



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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April 22, 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:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the correspondence dated April 12, 2019, regarding the minor project changes to the above-referenced declaratory ruling that was approved by the Council on March 3, 2017. Pursuant to Condition No. 1 of the Council's Declaratory Ruling on March 3, 2017, your request to modify the Redding to Wilton Project is approved. The minor project changes are necessary based on in-field assessments of the No. 1470 transmission line prior to commencement of construction that identified two additional structures to be replaced within a two to three year timeframe. One structure (#2959) was replaced in January 2019 due to its degraded condition. Combining the asset condition structure replacements with the approved Redding to Wilton reliability project structure replacements would be more cost-effective and avoid multiple disruptions in the transmission line corridor. The modifications include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Replacement of 24 wood structures, 23 of which were previously approved for reinforcement, to combine both asset condition and reliability improvement projects, avoiding the need for future structure replacement that would occur in a 2 to 3 year timeframe;
- b) Increase the height of the structures in order to comply with National Electrical Safety Code conductor clearance requirements and Eversource's Overhead Transmission Line Standards. The new replacement structures are generally less than 10 feet than the existing wood structures. Seven structures would be 10 to 27 feet higher to overcome topographic conditions;
- c) Increase the size of the gravel work pads from 60 feet by 60 feet to 100 feet by 100 feet and install additional gravel pull pads;
- d) Increase the amount of temporary wetland impacts by 16,780 square feet to accommodate the structure replacement work. No permanent wetland impacts will occur; and
- e) Extension of the completion of construction deadline to July 2020.

This approval applies only to the amendment dated April 12, 2019. Any significant changes to the project require advance Council notification and approval.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanie Bachman', written in a cursive style.

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director

- c: Council Members
  - Honorable Julia Pemberton, First Selectman, Town of Redding
  - Aimee Pardee, M.A., Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Redding
  - Honorable Lynne Vanderslice, First Selectman, Town of Wilton
  - Robert Nerney, Director of Planning and Land Use Management, Town of Wilton
  - Honorable Chris Spaulding, First Selectman, Town of Weston
  - Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator, Town of Weston
  - James Pjura, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Weston

MB/RDM/laf