



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 315
Northeast Utilities
Uncasville Substation
Montville, Connecticut
Staff Report
January 12, 1994

On December 21, 1993, Northeast Utilities Service Company (NU) submitted a petition to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requesting a ruling that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) is not required for the proposed addition to its Uncasville substation in Montville, Connecticut.

On December 29, 1993, Mortimer A. Gelston, Chairman of the Council and Joel M. Rinebold and Fred O. Cunliffe of the Council staff met Robert Charpentier and Stan Watson of NU on the site of the proposed addition.

Presently, the Uncasville substation consists of two 115-kV transmission lines and two 25-MVA transformers stepping down to five 13.2-kV feeders. The proposed additions include:

- a. Adding one 115-kV to 27.6-kV, 27-MVA transformer;
- b. installing one outdoor 34.5-kV circuit recloser with associated switches and steel structure;
- c. installing a 115-kV motorized disconnect switch, line trap, and associated steel structures; and
- d. expanding the substation fence approximately 40 feet west.

The proposed addition is needed to provide a dedicated 27.6-kV feeder to serve a new load at Rand-Whitney Containerboard. Although the existing substation is capable of handling the extra capacity, the existing distribution lines are inadequate to serve the necessary load needed to start large motors at Rand-Whitney.

The proposed site area extends 40 feet west of the existing fence line for approximately 340 feet. Approximately 300 cubic yards of fill would be needed to meet the existing grade of the substation. The surface of the new substation yard would

consist of three-quarter inch trap rock. A new fence would be installed along the west perimeter of the yard. Approximately 50 percent of the proposed area to be developed is identified as an inland wetland buffer and is currently maintained as a mowed lawn. NU has received an Inland Wetlands Permit to conduct regulated activities within Inland Wetlands and/or Watercourses in the Town of Montville. Site plan approval for the expansion of the substation is not necessary pursuant to a Planning and Zoning Commission determination.

An existing distribution line within the proposed site area would need to be moved with some minimal clearing necessary. NU states no disruption of service would be encountered.

NU would place erosion and sedimentation controls along the outer edge of the existing cleared area. All areas disturbed by construction would be rehabilitated. Construction is proposed to start February 1994 and finish September 1994.

The oil in the proposed transformer is non-PCB as designated by the Environmental Protection Agency and is not regulated as a hazardous substance. A sump would be installed to contain all of the transformer oil.

NU would maintain sound levels along the their property boundary as specified in Regulations of State Agencies section 22a-69-1 to 22a-69-7.4, titled Control of Noise.

Staff recommends that the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control be adhered to and a maximum 2 to 1 slope be maintained along the edge of the proposed substation addition.

NU contends that the proposed petition for the substation addition would not result in a substantial adverse effect on the environment or ecology, nor will it damage existing scenic, historical, or recreational values. Accordingly, NU requests that the Council issue a determination that no Certificate is required.

Fred O. Cunliffe
Siting Analyst

FOC/ss

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