

**Connecticut  
Light & Power**

A Northeast Utilities Company

107 Selden Street, Berlin CT 06037

Northeast Utilities Service Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270  
(860) 665-5000

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CONNECTICUT  
SITING COUNCIL

February 6, 2014

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

RE: Docket No. 424: Interstate Reliability Project  
Monthly Construction Progress Report

Dear Chairman Stein:

Pursuant to RCSA Section 16-50j-62(b)(3) and as described in Volumes 1, Section 7, of the *Development and Management ("D&M") Plan for the Interstate Reliability Project (Interstate): Modifications to Card Street Substation, Lake Road Switching Station, and Killingly Substation* and the *Interstate D&M Plan for the Construction of New 345-kV Transmission Lines and Related Minor Modifications to Adjacent Lines*, The Connecticut Light and Power Company ("CL&P") hereby provides to the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") the Construction Progress Report for the month of January 2014.

Should you or other Council members have any questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail or telephone at (860) 665-2036.

Sincerely,

John R. Morissette  
Project Manager – Transmission Siting

Enclosure

**INTERSTATE RELIABILITY PROJECT  
MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT  
JANUARY 2014**

**1. MODIFICATIONS TO SUBSTATIONS AND SWITCHING STATIONS**

No construction activities were performed at Lake Road Switching Station or Killingly Substation during January 2014. At Card Street Substation, E.S. Boulos, a general CL&P contractor, was tasked with the performance of certain non-Interstate maintenance work within the substation yard. E.S. Boulos was the contractor who installed, in November 2013, the temporary bus work at Card Street Substation for the Interstate Project, in preparation for the March 2014 outage.

While at Card Street Substation performing the non-Interstate maintenance work in January, E.S. Boulos also installed four direct embed steel structures that will be used during the Interstate outage in March. The four steel structures, each of which is approximately 35 feet tall, were installed within the center of the 345-kV yard, within previously disturbed, graveled areas. The work, which was all contained within a small area of the station yard, was performed over a several-day period in late January, after which E.S. Boulos demobilized from the site. Due to a mis-communication, CL&P was not informed of the intent to perform this work in January. On February 3, when told of the structure work, CL&P dispatched environmental personnel to review the substation area; no environmental concerns were observed.

No further Interstate construction activities will be performed at Card Street Substation, or any of the other two stations, without prior written notification to the Council. CL&P is providing such written notification to the Council under a separate letter.

**2. NEW 345-kV TRANSMISSION LINES AND RELATED MINOR MODIFICATIONS TO ADJACENT LINES**

Transmission line construction is not expected to begin until after the issuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act permit, which is expected to be received before the end of the first quarter 2014.

**2.1 MINOR DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT (D&M) PLAN CHANGES**

To reflect the results of landowner consultations over the past several months, CL&P has made minor changes, as listed below, to the *New 345-kV Transmission Line and Related Line Modifications Development and Management (D&M) Plan* Volume 3 maps. As described in the D&M Plan, Volume 1, Section 7.2, Notice of Changes to D&M Plan, these modifications either reduce impacts or have no adverse effects and, therefore, are identified as non-significant D&M Plan changes.

- A. **Off-ROW Access Roads and Related Changes.** Based on the results of CL&P's consultations with landowners subsequent to the August 2013 issuance of the D&M Plan, certain off-ROW access roads have been modified slightly or eliminated. Table 1, attached, summarizes these access road changes.
- B. **Structure Shift.** At the request of the affected landowner, CL&P has shifted the location of Structure No. 179 (Town of Brooklyn, D&M Plan, Volume 3 mapsheet 35) approximately 20 feet to the west. A stone wall that would have been disturbed under the previous configuration now demarcates the western limit of the work pad for this structure and will not be disturbed. The structure shift is within an upland area and will not affect any water resources or cultural resources. The structure work pad has been reconfigured slightly to accommodate the structure shift.

