 Gloria Dibble Pond	YES
 Paulann H. Sheets	YES
_____ Colin C. Tait	ABSENT
 Dana J. Wright	YES

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, April 7, 1993.