

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: October 13, 2005

Inspector: Brian Sakidovitch

Location: Norwalk Substation Expansion

Storm/

Rain Event: Extremely significant amounts of rain were reported by NOAA since the last inspection with up to 6.25” on 10/6-10/7 and 2.31” on 10/12.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p>Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways</p>	<p>- Vegetation is growing within the inlet near the Route 7 ramp which helps filter sediment. Silt fence is still partially collapsed and the surrounding stone also helps to filter. The area seems fairly stable. 8/19-10/13/05</p> <p>- Utility work was complete along the New Canaan Ave sidewalk but it is awaiting final concrete placement. 9/29/05-10/13/05</p>	<p>-The area should continue to be monitored to some degree but sediment is being filtered well by the stone and new growth. The silt fence could even be removed with the stone in place. 10/13/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 10/13/05</p>
<p>Foundation construction</p>	<p>- Excavation continued in the yard adjacent to the GIS building and small stockpiles were associated .10/13/05</p> <p>- The caisson/foundation for the 345 kV Turning Structure had been completed before the rains due to significant efforts by the contractors. However, the river had flooded out the work area around the sheet piling, jersey barriers and fill. 10/13/05</p>	<p>- This excavation and backfill work is well within the yard and areas are contained. 10/13/05</p> <p>-Erosion controls in the ROW should be maintained until the area is stabilized 9/29/05-10/13/05</p> <p>-When the water recedes, make necessary repairs to the erosion controls and work area. When work is complete, the fill will be removed and the area restored to original conditions. 10/13/05</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p>(includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)</p>	<p>-The overflow channel was filled almost to capacity due to the high volume of the river. 10/13/05.</p> <p>- Sedimentation from the access road off the Rt. 7 ramp was noted in the vegetated perimeter swale but it did not leave the site. 9/21/05-10/13/05</p> <p>- 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 but the vegetation and stone aid filtration. 8/19-10/13/05</p> <p>-The river has flooded over the erosion controls and work area associated with the installation of the turning structure. The partial cofferdam installed here was not able to handle the unexpected amount of flooding. 10/13/05</p>	<p>-Make any repairs necessary to the vegetation and topsoil in the channel after the water has receded. 10/13/05</p> <p>- Sedimentation and gravel remain contained within the swale. The access road will be paved eventually which will remove the problem. Continue to monitor area until final stabilization. 9/21/05-10/13/05</p> <p>- Continue to monitor the area and the silt fence could be removed as the stone is now in place. 10/13/05</p> <p>- The silt fence will likely need to be repaired once the waters have receded. 10/13/05</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p>	<p>-The Norwalk River was in a state of flooding following the rain. The overflow channel was flowing near capacity and the river had flooded over the 345kV turning structure work area. 10/13/05</p> <p>- Sheet piling had been installed at the channel entrance as a temporary, partial dam for the work. 10/5-10/13/05</p>	<p>- The area will have to be repaired following the flood. At completion of the work, the remaining temporary fill will be removed and the site restored to its original condition. 10/13/05</p>
<p>State species of concern, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>- No species of concern are located in this area of construction.</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
<p>Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)</p>	<p>-Some clearing near the overflow channel and island was necessary to access the work site for the tower. 9/29/05-10/13/05</p>	<p>- Clearing was limited to what is necessary and it will continue to be monitored. 9/29/05-10/13/05</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Dewatering	-The caisson was installed but has since been flooded. A certain amount of dewatering will be necessary when the floodwater recedes. 10/13/05	-None at this time, If the slurry pit is still necessary, keep it well contained. 10/13/05
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 drips or leaks were noted on the site at the time of inspection. 10/13/05.	<p>In general:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. - 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	-Trenching for the Gas Insulated Transmission Line (GITL) was occurring on the western side of the GIS building. 10/5/05	-This excavation and backfill work is well within the yard and areas are contained. 10/5/05

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Wednesday, October 19, 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 Brian Sakjdovitch

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Date: October 12, 2005

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Plumtree Substation Expansion, Bethel

Storm/

Rain Event: Extremely significant amounts of rain were reported by NOAA since the last inspection with up to 6.25” on 10/6-10/7 and 2.31” on 10/12.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	- No new access roads have been constructed at this time 10/12/05	- None at this time.
Foundation construction	-The remaining work is mostly electrical and within the control house. Portions of the site are being energized. 10/12/05. -It appears that the work to fill in structures to the pad is complete. 10/12/05	- The areas are all contained at this time.10/5/05 - Open excavations were not observed at this time. 10/12/05.
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 even with the significant rain. 10/12/05	-All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 10/12/05
	- The small remaining piles of sand/soil are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-10/12/05 - A small stockpile was noted adjacent to the slab but was well within the site. 10/12/05	-Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-10/12/05
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. 10/12/05	- 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. 10/12/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The sand pile has been surrounded with safety fence but there seems to be little evidence of a valid nest at this point. 8/19-10/12/05 - The pile may be removed when necessary. 9/15-10/12/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 as long as the pile remains but it does not appear to be valid at this time. 10/12/05
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No vegetation outside of the substation yard will need to be cleared during the expansion work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dewatering was not observed during the inspection. 10/12/05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None at this time. 10/12/05
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No blasting is occurring on site at this time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None at this time.
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No leaks or drips had been noted at the site at the time of inspection. 10/12/05 	<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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following completion of a few future scheduled activities, this substation can be removed from the inspection route. 10/12/05 	

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Wednesday, October 19, 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: The overflow channel is flowing at capacity due to the heavy rains and river flooding. (10/13/05)



View of the 345kV turning structure caisson installation work area which has been flooded and overwhelmed by the river. (10/13/05)



View of the excavation and stockpile area near the GIS building which is well contained within the site. (10/13/05)



Plumtree Substation: It seems the work on structures to the pad have been completed for the most part. (10/13/05)