



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

136 Main Street, Suite 401  
New Britain, Connecticut 06051  
Phone: 827-7682

Petition No. 213HW  
Northeast Utilities  
Milford, Connecticut

On June 29, 1988, Dr. James G. Horsfall and Daniel P. Lynch, Jr. of the Siting Council and Robert K. Erling of the Council staff met Thomas Arcari and Thomas Kenny of Northeast Utilities (NU) for a field review at Devon Station in Milford, Connecticut. NU is petitioning the Council for a determination that no Certificate of Public Safety and Necessity would be required for the construction of a new wastewater clarifier at this facility. NU contends that the proposed clarifier would not constitute a modification of an existing hazardous waste facility as defined in Section 22a-115(9)(A) of the General Statutes of Connecticut (CGS), or, in the alternative, that it is a facility whose primary business is not disposal, treatment, or recovery of hazardous waste, but which treats hazardous waste on site as integral part of an industrial process as determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under Section 22a-117(b)(1) of the CGS. This proposed clarifier would be part of an existing wastewater treatment facility and therefore would not require a new permit from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under hazardous waste management regulations. However, DEP approval of the final plans for the changes to the wastewater system would be required under Water Pollution Control Statutes. In a letter from the Hazardous Waste Management Section of the DEP, the DEP states that NU is "...not engaged in the business of treating, disposing, or recovery of hazardous waste. However, in order to safely and reliably generate electricity, NU/CL&P must treat hazardous wastewaters from boiler chemical cleaning processes as an integral part of their industrial process."

Water entering the clarifier would contain sodium hydroxide, sulphuric acid, and boiler chemical cleaners. A wastewater clarifier raises the pH level of the waste water and allows solids in this water to settle on the bottom of the tank. This sludge is then de-watered and deposited in a landfill. The waste water next moves to a polishing pond, and then to an acid house where the pH is lowered before final disposal, in this case into the Housatonic River.

The proposed clarifier would be in a developed area of the power plant's wastewater treatment system, adjacent to the existing 74,000 gallon clarifier, which was constructed in 1978. The new clarifier would be the same size as the existing one.

The proposed clarifier would improve the capability of the Devon Station to handle its waste water. Construction would begin in the latter part of 1988, with completion expected in early 1989.

Robert K. Erling  
Sr. Siting Analyst

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