



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@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

October 13, 2015

Petition 1120: Construction Site Inspection

Date of Inspection: October 8, 2015

Council Staff: Robert Mercier and Cymon Holzschuh

UI Representatives: Samantha Marone, Robby Trammel

Council staff arrived at 10:45 a.m. at the site. Staff toured the construction area with UI representatives, examining the perimeter of the construction area to determine the extent of clearing activities.

East Side

The East Side area extends from a maintained lawn to a wooded area at the property boundary. The property line is demarcated by an old stone wall. From the wall, the terrain slopes downhill to abutting residential properties. Vegetation in this area consists of a row of trees of various ages and types along the stone wall. A second row of mature maple trees is located about five feet from the stone wall with an outlying maple and dogwood further outside this row. Views of the substation from the abutting properties to the east are screened by the existing trees and sloping topography.

UI removed one Norway maple in the northeast corner of the site and trimmed low branches off other nearby trees to establish the equipment laydown area, as specified in the Development and Management (D&M Plan). No other trees were removed in this area. A double row of erosion control fencing exists in this area to prevent any sedimentation beyond the construction area.

South Side

The South Side area extends from the paved access drive from the abutting 254 Hawthorne Drive property westward to the 210 Schiller Road property. The property line is clearly marked in the field with orange stakes.

In accordance with the narrative of the D&M Plan, Limits of Clearing (p. 8), clearing extended along the southern perimeter of the substation parcel. Clearing included the removal of shrub vegetation along the entire property line as well as a few mature trees in the southwest corner of the substation property. A cluster of arborvitae on substation property adjacent to the property line with 274 Hawthorne Drive was not removed. No mature trees were removed in the southeast corner of the site. Mature trees that are present include large white pines located between the access drive and substation, and a deciduous tree located adjacent to the access drive.

A double row of silt fencing, consisting of a primary barrier of hay bales followed by a secondary rigid silt fence is installed along the southern property line to the access drive. Additionally, a third row of silt fencing is installed along the southeast extent of the property, approximately 10 feet from the primary silt barriers to serve as a tertiary erosion control measure and box turtle barrier. The open ground between the barriers allows for the easier detection of turtles that may attempt to migrate into the construction area. The siltation barriers were installed in accordance with the D&M Plan (E&S Figure 5).

Eversource personnel were on the abutting 172 Schiller Road property conducting tree work in accordance with a separate landowner agreement.