**Table 1**  
**Off-ROW Road Changes: Transmission Line D&M Plan**

<b>D&amp;M Plan, Volume 3 Mapsheet / Town</b>	<b>Description (including structure location, as applicable)</b>
<b>Chaplin</b>	
20	Park Road - Eliminated off-ROW access road leading to ROW between Structures 106 and 107 (via Park Road).
21	Chewink Road - Minor modification to off-ROW access road leading to ROW between Structures 113 and 114, pursuant to landowner discussions and to minimize impacts to certain cultural resources (approved in CT DEEP Technical Plan Revision).
<b>Hampton</b>	
24	Parker Road - Eliminated off-ROW access road leading to ROW between Structures 127 and 128.
<b>Brooklyn</b>	
33	Eliminated off-ROW access road to/from ROW between Structures 171 and 172.
35	Windham Road - Eliminated off-ROW access road leading to ROW between Structures 179 and 180.
39/39A	Brown Road - Eliminated off-ROW access road leading to Structure 204.
<b>Killingly</b>	
47/47A/48	Cotton Bridge Road - Eliminated off-ROW access roads leading to Structures 240-241.
<b>Putnam/Thompson</b>	
63	Quaddick Town Farm Road - Eliminated off-ROW access road leading to ROW between Structures 318 and 319.

In addition, CL&P has incorporated the following minor editorial changes into the Volume 3 maps:

- Map index sheets, located at the beginning of Volume 3, have been updated to indicate revised sheets.
- Landowner names, as depicted on the maps, have been updated based on currently available data.
- Invasive species labels incorrectly added to the August 2013 maps have been removed from certain off-ROW wetlands where invasive species were not identified.
- The name of the trail near proposed Structure No. 88 in Mansfield has been corrected to the Nipmuck Trail, East Branch (refer to D&M Plan, Volume 3, map 17).
- The *Farmland Protection Measures* list on D&M Plan, Volume 3, Detail Sheet 8 has been updated to correspond to the measures described in D&M Plan, Volume 1, Appendix C and now includes farmland restoration measures.

### 3. FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATORY PERMITS

In approving the Project D&M Plans (September 20 and November 4, 2013), the Council directed CL&P to provide copies of federal and state regulatory permits, upon receipt, to the Council.

In January, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) completed its review of the Project's Registrations for the *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities* (CL&P submitted two separate Registrations: one for the station modifications and one for the transmission line construction). On January 8 and January 30, CT DEEP authorized the station modifications and the transmission line construction, respectively, to commence pursuant to the General Permit.

In addition, on January 14, 2014, the CT DEEP approved CL&P's proposed Technical Plan Revisions to certain Project work pads and access roads. These revisions were made to minimize water resource impacts and to avoid or protect cultural resource sites.

Copies of the CT DEEP approvals are included in Attachment 1. Pursuant to these CT DEEP approvals, as well as to address the vernal pool condition of the Council's November 4, 2013 D&M Plan approval, CL&P has modified the D&M Plan, Volume 3 maps, as follows:

- A. **Erosion and sedimentation control notes.** Pursuant to the *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities* (issued by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection [CT DEEP] on August 21, 2013 and effective October 1, 2013), additional erosion and sedimentation control notes have been added to all Volume 3 mapsheets.
- B. **Staggered Silt Fence and Vernal Pools.** To reflect the Council's condition in its October 31, 2013 approval of the D&M Plan, a note regarding the use of staggered (i.e. syncopated) silt fence around vernal pools has been added to the *Vernal Pool Avoidance and Minimization Measures* list on Detail Sheet 3 and a typical drawing of a staggered silt fence has been added to Detail Sheet 7.
- C. **Work Pad Modifications for Guy Wire / Shield Wire Relocation.** As reflected in the CT DEEP Technical Plan Revision, minor modifications to the following work pads at proposed angle structures have been incorporated to better accommodate the removal or relocation of guy wires and/or shield wires on the existing angle structures, as necessary for the construction of the new 345-kV transmission line. All of the modifications involve the minor work pad reconfigurations (by approximately 1,700 to 5,000 square feet) to include one - two of the three poles that comprise the existing angle structures. The property owners have been notified.
  - Structure 250 – Volume 3, Mapsheet 49 (Killingly)
  - Structure 291 – Volume 3, Mapsheet 58 (Putnam)
  - Structure 323 – Volume 3, Mapsheet 64 (Thompson)
- D. **Stream Channel Encroachment Lines.** Pursuant to the CT DEEP-approved Technical Plan Revision, given that the CT DEEP's Stream Channel Encroachment Line (SCEL) program was eliminated effective October 2013, the SCELs along the Willimantic River (the only SCELs traversed by the Project ROW) have been removed from D&M Plan, Volume 3 mapsheet No. 7.

