

56 Prospect Street P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141-0270

John Morissette Project Manager – Transmission Siting Tel: 860-728-4532

May 26, 2015

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

RE:

Docket No. 424: Interstate Reliability Project

Development & Management Plan Change Notice Request:

Retention of Portion of Gravel Work Pad for Connecticut Department of Energy and

Environmental Protection Use for Parking: Mansfield Hollow State Park, Town of Mansfield

Dear Chairman Stein:

Pursuant to Section 16-50j-62(a)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) and Sections 4 and 7.2 of the *Development and Management (D&M) Plan for the Construction of the Interstate Reliability Project (Project, Interstate) New 345-kV Transmission Lines and Related Minor Modifications to Adjacent Lines,* The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) doing business as Eversource Energy (Eversource) seeks the Connecticut Siting Council's (Council's) review and approval of this D&M Plan Change request to allow Eversource to leave in place a 100' x 100' portion of a gravel work pad located along the Project right-of-way (ROW) in Mansfield Hollow State Park (Town of Mansfield). The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), State Parks and Public Outreach Division (SPPOD), which manages Mansfield Hollow State Park, requested that Eversource leave this portion of the gravel work pad in place.

CT DEEP SPPOD proposes to develop access to the gravel work pad from Bassetts Bridge Road and to use the former work pad as a permanent public parking area for patrons of the Park. Attachment A includes a map depicting the location of the 100' x 100' gravel work pad.

As this map illustrates, this portion of the gravel work pad is within an upland area of the ROW south of Bassetts Bridge Road. The area also is within part of the 100-year floodplain associated with Mansfield Hollow Lake.

The CT DEEP Inland Water Resources Division, Town of Mansfield, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), which owns the Mansfield Hollow State Park property, have endorsed the CT DEEP SPPOD request to leave the gravel pad in place. Attachment B contains copies of correspondence from these agencies.

With the Council's approval, Eversource will direct its construction contractor to leave the $100^{\circ} \times 100^{\circ}$ portion of the work pad in place. All other access roads and work pads in Mansfield Hollow State Park have been or will be removed as specified in the D&M Plan. Specifically, most of the ROW within Mansfield Hollow State Park was restored in late 2014. The remaining ROW restoration in the Park, including the area near the $100^{\circ} \times 100^{\circ}$ gravel work pad proposed to remain for CT DEEP, is scheduled to commence within the next week.



Mr. Stein May 26, 2015 Page 2

Should you have any questions or required more information regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at john.morissette@eversource.com or telephone at (860) 728-4532.

Sincerely,

John R. Morissette

Project Manager - Transmission Siting

Attachment A: Map of Proposed Gravel Pad to Remain for CT DEEP Parking

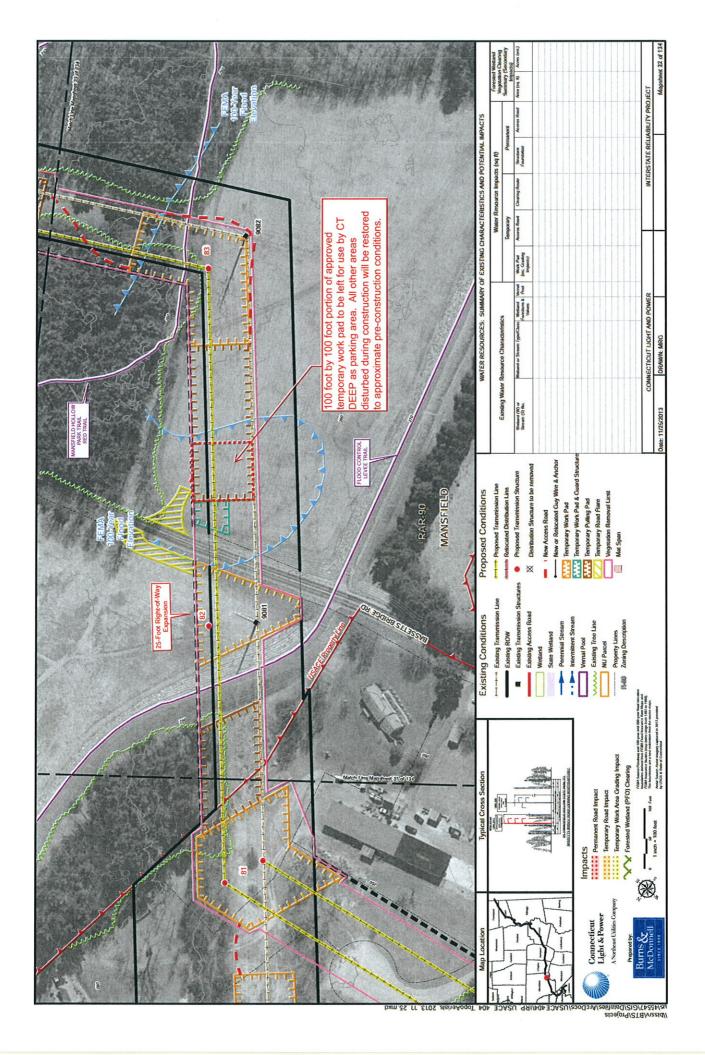
Attachment B: Copies of Approvals from USACE and CT DEEP

