

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 22, 2006

Inspector: David Stowe

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: Depending on location, between 0.13-0.66" of rain was recorded over 8/19- 8/20, with possibly higher localized totals as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd by an existing trail path with a swing gate, and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station. 8/22/06. -Most steep slopes have erosion in the stone dust.	- 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. 12/8/05-8/22/06.	-Not Applicable (N/A) until evaluation at the end of work.
Composite	- Active clearing was not noted past Archers Lane. Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-8/22/06.	-See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 8/22/06.	- Still needs attention.
	- Even with the recent repairs, erosion on the access road has caused stone to spill over the silt fence further down-gradient. 8/17-8/22/06.	-This is adjacent to the 2 nd wetland crossing and will have to be pulled back and repaired again. 8/17-8/22/06.	- Needs attention (even following recent repairs).
345kV H-Frame	- Work areas are accessed from Hoyts Hill, Chestnut Ridge Rd, Webb Rd, Lime Kiln Rd,	-Continue to monitor the conditions of all access roads. If muddy conditions re-occur, place	- N/A at this time

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<p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>Whortleberry Rd, John Todd Way and Costa Lane. 3/29-8/22/06.</p> <p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion continues, even with the haybales in place. 7/19-8/22/06. Reese is storing equipment between structure #30 and #31. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Controls at Bethel water building were in good shape. However, Webb Rd has received significant storm run-off from Nashville Rd ext. 7/12-8/22/06.</p> <p>- At Kent Rd (north) sediment tracking was not noted on the street. 7/19-8/22/06.</p> <p>-Mats remain in good shape over the wetlands in this section. 8/22/06</p> <p>-Several wetlands are matted to the south of Kent Rd. Haybales were placed at the wash out areas along the access road, where silt fence was difficult to maintain. 8/22/06.</p>	<p>more wood chips or consider installing silt fence as needed. 8/22/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-8/22/06</p> <p>- Flow from Webb Rd during rain events is not project related but it is washing out the road with each storm 7/5-8/22/06</p> <p>- Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed 7/19-8/22/06</p> <p>- None at this time. 8/22/06</p> <p>- Continue to maintain the erosion controls at the areas that continuously wash out. 7/12-8/22/06</p>	<p>-Area was regraded but look into permanent solutions.</p> <p>- Evaluate road condition</p> <p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>- Hay bales were placed at the wash out areas. The remaining silt fence is in good condition.</p>
<p>Line Construction Composite</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p>	<p>- No active work was noted in the Archers Lane ROW section this week. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- No active work was noted in the Costa Lane or Chestnut Hill Road ROW sections this week. Danger tree removal</p>	<p>- None at this time. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- None at this time 8/22/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>- N/A</p>

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<p>Norwalk Section</p> <p>Line Construction continued</p>	<p>appears to be complete in these areas. 8/22/06.</p> <p>-Old tower foundations were being removed from the ROW at Broad Street and Kent Road south. All old concrete is currently contained in dumpsters and will be removed from site when the work is complete. 8/22/06</p> <p>- Crews continue to pull wire in several locations in the Kent Rd to the north and south. Wire pulling also continues at North Seir Road 8/17-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Crews were also performing wire work in both sections near Perry Ave. 8/22/06.</p> <p>-Although wire pulling was complete near John Todd Way, reels were stored at #11024. 8/22/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/22/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>- N/A</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>-N/A</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p>Composite</p>	<p>- Although controls upgradient of the 2nd wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road were repaired, additional run-off caused stone to pile over the fence again. 8/17-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-8/22/06. Another area with deep wood chips off</p>	<p>- Controls should be maintained as necessary and the stone has to be pulled back from the wetland. More permanent measures will be needed. 8/17-822/06.</p> <p>-Make sure chips stay on the ROW. Contractors should remove the off ROW chips since this is not allowed in the D&M plan. 2/22-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>-Still needs attention (CL&P is looking into a solution here)</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.</p> <p>Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way</p> <p>Norwalk Section</p> <p>Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.</p>	<p>the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane. 3/15-8/22/06.</p> <p>- An old stockpile was noted at a structure before Rt 53 off Gallows Hill. 5/17-8/22/06</p> <p>- The controls at structure #34 off Gallows Hill remain in good shape but the surrounding area is bare of vegetation 8/22/06.</p> <p>-The majority of the pile at structure#6 has been removed but soil remains encroaching on wetlands 4/12-8/22/06.</p> <p>-The area surrounding structure #9 has re-vegetated. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Ruts and disturbance remain in the wetland between poles #10-11. although vegetation is increasing. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Areas near structures #24-25 remain bare of vegetation. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion had returned despite the haybales. 7/19-8/22/06</p> <p>- The area near pole #11078 remains fairly bare of vegetation 8/17-8/22/06.</p>	<p>depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out. 4/6-8/22/06.</p> <p>-Make sure that restoration occurs in previously disturbed areas and that materials are removed and not forgotten in place. 5/17-8/22/06</p> <p>- The area should be restored and vegetated-even if it is temporarily. 6/14-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Remove the remaining soil in this area. 2/22-8/22/06.</p> <p>-Silt fence can likely be removed in this area. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Haybales should be placed across the ROW to prevent sedimentation and help discourage access. 5/17-8/22/06</p> <p>- Revegetate the areas ASAP to reduce run-off. 8/9-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Keep all stone/sediment from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-8/22/06</p> <p>-This area should be restored/seeded even if temporarily since this area washes out regularly 7/19-8/22/06.</p>	<p>- Needs attention when feasible</p> <p>- Needs attention when feasible.</p> <p>- Needs attention when feasible</p> <p>-Vegetative cover was restored</p> <p>- Needs attention (even though the majority of the damage is not project related.)</p> <p>-Silt fence was repaired.</p> <p>-Continue to evaluate. The area was regraded</p> <p>-N/A</p>

