

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

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

August 7, 2009

Carolyn A. Werge  
Conservation Officer  
Town of Thompson Conservation Commission  
815 Riverside Drive  
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

RE: Interstate Reliability Project

Dear Ms. Werge:

Thank you for your correspondence dated August 4, 2009.

Although the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) has not received an application for this project, we will retain and file your letter in the record as a written statement under the appropriate docket, if an application is made.

If an application is received by our agency, all information pertaining to this proceeding will be posted on our agency website (<http://ct.gov/csc>) for easy access under the link "Pending Proceedings". You will also find other useful information on our website regarding our hearing processes and our calendar of events. Please feel free to contact the Council office directly (Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.) at 860-827-2935 to inquire if an application has been received or if you have any further questions.

Before making any final decision on an application, the Council must hold a public hearing and carefully consider all the facts of the record. The record is developed by the Council; the applicant, parties, and intervenors in the proceeding; and members of the public who speak at the hearing or submit written statements to the Council.

In addition, all applications, hearings, and decisions must be properly noticed.

The Council is guided by its jurisdiction under Connecticut State Law and endeavors to hold all proceedings fairly and open to the public.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Very truly yours,

  
S. Derek Phelps  
Executive Director

SDP/laf

**Town Of Thompson  
Conservation Commission**  
815 Riverside Drive  
North Grosvenordale, Connecticut 06255

ORIGINAL

August 4, 2009

RECEIVED  
AUG - 5 2009  
CONNECTICUT  
SITING COUNCIL

Connecticut Light & Power  
Northeast Utilities System  
Tony Mele, *Project Manager – Interstate Reliability Project*  
P. O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Mele,

We are in receipt of your letter of June 23, 2009 regarding the proposed Interstate Reliability Project and upcoming field activities. Thank you for the notification and the opportunity to comment.

We are an advisory board representing the conservation interests of the town, and as such, we would like to bring our conservation concerns to your attention while you are still in the planning stages of the Project. The transmission lines located in the southeast quadrant of Thompson are in an ecologically sensitive area of statewide as well as townwide significance.

We have enclosed a rough draft map showing the CT DEP's 2009 Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) areas containing species endangered, threatened and of special concern. The NDDDB is a product of the State Geological and Natural History Survey of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

We recommend that you contact the DEP Natural History Survey about your proposed activities within the NDDDB areas. We urge you to take every precaution to protect the habitat and the species associated with the identified areas of sensitivity as per the instructions that will be provided by the DEP Natural History Survey.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at 860-923-1852.

Sincerely,



Carolyn A. Werge, *Conservation Officer*

cc: CT DEP State Geological and Natural History Survey  
CT Siting Council  
Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., Thompson First Selectman  
Thompson Wetlands Commission  
Kevin Kennedy, Thompson Director of Planning and Development

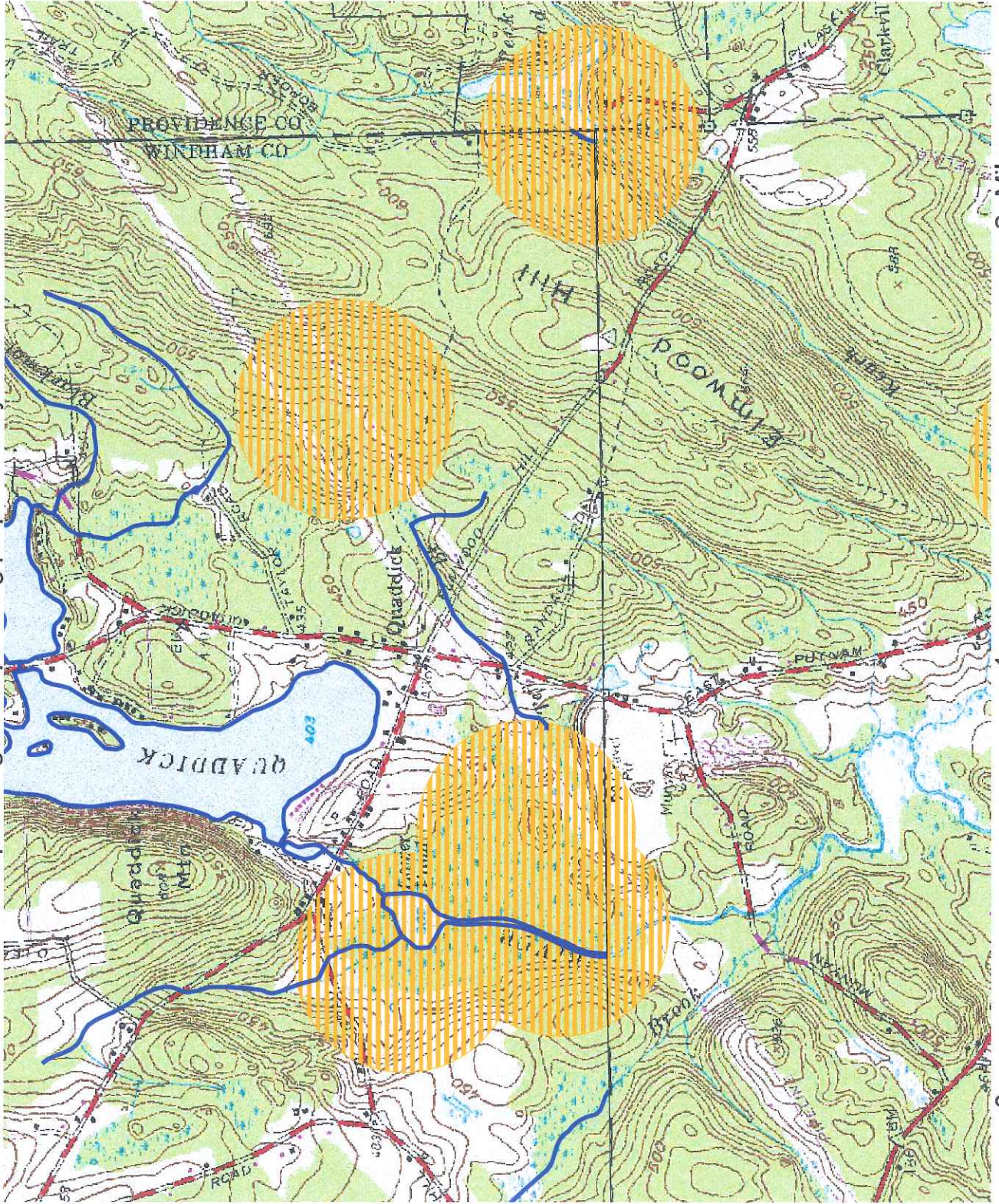
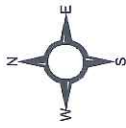
Phone: 860-923-1852

