

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SITING COUNCIL

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THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY * MARCH 28, 2013
 * (7:00 p.m.)
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APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE STAMFORD RELIABILITY CABLE PROJECT, WHICH CONSISTS OF CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A NEW 115-kV UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION CIRCUIT EXTENDING APPROXIMATELY 1.5 MILES BETWEEN GLENBROOK AND SOUTH END SUBSTATIONS, STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT AND RELATED SUBSTATION IMPROVEMENTS * DOCKET NO. 435
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BEFORE: JAMES J. MURPHY, JR., ACTING CHAIRMAN

BOARD MEMBERS: Robert Hannon, DEEP Designee
 Michael Caron, PURA Designee
 Edward S. Wilensky
 Philip T. Ashton
 Dr. Barbara Bell

STAFF MEMBERS: Linda Roberts, Executive Director
 David Martin, Siting Analyst
 Melanie Bachman, Staff Attorney

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE APPLICANT, THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY:

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1 . . .Verbatim proceedings of a hearing
2 before the State of Connecticut Siting Council in the
3 matter of an application by The Connecticut Light and
4 Power Company, held at the NEON Stamford Gymnasium, 34
5 Woodland Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut, on March 28, 2013
6 at 7:00 p.m., at which time the parties were represented
7 as hereinbefore set forth . . .

8

9

10 ACTING CHAIRMAN JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.:

11 This meeting is called to order this Thursday, March 28,
12 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

13 My name is James J. Murphy. I'm a member
14 of the Siting Council. Our Chairman is a resident of
15 Stamford and has recused himself from sitting on this
16 matter and has asked that I chair in his absence.

17 Other members of the Council who are
18 present here this evening are Robert Hannon, the designee
19 for Commissioner Dan Estey of the Department of Energy
20 and Environmental Protection; Philip T. Ashton; Dr.
21 Barbara Bell; and Edward S. Wilensky.

22 Members of the staff are Linda Roberts,
23 our Executive Director; Melanie Bachman, Staff Attorney;
24 and David Martin, our Siting Analyst for this file.

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1 Our court reporter is Gail Gregoriades and
2 our audio technician is Aaron DeMarest.

3 This is a continuation of the public
4 hearing which began at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. Copies
5 of the hearing program and the Council's Citizen's Guide
6 to Siting Council Procedures are available for members of
7 the public.

8 This hearing is held pursuant to the
9 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
10 Statutes and the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act
11 upon the application from Connecticut Light and Power
12 Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
13 and Public Need for the Stamford Reliability Cable
14 Project, which consists of construction, maintenance, and
15 operation of a new 115-kV underground transmission
16 circuit extending approximately 1.5 miles from Glenbrook
17 -- excuse me -- between Glenbrook and South End
18 Substations in Stamford, Connecticut and related
19 substation improvements. This application was received
20 by the Council on January 18, 2013.

21 The application -- excuse me -- the
22 Applicant published notice of the filing of this
23 application to the Council in the Stamford Advocate and
24 the Connecticut Post in January of 2013. The Council's

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1 legal notice of the date and time and place of the
2 hearing was published in the Stamford Advocate and the
3 Connecticut Post on February 27, 2013.

4 Upon the Council's request, the Applicant
5 erected several signs within the area to be affected by
6 the proposed project so as to inform the public of the
7 name of the applicant, the type of the facility, the
8 hearing date and location, and contact information for
9 the Council.

10 This afternoon, members of the Council,
11 staff, and public conducted a field review of the project
12 area in order to observe firsthand the potential effects
13 of the proposal.

14 This hearing session tonight has been
15 reserved first for the public to make short statements
16 into the record. These public statements are not subject
17 to questions from the parties or the Council, and members
18 of the public making statements may not ask questions of
19 the parties or the Council. These statements will become
20 part of the record for the Council's consideration. A
21 sign-up sheet is available for those who wish to
22 participate. And if you do wish to participate and have
23 not signed up yet, please do so.

24 A reminder to all that off-the-record

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1 communications with members of the Council or a member of
2 the Council staff upon the merits of this application is
3 prohibited by law.

4 I wish to note that parties and
5 intervenors, including their representatives and
6 witnesses are not allowed to participate in the public
7 comment session.

