



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

### CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 16, 2015

John R. Morissette  
Project Manager-Transmission Siting  
Eversource Energy  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

RE: **PETITION NO. 1186** – Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed partial decommissioning of 0.5 miles of existing 115-kV transmission line and modifications to its existing 115-kV transmission line and related substation improvements located at 181 Cove Road, Haddam, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Morissette:

At a public meeting held on November 12, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k, would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, with the following conditions:

- Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility modifications authorized herein are not completed within three years from the date of the mailing of the Council's decision, this decision shall be void. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The facility owner/operator shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable;
- Any request for extension of the time period to complete the facility modifications as revised shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this decision and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, if applicable, and the Town of Haddam;
- Within 45 days after completion of the facility modifications, the Council shall be notified in writing that the facility modifications have been completed;
- The facility owner/operator shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v;

- This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred, provided the facility owner/operator/transferor is current with payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v and the transferee provides written confirmation that the transferee agrees to comply with the terms, limitations and conditions contained in the Declaratory Ruling, including timely payments to the Council for annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v; and
- If the facility owner/operator is a wholly owned subsidiary of a corporation or other entity and is sold/transferred to another corporation or other entity, the Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition dated September 3, 2015 and additional information received on October 16, 2015.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Very truly yours,



Robert Stein  
Chairman

RS/RDM/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated November 12, 2015

- c: The Honorable Melissa Schlag, First Selectman, Town of Haddam  
Elizabeth Glidden, Town Planner, Town of Haddam  
Brantley Buerger, ISFSI Manager, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company



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### **Petition No. 1186 Eversource Energy Haddam Loop Reconfiguration**

#### **Staff Report November 12, 2015**

On September 3, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Eversource Energy (Eversource) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for proposed modifications to an existing 115-kV transmission line in the Haddam Neck section of the Town of Haddam. Council member Dr. Michael Klemens and Council staff members Robert Mercier and Cymon Holzschuh conducted a field review of the proposed project on October 7, 2015. John Morissette, Rina Landry, and Mark Pappalardo represented Eversource at the field review. Revised plans were submitted on October 16, 2015. Eversource notified the Town and the abutting property owner of the project. No comments have been received to date.

The proposed project would eliminate the need for Eversource to inspect and maintain approximately 0.5 miles of the no. 1772 transmission line that traverses restricted property owned by Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company (CY). The right-of-way (ROW) is located south of the Haddam Neck Substation and west of Cove Road, a paved road partially extending through CY's property.

The existing transmission line loop extends south from Cove Road onto CY's 544-acre parcel, descends to the Connecticut River, then loops back up hill and turns eastward. The transmission line loop once served the Connecticut Yankee Nuclear Power Station that was decommissioned and demolished in 2007. Access to this section of the ROW is problematic for Eversource personnel due to security restrictions imposed by CY.

The proposed project consists of decommissioning the southern section of the transmission line loop by permanently removing six transmission structures, replacing two other structures to create an angled turn in the transmission line and installing a new conductor between the replacement poles to maintain the no. 1772 line. Additionally, at the request of CY, Eversource would remove eight abandoned 60-foot tall wood poles owned by CY within the transmission line ROW. All material would be removed from the ROW and disposed of off-site or recycled.

Specifically, the project includes the following:

- a) Removal of four single circuit 115-kV wood H-frame structures, nos. 15168, 15169, 3745, 3746. Structure nos. 15168 and 3745 would be accessed directly from Cove Road. Structure nos. 15169 and 3746 are located in a more remote location and would be accessed using a dirt access way that extends along the ROW. A 30-foot by 30-foot work pad would be installed at all four locations to provide a stable work area. Low impact vehicles would be used to access the structures;
- b) Removal of two single circuit steel lattice structures, nos. 15170 and 3747, located adjacent to Canal Street, a paved road along the Connecticut River that served the former CY power plant;
- c) Removal of the conductors and related pole-mounted hardware;
- d) Replacement of wood pole structure no. 3744 with a new structure of the same height, located 15 feet east of the existing structure;
- e) Replacement of wood pole structure no. 15167 with a new wood pole structure that is 20 feet taller than the existing structure. The new structure would be constructed 35 feet to the south of the existing structure; and
- f) Installation of a 255-foot long 1272 kcmil 45/7 ASCR conductor between the new wood pole structures to create the new transmission line configuration.

Eversource would perform the replacement portion of the work during a non-project related outage planned for February 2016. Remaining work would be performed after the replacement structures are operational. The entire project is expected to take two months.

Clearing associated with the proposed project would be on an as needed basis, generally around the base of the structures and along the dirt ROW access road. Three of the work areas are easily accessible from Cove Road. Ground disturbance would be minimized by cutting the wood poles at grade.

Eversource intends to minimize wetland disturbance to the greatest extent possible by using structure access routes that avoid wetland areas. Structure no. 3747 is located in a delineated wetland area adjacent to Canal Street. Eversource would deploy 1,400 square feet of temporary construction matting around the structure to minimize the impact of construction equipment. No surface or groundwater resources would be affected.

Erosion and sedimentation (E&S) control measures would be installed in accordance with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control and Eversource's Best Management Practices. Temporary E&S controls would remain in place until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.

No State-listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species listed on the Natural Diversity Database are within the structure work areas. Lattice structure no. 3747 contains an osprey nest. Eversource would install a wood pole/nest platform once the structure is removed to provide a potential nest area for returning ospreys. Disturbance to any amphibians and reptile species within the work areas would be minimized by performing work after October, as these species are transitioning into hibernation.

Once the project is completed, there would be no significant change in magnetic field levels along the remaining transmission line ROW. The project area is in a remote area and is not near any residences.

