

Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company’s Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Date: August 18 and 19, 2005

Inspector: Diana Walden

Location: 115 kV Underground Route

Storm/

Rain Event: A localized storm to the Danbury/Stamford area was recorded on 8/14 and posted by NOAA as having 1.38” of rain. Totals may have been higher in certain places.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Vault Openings and Trench Construction Bethel Educational Park, Bethel	- Work in the Bethel Educational Park is largely limited to restoration. Topsoil was being placed in the school yards and seeded and mulched. Concrete work is ongoing and well done to restore sidewalks. 8/19/05 - Extra materials and soil have been removed. 8/19/05	- A few minor issues remain in this area. See the erosion control and vegetation sections for more specific information.8/19/05
Hoyts Hill Transition Structure	- The access road has been placed with stone/stone dust and materials have been cleaned up around the site. Most repairs have been made. 8/19/05	- See erosion control section for site specific information. 8/19/05
Gallows Hill Road and Rt. 107, Redding	-Trenching is currently ongoing to the overhead ROW but this is the last section of work. A caisson was being installed near the road/ ROW intersection 8/19/05 - Several crews were actively trenching in Rt. 107. Vault construction was occurring across from Lois Lane. 8/19/05	- Restoration efforts were noted in many locations. See erosion control and additional sections for more specific information.8/19/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Rt. 58, Bethel	- Trench/conduit installation was occurring along Rt. 58 in several locations including near the Steck nursery. 8/19/05	- Activities are fairly well contained to the roadway but several issues need attention. See the erosion control and additional sections for more information. 8/19/05
Broad Street/ROW and Rt. 7, Norwalk	<p>-Work from an outside contractor was ongoing to move a gas line in Broad St to allow for conduit placement. A large jacking pit is under construction off Broad St. for the future bore under the railroad. All soil has been removed. 8/19/05</p> <p>- Several crews were working at night to install conduit on Rt. 7 and one was working on a vault near the Shell station. 8/19/05</p>	<p>-Activities were fairly well contained but see the erosion control section for more information. 8/19/05</p> <p>- The vault activities were delayed due to an exposed water main that needed support. 8/19/05</p>
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	<p>- For the most part, silt fence has been well installed in most locations where the work is located adjacent to wetlands and soils are being handled appropriately. 8/19/05</p> <p>- Many repairs and restoration efforts were made. A few issues remain to be attended. 8/19/05</p>	<p>- Several areas require maintenance or additional controls or attention as soon as possible.</p> <p>- Continue to be proactive in maintenance as necessary. See below for site-specific issues. 8/19/05</p>