8 I also wish to note for those who are here
9 and for the benefit of your friends and neighbors who are
10 unable to join us for the public comment session, that
11 you or they may send written statements to the Council
12 within 30 days of the date hereof. And such written
13 statements will be given the same weight as if spoken at
14 this hearing.

15 If necessary, party and intervenor cross-
16 examination that began at the hearing session held at
17 3:00 this afternoon will be continued after the public
18 session if time remains.

19 We ask each person making a public
20 statement in this proceeding to confine his or her
21 statements to the subject matter before the Council and
22 to avoid unreasonable repetition so that we may hear all
23 of the concerns you and your neighbors may have. Please
24 be advised that the Council cannot answer questions from

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1 the public about the proposal.

2 A verbatim transcript will be made of this
3 hearing and deposited at the Stamford City Clerk's Office
4 for the convenience of the public.

5 Before we start with the public portion of
6 the evening's activities, we'd like to invite the
7 Applicant to have someone make a very brief presentation
8 of the proposal and the three alternatives. And I guess
9 you're the lucky person. Go ahead.

10 MR. RAYMOND GAGNON: Thank you very much.

11 (pause)

12 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Maybe you can
13 turn those so that the public can see them as you --

14 MR. GAGNON: My name is Ray Gagnon and I'm
15 the Director of Transmission Projects, representing CL&P
16 tonight.

17 I'm going to be talking about the Stamford
18 Reliability Project and give you a quick high overview of
19 the project itself. Just a couple of things to go over.
20 First of all, CL&P is proposing this project to
21 strengthen the reliability of the electric transmission
22 system. And we're also trying to address the increase in
23 demand for electricity resulting from Stamford's robust
24 economic development. The project will provide a strong

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1 electrical source by adding a new path to relieve power
2 flows and advance a long-range plan for expansion for
3 Connecticut's electric grid. The project will consist of
4 a 115 underground transmission circuit and -- between the
5 substations of -- Glenbrook Substation down to the South
6 End Substation. We'll also be doing some work inside the
7 substations, adding some equipment that supports the
8 transmission -- the new transmission line. So there will
9 be some upgrades of some breakers and some bus
10 configurations.

11 The project itself -- all three routes are
12 about a mile and a half long. They all go around city
13 streets. We came in with three routes. One is called
14 the preferred Route. The preferred route is what you see
15 in red, and it goes down Lincoln and it goes across to
16 Scott's Place. It goes underneath the Metro North
17 Railroad. And at that point we're going to be doing a
18 jack and bore. We're going to be doing -- or putting a
19 pipe through the railroad. We're going to have to get an
20 easement with the landowner on Lincoln. Then it's going
21 to go down Culloden Road, down to Crystal, around -- down
22 to South State Street, down through Atlantic, and over to
23 Manhattan, 1.5 miles.

24 The preferred route with a variation,

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1 there's just a little bit of change. And what we're
2 doing is we're avoiding the jack and bore with the
3 railroad by going completely down Lincoln until we hit
4 East Main Street. Then once we hit East Main Street, we
5 go across until we get to North Main and then head down
6 to South Main around Atlantic. This was not our
7 preferred route because we do hit an area that is the
8 Stamford urban transit way, and we wanted to remain off
9 of that area. So that-- that is an alternate, but it's
10 not one of our primary focused points.

11 We also looked at an alternative route
12 that we -- and this is the one in blue. And again it
13 goes down Lincoln, across Scott, but it continues across
14 Scott going over to Clove Leaf, down Lafayette, on North
15 State Street, goes across some private property, the
16 Financial Plaza, and then along North State Street and
17 down Atlantic.

18 CL&P also filed a supplemental filing with
19 the Siting Council. We had some discussions with C-DOT
20 and the Metro North Railroad. It turns out that C-DOT is
21 planning to lower the bridge crossing at Atlantic Street
22 five and a half feet. Because that's going to be so much
23 construction, it will require us to be even deeper than
24 five and a half feet to put the ducts in.

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1 Therefore, we went back to the City of
2 Stamford with a different proposal, and that would be
3 coming in the back of Pacific Street, along the back of
4 some buildings along Pacific, coming up on Canal, and
5 then going underneath the railroad bridge at Canal and
6 following the preferred route back. That is actually the
7 shortest distance of all the routes.

