



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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March 29, 2019

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

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.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated March 27, 2019, regarding the minor project changes to the above-referenced declaratory ruling that was approved by the Council on March 20, 2017. Pursuant to Condition No. 1 of the Council's Declaratory Ruling on March 20, 2017, your request to modify the Project is approved. The minor project changes are necessary based on in-field assessments of the No. 1887 transmission line and include the following:

- a) Replacement of 10 structures previously approved for reinforcement that have subsequently been determined to be in an advanced state of deterioration and now need replacement;
- b) Structure 2689, which was proposed to be removed and not replaced, will now be replaced with a new structure located approximately 644 feet southeast of the existing structure. The new location is necessary to meet conductor to ground clearances on a steep slope in this area of the ROW;
- c) Installation of a new Structure 2697 in order to maintain conductor clearances between Structure 2696 and the West Brookfield Substation;
- d) Reconductoring the 1618 Line along the Project route rather than transferring the existing conductors to new structures as was previously approved. Reconductoring is less costly and will retire the existing 50 year old conductors, increasing the Project lifespan; and
- e) Modification of the number and location of access roads, work pads and pull pads to account for the proposed Project modifications as well as to add off-ROW access roads to Structures 2695, 2695A, 2697 and 2683. In addition, many of the access roads are now proposed to have temporary construction matting instead of temporary gravel.

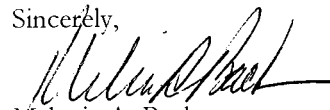
Additional temporary wetland impacts from the proposed modifications will occur. However, the construction of the Project overall will result in no permanent wetland impacts. Eversource will consult with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection regarding protective measures for state-listed species that may occur within the work areas. No cultural or archeological resources will be affected. The changes to electric and magnetic fields resulting from reconductoring will be negligible.



This approval applies only to the minor project changes dated March 27, 2019. Any significant changes to the project require advance Council notification and approval.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Bachman  
Executive Director

c: Honorable Stephen Dunn, First Selectman, Town of Brookfield  
Ralph Tedesco, Director of Public Works, Town of Brookfield  
Council Members