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March 4, 2016

Robert Stein, Chairman  
Connecticut Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Petition No. 1201  
1810 Transmission Line Upgrade Project

Dear Chairman Stein:

On January 21, 2016, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") received a declaratory ruling from the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need would not be required for the work proposed in Petition No. 1201, subject to conditions. As conditions of the ruling, the Council required:

1. A landscaping plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Spring Lake Village Condominium Complex and other abutters (as applicable) to mitigate the visual impact of the 10-foot clearing in the ROW, and such plan shall be submitted to the Council.
2. The petitioner shall consider the use of weathering steel for the replacement transmission structures and allowing disturbed areas of the right of way to revegetate.

Eversource is submitting this letter to comply with the above second condition concerning weathering steel structures. The landscaping plan for the Spring Lake Village Condominium Complex will be filed separately this fall.

The 1810 Line Project rebuild section of 1.8 miles is predominantly within or abutting landscaped areas of residential properties. Eversource has extensive experience, particularly over the last twenty years, constructing new transmission structures in residential areas. It is Eversource's experience, that when placing structures within or near landscaped areas of residential properties, property owners typically prefer the use of galvanized steel because their appearance is perceived to be more compatible with the surroundings.

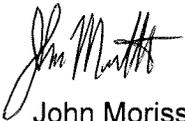
In fact, the use of weathering steel structures was one of the issues of concern raised in prior litigation against Eversource related to the construction of a new transmission line on an existing right-of-way in residential areas. Weathering steel structures were referred to in this litigation as having an "offensive rust color". This is illustrative of the types of opinions from abutters that prompted Eversource's decision to propose galvanized steel structures for this Project. Southington's Town Manager, Garry Brumback, has also communicated to Eversource that Southington would prefer that Eversource use galvanized steel structures. Moreover, the cost differential between weathering steel and galvanized structures is marginal for this Project, where the additional incremental cost associated with the use of galvanized structures is approximately \$40,000, as compared to a total Project cost of approximately \$12.1 million (i.e., 0.3% of total cost).

In light of all these factors, it is Eversource's position that the use of galvanized steel is preferable to weathering steel on the 1810 Line Upgrade Project.

Eversource will allow the disturbed areas of the right-of-way to revegetate after the completion of the Project.

Attached to this original are fifteen (15) copies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Morissette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Morissette