Cc: Service List

Mr. Matthew Hart, Town Manager, Town of Mansfield

ATTACHMENT A MAP OF PROPOSED GRAVEL PAD TO REMAIN FOR CT DEEP PARKING





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ATTACHMENT B

COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE USACE AND CT DEEP APPROVING THE GRAVEL WORK PAD TO REMAIN FOR CT DEEP PARKING





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT 696 VIRGINIA ROAD CONCORD MA 01742-2751

April 22, 2015

RE: Mansfield Hollow Lake - Easement No. DACW33-2-14-030; Waiver of Restoration Requirement for Portion of Temporary Work Pad

Mr. Mark W. Kimball Eversource Energy PO Box 270 Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Kimball:

This letter is in response to the proposal of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) that the Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P), leave in place a portion of a temporary gravel work pad that was established as part of CL&P's work under Mansfield Hollow Lake Easement No. DACW33-2-14-030. Restoration of this work pad as well as other temporary staging areas, conductor pulling sites and access roads is required by the Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared as part of the easement.

The workpad, approximately 100 feet x 400 feet, is located off the Bassetts Bridge Road in Mansfield Hollow State Park, which is leased to CT DEEP by the federal Government. CL&P proposes, as requested by CT DEEP, to restore only a 100 foot x 300 foot portion of the temporary work pad. CL&P would leave a 100 foot x 100 foot area, as shown on the attached map, for CT DEEP to develop into a parking area for visitors to the area they manage.

We have reviewed CL&P's request and our Environmental Evaluation Branch determined that leaving the work pad gravel in place in this area does not significantly change the scope of the EA or cause significant impacts to vegetation or wildlife. In addition, the proposed parking area will enhance visitor safety due to its location immediately adjacent to park trails.

CL&P may adjust its restoration operations in this particular area to restore only half of the workpad as shown on the enclosed map. Please note that all other requirements, particularly removing gravel and restoring the grade from Bassetts Bridge Road into the temporary area, must be completed to Government satisfaction. We will contact the CT DEEP directly about submitting their plans for developing the parking area for our review and approval.

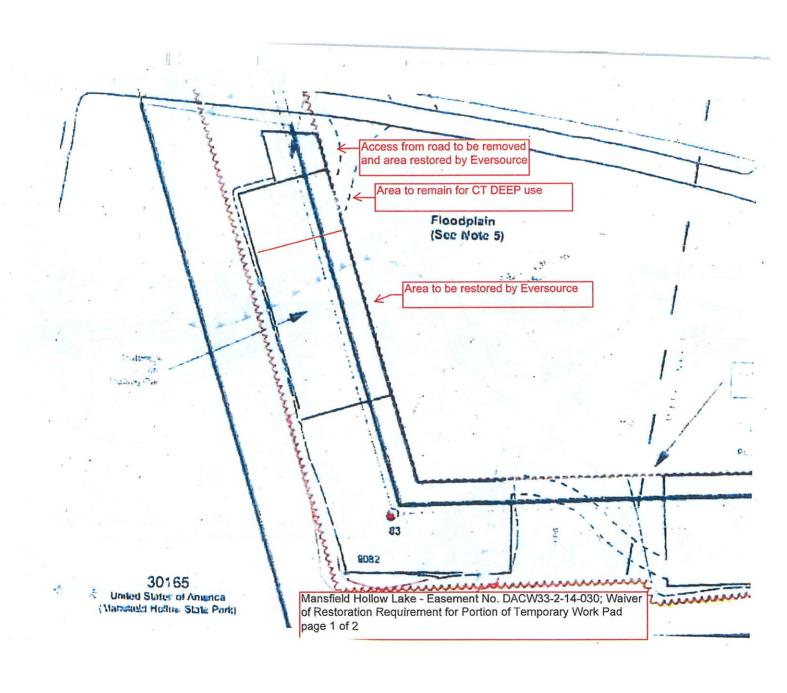
If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Maureen Davi of this office at the address above, by telephone at 978-318-8070 or by email at Maureen.B.Davi@usace.army.mil.