Fax: 860-923-9897

Website: [www.thompsonct.org](http://www.thompsonct.org)

# TOWN OF THOMPSON - Southeast Quadrant

This map is for general planning purposes only.



- Town Boundaries
- Named Streams
- NDDB 2009
- NDDB Area

2 Miles

1

0



Connecticut  
Light & Power

The Northeast Utilities System

NEEWS

Interstate  
Reliability Project

June 23, 2009

Ms. Judith Rondeau  
Officer, Inland/Wetlands Commission  
Thompson Town Hall  
815 Riverside Drive, No.  
Grosvenordale, CT 06255

Dear Ms. Rondeau:

On behalf of The Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P), I would like to update you on the proposed Interstate Reliability Project (the Project) and upcoming field activities planned along the Project's Proposed Route. The Project will be located on existing transmission line rights-of-way in your town. We have enclosed a package of materials, which provides information about the Project as well as other ongoing CL&P New England East-West Solution transmission line Projects.

CL&P is currently drafting an application to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Interstate Reliability Project. Part of the preparation of the CSC application, as well as other environmental permit applications for the Project, involve development of plans that emphasize the minimization or avoidance of adverse environmental impacts, where possible. Delineation of wetlands along the Project's Proposed Route has already been completed. However, in order to complete the CSC application, other permit applications and preliminary engineering, CL&P expects to perform archaeological field surveys, geotechnical and environmental soil sampling, constructability reviews and other field walkdowns.

Although it is CL&P's intent to minimize or avoid wetland impacts, completing these surveys in certain areas will require crossing wetlands or testing locations within wetlands. To facilitate these survey efforts, small-scale vegetation clearing work will be required along some portions of CL&P's existing right-of-way, which is proposed as the location of the Project's 345-kV transmission line. This work will include mowing and the removal of brush and other low growing vegetation to clear the way for surveyors who will conduct archaeological investigations at the proposed locations of line structures and where access roads may be widened.

Interstate Project representatives will notify landowners abutting this right-of-way regarding the upcoming survey work. Advance notification will also be made to town representatives and police departments in the affected towns. In addition, all Project representatives are required to carry proper identification and contact information should they be approached by abutting landowners with questions.

If you or your commissioners have questions regarding the Interstate Reliability Project, please call me at 860-665-4722 or Jeff Buckley, Project Manager, at 203-949-2359. Interested residents can call our NEEWS Project Hotline at 1-866-99-NEEWS (63397) or visit our website at [www.NEEWSProjects.com](http://www.NEEWSProjects.com).

Sincerely,

Tony Mele  
Project Manager - Interstate Reliability Project

Enclosures

cc: Lawrence K. Groh, Jr - Thompson First Selectman  
Ronald J. Tillen - Chairman - Thompson Conservation Commission

NEW ENGLAND  
EAST - WEST  
SOLUTION

Northeast Utilities System  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270