

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: September 29, 2006

Inspector: Diana Walden, Lee Curtis, BSC Group

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: No recent precipitation data was available from NOAA at the time of inspection. Reporting appears to have been interrupted and incomplete for the month of September

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways Composite	<p>- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Restoration work is nearly complete within the Archers Lane ROW and access road. Stone crossings and temporary mats have been removed from wetland crossings and disturbed areas re-graded to original conditions and hay mulch and seed applied. 9/29/06. See Erosion Control Section for more detail.</p> <p>-Water bars were constructed in the access road near the first wetland crossing to divert water flow and decrease the potential for erosion within the road. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p> <p>-Continue to monitor until stabilized. Replace remaining silt fence with haybales or remove fence when the area revegetates. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Place haybales at the downgradient outlet of each water bar to prevent sediment flow to the wetland until this area is stabilized. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p> <p>-All wetland crossings have been re-graded to original conditions, seeded and mulched with hay.</p> <p>- Water bars were constructed within the road to decrease the potential for erosion.</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
345kV H-Frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The wood chip pile has been raked out to a more appropriate depth in the area between structures #43-44 and near #42. Wood chips have been spread along the ROW in previous work areas. 9/22-9/29/06. - The road was regraded to reduce erosion. Water bars were constructed to divert flow and reduce erosion. 9/29/06. -The stone crossing remains at the wetland crossing near structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. 9/29/06. - Work areas are accessed from various roadways. Restoration is nearing completion in this section. Most wetland crossings still have mats in place. 9/29/06. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Some chips remain off ROW due to the potential damage that could be caused removing them. 9/22-9/29/06. -Continue to monitor until stabilized. 9/29/06. - Restore in a similar manner to the work at Archers Lane. 9/29/06. -Continue restoration and replace silt fence with haybales in appropriate locations. Remove mats when restoration activities are nearing completion. 9/29/06. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration efforts noted. Wood chips were spread in the work areas - Water bars were constructed to divert flow and reduce erosion. -Needs attention. -Restoration is underway
Norwalk Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erosion continues along the access road near structure #31 but haybales seem to be containing sediment. 7/19-9/29/06. - No sediment tracking was noted in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north this week. There was no active work here at the time of inspection. 9/29/06. -It appears that restoration activities have not yet begun in the Kent Road north section of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-9/29/06. - Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed. 7/19-9/29/06. - Continue restoration and clean up in previously disturbed areas. Restore as near as possible to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Needs evaluation. -NA - Needs attention

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	<p>ROW. Mats remain in the wetlands in this section. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Restoration activities have begun in the Kent Rd south section. Wetland crossings remain matted. Haybales and silt fence at the wash out areas are deteriorating. 9/20-9/29/06.</p> <p>-A number of sections within the southern portion of the route have been gated and locked as restoration is supposedly complete 9/29/06.</p>	<p>original conditions. 9/29/06</p> <p>- Maintain hay bales at wash out areas until this area is stabilized. Remove mats from wetland areas when restoration activities are nearing completion. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Continue to restore any remaining areas.9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-Needs confirmation</p>
<p>Line Construction Composite</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Norwalk Section</p>	<p>- Line work is complete within the Archers Lane and Gallows Hill ROW sections. Restoration activities continue in this section. 9/20-9/29/06.</p> <p>- Line work is complete within the Bethel Reservoir, Chestnut Ridge, John Todd Way, and Costa Lane ROW sections. Restoration efforts continue. 9/20-9/29/06.</p> <p>-Wire pulling is complete and all rider poles have been removed in this section. 9/13-9/29/06.</p> <p>-All old foundations and concrete dumpsters have been removed from this section. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-An unused (saved) structure and steel components are being stored near structure</p>	<p>- None at this time. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and ensure that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/29/06</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Remove unused materials from the ROW. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Restoration at Archers Lane is largely complete</p> <p>- Restoration efforts noted.</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-NA</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	#11073 off Perry Ave. 9/29/06.		
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p>Composite</p>	<p>- Stone crossings and mats were removed from all wetland crossings along the Archers Lane access road to the extent feasible. The disturbed areas were re-graded to original contours and hydrology. Seed and hay mulch were applied to adjacent areas. 9/29/06</p> <p>- Water bars were constructed to divert flow in several locations and reduce erosion. Haybale check dams were also installed within the road as a temporary erosion control measure. Adjacent work areas were mulched with hay or covered with wood chips. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-9/29/06.</p> <p>- Disturbed areas within the ROW off Gallows Hill Road have been seeded and mulched, and are beginning to re-vegetate. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-The stone crossing remains at the wetland crossing near structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts</p>	<p>- Wetlands crossings are in good shape. Remove silt fence once vegetation returns (or replace with haybales). Some areas are grandfathered from original access road installation. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Place hay bales at the down-gradient outlets of the water bars to prevent sediment flow to the wetland while this area is stabilizing. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out, including areas immediately off the ROW. 4/6-9/29/06.</p> <p>- Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and ensure that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Restore in a similar manner to the work at Archers Lane. 9/29/06</p> <p>-Continue to remove</p>	<p>-Restoration is nearing completion.</p> <p>-Water bars were constructed to divert flow and reduce erosion</p> <p>-Needs similar attention as at Archers Lane.</p> <p>- Grass growth was noted in seeded areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention.</p> <p>-Grass growth noted in</p>
345kV H-Frame			

