

**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:** January 4, 2006

**Inspector:** Diana Walden

**Location:** Norwalk Substation Expansion

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 1.34” of precipitation fell mostly in the form of snow in the north and rain in the south on 1/2-1/3 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The catch basin near the Route 7 ramp receives a lot of off-site stormwater, and erosion and sedimentation is occurring here. 12/22-1/4/06.	-The area should no longer be affected by any onsite sediment. The access road is paved and the swale is vegetated The silt fence could be removed. 12/1-1/4/06.
Foundation construction	<p>- Little “soil-disturbing” work was occurring on site. Some structural and electrical work was ongoing in and near the GIS building. 1/4/06.</p> <p>- Work continues on the tower near the ROW and shrouding was noted. 1/4/06.</p> <p>-The 345kV turning structure work is complete. 1/4/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. The site remains largely contained. 1/4/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 1/4/06. (115kV Contractors)</p> <p>-The area was restored to original and proposed grades. 1/4/06.</p>
Erosion and Sediment Controls	<p>- Stone is in place between the paved access and unpaved areas of the GIS yard to prevent sediment tracking. 12/22-1/4/06.</p> <p>- The overflow channel and natural overflow area are flooded once again due to the rain and high level of the Norwalk River. 1/4/06.</p> <p>- The topsoil stockpile remains well contained on site. 1/4/06.</p>	<p>- The site remains contained- none at this time. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Sediment previously noted here is most likely a result of natural deposition by the river. 1/4/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 1/4/06</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Erosion and Sediment Controls continued (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	- Some sediment was noted collecting in the stone onsite at one of the access gates. This is a result of offsite stormwater 1/4/06.	- Monitor stormwater flow and drainage patterns when possible. Watch for any erosive flows off site. 1/4/06.
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	-Water was flowing fairly clear once again in both the natural and constructed overflow channel. 1/4/06.	- The piles of loose sand sediment noted is most likely a result of natural deposition by the river during these flood periods. None at this time. 1/4/06
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- No species of concern are located in this area of construction.	- N/A
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	-No additional clearing is needed at this time. 1/4/06.	- Clearing was limited to what is necessary and it will continue to be monitored. 1/4/06.
Dewatering	-Dewatering was not observed during this inspection. 1/4/06.	-None at this time. 1/4/06.
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time and it is not anticipated to be necessary.	- None at this time.
Spills and Material Storage	- No spills or leaks were noted during this inspection. 1/4/06.	In general: - Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. - The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and all other material containers due to the sensitivity of the area.
Spills and Material Storage continued		- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling.  - All fuels and agents not in use should be covered and stored in the sheds and trailers before leaving for the day.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Additional Observations		

**Next likely scheduled inspection:** Thursday, January 12, 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

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**Date:** January 4, 2006

**Inspector:** Diana Walden

**Location:** Plumtree Substation Expansion, Bethel

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 1.34" of precipitation fell mostly in the form of snow in the north and rain in the south on 1/2-1/3 as reported by NOAA.

<b>Areas of Inspection</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Recommended Action</b>
Access Roads	- No new access roads have been constructed at this time and the driveway was currently snow covered. 1/4/06	- If the driveway is plowed, keep snow/sediment piles away from the wetland swales adjacent to the driveway. 1/4/06
Foundation construction	-Any remaining work is mostly electrical and within the control house.1/4/06. -No further civil or earth disturbing work was noted on site at this time. 1/4/06	- The areas are all contained at this time.1/4/06  - Open excavations were not observed at this time. 1/4/06
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	- Although no silt fence is in place, the perimeter stone berm continues to work well to control the yard. 1/4/06  - The small remaining piles of sand/soil are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-1/4/06  - A small stockpile remains adjacent to the slab but was well within the site. 1/4/06	-All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 1/4/06  -Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-1/4/06
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	- Wetlands are located around the outskirts of the substation yard. The work within the substation yard has caused no observed sedimentation. 1/4/06	- The stone berm around the perimeter of the yard continues to prevent sedimentation and water from leaving the site and getting to the wetland edge. 1/4/06

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The sand pile has been surrounded with safety fence but there seems to be little evidence of a valid nest at this point. 8/19-1/4/06</li> <li>- The pile may be removed when necessary. 9/15-1/4/06</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Everyone at the substation also remains aware and will move machinery carefully in case the individual turtle returns in the spring. The nest does not appear to be valid at this time. 1/4/06</li> </ul>
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No vegetation outside of the substation yard will need to be cleared during the expansion work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dewatering was not observed during the inspection. 1/4/06</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time. 1/4/06</li> </ul>
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No blasting is occurring on site at this time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time.</li> </ul>
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No leaks or drips had been noted at the site at the time of inspection. 1/4/06</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li> </ul>
Additional Observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Following completion of a few future scheduled activities, this substation can be removed from the inspection route. 1/4/06</li> </ul>	

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, January 12, 2006

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**Inspector's Signature:**

*Diana Walden*



**Norwalk Substation: Photo on the left is an overview of the yard looking towards the GIS building. Photo on the right shows a view of the recently installed structures and the 345kV turning structure. 1/4/06.**



**Photo on the left shows the flooded natural overflow channel near the 345kV turning structure. Photo on the right shows a view of the structures at the southwest corner of the GIS building. 1/4/06.**



Photo on the left shows the paved access way off New Canaan Ave. Photo on the right shows sediment deposits within the stone at the perimeter fence along Rt. 7. Although the majority of the sediment remained in the stone, some appears to have washed off site. 1/4/06.



Plumtree Substation: View of the yard where external work has not occurred for some time. 1/4/06.