



**Connecticut
Light & Power**

A Northeast Utilities Company

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December 4, 2013

Mr. Robert Stein, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Docket No. 424: Interstate Reliability Project
*Request for Temporary Suspension of BSC Group Independent Environmental Inspections Pending
Receipt of the Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

Dear Chairman Stein:

As an initial step in the construction of the Interstate Reliability Project (Project), during a planned outage on November 26, 2013, The Connecticut Light and Power Company's (CL&P's) contractor, ES Boulos, successfully installed temporary bus work at Card Street Substation. This work was all completed within the station fence and the affected areas have been restored and stabilized with gravel.

However, until the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issues a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit for the Project, CL&P will not perform any further construction activities at Card Street Substation and will not initiate construction along the transmission line rights-of-way or any modifications to Lake Road Switching Station or Killingly Substation. Currently, CL&P anticipates that the USACE will issue the Section 404 permit in March 2014.

Commencing in mid-December, shipments of Project materials are scheduled to arrive for storage at the laydown yards approved by the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on October 31, 2013. The use of these material storage sites is the only activity planned prior to the issuance of the Section 404 permit. There will be no construction activity conducted at the material laydown areas.

Because no Project construction will be performed in the upcoming months, CL&P respectfully requests that the Council suspend, including for laydown areas, its independent environmental inspections (performed weekly by the BSC Group¹) until the Section 404 permit is issued and construction activities commence.

Should you or other Council members have any questions regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail or telephone.

Sincerely,

John R. Morissette

¹ The independent environmental inspections are performed pursuant to Condition 8 of the Council's Docket No. 424 Decision and Order and the Project Development and Management Plan, Volume 1, Section 6.1. On September 20, 2013, the Council approved the BSC Group as the Independent Environmental Inspector for the Project.