

**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:** December 30, 2005

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** 345kV Underground Route

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 1.16” of precipitation fell mostly in the form of rain/freezing rain on 12/25-12/26 with another 0.63” on 12/29 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Vault Openings and Trench Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trenching and pipe installation, continue in several locations off Rt. 7 in Wilton including near #387. 12/30/05</li> <li>- Roadwork along Rt. 107, south of the Georgetown Deli continues and pipe is being installed along a steep slope above a bridge over the Norwalk River. 12/22-12/30/05</li> <li>- Trenching and pipe installation along Umpawaug Road has ceased until asphalt plants open. 12/30/05</li> <li>- The Horizontal Direction Drill at School Rd. issues with turbid water and the containment are still present. 12/8-12/30/05 Activity has ceased for the holidays. 12/30/05</li> <li>- Erosion control repair had occurred at the Georgetown Deli J&amp;B and dewatering continues. 12/30/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continue providing good “house- keeping” along the roadways. A few spots are ready for restoration. See additional sections for more information. 12/1-12/30/05</li> <li>-None at this time. See other sections for more information 12/22-12/30/05</li> <li>- See additional sections for more information. 12/30/05</li> <li>-Turbid water as a result of drilling needs attention here. There is a large amount of exposed surfaces as well. See additional sections for more details.12/8-12/30/05</li> <li>- This area looks mostly well contained, but see additional sections for more details. 12/30/05</li> </ul>

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	<p>- Excavation and dewatering for a vault at the Norwalk Junction site was noted.</p>	<p>-Some issues needs attention. See other sections for details. 12/30/05</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment (E&amp;S) Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event) continued</p> <p><b>Route 7</b></p>	<p>- The settling basin at the old HS J&amp;B has been backfilled as recommended. However, stone and haybales remain at the streambank and the silt fence has some large gaps. 12/22-12/30/05</p> <p>-Underwater sediment accumulation was still noted in the stream in several locations. This should be removed before spring flows disperse it downstream. 11/10-12/30/05</p> <p>- At the HDD, activities have ceased for the holiday but the detention area continues to need attention with turbid water and mud directly due to wash from the bore operation. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- Water levels in the basin are increasing and the basin was not yet cleaned out as discussed 12/22-12/30/05 (due to activities ceasing. 12/30/05)</p> <p>-A large amount of rutted and disturbed soil is present on site which can create turbid run-off and equipment access will continue to make matters worse. 12/22-12/30/05</p> <p>- Disturbed soil was also noted to the west of the basin, beyond the areas encompassed by the basin. 12/22-12/30/05.</p> <p>- Silt fence was installed across the connection to the eastern wetland but could not be toed in due to frozen ground. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- Some E&amp;S controls near the basin were degraded where the</p>	<p>- The silt fence needs to be toed in and repaired as soon as possible and the stone/haybale pile will eventually need to be removed. 12/22-12/30/05 Activity has ceased for the holidays. 12/30/05</p> <p>-The least impacting way to remove the sediment is likely by hand/shovel or vac truck. It should be done carefully and with the instream controls in place. 11/10-12/30/05</p> <p>- Mud is still escaping the bore in the area of the basin due to a lack of structure created when the area was previously excavated. 12/14-12/30/05. -It was determined that a lined area would be constructed or the mud would be excavated daily and removed to Danbury. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- We recommend placing swamp mats for equipment accessing the basin for future clean-outs or other movement on site, in order to provide additional stabilization and prevent future disturbance. If mats are not financially feasible, consider temporary stone on fabric. 12/22-12/30/05</p> <p>-Toe-in the fence as soon as there is a period of thaw to prevent run-off from the disturbed area getting to the wetland. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>-Watch and improve condition</p>



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	<p>remains well in place in several areas along swales. 12/30/05</p> <p>-Controls at Wayside Lane had some gaps and holes adjacent to the wetland. Silt fence was down near a wetland at Mallory Lane. 12/30/05</p> <p>- The work area near #79 was mulched and good controls were in place along the swale but haybales were still needed across the street at the top of the gully. 12/30/05</p>	<p>- The controls should be repaired if active work returns here. 12/230/05</p> <p>-The contractor was attempting to get some bales. 12/30/05</p>
<p>Adjacent Wetlands and Waterways</p>	<p>-At the jack and bore near Allens Meadow Park, the stream had some remaining accumulated sediment under the water which needs to be removed. 11/10-12/30/05</p> <p>-The stream at the Georgetown Deli jack and bore was running clear. 12/30/05</p> <p>- Bubbling, apparently from a ground fracture, was noted in the wetlands beyond the HDD site. An observable deposit of sediment had occurred into a channel adjacent to the Norwalk River. A line of coloration was noted. 12/14-12/30/05 (This was not yet removed due to activities ceasing) 12/30/05</p> <p>- Turbidity was noted pooled in the wetlands adjacent to the Norwalk River at Norwalk Junction. 12/30/05</p>	<p>- Hand shoveling or careful vac-truck use are likely the best solutions with instream controls in place. This needs to happen before spring rains disperse it. 10/27-12/30/05</p> <p>- Contractors state that they have been performing filter changes on a regular basis to prevent turbidity. 12/8-12/30/05</p> <p>- Contractors were to watch this spot carefully as well as clean up all deposited sediment. They were also going to install haybales at the confluence of the channel and the river. This has not been done yet. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- See erosion control section. 12/30/05</p>
<p>Staging, Storage, and Parking Areas</p>	<p>- The equipment storage yard on the property south of the Rt. 7 &amp;107 intersection was muddy but vehicles were</p>	<p>- In general, materials should be placed appropriately in storage areas or immediately adjacent to work each night.</p>

