



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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www.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

April 9, 2015

Richard J. Reed, PMP
Vice President – Engineering and Project Excellence
The United Illuminating Company
180 Marsh Hill Road
Orange, CT 06477

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 located at 180 Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, Connecticut.

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests further information regarding items discussed during the March 31, 2015 public hearing held for this petition. The Council requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than April 16, 2015. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available.

Please forward an original and 15 copies to this office, as well as send a copy via electronic mail. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and in accordance with Section 16-50j-12 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies 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. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Yours very truly,

Melanie Bachman
Acting Executive Director

cc: Parties and Intervenors

MB/rdm



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Petition 1120

The United Illuminating Company Hawthorne Substation, Fairfield, Connecticut Petition Interrogatories Set III

1. Was the proposed substation expansion area surveyed for wetlands? If so, describe the methodology used.
2. Were soil augerings performed to assess the wet area located on the north side of the proposed substation expansion area? If yes, please provide field test data. If no, please provide the rationale used to arrive at such a decision.
3. How was the determination reached that the onsite wet area is not a wetland or intermittent watercourse? How does that reconcile with what was observed in the field on March 31, 2015 including presence of standing/seeping water, saturated soils, and the condition of tree trunks and roots that indicate seasonal saturation of the soil?
4. How does the wet area, whether or not it is classified as a wetland, affect the plan to install fill? Are the soils sufficiently stable enough to accommodate the weight of the proposed fill and new substation equipment?
5. If the wet area is classified as a wetland, would filling require an Army Corp of Engineers permit?
6. Does the wet area extend to the northeast, connecting to the previously delineated wetland on the adjacent GE property? How does the proposed filling of the wet area affect storm water run-off to this delineated wetland?
7. If the previously delineated wetland is a vernal pool, is filling and disturbance occurring within the 100-foot vernal pool envelope?
8. If the previously delineated wetland is a vernal pool, how does the proposed project affect the critical upland terrestrial habitat (100-750 feet) of the vernal pool?
9. In regards to the Response to Town of Fairfield Interrogatories, dated March 16, 2015, Response 3 - Phase II Environmental Assessment, please clarify the Chain of Custody information on the last page of the document - items 1A and 5B, as discussed at the March 31, 2015 hearing.
10. At the March 31, 2015 hearing, UI offered to submit a revised version of the *Electric and Magnetic Field Assessment: The Hawthorne Substation* prepared by Exponent that does not contain Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). Please submit a revised version or a summary of findings that does not contain CEII.