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Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.	<p>(seed and mulch) are nearly complete along the ROW in the Bethel Reservoir and Chestnut Ridge Road. Grass growth is noted in most seeded areas. Mats still need to be removed. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-The area around structure #9 had re-vegetated, but a new area of disturbance remains up-gradient of the pole 8/30-9/29/06.</p> <p>- The area adjacent to pole #10 has been restored but some tracking was noted in the restored area. 9/13-9/29/06.</p>	<p>access roads and monitor. Active removal was noted in the Chestnut Ridge Section. 9/29/06</p> <p>-The exposed soil should be restored and vegetated. 8/30-9/29/06.</p> <p>-Contractors should repair this area as part of the final restoration efforts. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>restored areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>
Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way	<p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) are nearing completion along the ROW off John Todd Way, Lime Kiln Road, and Costa Lane. Grass growth was noted in most areas. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Mats remain at the wetland crossing within the ROW off Costa Lane. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion has returned, despite the haybales. 7/19-9/29/06.</p> <p>-A private contractor is still working in the newly restored ROW near pole #23. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>- Continue to remove access mats and monitor. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Continue to remove access mats and monitor. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Keep all stone/sediment from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-9/29/06.</p> <p>-This work is not project related. 9/29/06</p>	<p>-Grass growth noted in disturbed areas.</p> <p>-Grass growth noted in restored areas.</p> <p>-Needs evaluation.</p> <p>-N/A</p>
Norwalk Section	<p>- The ROW off Perry</p>	<p>-These areas should be</p>	<p>-Needs seed and mulch.</p>

