



Town of Fairfield

Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

Stanton H. Lesser
Town Attorney

March 24, 2015

State of Connecticut
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

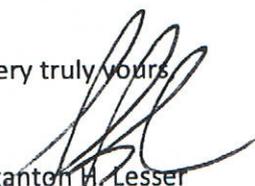
Re: PETITION NO. 1120 – The United Illuminating Company
180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield Connecticut

Dear Sirs:

In connection with the above referenced petition enclosed herewith please find list of prefiled testimony.

I have forwarded a copy of this to those on the service list.

Very truly yours,


Stanton H. Lesser

SHL/pd



Town of Fairfield

Sullivan Independence Hall
725 Old Post Road

Fairfield, Connecticut 06824
Engineering Department

(203) 256-3015
FAX (203) 256-3080

March 23, 2015
Robert Stein
Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051

Re: Petition No. 1120- The United Illuminating Company Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to the Hawthorne Substation at 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Dear Chairman Stein:

I have reviewed most of the material submitted by the UI and offer the following comments to ensure a thorough review and perhaps address concerns about the project -pending additional information regarding Stormwater and UI responses to Town of Fairfield's second set of Interrogatories, dated March 11, 2015 in connection with the above referenced petition.

In response to UI's responses A-TOF-II-1 and TOF-II-2, regarding light trespass: The Engineering Dept. understands UI security lighting concerns but is it possible to provide required lighting at lower heights? The neighborhood may prefer more lampposts at lower height than few but much high, intense lights, as long as they are directed away from residences.

A-TOF-II- 3- no comment, will refer to UI experts.

A-TOF-II-4: Regarding trees and plantings. In an effort to be sensitive to neighborhood concerns, UI should propose landscaping wherever possible. If approval is required from Eversource, they should seek this approval.

A-TOF-II-5: All over the state of Connecticut, municipalities and good engineering practice dictate no increase in runoff. UI's plans can simply address runoff quantities using various Best Management Practices. This is even mentioned in the SWPCP plan.

A-TOF-II-6 information is provided but UI/consultant can better label make plan easier to read.

Now regarding stormwater:

The site plan and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (dated December 2014 by Conestoga – Rovers & Associates) appears to be lacking specific details regarding any detention, stormwater quality or specific responsibilities for erosion control plans. UI responses to Siting Council lists very general erosion control measures and although they show some silt fencing on the plans it is not enough in my opinion. Silt fence should be located downstream of any proposed disturbance area and excavation area. A note on the plan should also state Silt fence should be installed around any stockpile areas as well.

Regarding detention and ground water recharge, the site plans show approximately 5000 sf of increase impervious surface, UI should confirm that number and provide detention and natural recharge of roughly 1500 cubic feet. This can be in the form of rechargers/infiltrators, CB/Drywells, perimeter infiltration trenches, small detention basins etc. excavated or built up by berms and small check dams for velocity dissipation. UI's response has been that they are not providing any form of detention or groundwater recharge with exception of underneath capacitor banks/proposed equipment- what about runoff from paved surfaces and steep slopes?

The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan often states that the catch basin at the lower part of the site will perform several functions of collecting runoff and preventing off site impacts. See enclosed photo to see how Catch Basin is performing. UI should propose to regrade/redirect runoff and include double basin, trench drain or relocate basin to collect this runoff.

There are also reference drawings 25242-414 B, D,E that I have not seen.

The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan should provide a specific and formal list of chain of command and who is responsible for what activity. Many "general" items listed in the SWPCP by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates do not appear on the plans submitted by the contractor, Black & Veatch. Then combine UI's supervision and apparent disregard to the neighbor or surrounding site and you have a potential of a Bermuda triangle of blame, fallen responsibilities and confusion.

Some examples:

From section 3.2 in SWPCP:

"The anticipated area expected to be disturbed during the project is 1.41 acres with the site totaling 2.8 acres. Estimated runoff coefficient of the site after construction is 0.47-

what was it before the site. Typically Design calculations for existing and proposed conditions are submitted in any drainage report or SWPCP.

