



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

10 Franklin Square
New Britain, Connecticut 06051
Phone: (860) 827-2935
Fax: (860) 827-2950

Petition No. 351
Connecticut Light and Power Company
115-kV Transmission Line Structure Modification
East Windsor, Connecticut
Staff Report
May 9, 1996

On April 30, 1996, Connecticut Siting Council (Council) members Colin C. Tait and Brian Emerick and Fred O. Cunliffe of Council Staff met with Paula Taupier and Mike Carlson of Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) at the project site located between Interstate 91 and Prospect Hill Road in East Windsor, Connecticut.

East Windsor Properties Limited Partnership (Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.) has Town of East Windsor approval to develop land which is adjacent to an existing CL&P double-circuit 115-kV transmission line (circuit numbers 1300 and 1100). The developer proposes to increase the grade in the vicinity of transmission line structure numbers 6083, 6084, 6084A, and 6085. Consequently, conductor heights need to be raised to maintain safety clearance in areas impacted by grading. CL&P construction and design allowances will establish clearances of approximately 24 feet at 60 degrees Fahrenheit at a typical span in East Windsor. The 1993 National Electric Safety Code's minimum clearance to ground for 115-kV class facilities for parking lots is 20.1 feet.

Presently, structure numbers 6084 and 6084A have three guyed wood-pole angle structures each with the pole tops approximately 56 feet above grade. CL&P would rebuild these structures with new guyed wood-pole angle structures with the pole tops approximately 76 feet above existing grade and 61 feet above final grade. The increase in grade is approximately 15 feet. The total width of the structures including guys of structure numbers 6084 and 6084A would increase from approximately 98 feet to 101 feet within a 175-foot right-of-way. Also, CL&P would rebuild an existing distribution line that is also within the right-of-way.

The project would include rebuilding adjacent structure numbers 6083 and 6085 and convert the line from suspension to strain insulation. Although each of the existing three pole structures (6083 and 6085) would be separated into two two-pole structures (6083/6083A and 6085/6085A) the height of the modified structures would remain the same. Separate structures for each circuit is necessary to maintain proper working clearances to energized conductors; therefore, one transmission circuit will remain energized during construction. Furthermore, the conversion from suspension insulation to strain insulation would minimize pole heights necessary at structure numbers 6084 and 6084A.

Petition No. 351
Staff Report
May 9, 1996

The cost of the proposed project will be the developer's responsibility. Construction will start after a final agreement with the developer is consummated, with completion expected by mid-summer 1996.

CL&P contends that the modifications will not result in a substantial adverse effect on the environment or ecology, nor will there be damage to existing scenic, historical or recreational values. Thereby CL&P requests that the Council rule that the proposed modifications will have no substantial adverse environmental effect and that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) is required.

Council staff concurs with CL&P's analysis and further adds that the Town of East Windsor has approved the location for a retail establishment. Also, impacts to the environment were fully considered by the municipality. CL&P's involvement with this project is necessary to maintain proper conductor clearance to protect the public.