



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 24, 2019

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

RE: **PETITION NO. 1287** - Eversource Energy declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed Redding to Wilton Project that includes structure and conductor replacements of approximately 5 miles of its existing No. 1470 115-kilovolt electric transmission line within existing Eversource electric transmission line right of way between the existing Peaceable Substation located at 520 Peaceable Street in Redding, Connecticut and the existing Wilton Substation located at 53 Old Danbury Road in Wilton, Connecticut, and related substation and transmission line structure improvements.

Dear Ms. Shanley:

Pursuant to the declaratory ruling issued by the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on March 3, 2017 and decision to approve an amendment of the project on April 22, 2019, Council staff hereby approves the use of a contractor staging area/laydown yard for this project submitted to the Council on July 24, 2019. The staging area/laydown yard will be located on a 7.6 acre parcel owned by Village Square Incorporated at 29 Stony Hill Road in Bethel. The property has been previously disturbed; does not contain species listed on the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Database; has no potential to contain intact cultural resources; and is not near any residential areas. To minimize the potential for inadvertent impacts to one small wetland onsite and wetlands located south of the parcel, appropriate erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed and maintained at the staging area/laydown yard in accordance with Eversource's Best Management Practices until the project is completed.

This approval applies only to the proposed staging area/laydown yard provided in a request dated July 24, 2019. Any additional changes to the project require advance notification and approval in accordance with the Council's declaratory ruling on March 3, 2017 and approval of an amendment to the project on April 22, 2019.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MB/RDM/emr

July 24, 2019

Ms. Melanie Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Petition No. 1287: Redding to Wilton Project
Notice of Location of Material Laydown and Staging Yard
29 Stony Hill Road, Bethel

Dear Ms. Bachman:

On March 30, 2017, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) approved Petition No. 1287 regarding the Redding to Wilton (Project) in the towns of Redding, Weston and Wilton and later approved an amendment to the Petition on April 22, 2019. The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy (Eversource) hereby provides notice to Council staff of the use of a temporary material laydown and staging area in support of the above-referenced Redding to Wilton Project.

The proposed location of the yard is on an approximately 7.6-acre parcel located at 29 Stony Hill Road (U.S. Route 6) (the Parcel), in the central portion of the Town of Bethel. The Parcel is bordered by Stony Hill Road to the north, Benedict Road and commercial properties to the west, a commercial property to the east, and woodlands to the south. The yard will occupy approximately 6 acres of the Parcel. Existing access to the Parcel is available from both Stony Hill and Benedict roads. Figures 1 and 2 (attached) illustrate the general location of the Parcel and provide an aerial view of the Parcel and nearby land uses. This parcel was used as a material laydown yard/staging area for the portion of the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project from Stony Hill Substation to Brookfield Junction.

Eversource proposes to use the yard for the storage of materials and supplies during the construction of the Project. Specifically, the yard will provide space for the storage of transmission line structures, anchor bolts, insulators, conductors, hardware, and timber mats. Construction trailers and portable bathroom facilities will be set up on the yard for use by the personnel assigned to the yard, which also will provide parking for construction vehicles and equipment and for the personal vehicles of construction personnel. Materials will be delivered to and stored at the yard prior to transport to specific work sites along the Project right-of-way by Eversource's construction contractor.

The Parcel is owned by Village Square, Inc. Prior to the use of the Parcel as the laydown/staging area, it was used for the storage, processing, and resale of earthen materials. The topography of the Parcel, which is at an elevation of about 520 feet above mean sea level, is generally level. Nearly the entire Parcel is characterized by hard-packed processed material. Narrow stands of trees are present along the perimeter of the Parcel, particularly along the southern property boundary. No tree clearing would be required for the yard. Except for a small wetland, which is located on the southwestern portion of the Parcel (refer to Figure 2), the Parcel is upland. The site is zoned for RT6 Business Zone use.

A review of historical records demonstrates that the entire Parcel has been extensively disturbed over decades. It is not located within a floodplain; has no potential to contain intact cultural resources (due to extensive past earth disturbance); and is not directly proximate to any residential uses. A review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base

publicly-available maps (June 2017) indicated that there are no state-or federally-listed species or significant natural communities known to be present near the Parcel.

To minimize the potential for inadvertent impacts to the small on-site wetland during material storage and laydown activities, Eversource will install and maintain silt fence or equivalent erosion and sedimentation controls around the boundaries of the wetland if necessary. Similar controls also will be installed as necessary along portions of the southern boundary of the Parcel (outside the tree line) to avoid the potential for any sedimentation into the wetlands located south of the Parcel. Erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed and maintained in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements)*: September 2016.