8 The construction of the duct bank, the
9 duct bank will be made of just PVC encased in concrete,
10 approximately six to eight feet deep in the ground.
11 We're going to be pulling in XLPE cable. It's an all
12 dielectric cable, solid material, in through the
13 conduits. And that will be -- that will be the duct
14 back.

15 Along the way we'll have a couple of
16 splice vaults for the cable splicing to be done, two on
17 State Street and probably one on Culloden. And -- and
18 again, we're going to be doing some work at the
19 substations to interconnect this new cable.

20 Some of the public outreach that we did is
21 CL&P met with the City of Stamford multiple times
22 throughout the last three years trying to come up with
23 the best route with the city. We also met with C-DOT,
24 Metro North, and the city to develop this new route, and

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1 trying to figure out the best way to resolve the issues
2 that all three of us had.

3 In coordination with the City, CL&P put on
4 an open house on January 8th of this year to raise public
5 awareness and get some comment in from the public about
6 Northeast Utilities plans. In addition, CL&P has met
7 with a few of the community organizations in the past
8 year.

9 To give you an idea of the schedule, if --
10 if this project is approved this year, it will probably
11 take one year for the entire construction to take place.
12 With construction starting as early as 2014, we
13 anticipate that we will be placing the project in service
14 December -- around December 2014. Thank you.

15 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. We'll
16 now turn to the public portion, and first we'll have the
17 elected officials. And speaking on behalf of the Mayor
18 is Lore Aubuchon, the Director of Economic Development.
19 And when you come up, please state your name, and for
20 Gail's benefit spell your last name so she'll have it for
21 the record. This is for everyone.

22 MS. LORE AUBUCHON: Certainly. My name is
23 Lore Aubuchon, that's A-u-b-u-c-h-o-n, and I'm the
24 Director of Economic Development for the City of

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1 Stamford, and I am here representing our mayor, Mayor
2 Michael Pavia.

3 I am aware that you are in receipt of a
4 letter from Michael Pavia in support of the project. And
5 I just also wanted to come and voice my own strong
6 support for this in my role as Economic Development
7 Director. I probably have the best job in Stamford. I
8 think I have the best job in the State of Connecticut
9 because I am part of an unprecedented growth in this city
10 that really is the envy of practically any city and
11 certainly along the east coast of the United States.

12 Since joining the Pavia administration
13 three years ago, we have seen what I'd call the compass
14 points, the four compass points of this city just explore
15 in growth. And let me just take you through those
16 briefly. On the east side we have seen Chelsea Piers and
17 NBC Sports, and those are enormous consumers of power.
18 In our downtown area we currently have under construction
19 or having been approved by the zoning board a thousand
20 units of housing. On the west side of the city we have a
21 half a billion dollar expansion at Stamford Hospital,
22 which has begun construction. And on the south end
23 probably the most famous piece of construction, or it was
24 up until last year, the largest development project on

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1 the east coast of the United States about four billion
2 dollars, 4,000 apartments, a million square feet of
3 office space. And that will also require a significant
4 commitment of electricity. In the last eight months
5 we've had eight corporate headquarter relocations into
6 Stamford from all over the United States. And we see no
7 reason why that trajectory should change. Hopefully in
8 two years, we'll be welcoming Bridgewater Associates, a
9 twelve-hundred, moving to twenty-two hundred person hedge
10 fund occupying the southern peninsula in the south end,
11 and again a very large consumer of power.

12 To make my job easier, one of the
13 questions I get all the time is the reliability of power
14 after some significant instances through storms and other
15 situations. And this project, the cable project will
16 help my job and obviously help the continued development
17 of the City of Stamford. So I ask you all to consider
18 and move favorably on the project.

19 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you very
20 much.

21 MS. AUBUCHON: Thank you.

22 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Is
23 there any other elected official here? If not, we'll
24 turn to the public segment. Michael -- is it Guroian?

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1 MR. MICHAEL GUROIAN: My name is Michael
2 Guroian, G-u-r-o-i-a-n. I'm a -- I own a property that's
3 an abutter to the Glenbrook Station -- power station.
4 And I own a business on the corner of East Main Street
5 and Lafayette Street that will be impacted regardless of
6 the decision of what route CL&P takes with this
7 transmission line. And I'll explain that in a moment.

