

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: April 26, 2006

Inspector: Diana Walden

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane, 345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

Storm/

Rain Event: Approximately 3.6" of rain was recorded over 4/22-4/23 as reported by NOAA. However, there were local, unconfirmed reports of over 5".

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways Composite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Composite ROW work is accessible from Gallows Hill Rd by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, an access road passing through the Archers Lane substation, and an area cleared from the station to the ROW. 4/26/06. - Clearing was occurring past Archers Lane. Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-4/26/06. - Water levels at the 2nd wetland crossing on the access road at Archers Lane have remained below problem levels. 4/26/06. - A skidder had slipped off the road into the 3rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If necessary, additional measures for stability should be considered for access needs. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, they will need to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8-4/26/06. -See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 4/26/06. - Continue to monitor. 4/26/06. - The damage should be repaired at the 3rd wetland. See erosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -N/A until evaluation at the end of work. -Needs attention -N/A at this time -Needs attention

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
345kV H-Frame	<p>wetland area 2/16/06. Haybales had been placed but ruts in the wetland remain. 3/9-4/26/06.</p> <p>- Other work areas are accessed from Hoyts Hill, Chestnut Ridge Rd, the Bethel Res. water plant road, Lime Kiln Rd, Whortleberry Rd, John Todd Way and Costa Lane. Wood chips were placed along a majority of the access roads. 3/29-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Stone dust is used on the access roads at Costa Lane and John Todd Way. 3/2-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Mats are in place in the wetland locations in all of the H-frame sections. Watch the crossings for muddy conditions and monitor erosion controls. 2/22-4/26/06.</p> <p>- The mat bridge between poles #10-11 for access to bring in the poles remains in good shape. 4/26/06.</p> <p>-Ruts were noted in the access road due to heavy equipment. 4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>control section for more details. 2/16- 4/26/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor the conditions of all access roads. If muddy conditions re-occur, place more wood chips or consider installing silt fence as needed. 4/26/06.</p> <p>- Continue to monitor for muddy conditions and repair controls when necessary. 4/26/06.</p> <p>- The streambed and water main remain protected. 3/23-4/26/06.</p> <p>-This should be restored eventually. 4/26/06</p>	<p>- N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>-N/A at this time</p>
Norwalk Section	<p>- Stone dust access roads are in place to the south of Perry Ave and north of Broad St. 4/6-4/26/06</p> <p>- Stone was placed in the ROW to the south of Broad St. 4/19-4/26/06</p> <p>-Work to the north of Perry Ave is also</p>	<p>- Controls are in place. 4/26/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 4/26/06</p> <p>- None at this time. 4/26/06</p>	<p>- N/A at this time</p> <p>- N/A</p> <p>-N/A</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	accessed off the recently paved cul-de-sac at April Ln. 4/26/06		
Foundation construction Composite	-The only current work in this section is related to clearing beyond Archers Lane and counter-poising near the transition pole at Gallows Hill 4/26/06.	-See erosion control and clearing sections. 4/26/06.	-N/A
345kV H-Frame	-Pole #11 was actively being installed in the Bethel Res section. All poles are in place in the Chestnut Ridge section. Blocks have been installed in preparation for pulling lines 4/26/06.	- None at this time. 4/26/06.	-N/A
	- No active work was noted in the Costa Lane section. 4/26/06.	-None at this time. 4/26/06	-N/A
	-Temporary wooden rider or guard poles were being installed at most roadways. 4/26/06	-None at this time. 4/26/06	-N/A
Norwalk Section	- Foundation pouring and drilling continues near Broad St. and a foundation cage was being installed at structure #11078. 4/26/06	-See erosion controls section for more information. 4/26/06.	-N/A
	- Foundations are complete off of Perry Ave and Arrowhead Road. and old structures are being removed. 4/26/06.	-See erosion controls section for more information. 4/26/06	-N/A
Erosion and Sediment Controls	- Water levels appear to remain below problem levels at the 2 nd wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road even with the recent rain 4/26/06.	- None at this time. 4/26/06.	-N/A
Composite			

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<p>Erosion controls continued</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Chestnut Ridge Section</p> <p>Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silt fence had contained sediment from run-off down the access road but erosion was noted here. 4/26/06 - A skidder had slipped off the road into the 3rd wetland area. Haybales had been placed but ruts in the wetland remain. 3/2-4/26/06. - Efforts need to continue to remove sediment accumulation near the 1st Archers Lane area wetland. 4/6-4/26/06. - Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-4/26/06. Another area with deep wood chips off the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane. 3/15-4/26/06. -The majority of the pile at structure#6 has been removed but soil remains encroaching on wetlands 4/12-4/26/06. - The silt fence by structure #9 should remain maintained in this area. 4/6-4/26/06. - Silt fence and mats remain in place in a number of locations in this section. 4/6-4/26/06. - Mats remain well in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continue to monitor and install more controls if necessary. 4/26/06 - Damage to the wetland should be repaired. 2/16-4/26/06. - In areas where sediment is substantial and feasibly removable, contractors will continue to take it out carefully by hand. 4/12-4/26/06. -Make sure chips stay on the ROW. Contractors should remove the off ROW chips since this is not allowed in the D&M plan. 2/22-4/26/06. - Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out. 4/6-4/26/06. - Remove the soil here as soon as conditions can support this without further impact. 2/22-4/26/06. - Continue to monitor and maintain silt fence here until the area is stabilized. 4/6-4/26/06. - Continue to monitor for any muddy conditions or need for repairs. All observed controls remain in good condition. 4/6-4/26/06. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A at this time - Still needs attention -May be transition station jurisdiction - CL&P is looking into a solution here. Still needs attention -Still needs attention -N/A at the time -N/A

