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
Internet: ct.gov/csc

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DATE: April 10, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 327** - The Connecticut Light and Power Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a proposed substation located off Commerce Park Drive, Oxford, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of an electrical substation in the Town of Oxford, Connecticut. The proposed substation would add capacity and improve electric distribution system reliability in response to increasing electrical demand in the Oxford area. The proposal is supported by the Town of Oxford.

CL&P proposes to construct a 115-kV to 13.8-kV substation on a 15.7-acre parcel owned by CL&P. The site is located in the Oxford Commerce Park which is presently under construction. The new development is generally located north of Jacks Hill Road, east of Christian Street, west of North Larkey Road, and south of the Larkin Bridle Trail. The proposed substation would be located off the newly constructed Commerce Park Drive.

The site is undeveloped, consisting of woodland and old field areas. An existing 115-kV transmission line corridor traverses the site in a north-south direction. A 4.4-acre transmission line easement would be obtained to the north of the substation to allow for interconnection with the existing transmission line.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

CL&P stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled.

This application has trigged a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 16a-7c. The RFP process allows for other entities to present alternatives to energy projects filed with the Council. This process allows the Council to simultaneously evaluate each energy application against potential alternatives. CEAB will issue a report to the Council April 13, 2007 that presents any alternative proposals for this application.

Pursuant to CGS § 16-50p, the Council shall render a decision within 180 days after the deadline for filing an application following the RFP process. The deadline for proposals to CEAB was February 27, 2007. The Council's proposed schedule assumes that no alternative proposals will be received by CEAB; therefore, the Council's deadline for a decision would be August 27, 2007.

IV. Proposed Schedule

Application received	December 15, 2006
Completeness review	March 13, 2007
Pre-hearing Questions • Set-One Filed • Set-One responses received • Set-Two Filed • Set-Two responses due	 March 21, 2007 April 5, 2007 *(Tentative dates)* *April 9, 2007* *April 27, 2007*
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	April 24, 2007
Pre-filed testimony due	May 10, 2007
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	May 10, 2007
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	May 16, 2007
Hearing (3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	May 16, 2007
Close of Record	June 15, 2007
Draft Findings of Fact	June 22, 2007
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	July 11, 2007
Deadline for Decision	August 27, 2007
180-day extension date	February 22, 2008

Robert D. Mercier
Siting Analyst