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Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.	<p>Ave south and North Seir Hill Road have been re-graded but not seeded. 9/7-9/29/06.</p> <p>- It appears additional vegetation was cleared from the slopes adjacent to the stream bank at structure #11064. This area has not yet been seeded or mulched and the stream is not protected by erosion controls. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Hay mulch and seed have been applied to the area at pole #11080 near the substation. Areas along Broad St north and the Rt 7 extension have also been seeded and mulched. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>restored/seeded as soon as possible. Generally, the end of fall seeding is Oct 15th. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Install and maintain hay bales along both sides of the stream to prevent sediment from entering the stream channel. Restore (mulch and seed) this area ASAP. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Monitor until stabilized with vegetation. 6/7-9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-Restoration efforts noted.</p>
Kent Rd. (North)	<p>- The disturbed areas at Kent Road (north) have not been seeded or mulched. Some areas don't appear to have been graded back to original conditions. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence remains along both banks of the stream and near the foundation at the pond in the Kent Rd north section. 7/19-9/29/06.</p> <p>- The work areas at Kent Road (south) have been re-graded to original conditions and seed and hay mulch applied. Mats still need to be removed. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Stone from the access</p>	<p>-These areas should be restored/seeded as soon as possible. Generally, the end of fall seeding is Oct 15th. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. Restore areas and replace silt fence with haybales. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Monitor until stabilized with vegetation.</p> <p>- Stabilization options for</p>	<p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Kent Rd. (South)	road continues to washout beyond the erosion controls into the wetland. Silt fence/ haybales here are deteriorating. 9/29/06.	the stone access road should be evaluated. 9/29/06. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-9/29/06.	
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation Composite</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Norwalk</p>	<p>-The stone and mats have been removed from the wetland crossings along the Archers Lane ROW and the road has been re-graded to original condition. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- The wetland crossing at Gallows Hill needs to be removed. 9/29/06</p> <p>-Mats remain at all wetland crossings. All restored areas are re-vegetating rapidly 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Mats remain at wetland crossings. Some areas have not yet been restored. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-The disturbed slopes adjacent to structure #11064 have not yet been seeded or mulched and the stream channel is not protected by erosion controls. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>Silt fence will be removed when vegetation has established (or replaced with haybales in appropriate locations). 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Restore in a similar manner to wetlands at Archers Lane. 9/29/06</p> <p>- Continue to monitor until stabilized. Silt fence should be replaced with haybales in appropriate locations. Remove mats from wetland crossings when restoration activities are nearing completion. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Continue restoration activities. 9/29/06.</p> <p>-Install hay bales along both sides of the stream to prevent sediment from entering the stream channel. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Stone and mats have been removed from wetland crossings.</p> <p>-Needs attention.</p> <p>- Vegetative growth noted within restored areas.</p> <p>-Some restoration efforts noted.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<p>- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-9/29/06.</p> <p>-An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure #7 in the Chestnut Ridge</p>	<p>- Continue daily walkthroughs prior to equipment movement in this area. 4/6-9/29/06.</p> <p>- Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-9/29/06.</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</p>

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	Rd section on 6/14/06.		
<p>Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)</p> <p>Composite</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p>	<p>- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other shrubs. 3/2-9/29/06.</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. 2/22-9/29/06.</p> <p>- Deep piles of wood chips past Archers Lane were spread within the ROW to a more appropriate depth. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Widespread restoration efforts were noted. Many recently restored areas have good grass cover. Log piles remain within the ROW from previous clearing efforts. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Replace shrubs where approved during these restoration efforts. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-9/20/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-9/29/06.</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- Remove excess wood and before mats are removed from wetland crossings. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>-Needs attention when feasible</p> <p>- Still needs attention CL&P is looking into this.</p> <p>- Efforts to reduce the wood chip piles were noted.</p> <p>-Restoration activities noted.</p>
Dewatering	- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection and should no longer be necessary. 9/29/06.	- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. 3/9-9/29/06.	-N/A at this time
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 9/29/06.	-None at this time. 9/29/06.	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	<p>-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 9/29/06.</p> <p>- In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource</p>	<p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks)</p> <p>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they</p>	-NA

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	areas or as far as feasible. 9/29/06	are being controlled. - Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands.	
Additional Observations			

Next likely scheduled inspection: Wednesday October 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, Lee Curtis, BSC Group



(Composite Section): Both photos show views of the 1st wetland crossing at Archers Lane. Stone, fabric and mats have been removed from the ROW and the wetland crossing restored. Photo on the left shows the water bars constructed within the road. Photo on the right shows the re-graded crossing with seed and mulch applied to adjacent areas. 9/29/06.