After the completion of Eversource activities, the yard will be restored, as appropriate, pursuant to Eversource's lease agreement with the landowner.

Eversource has provided notice of the use of the Parcel to the Town of Bethel.

Enclosed please find an original and 15 copies of this submission.

Should you, other Council members, or Council staff have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at kathleen.shanley@eversource.com or telephone at (860) 728-4527.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager - Transmission Siting

Attachments

Figure 1: General Location of Proposed Staging Area/Laydown Yard at 29 Stony Hill Road: Town of Bethel

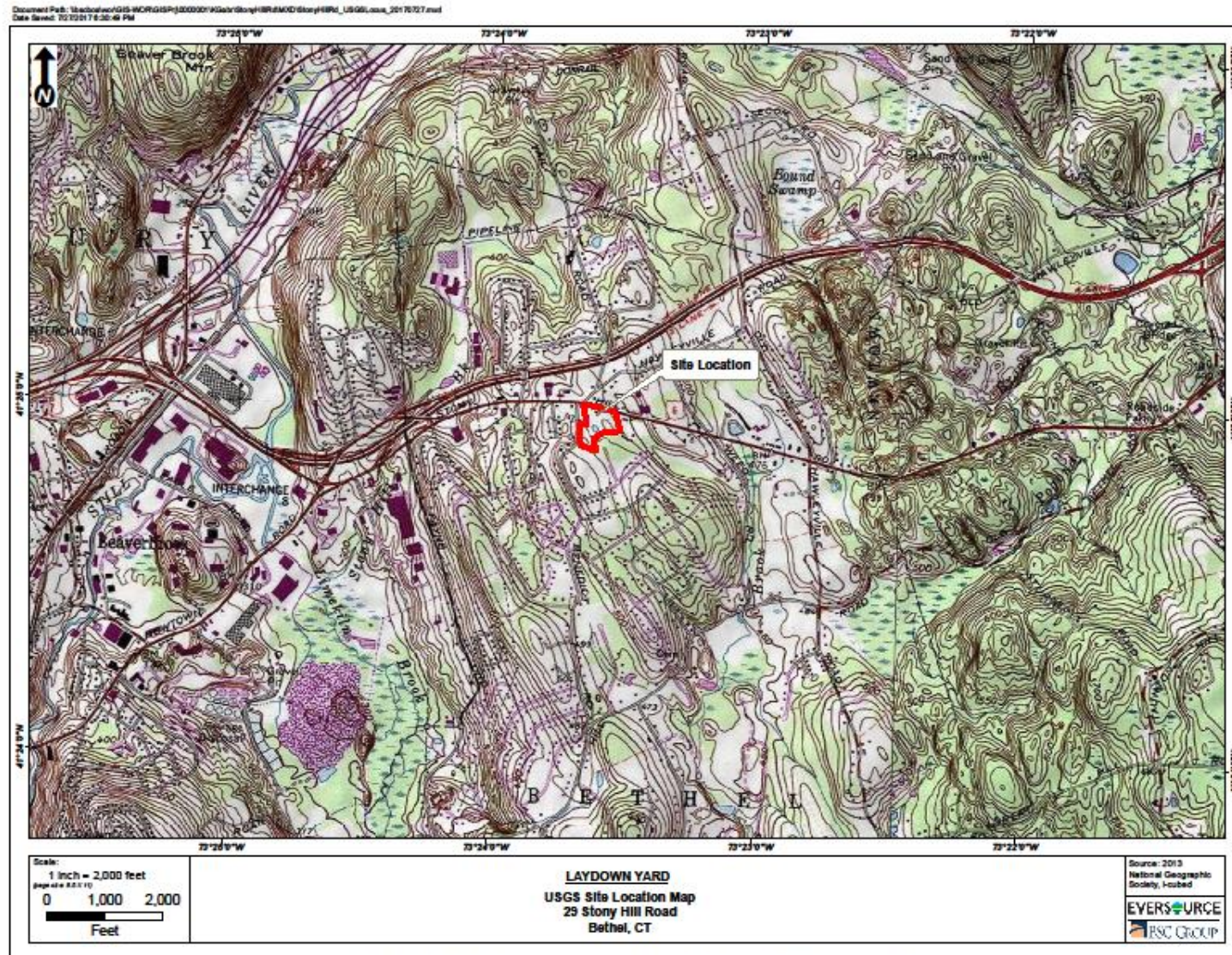


Figure 2: Site Map: Proposed Yard, 29 Stony Hill Road, Town of Bethel

