



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 28, 2017

Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager-Transmission Siting
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

RE: **PETITION NO. 1230** – Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to its existing Stony Hill Substation including the installation of a new access road to the substation on Eversource's property located at 49 Stony Hill Road, Brookfield, Connecticut. Access Road Modification.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

At a public meeting held on April 27, 2017, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and approved the revised site plan for the above referenced facility, dated March 28, 2017. The revised site plan includes a relocation of the new substation access road to the north side of the substation, utilizing existing substation and transmission line right-of-way access roads.

All work is to be implemented as specified in the request and the associated site plans submitted on March 28, 2017 and is subject to the following condition, approval of any minor project changes be delegated to Council Staff.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction.

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

Very truly yours,

Robert Stein
Chairman

Enclosure: Staff Report dated April 27, 2017

c: The Honorable Stephen C. Dunn, First Selectman, Town of Brookfield
Alice Dew, Land Use Manager, Town of Brookfield



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Petition No. 1230

Eversource Energy

Stony Hill Substation Access Road

Brookfield, Connecticut

Staff Report

April 27, 2017

Introduction

On June 23, 2016, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued a declaratory ruling to Eversource Energy (Eversource) that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for proposed modifications to the Stony Hill Substation located at 49 Stony Hill Road in Brookfield Connecticut. The modifications included an expansion of the substation to accommodate a 25-MVAR synchronous condenser and associated equipment. A new substation access road was proposed that would extend east from Stony Hill Road through a wooded area on Eversource's property to the substation expansion area. Due to concerns regarding site grading and nearby wetlands, the Council's June 23, 2016 approval requested that Eversource examine the possibility of extending the access road north from the end of Deer Trail Drive, a residential street that abuts the substation property to the south. Additionally, the Council requested that Eversource submit a final site plan detailing the final road alignment, substation clearing limits, contours, grading, drainage control and erosion and sedimentation controls, for Council review and approval.

Consistent with Council decision items nos. 1 and 2, on March 28, 2017, Eversource submitted project details including a proposed access road alignment that would use the existing substation access road and an existing transmission line right-of-way road extending along the north side of the substation. Although this route was initially examined as part of the original Petition 1230 submittal, it was determined to be problematic due to the space constraints caused by existing transmission right-of-way, an adjacent active rail line, and steep slopes. Upon further review after the Petition approval, Eversource ultimately determined this route was preferable instead of constructing a new access road extending from either Deer Trail Drive or Stony Hill Road. Using the existing right-of-way area would avoid disturbing woodland and wetlands on the southern portion of the property and would avoid construction activity in the Deer Trail Drive residential neighborhood. The Town, abutting property owners, and residents on Deer Trail Drive were provided an update on the new access road plan as well as proposed Project construction hours.

Project Details

To facilitate the substation expansion project, Eversource would establish a 22-foot wide by 500-foot long temporary gravel access road extending from the end of the existing substation access road to the substation expansion area. The temporary access road would be constructed between the existing right-of-way access road and the existing substation fence to avoid a wood three pole H-frame structure. An existing guide rail located along the substation access road embankment would be relocated to the north. Rip-rap side slope protection would be installed on the embankment above the active rail line. A temporary block retaining wall would be established along the east end of the construction access road to support an embankment below the existing substation fence.

Perimeter erosion and sedimentation controls would be established during site construction. Temporary rip rap applications would be used to stabilize steep slopes. A 50-foot long, 20-foot wide tracking pad would be established at the entrance at Stony Hill Road. A soil stockpile area surrounded by silt fencing would be established near the northeast corner of the substation. Some clearing would be required to widen the access road entrance area and to accommodate the soil stockpile area.

During construction, the three pole H-frame structure would be replaced by a new steel monopole structure approximately 35 feet to the southeast, and within the limits of the temporary road. The temporary access road would be realigned to its permanent, post-construction route to the area where the H-frame structure was located.

The permanent access road would be 20 to 22 feet wide by 1,149 feet long, secured by a new 20-foot wide vehicle access gate at the entrance on Stony Hill Road. The first 40 feet of the access road from Stony Hill Road would consist of a concrete paved apron. The access road would then be paved for an additional 210 feet before transitioning to a gravel surface. The substation yard would be accessed by two gates off of the access road; the existing gate on the northwest side of the substation and a new substation gate at the east end of the expanded substation. A new metal guiderail would be installed on the north side of the access road for a distance of 350 feet.

Post-construction stormwater control would consist of rip-rap side slopes and two swales. A dry swale, consisting of a vegetative soil layer over a gravel base and perforated PVC pipe that controls discharge, would be installed between the substation and new access road. The second swale would be installed south of the substation expansion area and would consist of riprap with stone check dams to reduce flow velocity. Both swales would discharge onto splash pads/level spreaders with outlet flows directed towards a wetland complex east of the substation.

Consistent with Council decision item no. 3, Eversource examined the feasibility of using on-site material for side slope armoring and determined this material is of poor quality, and thus would not provide sufficient slope stability.

Consistent with Council decision item no. 4, construction hours for the project would be Monday through Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sunday hours may be necessary due to weather issues or outage constraints. Installation of the temporary access road would commence in June 2017 with the completion of the permanent access road by May 2018. All work would occur on Eversource property.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the following:

1. Approval of any minor project changes be delegated to Council staff.



Legend

- Substation Expansion Limit of Work
- Substation Expansion
- Existing Fenceline
- Proposed Fenceline
- Existing Stonewall to be Removed
- Field Delineated Wetland Line
- Field Delineated Wetlands
- Expansion Limit of Work
- Substation Expansion
- Existing Fenceline
- Proposed Fenceline
- Existing Stonewall to be Removed
- Field Delineated Wetland Line
- Field Delineated Wetlands
- Railroad
- Parcel Boundary
- Eversource Property
- Town Boundaries
- Existing Tree Line
- 2ft Contour Line
- Area of Clearing
- Proposed Permanent Gravel Access Road
- Proposed Permanent Paved Access Road
- Centerline of Temporary Gravel Access Road
- R-80 Zoning Code Label

1 inch = 100 feet

0 100 200 Feet