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	<p>contained. 12/30/05</p> <p>-The overall condition at School Rd. HDD area includes a lot of bare, exposed soil and turbid washwater. Stabilization is needed here for equipment movement as well. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- The racquet club storage yard has been very active with a lot of materials. Make sure inlets here are protected. 10/27-12/30/05</p> <p>- The CL&amp;P yard had a slight sag in the silt fence near the stockpile but all other controls were good. 12/30/05</p>	<p>No potentially spillable materials should be left behind or out overnight. 12/30/05</p> <p>- Take care with materials or disturbance too close to the swale by Rt.7. 12/30/05</p> <p>-Determine how to contain the area better. A lined area still needs to be created for daily excavation of the basin or it can be removed straight to Danbury. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- Keep within the limits of the yard and don't encroach into the brush. 10/27-12/30/05</p> <p>- Make sure the fence is in good shape before any thaw periods. 12/14-12/30/05</p>
Soils	<p>- Most soils adj. to roadways on the project route are being trucked to a waste facility in Danbury for storage and eventual disposal.</p> <p>- Soil piles and active trenching were no longer noted on Umpawaug Rd. 12/30/05</p> <p>- Mud will be excavated from the HDD basin to a lined area or directly transported to Danbury as a solution to the turbidity issues here. 12/14-12/30/05</p>	<p>- Soils appear to be handled appropriately. 12/30/05</p> <p>-In general, if any pile remain longer than the day, controls should be placed. 12/30/05</p> <p>- This work on containing the basin has been performed yet. 12/14-12/30/05</p>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<p>- No species of concern are located in this area of construction.</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<p>-Snow cover/frozen ground is now a factor in restoration/stabilization attempts. 12/8-12/30/05</p> <p>- Bare bank cuts were mulched near #79 Umpawaug Rd. 12/30/05</p>	<p>- Attend to disturbed areas as feasible in the appropriate time frames. 11/10-12/30/05</p>

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Dewatering	<p>-Several frac tanks are still in place at the Georgetown Deli parking lot in order to hold the water from the jack and bore pits here. They have cycled over several million gallons of water since the start of the project. 12/1-12/30/05</p> <p>- The water is filtered through the tanks, sent to a filter bag on a riprap pad and back to the stream.. 11/23-12/23005</p> <p>- Significant dewatering is required at the vault installation at Norwalk Junction. Frac tanks and filter bags were not enough o hold it all Groundwater is extremely high here. 12/30/05</p>	<p>- Continue to monitor for effectiveness. The water in the stream was running clear. 12/30/05</p> <p>- Slight turbidity occurs when filters are changed along the system but the silt fence helps to control this. 11/23-12/30/05</p> <p>- Contractors have stated that filters are being changed regularly. 12/30/05</p> <p>-See erosion control section for details and issues. 12/30/05</p>
Blasting	<p>- No blasting is occurring on site at this time.</p>	<p>- None at this time.</p>
Spills and Material Storage	<p>- The turbid washwater and sediment containment issues from the bore work are still causing issues here. 12/8-12/30/05</p> <p>- A small spill (likely from overfueling) was observed below a tank at the HDD site. Contractors have not been on site to correct this. 12/22-12/30/05</p>	<p>- The basin will be excavated of mud on a regular basis. –It has not been done yet. 12/14-12/30/05</p> <p>- Affected soil needs to be removed and if this is due to a leak, it needs repair. 12/22-12/30/05</p>

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	- In general, make sure that glues, asphalt components and other materials are stored well overnight and not left out along the roadway. 12/30/05	- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers. - 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.
Additional Observations		

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday, January 4, 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 for Don Ukers



345kV (Umpawaug Rd Daywork): No active trenching was occurring. Good controls remain along most swales. Some repairs are needed here at Wayside Lane IF active work returns. 12/30/05



345kV (Georgetown Deli Jack and Bore): Photo shows the bore pit adjacent to the stream. Additional haybales were recommended here. 12/30/05



Photo on the left shows where the silt fence at the dewatering outlet was being repaired. The stream was running clear. Photo on the right shows a view of the pit which is currently being backfilled and moving towards completion. 12/30/05



345kV (Storage Area) Equipment is contained but the surface of the yard is muddy due to thaw periods. 12/30/05



345kV (HDD School Rd.) The photo shows a view of the settling basin, still receiving turbid water and mud. Work or corrective actions were not occurring at the time due to the holidays. 12/30/05



Additional view of the turbid water and disturbed soil surfaces on site. 12/30/05



345kV (Vault Installation-Norwalk Junction) Photo on the right show a number of good controls in place to filter dewatering discharge- including fabric lining the swale, filter bags and haybales. A filter bag had previously broken, resulting in this additional turbidity. 12/30/05



Photo on the left shows the turbid water continuing down the swale where some site run-off may also have contributed. The photo on the right is a view of the turbidity in the wetland adjacent to the Norwalk River. It is difficult to completely separate out the portion of the turbidity resulting from the 345kV work and what was a result of run-off/erosion from the site and the soil swale. From these photos however, it seems the broken filter bag had certainly contributed. 12/30/05