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November 10, 2017

Robert Stein, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Petition No. 1226
Towantic Switching Station and Line Modification Project (“Project”)

Dear Chairman Stein:

On November 15, 2016, Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) received approval (“Approval”) from the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) to relocate structure 1496A approximately 60 feet to the north to comply with Condition No. 10 of the Council’s declaratory ruling to minimize impact to the Western Hills Golf Course. Among other conditions of the Approval, the Council required that Eversource submit the following item:

- 1) A wetland restoration plan and invasive species control plan

Wetland Restoration Plan:

Restoration activities will include the removal of temporary work pads/matting. Temporary watercourse crossings will be removed and the affected areas re-graded to match the contours of areas outside of the construction work zone, to the extent applicable. Any stream banks and beds damaged shall be restored through the use of geotextile erosion control blankets, and/or coir logs.

Other wetland areas affected by construction will be stabilized with annual rye grass, a wetland seed mix, or an equivalent mix (40 pounds per acre, unless standing water is present), which will serve to provide a temporary vegetative cover until wetland species become reestablished. All seeded areas shall be treated with a layer of straw mulch up to one inch thick to enhance moisture retention, dissipate disturbance from precipitation, and detract songbirds foraging on broadcast seed. No fertilizer or lime will be applied in wetlands unless specified by CT DEEP regulatory approvals for the Project.

Flagging (or equivalent markers) denoting wetlands and streams will be maintained (and reflagged or re-marked as needed) typically until the completion of all project restoration.

Wetland Invasive Species Control Plan

To control the spread of wetland invasive species, Eversource will require contractors to implement the procedures described below, as appropriate to construction activities being performed.

- A.** All construction vehicles, equipment, and materials, including construction mats must be cleaned and free of excess soil, debris and vegetation before being mobilized to the Project right-of-way (ROW).
- B.** To minimize the potential for spreading wetland invasive plant species from wetland to wetland, all vehicles, equipment, or mats being used in or traversing a wetland containing invasive plant species will be cleaned prior to relocating to another work area. Cleaning of vehicles and other equipment will involve the removal of visible soil, debris, and vegetation using brooms, shovels and/or compressed air, as needed.
- C.** Mats used in wetlands containing invasive species will be cleaned prior to relocating to another work area. Cleaning of mats will involve dropping mats on top of one another in upland areas to shake loose sediment and debris, sweeping, power brooming, or other methods as appropriate.
- D.** Final restoration of the ROW will be performed in accordance with the Eversource Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut, September 2016.

Enclosed please find this original and fifteen (15) copies of this submission. Should you, the Council members, or Council staff have any questions regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at kathleen.shanley@eversource.com or telephone at (860) 728-4527.

Sincerely,