After receipt of the Project's Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), CL&P will provide to the Council a copy of that regulatory approval, as well as an updated version of the D&M Plan Volume 3 maps, which will reflect: (1) the USACE and CT DEEP-approved modifications for water resource impact minimization and cultural resource avoidance / protection; and (2) all minor changes and any significant changes previously presented to and endorsed by the Council, including those provided herein.

**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**CT DEEP REGULATORY APPROVALS**



The Connecticut Light and Power Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141

Attn: William J. Hoynack

**Re: Request for Technical Plan Revision**

Permit Nos.: WQC-201205697 & SCEL-201205698  
Project: Interstate Reliability Project  
USACOE No.: NAE-2008-1671  
Towns: Lebanon, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, Chaplin, Hampton,  
Brooklyn, Pomfret, Killingly, Putnam and Thompson

Dear Mr. Hoynack:

The Department has completed a review of a request for a technical plan revision to the above referenced applications received by the Department on December 20, 2013. A substantial reduction in temporary wetland impacts (-19,158 square feet), and small increases in secondary (+2,128 square feet) and permanent wetland impacts (+933 square feet) have been proposed and identified in the document entitled, "Request for Technical Plan Revisions and Provision of Additional Information and data per Permit Conditions." You stated that most of the proposed revisions are a result of National Historic Preservation Act consultations, with the remainder being necessitated by discussions with stakeholders/landowners during the completion of the Development and Management Plan as required by the CT Siting Council. As you noted, the increase in permanent wetland impact is due to ongoing design work as required by Special Condition 12 of the referenced permit. A summary of the proposed changes are listed below:

- additional clearing of forested wetland vegetation at wetland # W20-44 on mapsheet 19 due to a reconfigured work pad (structure 49),
- additional clearing of forested wetland vegetation at wetland #W20-137 and W20-138 on mapsheets 72 and 73 due to a reconfigured work pads (structures 182 and 183),
- placement of riprap to formalize two crossing small stream access road crossings pursuant to permit Special Condition #12, and
- removal of Stream Channel Encroachment Line (SCEL) boundaries from mapsheets 13 and 14 due to legislative repeal of the SCEL program.

Your request for technical plan revision is hereby approved. The project shall be constructed in accordance with plans entitled "The Connecticut Portion of the Interstate Reliability project by

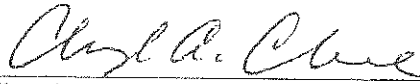
WQC-201205697 & SCEL-201205698  
CL&P  
Interstate Reliability Project  
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the Connecticut Light and Power Company / Attachment G / 1"=100' Impact Summary Sheets & Cross-Sections," dated July 2012, revised to April 2013 and to December 2013. The proposed revisions are consistent with the original Water Quality Certification and Stream Channel Encroachment Line permit issued on May 7, 2013. All conditions of your permit remain in effect.

In addition to your request for technical plan revision, you requested that, pursuant to permit Special Condition #5, we approve the final draft of the attached Conservation Easement (dated 12/10/13) for the 119.69 acre parcel to be preserved as compensatory mitigation for unavoidable wetland impacts. Upon review of said conservation easement, I find it acceptable and hereby approve it.