From Section 3.3 in SWPCP:

“Complete installation of necessary stormwater controls downgradient of each phase of earth –disturbing activities will be achieved by the time each phase of earth –disturbing activities, unless unfeasible” is very general. Who is installing? What are the necessary controls, where are they being implemented? Who decides if its feasible?

From Section 4.1 Best Management Practices,

“UI will use good engineering practices and follow manufacturer’s specifications in design and installation of all BMP used. The following factors should be accounted for when designing stormwater controls:

The expected amount, frequency, intensity and duration of precipitation and associated runoff, the nature of stormwater runoff and run-on at the site including factors such as expected immediate flow form impervious (paved) surfaces, slopes and site drainage features.....

These statements are too general- no information on runoff, what BMP will be used and where, how are they sized? Why not list the good engineering practices?

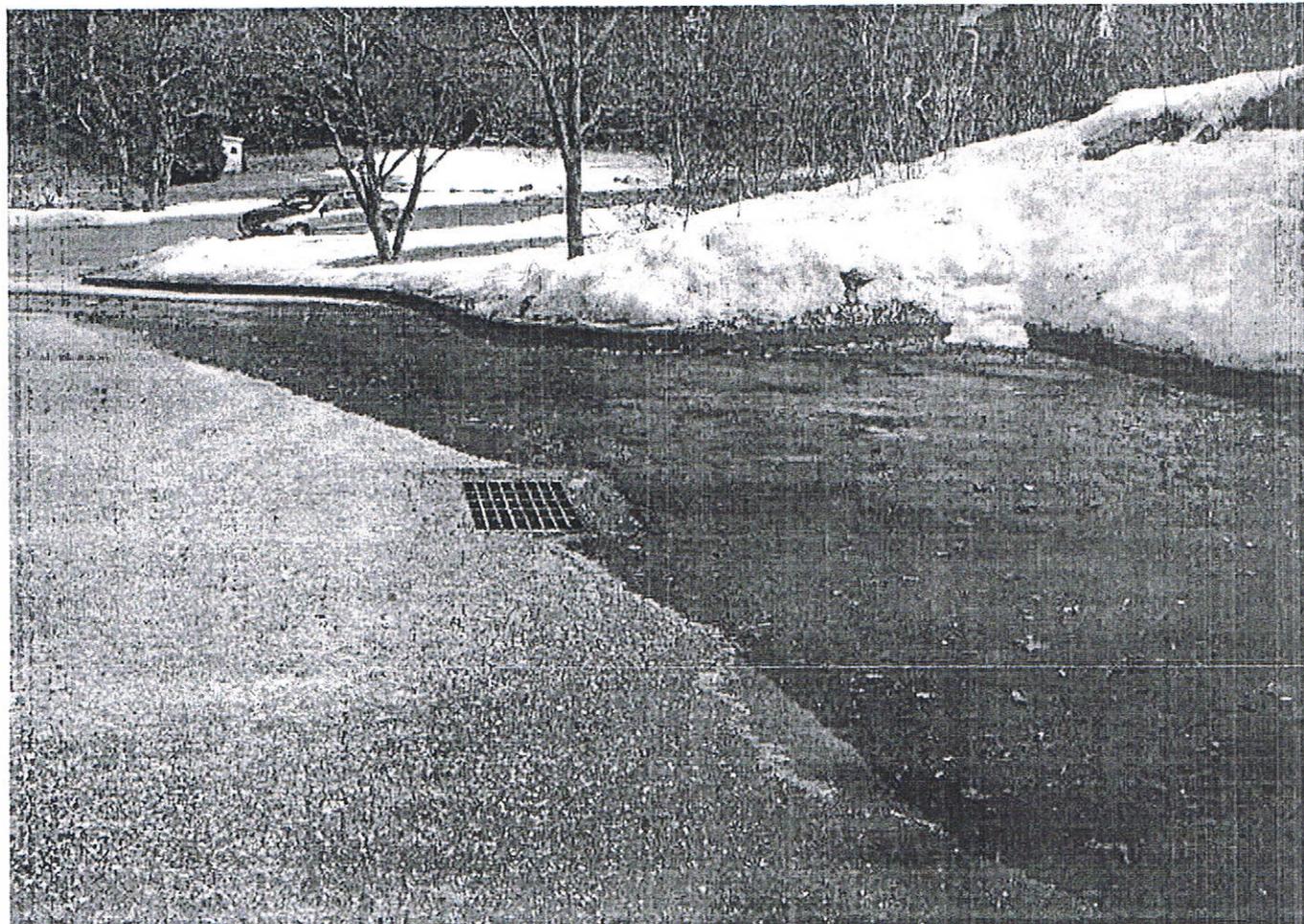
Section 5.3 “retain stormwater for the Water Quality Volume as calculated”. I believe there have been NO calculations submitted nor any rctainage (detention) proposed.

