

**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:**            December 30, 2003  
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**Inspector:**     Diana Walden  
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**Location:**      Norwalk Substation Expansion  
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**Storm/  
Rain Event**      1.64" of rain on 12/24, Trace of rain on 12/29  
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Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	<p>- The Route 7 ramp access road is in active use. No issues with erosion were noted at this time, however it continues to accumulate mud from the equipment tracking. Work will begin to firm up the road in the next week. 12/30/03</p> <p>- The access road to the existing ROW has been smoothed/graded. Although the ground is still soft and muddy, it is much less rutted than in previous weeks. Silt fence has been installed between the road and river bank as requested. 12/30/03</p>	<p>- None at this time. Work on the road next week will help firm up this area. 12/30/03</p> <p>-If the ground doesn't freeze sufficiently by the time equipment needs to access this area again, prepare to use timber mats for stabilization if rutting becomes a problem again. 12/30/03</p>
Foundation construction	<p>- Chain link fence installation continues along the edge of the yard in order to create access for vehicles. The energized yard has been cordoned off. 12/30/03</p> <p>- Some excavation is planned for next week in the existing ROW to begin installing the</p>	<p>- None at this time. 12/30/03</p> <p>- None at this time 12/30/03</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	new metal structures. Caissons will be installed as necessary 12/30/03	
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	- The previous high water levels on site have dropped to some degree. The pooled water at the existing ROW and along the access road has mostly dried up but the ground remains muddy. 12/30/03	- Overall the site is doing very well with no significant sedimentation or erosion issues. 12/30/03
	- The small soil stockpiles located at the base of the slope continue to be controlled by haybales. 12/30/03	- Continue to monitor and maintain as needed 12/30/03
	- The gravel tracking pad near the swale continues to accumulate sediment. The silt fence previously mentioned was installed along the access road adjacent to this crossing and the ruts were smoothed out. 12/30/03	- Continue to monitor and install clean rock when necessary. The silt fence was installed properly and adds an additional barrier. 12/30/03
	- The silt fence at the larger soil pile near the Route 7 ramp is experiencing some strain. 12/30/03	- The fence will be maintained tomorrow (12/31) when silt fence is installed at the remainder of the site, but this spot is not extremely sensitive due to its distance from the river and wetlands. 12/30/03
	- Silt fence will be installed tomorrow (12/31) along all cleared staging areas to protect the river as required. 12/30/03	- Install silt fence as soon as possible. Make sure it is properly toed-in and staked correctly. 12/30/03
	- The gravel construction pad was installed at the fence at New Canaan Ave in order to reduce off site tracking. The rock used was the maximum allowed, 1½" diameter. 12/30/03	- Monitor gravel and replace with clean rock as necessary. It is not yet in use. 12/30/03

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The stream encroachment permit was obtained and clearing has commenced along the river and within the buffer zone. Silt fence will be installed tomorrow (12/31). 12/30/03</li> <li>- Locations within the stream encroachment area are being identified for monitoring well placement. 12/30/03</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As stated previously, install silt fence between all disturbed areas and resource areas as soon as possible. 12/30/03</li> <li>- None at this time 12/30/03</li> </ul>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No species of concern are located in this area of construction 12/30/03</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The clearing at the yard was completed in under two days, following obtaining the stream encroachment permit. Minor root systems are still in place which helps keep soil stable. 12/30/03</li> <li>- Major stumps are being removed at this time and chipping is occurring. 12/30/03</li> <li>- Trees and stumps immediately on the riverbank are being preserved whenever possible. 12/30/03</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keep root systems in place for as long as possible to anchor the soil, and try to disturb only the areas necessary at any one time. 12/30/03</li> <li>- The areas near the river still appear stable. There is no erosion on the banks or sedimentation to the water. 12/30/03</li> <li>- The more vegetation left in place, the more stable the bank will be. 12/30/03</li> </ul>
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_ No dewatering activities are occurring at this time 12/30/03</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time 12/30/03</li> </ul>
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No blasting is occurring on site at this time 12/30/03</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time 12/30/03</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No spills have been reported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The contractors should</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Spills	or observed in the past week and were not observed at the time of the inspection. 12/30/03	remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers due to the sensitivity of the area 12/30/03  - Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. 12/30/03

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday January 8, 2003 \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspector's Signature:**

*Diana L Walden* \_\_\_\_\_



VIEW NEAR THE GRAVEL ACCESS PAD AND DRAINAGE SWALE. THE SILT FENCE HAS BEEN INSTALLED AS REQUESTED AND THE AREA GRADED SMOOTH. 12/30/03



OVERALL VIEW OF THE ACCESS ROAD AND CONSTRUCTION AREA. THIS AREA WILL BE FIRMED UP WHEN THE ACCESS ROAD IS CONSTRUCTED NEXT WEEK. 12/30/03



VIEW OF CLEARING IN THE STREAM ENCROACHMENT AREA FOLLOWING  
OBTAINING THE PERMIT. TREES ARE BEING LEFT STANDING ON THE RIVER  
BANK WHENEVER POSSIBLE. 12/30/03



VIEW OF CLEARING OF TREES NEAR NEW CANAAN AVENUE AND  
ADJACENT TO THE RIVER. 12/30/03



VIEW OF NEWLY INSTALLED GRAVEL CONSTRUCTION PAD AT NEW  
CANAAN AVENUE GATE. 12/30/03