If you have questions regarding the permits, you may contact Doug Hoskins at (860) 424-4192, douglas.hoskins@ct.gov. All correspondence regarding the permits should reference the permit numbers identified above and be addressed to Doug Hoskins, Inland Water Resources Division, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

January 17, 2014  
Date

  
Cheryl A. Chase  
Director  
Inland Water Resources Division  
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse

CC:dh

attachments (1)

cc:  
Brian Murphy, DEEP Inland Fisheries (email only)  
For the towns of Mansfield/Brooklyn/Thompson:  
Mayor/First Selectman  
Conservation Commission  
Inland Wetland Agency  
Planning & Zoning Commission

Susan Lee, New England District, USACE, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751  
Chris Fritz, Burns & McDonnell, 108 Leigus Rd., Suite 1100, Wallingford, CT 06492  
Jeffrey R. Martin, CL&P, P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Williams, Neal" <[Neal.Williams@ct.gov](mailto:Neal.Williams@ct.gov)>  
**Date:** January 8, 2014 at 3:39:01 PM EST  
**To:** "Young, Robert T." <[rtyoung@burnsmcd.com](mailto:rtyoung@burnsmcd.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interstate Reliability Project - Stormwater General Permit Coverage

Rob,

DEEP's Water Permitting and Enforcement Division has completed the review of C,L&P's Interstate Reliability Project, Registration for the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (general permit), application #201304126. The project is authorized to commence on January 8, 2014 pursuant to Section 3(g)(2)(A) of the general permit. A registration number and letter will be generated in the future, until that time this e-mail shall serve as authorization.

Neal Williams 860-424-3356

**From:** Young, Robert T. [<mailto:rtyoung@burnsmcd.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 08, 2014 8:16 AM  
**To:** Williams, Neal  
**Subject:** Interstate Reliability Project - Stormwater General Permit Coverage

Neal,

As a follow up to our discussion on Monday, I understand that you have completed the review of the Interstate Reliability Project Notice of Intent to comply with the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Waste Waters Associated with Construction Activity (effective Oct 2013) and the Connecticut Portion of the Interstate Reliability Project Stormwater Pollution Control Plan dated September 2013 (SPCP or the Plan) for the 3 Substation/Switching Station locations associated with the Interstate Reliability Project.

You indicated on the phone that you were satisfied with the content of the plan and had no additional questions. Further, you indicated that we had coverage under the General Permit and could proceed with our work in accordance with the Permit and Plan conditions. I understand there is a computer system issue, where CT DEEP cannot issue the permit coverage reference number at this time, but that system issue is being resolved.

As we discussed, I understand we are authorized to proceed with our work in accordance with the General Permit and our SPCP.

Please provide your concurrence with this understanding or further clarification, if required.

Many Thanks,  
Rob

**Robert T. Young, CPEA**  
**Regional Manager - Environmental Studies & Permitting**  
**New England Office**

**Burns & McDonnell**  
108 Leigus Road, Suite 1100, Building A  
Wallingford, CT 06492  
Office: 203.949.2327  
Mobile: 860.416.5155  
e-mail: [rtyoung@burnsmcd.com](mailto:rtyoung@burnsmcd.com)  
[www.burnsmcd.com](http://www.burnsmcd.com)



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Williams, Neal" <[Neal.Williams@ct.gov](mailto:Neal.Williams@ct.gov)>  
**Date:** January 30, 2014 at 1:43:28 PM EST  
**To:** "Young, Robert T." <[rtyoung@burnsmcd.com](mailto:rtyoung@burnsmcd.com)>  
**Subject:** C,L&P

Robert,

DEEP's Water Permitting and Enforcement Division has completed the review of C,L&P's Interstate Reliability Project (Transmission Line Construction), Registration for the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities (general permit), application #2013005942. The project is authorized to commence on January 30, 2014 pursuant to Section 3(g)(2)(A) of the general permit. A registration number and letter will be generated in the future, until that time this e-mail shall serve as authorization.

Neal Williams 860-424-3356

Neal M. Williams  
Environmental Analyst III  
Water Permitting and Enforcement Division  
Bureau of Materials Management & Compliance Assurance  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127  
P: 860 424-3356 F: 860 424-4060 E: [Neal.Williams@ct.gov](mailto:Neal.Williams@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

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Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.***