8 I'm tickled that the Director of Economic
9 Development is crowing about Stamford's growth. I feel
10 very good for Mayor Pavia and I wish him well. He's not
11 running for reelection for good reason. What the
12 director did not tell you was that a lot of this growth
13 has been on the backs of the residents and the small
14 business people. And not unlike the posture that the
15 city has taken in decades past, this evening you heard no
16 mention of how the residents are to cope with this
17 disruption in their traffic ways and their lives, and no
18 mention of the severe impact this construction will have
19 on commercial centers along the route. I'm not
20 surprised.

21 Just as a postscript to her opening
22 statement, let me say that this year in spite of the
23 eight corporate headquarters moving into Stamford and in
24 spite of all of the new structures, technology and energy

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1 consuming devices that come with it, we lost five billion
2 dollars in our grand list value. You go and figure that
3 out. In fact, maybe you're -- you're going back to
4 Hartford and ask our former mayor, Dan Malloy, how that
5 can happen. Let me tell you as a taxpayer I'm mystified.

6 Perhaps you're thinking why doesn't he get
7 to the point. Well I will. I -- I -- I've noted that
8 the plan -- and there was a brief reference to this by
9 the CL&P representative, has been changed.

10 COURT REPORTER: One moment.

11 (pause - tape change)

12 MR. GUROIAN: And we have now a preferred
13 route with the Canal Street option. This is very
14 different from what was represented to the public in the
15 past several months. And in fact, I congratulate CL&P
16 for the amount of effort that was put into notifying the
17 public and business people. I thought they did a
18 reasonably good job of that and I want to give credit
19 where credit is due. However, you know, this revision
20 has -- you've only been living with this for the past
21 three weeks from what I can tell from your website, and I
22 may be mistaken, but it is a very important change to the
23 plan. And I'm -- I'm just questioning whether the public
24 needed to be revisited with that change. And I don't

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1 think that's happened.

2 Getting to the specifics, I'm looking at
3 the preferred route with Canal Street option, Segment 1,
4 and I'll quote, "Lincoln Avenue is a lightly traveled
5 street that is zoned residential to the east and light
6 industrial to the west." That's a very, very innocuous
7 kind of description of Lincoln Avenue. Lincoln Avenue is
8 a very important thoroughfare in that neighborhood. It's
9 a very busy street for a two-way street. It's in the
10 middle -- smack in the middle of a very highly densely
11 populated area. And the unusual part about it is that
12 Custer Street, which is -- which -- on which the Stamford
13 Public Housing Development is located, which you might --
14 or should have seen when you were on the property --
15 there's only two entrances and egresses to Custer Street,
16 one on Lawn Avenue, which is on top of the hill that you
17 might have noticed the topography, and one on Lincoln
18 Avenue. You have then the entire low income, middle
19 income housing development having to exit onto Lawn
20 Avenue, which is a treacherous intersection, absolutely
21 treacherous. I'm known for hyperbole, but I would like
22 to exaggerate as greatly as I can to make this point.
23 For that period of time that Lincoln Avenue is closed
24 off, you're going to have an awful lot of people and an

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1 awful lot of traffic having to be rerouted onto a very
2 treacherous intersection that's really not designed for
3 it at all. I'm sure you didn't -- well why would you,
4 you're not alerted to anything like that with this kind
5 of statement.

6 Segment No. 3, Culloden Road is a lightly
7 traveled street with residences on both sides. Well
8 Culloden Road is probably a lightly traveled street.
9 Unfortunately, because of the way streets are configured
10 in the City of Stamford, and you go figure, there's no
11 easy way to get from East Main Street north when Culloden
12 Road is closed. There's no easy way to do it. The next
13 intersection is with Lafayette. Lafayette is a one-way
14 street going south. You can't turn to go north. Then
15 you have to go all the way up to Glenbrook Road and turn
16 right, which -- which puts you on a very -- a very
17 traffic'd road with a lot of high-rise, multi-family
18 homes on it that can't get to and fro as it is. This is
19 going to create a traffic nightmare, which I wish the
20 Director of Economic Development would have made mention
21 to.

