

Docket No. 272 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

The Connecticut Light and Power Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a new 345-kV electric transmission line and associated facilities between Scovill Rock Switching Station in Middletown and Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut, including reconstruction of portions of existing 115-kV and 345-kV electric transmission line, the construction of Beseck Switching Station in Wallingford, East Devon Substation in Milford, (and Singer Substation in Bridgeport), modifications at Scovill Rock Switching Station and Norwalk Substation, and the reconfiguration of certain interconnections.

Underground Line Watercourse and Railroad Crossings

Date: September 26, 2007

Inspector: Katie Bednaz

Location: Crossings of Watercourses and Railroads in Segments 3, 4a and 4b

Rain Event: No precipitation was reported since the previous inspection. (Bridgeport, CT NOAA data)

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrected Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	A stone construction entrance is in place at the access to the staging area on the east side of the Saugatuck River. The entrance is accessed from the paved parking area off of Imperial Ave. 9/26/07	Continue to maintain construction entrance to reduce sediment migration from the work area. Sweep as needed. 9/26/07	NA
Vault Openings and Trench Construction	Crews were actively working on the Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) between vault #14 to vault #15 under the Saugatuck River. Work was recently was reinitiated following the observation and containment of a frac-out in the center of the river. 9/26/07	See Inland Wetlands Section for additional details. 9/26/07	NA
Erosion and Sediment Controls	No catch basins were observed to be down-gradient of/ adjacent to areas of exposed soil. 9/26/07	Place a gutter buddy (or similar) in any catch basins located down gradient of exposed soils with a curb/gutter drop inlet to prevent sediment from entering basin. 9/26/07	NA at this time.
	Any exposed soils have potential for airborne	Prevent dust migration by implementing the dust	NA at this time

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrected Action
	<p>dust migration. Contractors are aware of the potential. Special attention should be given to the east side staging area as the majority of the area is an exposed dirt surface and residences are nearby. 9/26/07</p>	<p>control specifications within the 2002 CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. If exposed soils are not to be worked within 30 days, they should be stabilized. 9/26/07</p>	
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p>	<p>The currently active portion of the project consists of the watercourse crossing of the Saugatuck River and associated wetlands in Westport 9/26/07</p> <p>A frac-out (accidental release) of drilling fluid was observed in the center of the Saugatuck River. Crews had stopped drilling activities as specified in the D&M Plan to place booms/barriers around the area. Slurry was removed to the extent feasible. DEP and OLISP were contacted as required and it was determined activities could resume. Drilling had reinitiated at the time of inspection. 9/26/07</p>	<p>Continue to implement the approved monitoring plan for the crossing of the Saugatuck River provided in the D&M plan in order to avoid impacts to the resource areas. 9/26/07</p> <p>Continue to monitor carefully for drilling fluid releases and continue to address as specified in the monitoring plan provided in the D&M. Contractors have been monitoring pressure and making regular visual inspections in the river. 9/26/07</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>Regular inspections are occurring, leading to the discovery and appropriate clean-up of a frac-out. DEP was informed.</p>
<p>Staging, Storage, and Parking Areas</p>	<p>A staging area has been established on either side of the Saugatuck River to accommodate the HDD activities. On the east side of the river, the staging area is within a gravel parking area (the demobilized Imperial Ave contractor yard). On the west side, staging is within a paved parking lot of a church. 9/26/07</p>	<p>See erosion control section for more details. Contractors have stated the materials will be removed when the yard is restored. Contain all material within the established limits of both yards. 9/26/07</p>	<p>NA at this time.</p>

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Soils	<p>Soils are exposed as part of the drill set-up and excavation. Drilling slurry (bentonite clay) is used in the process. 9/26/07</p> <p>The drilling pit within the east side staging yard appeared to be adequately sized for receiving drilling slurry. A bentonite clay reclamation/ recycling process is also set up here. Machinery works to separate the used bentonite clay from the soil in order to re-use it. 9/26/07</p>	<p>Soils appear to be handled appropriately. Monitor for dust as previously indicated. 9/26/07</p> <p>Continue to monitor the amount of slurry in relation to the size of the pit to ensure adequate storage capacity. Consider additional impacts of future storm events and run-off. 9/26/07</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>Requires regular attention and monitoring.</p>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species.	According to the D&M plan, state-listed species are not located in this work area	None.	NA
Vegetative clearing (including trees to save or danger trees noted) or stabilization	A row of hedges/shrubs was removed from the west side of the river near sta. #236+50. This area was not specifically marked with a note for clearing on the 4/5/07 revised version of the D&M Plan 9/18 – 9/26/07	Re-establish removed vegetation when feasible or confirm removal with the CSC if not approved by the D&M Plan. If the removal is included on a more recent revision of the D&M, restore vegetation as indicated when work is complete. 9/26/07	Needs evaluation/ confirmation.
Dewatering	Dewatering activities were not observed during this week's inspection but a clean up crew addressed and removed drilling fluid from a frac-out in the middle of the river. 9/26/07	None. If dewatering needs to occur, ensure that it is contained appropriately and treated according to the groundwater handling plan as reference in the D&M. 9/26/07	NA
Blasting	No blasting has been proposed. 9/26/07	None 9/26/07	NA
Spills and Material Storage	Reserve spill cleanup materials/kits were	Continue to bring spill kits to active work sites.	NA

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrected Action
	observed in the staging area. 9/26/07	9/26/07	
Additional Observations	None. 9/26/07	None. 9/26/07	NA

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday October 4, 2007

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.

Field Inspector: Katie Bednaz, BSC Group

Reviewer: Diana Walden, BSC Group



Photo of a frac-out (release of drilling fluid) which was identified and contained within booms in the center of the Saugatuck River.



View of the machine set-up used to separate the bentonite clay used for drilling activities from soil so that the bentonite may be reused/recycled.