From section 6.0 Inspections

“Within 30 days of commencement of construction activity, Inspections by Qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional or QPE will inspect the site at least once but no more than three times during the first 90 days” Why not have the inspector come during the first week of significant activity and before the first measurable rainfall event and after each subsequent rainfall event (0.5 inches or more) afterwards?

Please have UI/UI consultant submit SMR (stormwater monitoring report) to the Town as well as DEEP.

In summary, I believe UI can address most of the neighborhood concerns and should be willing to do so. UI should be held to similar requirements as other applicants/projects in regards to light trespass and stormwater runoff issues.



Yours truly,



William Hurley P.E.
Engineering Manager



UI Hawthorne
cb.msg



TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

March 17, 2015

Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Petition No. 1120: UI Declaratory Ruling petition to the CT Siting Council for 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, CT for modifications to the existing substation

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the above-referenced pending application at the CT Siting Council for a Declaratory Ruling asking that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to the Hawthorne substation located at 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, CT, I would like to further explain and discuss the third comment of the Fairfield Inland Wetland Agency in their December 2014 comments, which I drafted, related to storm water detention.

UI is proposing to change pervious wooded area to impervious area/paved areas which accelerates runoff which is expected to adversely impact the adjacent off-site small wetland and watercourse with erosive flows and sedimentation. Those impacts can and should be mitigated with proper storm water detention. They have not shown subsurface detention units or a surface rain garden or detention basin—that is why in December I recommended, and the Inland Wetlands Agency sent comments that recommended that such storm water detention be provided. Storm water detention is a standard provision on all development projects we see in town, and has been for decades.

Storm water detention may be provided in a variety of ways. They can also use a combination of several methods to meet design criteria. They can use porous pavement or subsurface H-20 loading units under driveway areas or pavement to provide detention. They may use rain gardens at the fringe areas of their disturbances. It does not have to be all or nothing as they stated in their stormwater plan. Fairfield has required detention on homeowner-level projects as well as

Connecticut Siting Council

March 17, 2015

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larger-scale projects, and just because it is not convenient, and that there is surrounding woodland, is not nearly enough reason to waive such a requirement here.

Sincerely,

Annette Jacobson
Conservation Administrator

asj

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PETITION 1120
UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY-HAWTHORNE SUBSTATION
PRE HEARING NOTICE OF
TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

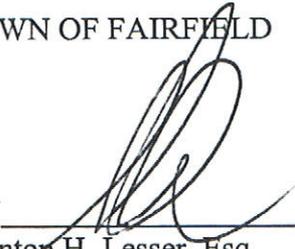
1. PRE-FILED TESTIMONY

- a. William Hurley, Fairfield Town Engineer.
Testimony submitted in the form of letter dated March 23, 2015, filed herewith.

- b. Annette Jacobson, Fairfield Conservation Administrator
Testimony submitted in the form of
 - (1) Letter dated December 5, 2014, with exhibit, on file with the CSC
 - (2) Letter dated March 17, 2015, on file with the CSC

Authors of the letters will be available for cross-examination.

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

BY 

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