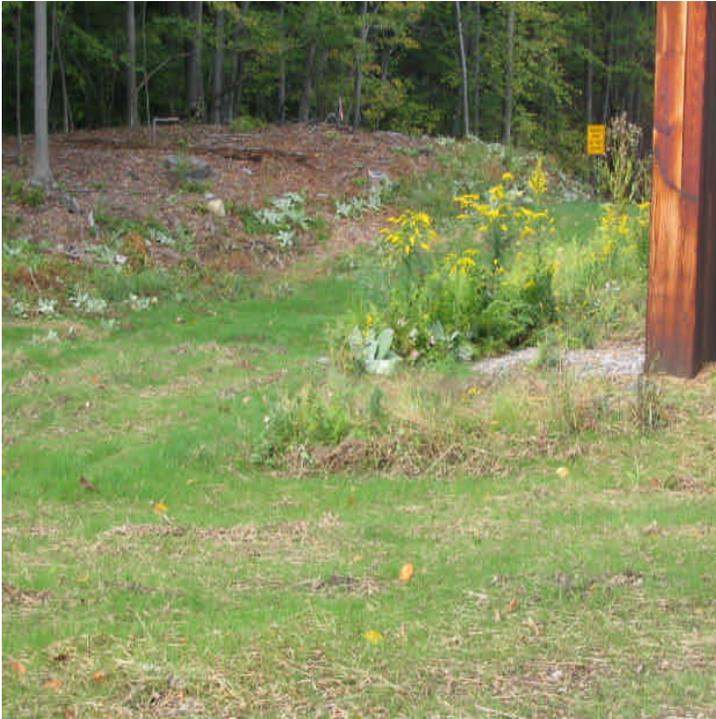
Both photos show views of the second wetland crossing at Archers Lane. Photo on the left shows an overview of seed and hay mulch applied to the adjacent access road. Photo on the right shows a close up of the restored crossing. 9/29/06.



Both photos show the views of the third wetland crossing at Archers Lane. Photo on the left shows the water bars constructed within the ROW. Photo on the right shows a close up of the restored crossing. This area has been re-graded to original conditions. Seed and hay mulch were applied to adjacent areas. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows grass growth in the restored area at structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. Photo on the right shows the stone crossing remaining in the wetland within the ROW here.



(345kV H-Frame): Both photos show grass growth in the restored areas in the ROW near Bethel Reservoir. Photo on the left shows a close up of the area at structure #11. Photo on the right shows the wetland crossing between structures #10 and 11.



Photo on the left shows the restored area at structure #10 where tire tracks still remain. Photo on the right shows the disturbed area at structure #9 which has not been graded or seeded. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the ROW off Chestnut Ridge Road. Crews were removing/restoring the road near the pasture at the time of inspection. Photo on the right shows the private contractor operating machinery in the recently restored area near structure #23.



Photo on the left shows grass growth in the restored area off Lime Kiln Road. Photo on the right shows a view of the ROW off Costa Lane. Seed and hay mulch have been applied to most areas but mats still remain at the wetland crossing. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the continued erosion in the access road near structure #31. Photo on the right shows the restored area between structures #31 and #32. 9/29/06.



(Norwalk Section): Photo on the left shows a view of the restored area within the ROW at Kent Road (south). Most disturbed areas have been re-graded to original conditions and seed and hay mulch applied. Photo on the right shows stone from the access road overwhelming the silt fence along the edge of the wetland. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the ROW off Kent Road (north). This section has not been seeded yet and mats still remain at wetland crossings. Photo on the right shows the restored area at structure #11063. 9/29/06.



Both photos show the area at structure #11064 in the ROW off North Seir Hill Road. Photo on the left shows a close up of the disturbed slope which has not been seeded. Photo on the right shows a close up of the stream channel at the base of the slope which is not protected by erosion controls. Erosion control mats may be necessary here on the slopes. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows spare structure arms being stored near structure #11074 off Perry Ave. All old materials should be removed. Photo on the right shows the restored area at Perry Ave (south) with significant grass growth. 9/29/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of the restoration in the ROW off Broad Street (north). Photo on the right shows where seed and hay mulch have been applied to structure #11080. Soil is stony here and may not revegetate easily. 9/29/06.