

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 8, 2005

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane)

Storm/

Rain Event: Very little significant precipitation has been recorded since the last inspection with 0.11” in the form of snow/freezing rain on 12/4 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p>Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ROW is accessible from Gallows Hill Road by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, and the access road passing through the Archers Lane substation. 12/8/05 - With the cold weather and snow, access roads and ROW were more frozen/stable. 12/8/05 - An access road had also been cleared from the ROW into the structure adjacent to Archers Lane. 12/8/05 -The silt fence at some of the low spot/wetland crossings along the ROW may need to be extended or repaired, although, areas noted last week are now frozen over. 12/8/05. - Silt fence near Archers Lane that was down last week has been repaired. 12/8/05 - Sediment was not noted on adjacent roadways. 12/8/05. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Most roads are in good shape and freezing conditions actually temporarily help the situation. Sedimentation is not an issue in most locations at this time but continue to monitor. 12/8/05 - With freezing and thawing periods likely, mats should be considered to prevent ruts and create more stable conditions. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, it will have to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8/05 - The wetland areas will be restored when all work in this section is completed as this is considered temporary access. See erosion control section for more detail. 12/8/05. -None at this time. 12/8/05 - Continue to monitor for any issues and streetsweep when necessary. 12/8/05

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<p>Foundation construction</p>	<p>-All poles were in place along the ROW. Riser work was complete on the structure nearest Gallows Hill Road. And scaffolding had been removed. 12/8/05.</p> <p>-Foundation work was ongoing for the structure adjacent to Archers Lane. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- Crews were working on pulling rope between the pole structures in preparation for line/cable pulling. 12/8/05</p>	<p>-None at this time. 12/8/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- None at this time. 12/8/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 12/8/05</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event) Erosion and Sediment Controls</p>	<p>-Water had been flowing around and/or underneath the silt fence, leading to turbidity in some of the low wetland crossing areas. Silt fence should be extended in areas where pooled water is reaching beyond the limits of the fence. All silt fence should be checked to be sure it is still toed in properly. 12/01-12/8/05.</p> <p>- The ROW and roads had been very muddy but have frozen to some degree. 12/8/05</p> <p>- The 2nd structure in from Gallows Hill has had a bare soil stockpile/slope adjacent to the wetland with controls still well in place. 11/23-12/8/05.</p> <p>-On the Archers Lane side of the ROW, a vehicle had disturbed the soil and vegetation on the edge of the access road. 12/1-12/8/05.</p> <p>- Sediment, which is likely turbid dewatering from an excavation, had been placed at</p>	<p>- The silt fence should be extended, towed in, and/or repaired as necessary. When maintained, the silt fence does a very good job of keeping turbid water out of the wetlands. These areas are frozen at this point but the controls should be prepared for thaw periods. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- Mats may be necessary to stabilize the access road for equipment movement during thaw periods. 12/8/05</p> <p>- It should be confirmed whether this disturbed area still exists on site. If so, the area should be regraded, pulled back from the fence, and restored when feasible. 12/1-12/8/05</p> <p>-The ruts should be repaired and silt fence may be needed along the edge of disturbance. It may be difficult to see repairs to this area with snow cover. 12/1-12/8/05.</p> <p>- It just needs to be confirmed that the sediment has been</p>

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	<p>the top of slope but had drained to a wetland area. This is located off the left fork of the access path to the ROW coming from the Archers Lane station. 11/17-12/8/05</p> <p>- Silt fence was in place around several stockpiles on the ROW as well as near the base of some foundation slopes. Almost all are in upland locations. 12/1-12/8/05.</p> <p>- Tarp/basins used either for concrete washouts or dewatering the foundations had been noted on the ROW near Gallows Hill and another on the Archers Lane side. 11/17/05-12/8/05.</p>	<p>scraped up and removed as best feasible. Control all dewatering discharge especially near wetlands. 12/8/05</p> <p>- It should be confirmed whether the stockpiles still exist on site. If so, silt fence should be maintained until they are removed. 12/1-12/8/05</p> <p>-It is likely these have been removed from the ROW as current work is structure related. 12/8/05</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p>	<p>-The D&M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings has worked well, but the wetland near Archers Lane had received some turbid water last week. The area is now frozen over. Continue to toe in and/or extend the fence as necessary. 12/8/05</p> <p>-There was what appears to be excavation-dewatering discharge that drained to a wetland area off the left fork access road near Archers Lane. 11/17-12/8/05</p>	<p>-The crossings have been used consistently. As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 12/8/05. Extend and/or toe in areas of silt fence where necessary to prevent additional turbidity during thaw periods. 12/8/05</p> <p>-It just needs to be confirmed that all solid sediment was contained and removed. 11/17-12/8/05</p>
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>- This particular portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-12/8/05.</p> <p>-The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since the first sighting and are likely in the process of hibernating. 12/8/05.</p>	<p>-Crews had been doing daily sweeps for any turtles in the work areas and noting the results of their efforts on daily construction reports although turtles would no longer be active. 12/8/05</p>

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Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearing at the Archers Lane/ROW edge was done by CL&P for the recently approved access road to a new structure to be constructed just off the station yard. This area has been stabilized with hay mulch. 11/2-12/8/05 - Accidental disturbance to vegetation occurred in a small area off the access road last week due to equipment movement. 12/1-12/8/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extend erosion controls here if necessary. 12/8/05 - Repair and restore the area. This may be difficult to see during snow cover. 12/8/05
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very few, if any activities remain that would potentially require dewatering with the possible exception of the foundation installation near Archers Lane. 12/8/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. 12/8/05
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 12/8/05. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -None at this time. 12/8/05.
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No further spills or drips were noted at this inspection. 12/8/05 - With the large number of trucks parked on the ROW near Gallows Hill, be observant of potential leaks/maintenance issues. 12/8/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling. Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.
Additional Observations		

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Wednesday December 14, 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



View of the structure off Gallows Hill where scaffolding has been removed and structure work is complete for now. Photo on the right shows the line trucks parked here and a small sand pile covered with tarp.
12/8/05



Photo is a general view looking along the access road on the ROW at the installed structures. 12/8/05



View of the crews pulling rope between the pole structures in preparation for line/cable pull work. 12/8/05

Photo on the left shows the low spot/wetland crossing near Archers Lane where turbid water had pooled



through to the wetland. It is currently frozen over. Photo on the right shows the pole foundation installation on going, adjacent to the transition station. 12/8/05