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<p>Bethel Educational Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All disturbed areas within school lawns were being restored and mulched. The work here looked good. 8/19/05 - The soil stockpile near the RT Johnson School has been removed and materials are being cleaned up. The ROW is still bare soil and should be restored or stabilized 8/19/05 - The southern portion of the ROW past Bethel Middle School had several repairs made to the erosion controls. Only one area where the stockpile had been removed had some downed fence. 8/19/05 - The ROW near the southern caisson was placed with aggregate to stabilize the surface. The sediment against the fence at the low spot within the brush was specifically noted to the contractor. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep the controls in good repair until the ROW is revegetated. 8/19/05 - Any bare soil of the ROW should be restored as soon as possible to prevent further sedimentation and in accordance with the D&M plan timelines. 8/19/05 - Repair the fence where needed as soon as possible and be proactive in maintenance. 8/19/05 - The sediment should be pulled back from the fence. 8/19/05
<p>Hoyts Hill Transition Structure (Off Rt. 58)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many repairs were made along the access road and the surface was stabilized with aggregate. The concrete washout corral was removed and other materials were in the process of being cleaned up. Mulch was also placed. 8/19/05 - The silt fence near the structure was repaired to some degree but could use some additional toeing in. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make any necessary repairs to the fence and keep areas maintained. 8/19/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Route 58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efforts have been made to protect some catch basins in areas of active work but other areas are inconsistent and observable sediment was on the roadway. 8/19/05 - Filter fabric in the grate is an acceptable measure when haybales are difficult to maintain. 8/19/05 - The Mathers storage area off Rt. 58 silt fence is well toed in but one are still encroaches on the wetland. This spot was specifically noted to the contractor at this inspection. 8/19/05 - The fence near proposed handhole #4 still needs repair by towing in upgradient. Mulch was being placed here. 8/19/05 - The adjacent section of silt fence is still in good repair but the extra section was never added. If work returns here, the fence should be installed. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -In all work areas, contain slurry or mobile sediment to work areas and street sweep the road extent including the gutters, regularly. Place controls on all catch basins and inlets which may receive muds. 8/19/05 -The silt fence should be pulled back by next week. The silt fence serves as a limit of work. 8/19/05 - The fence should be repaired correctly as bare soil remains here and mulching and seeding should continue. 8/19/05 - Continue to maintain fence and place mulch and seed in any areas remaining bare. 8/19/05
Gallows Hill Road and Rt. 107 (Lonetown Rd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work on Gallows Hill is almost complete. The last section of trenching is leading to the ROW. 8/19/05 - Several areas along the road have been mulched and restored including near the inlet at #53. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide erosion controls until all disturbed areas have restoration. 8/19/05. - None at this time but continue to monitor. Add seed here if necessary. 8/19/05
Gallows Hill Road and Rt. 107 (Lonetown Rd) continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active work along Rt. 107 has some catch basins very well protected with filter fabric and haybales while others remain without protection measures. 8/19/05 - Fabric in the grate is an accepted measure if haybales are difficult to maintain. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to remain aware of containing mobile slurry or sediment laden water and protecting catch basins and inlets. 8/19/05 -Continue to maintain and repair fence where necessary when active work approaches an area. 8/19/05

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<p>Broad Street and Rt. 7, Norwalk</p>	<p>-Silt fence at the ROW was restored as recommended but could use additional toeing in. Also, debris and brush should be cleaned up from the ROW, especially where it was placed beyond the fence. 8/19/05</p> <p>- Broad Street work was ongoing with several soil piles and unprotected catch basins but this work is a separate contractor moving the gas line in the street for the placement of the conduit. 8/19/05</p> <p>- The large jacking pit is in place on Broad St. and is contained. 8/19/05</p> <p>-Nightwork on Rt. 7 was observed and almost all slurry mud is being well contained with a vac truck before it reaches catch basins. One instance of muds entering the inlet near the Wilton Corp. Park was noted. The contractor was notified at the time. 8/19/05</p>	<p>- Toe-in silt fence appropriately until the ROW stabilizes. 8/19/05 Perform regular “good housekeeping” to remove leftover materials and clean up the workspace. Use the silt fence as limits of work and do not place materials beyond. 8/10-8/19/05</p> <p>- Determine whose jurisdiction the contractor would be under and ask them to place catch basin controls.8/19/05</p> <p>- The vac truck approach is a very effective means of handling the muds. Continue to utilize consistently. 8/19/05</p>
<p>Contaminated Soils</p>	<p>- Contaminated soil is being stored and labeled separately from that considered “background polluted”. Contaminated soils are eventually brought off site to an O&G facility in Bridgeport. Water from contaminated soils are sent to frac trucks and tanks Occasionally, soils are being stored temporarily at Redding Yard until they are trucked to Bridgeport or the landfill.</p> <p>-Soils from the jacking pit have been removed as well. 8/19/05</p>	<p>- All soils appear to be handled appropriately. 8/19/05</p> <p>- It has been determined that the Redding landfill will use all soils from the roadways in Redding that are considered clean, (based on acceptable RSR levels), as daily cover.</p>
<p>Adjacent Wetlands and Waterways</p>	<p>-Additional controls continue to be installed at the Redding Yard in an effort to control the concrete washout area. Fabric was placed appropriately below the check dams to catch discharge from the outlet. Wetlands are well protected now. 8/19/05</p>	<p>- See storage yard section for more information. 8/19/05</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silt fence was toed in at the storage area off Rt. 58 but one section is still encroaching on the wetland vegetation. 8/19/05 - Repairs were made to the silt fence as recommended but it still needs to be toed in. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fence here will be pulled back to provide a limit of work back from the wetland. 8/19/05 -Toe-in the fence and continue to monitor. 8/19/05
<p>Staging, Storage, and Parking Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The concrete storage area for Rt. 7 work near the Merritt Parkway cloverleaf needs some attention. Evidence of concrete discharge was seen in the soil and leading to an inlet on Rt. 7. 8/19/05 - In Redding Town Yard, soil excavate is only temporarily stored here until it can be trucked for disposal in the O&G facility in Bridgeport or the Redding landfill. - The concrete washout here has been reinforced both at the bin and near the outlet. Controls are working well to protect the wetland but discharge still reaches the outlet. 8/19/05 - The storage area for materials, conduit and equipment at the Bethel Educational Park near the RTJ School is being dismantled as work leaves the school yard. 8/19/05 - The Mathers storage area was identified off Rt. 58 had silt fence in place as recommended but a small portion still encroaches on wetland vegetation. 8/19/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This area is used for 115kV and other O&G projects in the area. It needs to be reinforced and controlled. 8/19/05 - There are no current issues as little soil is stored here at any one time. 8/19/05 - The bin should continue to be emptied regularly to prevent overflow. The recent additional measures seem effective but are still discharging. 8/19/05 - None at this time. 8/19/05 - Silt fence should be moved back from the wetland edge to provide an effective limit of work. 8/19/05
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No species of concern are located in the areas of construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
<p>Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Many of the bare soil areas associated with vaults or trenching just at the edge of roadway have been restored with mulch. This should continue and areas should 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The D&M plan requires that disturbed areas to be left for more than 21-30 days before work returns here should be temporarily stabilized with