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<p>Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way</p>	<p>place over the stream between poles #10-11. Erosion controls remain well installed at the “corners” and along the second wet area. 3/29-4/26/06.</p>	<p>- None at this time. Continue to monitor this area due to heavy use and maintain as needed. 4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>- N/A.</p>
	<p>-Mats are in place at the wetland crossing in the vicinity of pole #29. 3/2-4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to monitor the crossing for increasing muddy conditions and install silt fence as needed. 3/2-4/26/06.</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p>
	<p>-Sediment had piled against silt fence at several locations and it was pulled back and reinforced prior to the inspection. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to monitor the erosion controls. Proactive measures were taken. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>Appropriate proactive measures were taken to clean out silt fence</p>
	<p>-Dewatering corrals were in good shape at poles #24 and 25 and no impacts were noted 4/26/06.</p>	<p>- Monitor carefully due to its proximity to the wetland. 3/9-4/26/06 See dewatering for more info</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p>
<p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>- A washout was noted in the silt fence near pole #25 from road runoff.</p>	<p>- Repair silt fence in this spot. 4/26/06</p>	<p>- Controls were to be repaired the following day</p>
	<p>- Repairs were made to the silt fence at the foundations south of Perry Ave due to flood damage. The silt fence remained in good repair at the time of inspection. 4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to maintain the silt fence in this area and utilize it as a limit of work due to the proximity of the channel. The previously dry channel was flowing high. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Appropriate repairs were made prior to the inspection.</p>
	<p>- Silt fence remained in place at several locations north of Broad St. The silt fence adjacent to the river had been washed out due to flooding. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Repair and continue to maintain fence due to its proximity to resource areas. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>- Fence will be repaired when water recedes</p>
	<p>- The silt fence adjacent to structure #974 /11078</p>	<p>- Fence should be restored as soon as feasible.</p>	<p>- To be restored when active work is complete</p>