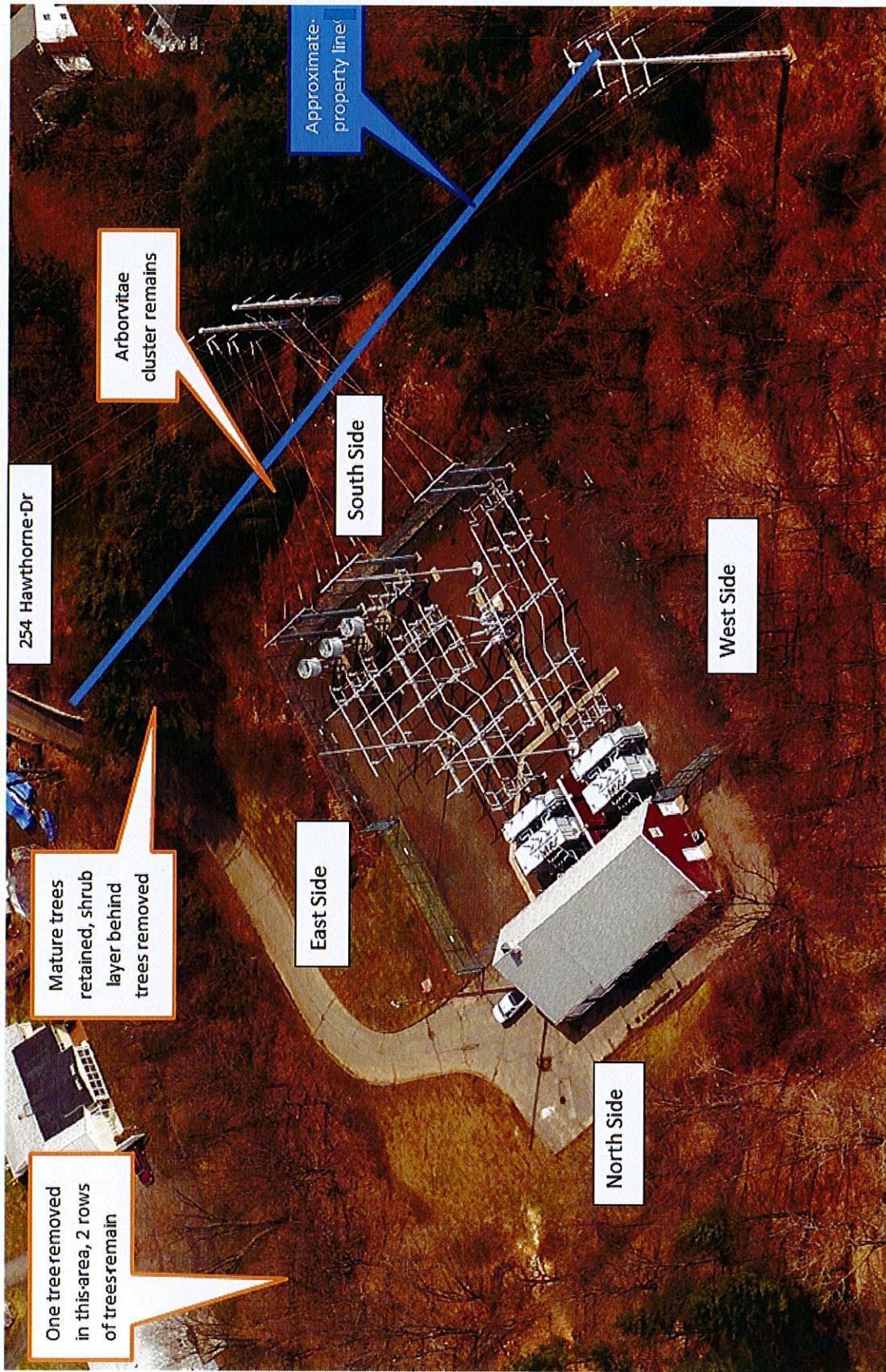
UI used the space between the south property line and the existing substation as an access way for the tree hauler and other heavy construction equipment to reach the west side of the substation property. No formal roadway was established. According to UI, regular use of this area by heavy equipment should end by the following week. Access to the west side of the property by going around the north side of the substation is not possible given the sharply sloping terrain and the presence of an adjacent wetland.

West Side

All tree clearing activities were completed at the time of inspection. A few large deciduous trees that were originally specified for removal were retained, as they will not be an impediment to construction.

North Side

All vegetative clearing activities were completed. A vegetative stockpile was present at the top edge of the slope. Silt fencing near the adjacent wetland consists of a primary barrier of hay bale/silt fence, followed by a rigid silt fence with a silt sock installed on the upgradient side for an additional layer of wetland protection.



254 Hawthorne-Dr

One tree removed in this area, 2 rows of trees remain

Mature trees retained, shrub layer behind trees removed

Arborvitae cluster remains

East Side

South Side

North Side

West Side

Approximate property line

Substation with site features shown.



East side of Site, looking north at laydown area showing siltation/turtle barrier and rows of trees to remain. One tree removed in this area per D&M Plan.



South side of site, looking west from 172 Schiller Road area. Grading is occurring. Orange property markers are visible.



View east along south property line. Arborvitae cluster adjacent to 274 Hawthorne Drive to remain. Double row of siltation barriers. Clearing complete.



View of southeast corner of substation property, towards 254 Hawthorne Drive. Thick brush/shrubs removed. Mature trees remain. Three rows of siltation barriers as specified in D&M Plan.



View towards 254 Hawthorne Drive from Southeast corner. Note remaining thick shrub layer. Tower in photo is Eversource transmission structure on 254 Hawthorne Drive property.



Double siltation barrier along north property line. Wetland on abutting property to right.