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	<p>be seeded as necessary. 8/19/05</p> <p>-Cleared portions of the ROW at Bethel Ed Park that will not be placed with aggregate should be restored and seeded temporarily where work is complete. Revegetation would reduce sedimentation. 8/19/05.</p>	<p>mulch or seed within 7-14 days.</p> <p>- Continue to send restoration crews out in time with D&M requirements and seed mulch areas where needed. 8/19/05.</p>
Dewatering	<p>- Almost all dewatering discharge along the route is being directed to frac trucks or tanks due to concerns about the polluted soils. 7/21-8/19/05</p>	<p>- It appears that the storage and disposal solution will continue due to concerns about the background pollutants in soils, even in those not considered contaminated. 7/21-8/19/05 It may be important to determine total daily volumes of water removal and evaluate whether this is a stress to the watershed or not a significant impact. 7/21-8/19/05</p>
Blasting	<p>- No blasting is occurring in any areas at this time.</p>	<p>- None at this time.</p>
Spills and Material Storage	<p>- The designated concrete washout corral was removed from Hoyts Hill transition structure and the one at Bethel Ed. Park will likely be removed soon. 8/19/05</p> <p>- Better controls were needed at the concrete washout area for Rt. 7 nightwork. Discharge was noted going to an inlet on the street. This should be investigated. 8/19/05</p> <p>-Leaks were not noted from the machinery during this inspection. A report of any leaks or spills that reach the ground and occur during the week should be provided to BSC from internal project inspectors 6/15-8/19/05</p> <p>- In general catch basins, inlets and swales should continue to consistently be protected</p>	<p>-Continue to make sure concrete washouts are restricted to designated areas. 8/19/05</p> <p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. Check equipment status on a regular basis and keep spill kits on hand. Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> <p>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and material containers.</p> <p>- Equipment and materials should not be stored in wooded areas unless it is designated for storage.</p>

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	especially in any area with sawcutting activities. Slurry muds are highly mobile and can reach inlets hundreds of feet away when conditions are right. The vac truck used by Rt. 7 crews at night is highly effective. 8/19/05	
Additional Observations	- A few posts and "guardrail" cable have been knocked over near #116 Gallows Hill. 8/19/05	- The existing posts are fairly worn here but some repairs/replacements should be made. 8/19/05