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	<p>off Brad St had been removed due to limited workspace for foundation cage installation. 4/26/06</p> <p>-The silt fence was repaired in the area off Arrowhead Road and sediment pulled back. Haybales were installed for reinforcement. 4/26/06.</p> <p>- Tree clearing south of Broad St near the substation resulted in logs down on top of the silt fence. The logs have been removed but the slit fence remains in disrepair. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>4/26/06</p> <p>- Continue to maintain the silt fence in this area. 4/26/06.</p> <p>-Fence should be repaired prior to the start of work. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>-Sediment was pulled back and the silt fence reinforced.</p> <p>- Needs attention</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p> <p>Composite</p>	<p>-The D&M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings have worked well. Efforts were made near Archers Lane to start removing some accumulated sediment. 4/6-4/26/06.</p> <p>- Direct damage was noted in the wetland at the 3rd crossing as a result of equipment slipping. 2/16-4/26/06.</p> <p>- The 1st wetland crossing has the most noticeable sediment deposits and this needs to be removed. 4/6-4/26/06.</p> <p>- Use caution in clearing trees from wetland areas. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 3/29-4/26/06.</p>	<p>- As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 1/26-4/26/06.</p> <p>- The damage to the 3rd wetland should be repaired. 4/26/06.</p> <p>- The crossing could also use some clean stone if necessary which may help reduce additional sediment deposits. 1/4-4/6-4/26/06.</p> <p>- Retain shrubs and low growth as much as possible. 3/2-4/26/06.</p> <p>- If damage is noted during the spring, the previously created ruts should be repaired if</p>	<p>-N/A until evaluated at the end of work.</p> <p>-Still needs attention</p> <p>-This may be AL jurisdiction</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>- Use caution in removing trees from wetland areas or adjacent to streams in this section as well. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 1/19-4/26/06.</p> <p>- At structure #6, most of the mud was removed from the wetland and they will continue to do so. 4/6-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Foundations being installed are adjacent to wetlands and waterbodies but most controls are in good shape even following the recent Norwalk River flooding. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>possible. 3/9/06-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Carefully remove brush piles and trees from near wetland areas. 3/2-4/26/06.</p> <p>- Continue to remove entire pile. Conditions may be too muddy at this time. 2/16-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Repairs were made prior to the inspection where needed. None at this time. 4/26/06</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>-Still needs some attention</p> <p>-Repairs were made</p>
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-4/26/06.</p> <p>-The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since the first sighting but is likely emerging from hibernation. 4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>- Now that weather is warmer, it is time to recommence daily walkthroughs prior to work in this area. 4/6-4/26/06.</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p>
<p>Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)</p> <p>Composite</p>	<p>- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other shrubs. 3/2-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Piles of large branches and excess brush in the upland area of ROW between the 2nd and 3rd structure off Gallows Hill were removed. 4/19-</p>	<p>-In general, take care in retaining shrubs and use mats to access or skid out trees from wetlands. 2/22-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Replace shrubs where necessary. 4/26/06</p> <p>-None at this time. Limbs and debris can remain in the wetland as well as within a “buffer” of ~30 feet on either side.</p>	<p>-Piles were removed, and woody debris was left near the wetland</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>4/26/06.</p> <p>- A significant amount of chips were blown off the ROW into the upland and also along the wetland edge at the 3rd structure off Gallows Hill. These areas are off property. 2/22-4/26/06.</p> <p>-This was also noted several structures past Archers Lane. 3/15-4/26/06.</p> <p>-Clearing had been occurring along the ROW past Archers Lane but not at the time of inspection. 4/26/06.</p> <p>-Cleared trees were stockpiled near Chestnut Ridge Rd and were being removed. 4/26/06.</p> <p>-In all sections make efforts to retain shrubs, especially in wetland areas. Efforts have been noted in some areas but could have improved in others. 3/15-4/26/06.</p> <p>-The ROW areas near Broad Street and Perry Ave have been cleared. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>4/26/06.</p> <p>- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-4/26/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-4/26/06.</p> <p>- To avoid wetland damage, trees here will be sheared from the access road and felled out of the water. 3/15-4/26/06</p> <p>-None at this time. 4/26/06</p> <p>-Keep clearing to what is necessary. The D&M plan states low growing shrubs can remain. 12/22-4/26/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 4/26/06.</p>	<p>- CL&P is looking into this. Still needs attention</p> <p>- CL&P proposed the work under these specs.</p> <p>- Trees are being removed from the ROW</p> <p>-N/A</p>
<p>Dewatering</p>	<p>-Dewatering corrals had been constructed at structures 24 & 25 located off Lime Kiln Road and John Todd Way. Corrals were placed directly upgradient of the wetland areas due to topography and limited workspace.</p>	<p>-Monitor the dewatering activities at structures #24 and 25 in order to avoid impacting the adjacent wetland areas. If corrals are not functioning properly an alternative method, such as filter bags, will need to be used immediately in</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p>

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	<p>No problems with dewatering were noted during the inspection. 4/19-4/26/06.</p> <p>- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the remaining structures 4/26/06.</p>	<p>these areas.</p> <p>- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 4/26/06.</p>	-N/A at this time
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 4/26/06.	-None at this time. 4/26/06.	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	-None of the parked or active equipment was leaking at the time of inspection. 3/15-4/26/06.	<p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site</p> <p>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> <p>- Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands.</p> <p>Use proper storage for all materials.</p>	-N/A
Additional Observations			

Next likely scheduled inspection: Thursday May 4, 2006

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



(Composite Section-Archers Lane): Photo on the left shows a view of silt fence holding back sediment from the wetland along the access road. Photo on the right shows a view of the crossing where water levels remain below problem levels, even following the recent rains. 4/26/06



Photo on the left shows a view of some clearing in the ROW beyond Archers Lane. Photo on the right shows the ROW off Gallows Hill where some woody debris had been removed. 4/26/06.



(345kV H-Frame): Photo on the left shows the last pole (#11) being set at the Bethel Res. section. Photo on the right shows a view along the ROW here where poles are in place. The blocks are also installed in preparation for pulling lines. 4/26/06.



Photo on the left shows another view along the ROW. Photo on the right shows a view of the silt fence repaired near structure #19. 4/26/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the ROW where the mats were installed over the stream and water main. Work was occurring at structure #11 in the background. Photo on the right shows removal of cleared trees from the Chestnut Ridge section. Rider/guard poles are installed at the roadways. 4/26/06.



Photo on the left shows structure #1 in place, looking out towards Hoyts Hill. Photo on the right shows where the recent rains caused a small washout of the silt fence by structure #25. 4/26/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the wetland between structures #24-25. Dewatering controls and the silt fence held up well through the recent rain. Photo on the right shows where silt fence was repaired and haybales were installed. 4/26/06



(Norwalk Section) Photo on the left shows where clearing had occurred from the ROW to Norwalk Substation. Photo on the right shows where the silt fence was pulled down by the flooded river it will be repaired when the area dries out. 4/26/06



Perry Ave: Photo on the left shows where clearing had occurred along the ROW. Arrowhead Rd.: Photo on the right shows where the usually dry channel was flowing beyond the foundation. The silt fence held up well and was restored. 4/26/06



Photo on the left shows a foundation cage being installed within the foundation north of Broad St. Photo on the right shows where sediment was pulled back and silt fence repaired off Arrowhead Rd. 4/26/06