



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@po.state.ct.us

www.ct.gov/csc

November 23, 2005

Michael A. Coretto
Director of Regulatory Strategy & Retail Access
United Illuminating Company
157 Church Street
P.O. Box 1564
New Haven, CT 06506-0901

RE: **LIFE-CYCLE 2006** – Connecticut Siting Council Investigation into the Electric Transmission Line Lifecycle Costs.

Dear Mr. Coretto:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than December 12, 2005. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available.

Please forward an original and 20 copies to this office. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan, the Council is requesting that all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. A list of parties and intervenors is enclosed. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Yours very truly,

S. Derek Phelps
Executive Director

SDP/MP

c: Council Members
Parties and Intervenors
Linda L. Randell, Esq., Wiggin & Dana LLP

LIFE-CYCLE 2006
UI Pre-Hearing Interrogatories, Set One

1. Provide all information documenting the United Illuminating Company's (UI) costs for operation and maintenance of existing transmission lines. Where possible, break these down by type of O&M expense, using cost categories that UI routinely uses. Please provide on a line-by-line basis, or by voltage category and type of line.
2. Provide the overhead transmission line capital costs (\$/mile) that UI uses to compare alternative single circuit line structures and designs for 115 kV and 345 kV lines of the following types:
 - Wood pole
 - Steel pole
 - Steel towers

If possible, break these costs into the following categories:

- Conductors
- Towers/supporting structures
- Land costs
- Insulation costs
- Other (please specify)

If the costs are not available for all of these categories, please provide them in as much detail as possible for the categories UI routinely uses.

3. Provide the same information requested in the previous question for double circuit structures and lines.
4. Provide the underground transmission line capital costs (\$/mile) that UI uses to compare alternative 115 kV and 345 kV lines of the following types:
 - High pressure fluid filled (HPFF)
 - Cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE)

If possible, provide break these costs into the following categories:

- Cable costs
- Piping and associated supporting structures
- Conduit costs
- Other supporting structures
- Land costs
- Installation costs
- Other (please specify)

If the costs are not available for all of these categories, provide them in as much detail as possible for the categories UI routinely uses.

5. The 2001 Acres Report also states that, "Transmission lines are built to provide safe reliable performance over a life of 35 to 40 years." Is that estimated lifespan still used for transmission life-cost analysis?
6. The July 1996 Life-Cycle Report by Acres International Corp. (1996 Acres Report) on page C-29, states that (for 115-kV transmission) the following life expectancies exist for the following transmission lines:
 - Wood Pole 40 years
 - Steel Pole 60 years
 - Underground Cable 35 to 40 years
 - a. Does UI agree with these life expectancies?
 - b. If not, what typical life expectancies would UI use for each of these transmission types?
 - c. Provide similar life expectancies for 345 kV transmission lines of the same types.
 - d. Provide the life expectancies for both 115 kV and 345 kV underground lines using both HPFF and XLPE cable.
7. Are polymer insulators the preferred type of insulators? Have they largely replaced porcelain or glass insulators?
8. Describe how leak prevention and containment measures used on high-pressure fluid-filled cable systems could impact life-cycle costs.
9. Has UI researched or evaluated the use of composite conductors for transmission lines to increase line capacity? If so, what is estimated life cycle cost impact? Break into first cost and ongoing cost elements.
10. Has UI experienced, in the last five years, issues with construction or maintenance of transmission lines in locations that required special processes or procedures due to environmental sensitivity? If so, describe the situations and the cost impacts.
11. ISO-New England (ISO-NE) has issued planning and operating standards for design and operation of transmission facilities. One standard prescribes transmission line ratings for normal conditions, short-term emergency and long-term emergency conditions. Does UI expect the standards to impact transmission line life-cycle costs, and if so, to what extent?
12. Has UI identified other ISO-NE policies or operating procedures that are anticipated to impact transmission line life-cycle costs? If so, what are they and what is the anticipated impact?
13. Under what conditions would UI consider using high voltage direct current (HVDC) lines for long-distance power transfers? How would the life cycle costs of HVDC lines compare to alternating current (AC) transmission lines?