



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 207
Staff Report
April 27, 1988

Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) is requesting a determination that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction of two aboveground concrete tanks in replacement of a one acre impoundment which is part of the wastewater treatment system at the CL&P Devon Station. The project consists of the construction of two 30 foot high, 85 foot diameter, aboveground concrete tanks on the north side of the developed area of the plant. This area has been used for similar activities in the past. The tanks will replace an existing impoundment, and will have an equivalent combined volume of about 2.5 million gallons. The entire treatment system, is operated under NPDES Permit #CT0003107; issued to CL&P by the CT DEP. The new tanks are needed because the existing single lined surface impoundment must be double lined or removed as mandated by the 1984 Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. CL&P chose to remove the impoundment.

Siting Council members Dr. William Smith, Brian Emerick, and Brian Tole, and analysts Thomas E. Fanning, Jim Walz, and Fred Rein met at the site with Northeast Utilities representatives Tom Arcari, Tom Keeney, and Jack Ranney on April 15, 1988.

Devon Station is located on the east bank of the Housatonic River in Milford CT. Portions of the shoreline are within the 100 year flood zone, to 11 foot MSL. The proposed modifications and tank additions take advantage of existing site conditions including a manmade, flood proofed depression, (bermed) to 20 feet above MSL. This situation would protect the tanks from the 100 year flood, and the recess reduces the visual impacts of the modifications from across the river.

The proposed concrete tanks would be located approximately 500 feet north of the existing lagoon, and 60 feet from the northerly property line. Soils in the area are well-drained (Ud - Urban Complex), and receive only intermittent drainage due to the configuration of the grading. There is no through-drainage in the area of the proposed tank location.

There are no inland or tidal wetlands in the proposed area of the tank site. CL&P will apply to the Milford Planning & Zoning Commission for Coastal Zone location approval. The proposal is consistent with the applicable policies of the Connecticut Coastal Management Act.

Department of Environmental Protection approval of the proposed changes to the wastewater treatment system is required, and has been requested.

CL&P states that the proposed project does not constitute a modification as defined in Connecticut General Statutes-Section 16-50i (d) because the substitution of two concrete tanks with a total volume of 2.5 million gallons for a similar sized surface impoundment in an adjacent location would not constitute a major change or alteration in the general physical characteristics of the Devon facility.

The review team expressed concern that the existing monitoring well system be capable of detecting discharges to the groundwater system in the event of a release to the environment from the new tanks. The review team recommended that if CL&P is required to install additional monitor wells as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, they should be located inside the bermed containment area.

Construction on the tanks would be according to the submitted petition and would commence in May 1988. The tanks would be operational by October 15, 1988. Other changes would be operational by April 1, 1989.

Fred Rein
Siting Analyst

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