22 Segment No. 5, North State Street is a
23 lightly traveled two-lane road. That's a lie. That's an
24 outright lie. I don't know -- whatever traffic person

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1 went out there and figured that should be fired because
2 North State Street receives 90 percent of the traffic of
3 South State Street, which brings me to Segment 6. South
4 State Street is a moderate to highly traveled one-way
5 road. Well if you can -- you probably didn't notice this
6 for yourselves, but South State Street goes three lanes
7 into North State Street, they're contiguous. It becomes
8 North State Street when you go under the I-95 overpass.
9 You've got three lanes of traffic. Again, no other way
10 to get to East Main at the -- and Crystal Street --
11 except our circuitous route going by the way streets are
12 configured here. It's a very highly traffic'd road,
13 North State Street. So is South State Street. If South
14 State Street has to be closed, I -- I really don't know
15 how people are going to get around. I honestly don't
16 know. I figure -- I guess somebody is going to figure it
17 out eventually.

18 What's also interesting is -- and you can
19 ask our governor about this as well because in his
20 infinite wisdom because he didn't want to deal with
21 undocumented and so-called day laborers in our city, and
22 we have a huge number of day laborers, the day laborer
23 pickup area, unofficially designated by the Malloy
24 administration, at the corner of South State Street and

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1 Elm Street. Okay you say what's that mean? What it
2 means is 50 to 200 bodies six to eight hours a day, seven
3 days a week, 365 days a year standing and milling at that
4 corner. When the construction goes to that corner or
5 probably long before because South State Street will have
6 to be closed or severely impacted, where are all these
7 bodies going to go? I don't understand that. I'll tell
8 you where they're going to go, they're going to go right
9 in front of my place of business. That's where they came
10 from before and that's where the mayor tried to get them
11 away from, and they're going to go right back to it. So
12 you know what, she should have been talking about that
13 too. Where are we going to put 200 day laborers that
14 swarm vehicles for a job. No offense to them.

15 Segment 7 understates the importance of
16 Canal Street. They said Canal Street is a better choice
17 because it's not as busy as Atlantic Street. That's a
18 lie too. It's a lie. I want to see the data on that.
19 That's impossible. Canal Street is hugely important to
20 right here, right this building, right here. All of the
21 development she was crowing about, it's hugely important
22 to Fairway Market, it's hugely important to Rabino's, you
23 know, iron reclamation or whatever they call themselves,
24 it's hugely important to office buildings down there,

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1 BLT, luxury condos, which she's crowing about. It's
2 hugely important. I don't know what's going to happen to
3 that traffic when CL&P is doing their work.

4 Now guess what -- I know you're getting
5 bored, but you don't have many people here -- am I
6 keeping anybody -- thank you -- you didn't say I couldn't
7 ask questions to them -- (laughter) -- I know there's no
8 way to stop this. I want you to go in at least with your
9 eyes open and try to get a little truer picture of what's
10 going on down here. Maybe you'll come away from here
11 with that and maybe you won't, but I will have given it
12 my best shot and tomorrow morning I can trim my moustache
13 and smile.

14 What I am concerned about with is the
15 Glenbrook Substation. You were there today. You've seen
16 a lot of these things and you're probably desensitized,
17 but you know what, the people of Glenbrook have seen this
18 thing grow in the last 10 years to monstrous proportion,
19 monstrous. It's something out of a science fiction
20 movie. I swear it's like a set that came down from the
21 universe somewhere and plopped itself right there next to
22 a housing development. And you know how many trees they
23 have put to buffer the concentration camp like fencing
24 they put around this place? None I'm talking about on

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1 Custer Street. Where did they put a nicely landscaped
2 buffer? On Hamilton Avenue. What does Hamilton Avenue
3 look out to? Traffic. There's nothing there. There's
4 no residential buildings within sight of Hamilton Avenue
5 and north. You've got Americare some distance, but I
6 don't think they care. But nicely landscaped stuff on
7 Hamilton Avenue and you can't buffer the people from this
8 thing?

