



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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May 26, 2017

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

RE: PETITION NO. 1286 - Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed West Brookfield Reliability Project that includes reconductoring of approximately 1.4 miles of its existing No. 1887 115-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line within existing Eversource electric transmission line right of way between the existing West Brookfield Substation located at 83 Prange Road and the existing West Brookfield Junction near Pocono Road in Brookfield, Connecticut, installation of two 14.4 Megavolt Ampere Reactive (MVAR) capacitor banks at the West Brookfield Substation located at 83 Prange Road, Brookfield, Connecticut and related substation and transmission line structure improvements.
Development & Management Plan.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

At a public meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on May 25, 2017, the Council considered and approved the Development and Management (D&M) Plan submitted for this project on May 2, 2017 and additional information received on May 18, 2017, with the following conditions:

1. Compliance with the reporting requirements under Section 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies;
2. Installation of a second row of silt fencing on the east side of the site;
3. The proposed steel handrail on top of the retaining wall be replaced with a 3 to 4 foot high chain link fence; and
4. Eversource shall submit to the Council specifications for the concrete washout station once a specific location is determined based on field conditions.

This approval applies only to the D&M Plan submitted on May 2, 2017 and additional information received on May 18, 2017. Requests for any changes to the D&M Plan shall be approved by Council staff in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-62(b). Furthermore, the project developer is responsible for reporting requirements pursuant to RCSA §16-50j-62.

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 Council's decision on the petition dated March 20, 2017 and in the D&M Plan dated May 1, 2017.

Enclosed is a copy of the staff report on this D&M Plan, dated May 25, 2017.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert Stein in cursive, with the letters "RAB" written in a smaller font to the right of the signature.

Robert Stein
Chairman

RS/RDM/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated May 25, 2017

- c: The Honorable Stephen C. Dunn, First Selectman, Town of Brookfield
- Francis Lollie, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Brookfield
- Alice Dew, Wetlands Enforcement Officer & Land Use Manager, Town of Brookfield



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Petition No. 1286

Eversource Energy

West Brookfield Reliability Project

Development and Management Plan - West Brookfield Substation

May 25, 2017

On March 16, 2017, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) approved a petition from Eversource Energy for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the West Brookfield Reliability Project which involves the replacement of the conductors for a 1.4-mile segment of the 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line (#1887) from the West Brookfield Substation to West Brookfield Junction, and the expansion of the West Brookfield Substation to accommodate two 14.4 megavolt-ampere reactive (MVAR) capacitor banks. In its decision, the Council required Eversource to submit a Development and Management Plan (D&M) for the substation expansion portion of the Project. Eversource submitted the D&M Plan on May 1, 2017. Additional Project information was submitted on May 18, 2017.

The existing substation is located at 83 Prange Road in Brookfield. Access to the substation is from an access gate fronting Prange Road. To accommodate the expansion of the substation to the northeast, Eversource purchased a flag shaped residential parcel at 85 Prange Road that contains a single family house. The driveway to the residence extends between the existing substation and a 2.7-acre residential parcel to the north at 87 Prange Road (Van Antwerp property).

The 85 Prange Road residence would be demolished and the property re-graded to accommodate the expansion of the substation. The substation expansion area is approximately 14 feet lower in elevation than the existing substation. Given this difference, Eversource would construct a new access road to the substation expansion area using the existing residential driveway alignment.

Site construction would require 1.1 acres of site disturbance to the 2.7-acre parcel. All vegetation would be removed along the existing driveway between the existing substation fence line and the property line at 87 Prange Road. The substation construction area would occur in the central and southern portions of the main lot, leaving an existing lawn area to the north. Substation construction would extend onto Eversource's abutting property to the south.

The substation would be expanded to the northeast by 19,500 feet. The expansion area is essentially a separate substation yard that would house the two 115-kV 14.4-MVAR capacitor banks and associated equipment. A narrow fenced area between the two main yards would serve as an interior substation connection. Due to the difference in elevation between the two yards, a staircase would be installed within the narrow connecting area. The substation expansion area would be enclosed by an eight-foot high chain link fence of two-inch mesh. A gravel surface would be established within the fenced substation expansion area.

The sloping nature of the 85 Prange Road parcel would require 4,220 cubic yards of cut and 3,890 cubic yards of fill. Excess material would be disposed of off-site. A 200-foot long retaining wall would be installed along the north side of the access road and to the west of the substation expansion area to stabilize a cut hillside. The wall would reach a maximum height of eight feet above ground level. To prevent fall hazards associated with the retaining wall, a 3.5-foot tall handrail would be installed on top of the retaining wall. A second 220-foot long, 5-foot tall retaining wall would be constructed along the east side of the expansion area to contain fill that would create a level substation surface. The substation fence would be installed on top of the wall.



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Perimeter erosion and sedimentation controls would be established at down gradient locations, consisting of straw wattles or a coir roll product. A 50-foot long gravel anti-tracking pad would be established at the access road entrance on Prange Road. Two temporary sedimentation basins would be constructed at the northeast and southeast corners of the project area to contain construction stormwater runoff. Disturbed areas would be stabilized using cover materials within seven days after work activities in that area cease. Due to a wetland area on an abutting property to the east, staff recommends the installation of a second row of silt fence on the east side of the site.

A dewatering system utilizing a filter bag would be employed during excavation. It would discharge immediately upgradient of the temporary sedimentation basins on the northeast and southeast sides of the site. The filter bag location would be reviewed in the field prior to construction by Eversource Project personnel to ensure proper placement and discharge.

A concrete washout station is necessary for the project. A suitable location would be determined by Eversource Project personnel and the contractor prior to construction to ensure appropriate sizing and that the washout structure(s) do not interfere with construction activities.

The proposed access road would have an 18 to 20 feet wide paved surface with two-foot wide gravel shoulders. The road would lead downslope from Prange Road to the expansion area access gate with a maximum grade of nine percent. The new road would also serve a new access gate installed along the north side of the existing substation. A triangular bar gate would be installed along the road entrance at Prange Road.

Post-construction site drainage patterns would be managed by drainage swales with connecting culverts/piping with splash pad outfalls and level spreaders. One swale would be located on the south side of the access drive that would drain to a second swale located northwest of the substation yard. Sheet flow down the access road would be collected by a trench drain that would discharge to the northwest swale. A second trench drain would be installed along the east edge of the expanded substation that would discharge into a vegetated swale along the southeast portion of the property. The swale would have a controlled outfall to reduce discharge velocity.

Eversource, upon consultation with the Town and abutting landowners to the north, developed an extensive landscaping plan that incorporates 91 plantings of various tree and shrub species. Landscaping would be installed along the north side of the access road and on the west side of the substation expansion project area, above the retaining wall. Tree species would range from 6 to 8 feet tall at planting.

Staff finds that Eversource's D&M for this project conforms to the Council's declaratory ruling and that it addresses the environmental issues likely to be encountered during this project.

Council staff recommends approval of the D&M Plan with the following conditions:

1. Compliance with the reporting requirements under Section 16-50j-62 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies; and
2. Installation of a second row of silt fencing on the east side of the site.