



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

POWER FACILITY EVALUATION COUNCIL

STATE OFFICE BUILDING HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

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PETITION NO. 28

Rocky Hill, Ct. June 13, 1978

Fred Doocy and Duncan Reid met Hank Liss of Northeast Utilities at the Rocky Hill substation to review completed Petition No. 28.

Petition No. 28 consisted of replacing a double circuit 115kV lattice line, built in 1923, with a single circuit 115kV steel pole line. Five lattice structures, three near Orchard Street in Rocky Hill and two at the I-91 crossing, were retained and used for the new line. Construction took place within an existing right-of-way between the Rocky Hill substation in Rocky Hill and an existing structure immediately north of Hartford Avenue in Wethersfield. The remainder of the line to the South Meadow generating station was rebuilt in 1960. No right-of-way clearing was necessary.

At the time this line was built (1975) provisions were made for a second 115kV circuit on the steel poles because the expected rate of use of electricity was high. Considering more recent forecasts, a second circuit on this line is not expected in the near future.

The right-of-way traverses some agricultural land, and a residential area in Rocky Hill, and parallels commercial establishments along the Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield.

The right-of-way adjacent to the Silas Deane Highway is used by some commercial establishments as a parking area; otherwise it is well stabilized by herbs and shrubs. Some possible breaches of the easement were observed on the right-of-way east of the Silas Deane Highway, such as parked vehicles and sewer construction. These problems are being investigated by Northeast Utilities' Real Estate Department.

In the residential area the right-of-way is well groomed by the property owners and neat in appearance.

On Elm Street in Rocky Hill an above ground swimming pool was observed under the conductors. It was learned that many old easements contain no building clauses which would prohibit such use of the right-of-way. Now, the new National Electric Safety Code permits swimming pools in the right-of-way if proper clearances are maintained.

There appear to be no significant adverse environmental impacts associated with this petition. Therefore, it is recommended that this petition be finally approved.

Duncan C. Reid
Environmentalist

June 27, 1978