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday, August 25, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Inspector's Signature: Diana Walden



115 kV (Broad Street and ROW): The silt fence was repaired near the Norwalk Substation on the ROW as recommended but some areas were not appropriately toed in. 8/19/05



View of the jacking pit in preparation for the jack and bore under the railroad on Broad Street. All excavate has been trucked away and the pit is well shored. 8/19/05



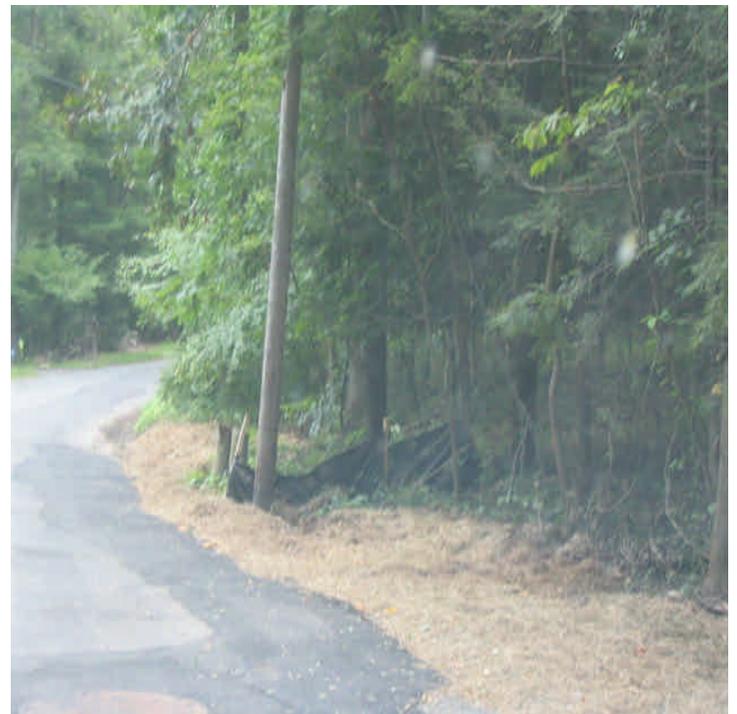
115 kV (Rt. 7 Nightwork): View of vault installation along Rt. 7. A partially exposed water main had to be supported before work could continue. 8/19/05



Photo on the left shows some slurry mud running to an unprotected catch basin near Wilton Corporate Park Work on Rt. 7 usually involves a vac truck to remove mud as it is created. This was the first observed problem. Photo on the right shows a view of the trench work. 8/19/05



115 kV (Gallows Hill Road): Photo on the left shows the initial trench work turning the corner to the overhead ROW with an inlet well protected. Photo on the right shows the installation of a caisson in the ROW. 8/19/05



Both photos show various areas along Gallows Hill where the area has been temporarily restored with straw mulch until they can be revegetated. 8/19/05



115kV (Rt. 107, Redding) Photo on the left: A well protected catch basin including filter fabric in the vicinity of slurry muds. Photo on the right: A general view of the trench work. 8/19/05



115 kV (Route 58 near Putnam Park): The storage area near the pond has silt fence installed and toed in but this particular portion encroaches on the wetland and needs to be pulled back. 8/19/05



115kV (Route 58, near Hoyts Hill- Transition Pole): The access road in to the site has been cleaned up and disturbed areas placed with mulch. Most repairs were made with a few materials left to remove. 8/19/05



115kV (Bethel Education Park): Photo on the left: Topsoil is being replaced and lawns seeded and mulched in the school yard. Photo on the right: Concrete work is underway to restore all sidewalks and berms. 8/19/05



Photo on the left: Stone was placed near the southern transition structure to help stabilize the area. Photo on the right: Much of the stockpile near the ROW was removed with a few repairs needed to the silt fence. 8/19/05



115kV (Redding Town Yard): The check dams were placed with filter fabric on the ground to catch any overflow from the concrete washout area. 8/19/05