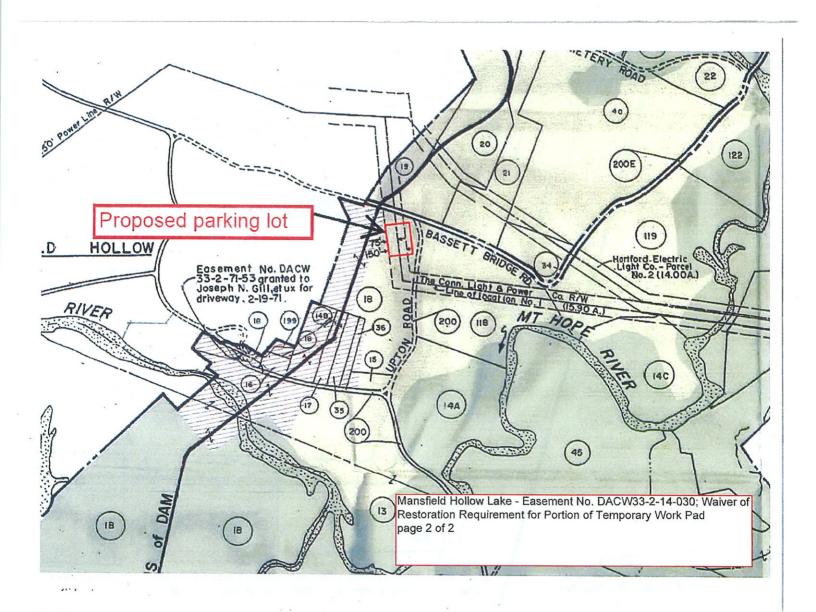
Sincerely,

Maureen A. McCabe

Chief, Conveyancing Branch

Real Estate Division







79 Elm Street · Hartford, CT 06106-5127

www.ct.gov/deep

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

The Connecticut Light and Power Company P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06141

Attn: Robert Deptula

Re:

Request for Technical Plan Revision

Permit Nos.:

WQC-201205697

Project:

Interstate Reliability Project

USACOE No.:

NAE-2008-1671

Town:

Mansfield

Dear Mr. Deptula:

The department has completed a review of your April 14, 2015 request for a technical plan revision to the above referenced Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification. The request involves this department's State Parks and Public Outreach Division's (SPPOD) desire to retain a portion of an existing work pad as permanent parking at Mansfield Hollow State Park.

The referenced permit requires that the pad be removed, however, SPPOD is in need of more parking for recreational access and saw this as an opportunity to acquire it. The portion of the pad to be retained is 100 x 200 feet, located in a 100-year FEMA floodplain associated with Mansfield Hollow Lake, with no State or Federal wetland soils present. The remainder of the work pad will be removed as required by condition of the permit. SPPOD plans to place an additional layer of gravel/stone among the larger process stone to smooth it out, but there will be no additional placement of material in the floodplain.

Your request for technical plan revision is hereby approved. The above modification shall be in accordance with your plan entitled CT DEEP Parking Lot Proposal Real Estate Tract Map / Mansfield Hollow lake / US Army Corps of Engineers / New England District" as attached to your April 14, 2015 correspondence.

If you have questions regarding this matter please contact Doug Hoskins at (860) 424-4192, douglas.hoskins@ct.gov. All correspondence regarding this permit should reference the permit numbers identified above and be addressed to Doug Hoskins, Inland Water Resources Division, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

april 27, 2015

Cheryl A. Chase

Director

Inland Water Resources Division

Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse

WQC-201205697 CL&P / Interstate Reliability Project Mansfield CT Page 2 of 2

CC:DH

cc: For the town of Mansfield:
Mayor/First Selectman
Conservation Commission
Inland Wetland Agency
Planning & Zoning Commission
Susan Lee, New England District, USACE, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751
Chris Fritz, Burns & McDonnell, 108 Leigus Rd., Suite 1100, Wallingford, CT 06492
Lori Lindquist – DEEP/State Parks (email only)