

**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:** November 2, 2005

**Inspector:** Lee Curtis

**Location:** Norwalk Substation Expansion

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Only a trace of rain was reported since the last inspection as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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. 8/19-11/02/05.</li> <li>- The sidewalk has been repaired along New Canaan Ave. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-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. 11/02/05.</li> <li>- None at this time. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>
Foundation construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Excavation work continues in the yard near the GIS building. Small stockpiles associated with this excavation remain within the yard. 11/02/05.</li> <li>- Some excavation also continues at the edge of the ROW and substation yard. 10/27-11/2/05.</li> <li>-Clean up activities associated with the 345 kV Turning Structure work area continue on site. The sheet piling and jersey barriers were removed and contractors were in the process of removing the slurry pit at the time of inspection. Once the remaining fill and concrete blocks are removed, the area will be restored to original conditions. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This excavation and backfill work is well within the yard and areas are contained. 11/02/05.</li> <li>-Erosion controls in the ROW should be maintained until the foundation/excavation area is stabilized 9/29/05-11/02/05</li> <li>-Complete the restoration of the original grades and conditions in this area. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A catch basin at the southern corner of the GIS building has sediment accumulating either on the fabric within the grate or within the basin itself. 10/27/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- Sedimentation from the access road off the Rt. 7 ramp was noted in the vegetated perimeter swale but it did not leave the site. 9/21/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- 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. 8/19-11/02/05.</li> <li>-The overflow channel had some accumulated sediment at the edge of the river due to the flooding. 10/27/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- The erosion controls at the turning structure were removed somewhat prematurely but the work is now mostly completed. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear the fabric of sediment and replace protective/control measures. If the sediment has reached inside the basin, clean out any buildup. 10/27/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- 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. 9/21/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- Continue to monitor the area and the silt fence could be removed as the stone is now in place. 10/27/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- Sediment may need to be removed by hand here in order to restore the original capacity of the channel. This may be done during the adjacent work. 10/27/05-11/02/05.</li> <li>- The channel should be scraped of loose soil as discussed to return to original conditions for accommodating future flood events. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The 345kV work area is in the process of being restored. Sediment was noticed at the edge of the overflow channel and the river. 11/02/05.</li> <li>- Sheet piling, used as a temporary, partial dam for the work, was removed at the channel entrance. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The remaining temporary fill and concrete blocks will be removed and the site restored to its original condition. As part of the work, all loose soil that accumulated in the channel will be removed. 11/02/05.</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
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)	-Some clearing near the overflow channel and island was necessary to access the work site for the tower. 9/29/05-11/02/05	- Clearing was limited to what is necessary and it will continue to be monitored. 9/29/05-11/02/05
Dewatering	-Dewatering was not observed during this inspection. 11/02/05.	-The slurry pit is part of the work area and is in the process of being removed. 11/02/05.
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. 11/02/05.	<p>In general:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site.</li> <li>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and all other material containers due to the sensitivity of the area.</li> <li>- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li> <li>- Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling.</li> <li>- All fuels and agents not in use should be covered and stored in the sheds and trailers before leaving for the day.</li> </ul>
Additional Observations		

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, November 10, 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 Lee Curtis

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**Date:** November 2, 2005

**Inspector:** Lee Curtis

**Location:** Plumtree Substation Expansion, Bethel

**Storm/  
Rain Event:** Only a trace of rain was reported since the last inspection as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	- No new access roads have been constructed at this time but the driveway to the substation had some soil test borings completed for future trenching here. 11/02/05	- Take care not to let accumulated soil from the borings enter the wetland swales adjacent to the driveway. 11/2/05
Foundation construction	-The remaining work is mostly electrical and within the control house. 11/02/05. -No further civil or earth disturbing work was noted on site at this time but apparently a construction trailer was returned to the yard. 11/02/05	- The areas are all contained at this time.11/02/05  - Open excavations were not observed at this time. 11/02/05.
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. 11/02/05.	-All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 11/02/05
	- The small remaining piles of sand/soil are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-11/02/05 - A small stockpile was noted adjacent to the slab but was well within the site. 11/02/05	-Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-11/02/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
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. 11/02/05.	- 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. 11/02/05.
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	-The sand pile has been surrounded with safety fence but there seems to be little evidence of a valid nest at this point. 8/19-11/02/05. - The pile may be removed when necessary. 9/15-11/02/05.	- 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 as long as the pile remains but it does not appear to be valid at this time. 11/02/05.
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	- Dewatering was not observed during the inspection. 11/02/05.	- None at this time. 11/02/05.
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time.	- None at this time.
Spills and Material Storage	- No leaks or drips had been noted at the site at the time of inspection. 11/02/05.  -	- 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	- Following completion of a few future scheduled activities, this substation can be removed from the inspection route. 11/02/05.	

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, November 10, 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 Lee Curtis*



**Norwalk Substation: Photo on the left is a view of the turning structure work area. Jersey barriers, sheet piling, and erosion controls have been removed. Photo on the right shows contractors in the process of removing the slurry pit. 11/2/05**



**Silt fence had been removed from the area somewhat prematurely but now that work is done, excess sediment will be scraped up from the channel to return it to original conditions. 11/02/05**



Photo on the left shows excavation work in the yard near the GIS building which remains contained. Photo on the right shows the repaired sidewalk along New Canaan Ave. 11/02/05



Plumtree Substation: View of what appears to be soil testing bores performed in the driveway of the substation for future trenching in this area. Take care not to allow sediment to get into the adjacent wetland swales. 11/02/05