

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: July 28, 2005

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Norwalk Substation Expansion

Storm/

Rain Event: The only observable precipitation the area received since the last inspection was between 0.23-0.43” on 7/27 posted by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some washouts have occurred in the stone placed around the inlet near the Route 7 ramp and it has pushed the silt fence over but vegetation is growing within the inlet to help filter sediment. 7/28/05 - Additional grass growth was observed in the soil adjacent to the sidewalk. Final stabilization or vegetative cover will be monitored. 7/14-7/28/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The area should continue to be monitored. The roots of the planting have started to become exposed again- it may not be in a good location. 7/6-7/28/05 Sediment is being filtered well by the stone and new growth. 7/28/05 - The soil adjacent to the sidewalk installation is experiencing increased grass growth. Continue to monitor. 7/14-7/28/05
Foundation construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cable is being pulled within the yard. 7/28/05 - Most excavations are completed around the GIS building and small structure foundations are being installed around here. 7/22-7/28/05 -Steel work is ongoing at the GIS building and two large transformers were being brought into the yard. 7/28/05 -Structures are being removed from the active, live yard in order to create a new access drive. 7/6-7/28/05 Minor excavation was observed here. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None at this time. 7/28/05 - All excavation and backfill work is well within the yard and areas are contained, no issues at this time. 7/28/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	7/28/05	
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	-Some bare/sparse areas of vegetation remain along the sides of the channel. 7/22-7/28/05.	- It should be determined whether these bare areas could be seeded without additional disturbance. 7/22-7/28/05
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Large amounts of stormwater from the Rt. 7 ramp as well as portions of the perimeter of the site continue to flow to the inlet. 7/28/05 - The exposed root ball of the planting is already becoming uncovered as a result of the rain. 7/6-7/28/05 	- Continue to monitor the area. Since the stone is filtering the sedimentation well here, the silt fence could actually be removed to see if the inlet is stable. New vegetation is also helping the cause. 7/22-7/28/05
	- The stockpile remaining on site is being utilized around the GIS building as backfill and topsoil. 7/6-7/28/05	- All stockpiles and excavation areas are well within the site and there are no issues at this time. 7/28/05
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	- Silt fence has been removed from most areas along the wetland/river side of the channel as the area is stabilized. 12/16/04	-None at this time. Continue to monitor.
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)	-The overflow channel is mostly dry at this time but wetland vegetation was observed growing in the bottom. The bare areas of soil along the slopes should be reseeded. 7/22-7/28/05	- Most areas along the retaining wall and channel are well vegetated but bare areas should be hydroseeded if possible. 7/22-7/28/05
Dewatering	- No dewatering was noted at this time. 7/28/05	-None at this time. 7/28/05
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time and it is not anticipated to be necessary.	- None at this time.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The overflow drips from last week had been removed as well as the leaks under the portable compressor trailer. It is unknown whether the equipment was repaired. 7/28/05 - A small drip was observed on the gravel and near the old equipment pick-up truck. The contractor was notified and the affected gravel will be picked up 7/28/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and all other material containers due to the sensitivity of the area. - Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. - 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.
Additional Observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All areas within the adjacent ROW have been backfilled and restored following the 115kV work. The invasive species Japanese Knotweed is well established in the surrounding area 6/29/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The knotweed was present in the ROW prior to the work and will likely re-establish in the disturbed area. 6/29/05

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday, August 4, 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

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Date: July 28, 2005

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Plumtree Substation Expansion , Bethel

Storm/

Rain Event The only observable precipitation the area received since the last inspection was between 0.23-0.43" on 7/27 posted by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	- No new access roads have been constructed at this time 7/28/05	- None at this time.
Foundation construction	-The remaining work is mostly electrical, connecting and circuiting the new equipment and within the control house. 6/15-7/28/05 -No soil movement is involved with the work. 7/28/05	- The areas are all contained at this time and there is little ongoing work that involves soil disturbance. 4/6-7/28/05
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. 7/28/05	-All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 7/28/05
	- A majority of the soil has been removed to appropriate off-site locations but some will remain on an as needed basis for the remainder of construction. They are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-7/28/05	-Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-7/28/05
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. 7/28/05	- 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. 7/28/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	-The sand pile with the potential nest has been surrounded with safety fence and does not need to be moved or disturbed for several months. 6/15-7/28/05	- Everyone at the substation also remains aware and will move machinery carefully in case the individual turtle returns. We will continue to monitor the nest, especially in the late summer. 6/15-7/28/05.
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	- No vegetation outside of the substation yard will need to be cleared during the expansion work.	- N/A
Dewatering	- No dewatering was noted at the time of inspection. 7/28/05	- None at this time.
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time.	- None at this time.
Spills and Material Storage	- No drips or leaks were noted on site at this time. 7/28/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers. - 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. - Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.
Additional Observations	- General site clean-up is ongoing. 7/28/05	

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday, August 4, 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



Norwalk Substation: Steel construction is ongoing in front of the GIS building and two transformers were delivered to this area during the inspection. (7/28/05)



View of the rear of the GIS building where work is ongoing inside. (7/28/05)



Grass growth is noted in the topsoil along the sidewalk installation (left photo). At the inlet located at the Route 7 off-ramp, the stone has had some washouts but vegetation is growing in here to aid in filtration (right photo). (7/28/05)



Plumtree Substation: The perimeter berm is still well in place (left photo). Work is ongoing within the control house (right photo). (7/28/05)