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<p>All Sections</p>	<p>they will continue to do so. 4/6-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Non project related vehicles had not returned to the wetland between #10-11 but damage remains. Vegetative growth has increased 8/17-8/22/06.</p> <p>-If a wetland is being used as amphibian breeding habitat, retaining some wood debris at its boundaries may be beneficial. 3/2-8/22/06.</p>	<p>- Haybales should be added across the access road on both side of the wetland to reduce sedimentation. 5/25-8/22/06.</p> <p>-Carefully remove brush piles and trees from near wetland areas. 3/2-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Watch this near the pooled area on the new ROW section</p>	<p>-Needs attention (the majority of disturbance is from non project related vehicles)</p> <p>-N/A</p>
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-8/22/06.</p> <p>-An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure #7 in the Chestnut Ridge Rd section on 6/14/06.</p>	<p>- Now that weather is warmer, daily walkthroughs should be occurring prior to any work in the area. 4/6-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-8/22/06.</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</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. 3/2-8/22/06.</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. 2/22-8/17/06.</p> <p>-This was also noted several structures past Archers Lane. 3/15-8/22/06.</p>	<p>-In general, take care in retaining shrubs and use mats to access or skid out trees from wetlands. 2/22-8/22/06.</p> <p>-Replace shrubs where necessary. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-8/22/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-8/22/06.</p>	<p>-Needs attention when feasible</p> <p>- Still needs attention CL&P is looking into this.</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>-Clearing was not actively occurring along the ROW past Archers Lane but may occur soon. 8/17-8/22/06.</p> <p>- Clearing of danger trees appears to be complete at Chestnut Ridge and Costa Lane. 8/22/06.</p> <p>-The majority of additional the danger tree clearing/ log removal appears to be complete, but additional efforts may be needed. 8/22/06.</p>	<p>- To avoid wetland damage, trees here will be sheared from the access road and felled out of the water. 3/15-8/22/06</p> <p>-None at this time. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- Be extremely careful to retain shrubs and vegetation where feasible. 5/25-8/22/06.</p>	<p>- CL&P proposed the work under these specs.</p> <p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</p>
Dewatering	<p>- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection. 8/22/06.</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. 3/9-8/22/06.</p>	-N/A at this time
Blasting	<p>-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 8/22/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/22/06.</p>	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	<p>-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 8/22/06.</p> <p>- In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 8/22/06</p>	<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. Use proper storage for all materials.</p>	
Additional Observations			

**Next likely scheduled
inspection:**

Wednesday August 30, 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 for David Stowe



(Composite Section): Photo on the left shows a view of the silt fence in need of repair near the second wetland crossing along the access road past Archers Lane. Photo on the right shows where stone continues to erode and wash off the access road. 8/22/06



(345kV H-Frame): Photo on the left shows a view of the first wetland crossing in the Bethel Reservoir ROW Section. The majority of this area has re-vegetated and erosion controls remain intact. Photo on the right shows a view of the revegetated area at structure #11009. Silt fence could be removed 8/22/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of structure #11024 off John Todd Way. The area adjacent to the silt fence has revegetated, but the majority of the area around the structure remains bare. Photo on the right shows a view of structure #11024 from Lime Kiln Road. 8/22/06.



Photo on the left shows the area between structure #11030 and #11031 where Reese is storing equipment. Photo on the right shows repairs were made at the access drive near structure #11031 at Costa Lane. Erosion tends to be a problem here 8/22/06.



(Norwalk Section): The photo on the left shows a crew pulling wire at structure #11048. Photo on the right shows repairs were made to the silt fence at structure #11051. 8/22/06.



Photo on the left shows a crew dead-ending wire at structure #11072. Photo on the right shows a crew clipping wire at structure #11076. 8/22/06.



Photo on the left shows a crew removing old foundations at structure #11079. Photo on the right shows the dumpsters used to store the debris before it is removed from site during similar work near structure #11062. 8/22/06.



Both photos show silt fence repairs at structure #11080 near Norwalk substation. Photo on the left shows the rope used to help reinforce the silt fence on the bank of the Norwalk River. Restore this area with vegetation soon in order to reduce the reliance on the silt fence. 8/22/06.