9 On the south side of their property they
10 have a wasteland I call it. It's -- it's kind of like a
11 DMZ zone. You were there today, you know what I'm
12 talking about. It's turned into a staging area for their
13 tree trimming service trucks and so forth. Occasionally
14 you'll see mounds of chips and that kind of stuff, and
15 I'm sure it was cleared away before you got there. But
16 you've got a nice stretch of property to buffer Lincoln
17 Avenue and Custer Street -- (beeper) -- is that time up -
18 - (laughter) -- I beg you out of the -- out of the
19 monies they're saying they're going to save from not
20 going on Atlantic Street and under and going on Canal
21 Street and under, use a few pennies of that and do the
22 right thing, put something between those people, our
23 residences, our homes, our families, and that
24 monstrosity. Thank you.

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1 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Our
2 next speaker is Louis -- is it Boucheri?

3 MR. LOUIS BOUCHERI: Good evening. My
4 name is Lou Boucheri. I'm at 914 East Main Street, which
5 is between the railroad and Lincoln. We are slated for a
6 variety of things, from the Urban Transit Way II. We are
7 very very involved -- I am and my wife as the East Side
8 Partnership, which John Grumberger is the Chairman and me
9 as the Assistant Chair. We have monthly meetings, we
10 have board meetings. We invite all of the public, who
11 never wants to get involved because nobody wants to even
12 pay -- I suggested we collect five or ten dollar dues for
13 the year from each and every family, be it residential or
14 business, and we would have some operating funds. Now
15 the East Side has come to where it is right now because
16 Jim Grumberger has an open pocketbook of his own choosing
17 and I'm second in line, but I'm a pale distance to Mr.
18 Grumberger, who without him and I, the East Side would
19 have no funding whatsoever. When it comes to shortfall,
20 we're the ones that put it in.

21 All I've heard in the past 15 or 20
22 minutes was negativity and the idiom not in my backyard.
23 Well where do you put it? If we can get it up like
24 satellites -- we can put a satellite up in the air and

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1 we'll put all this equipment on it and we'll beam it
2 down, beam me down Scotty, and it would automatically get
3 to where we need it. Well that doesn't work.

4 Now if you come down any other street or
5 any other way, you're going to have to go under the East
6 Main Street railroad bridge, which is slated to be
7 replaced along with Elm Street, Hamilton Avenue, and as
8 the gentleman said Canal Street, which they're going to
9 have to lower all of them.

10 There already is a problem on the east
11 side with drainage that comes from Glenbrook. Now my dad
12 had a Glenbrook gas station, which is now the First
13 County Bank on Scovill and Hope Street back in the 40's,
14 so I'm very, very knowledgeable about what it was and
15 what it is now. And there's always been a substation of
16 sorts over there below where the storage place is now,
17 which is now storage, and it was the Nabisco plant for
18 this Fairfield County area.

19 So if we keep in mind that it's for the
20 betterment of the community, let's call it eminent domain
21 -- they just took some of my property for a bus stop so
22 people can get on and off a bus. And then it went from
23 30 feet to 60 feet because we think the people are going
24 to ride buses and they're not going to do anything else

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1 so we have articulating buses, so now they took more of
2 my property. I don't have a choice because it's for
3 transportation. Along with transportation comes the
4 enhancement of an area, such as the electric lines and so
5 on. Now I happen to live in New Canaan. And I know what
6 it is when you have all overhead wires and there isn't
7 enough of them coming off of the Norwalk Substation and
8 I'm out of power for 14 days because of not enhancing and
9 advancing and upgrading the grid. So this is essential.
10 There's no doubt about it.

11 Now we invite people all the time -- I --
12 I grossly disagree with the fact that the public wasn't
13 heard, it wasn't anything else. Come to an East Side
14 Partnership meeting and you'll find out that we have you
15 people, CL&P and everybody else that comes in and speaks
16 to us, we have -- SWERPA comes in and talks to us. We
17 are one of the key components. The Glenbrook
18 Association, the East Side Partnership, the West Side,
19 we're getting some pretty good feedback.

20 Now this gentleman says he's on the corner
21 of Lafayette and East Main Street. That's the East Side.
22 I've never seen you at a meeting. We invite you, please
23 come in and voice your opinion. We'll give you an hour
24 to speak --

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1 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: No --

2 (multiple overlapping voices -

3 indiscernible)

4 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: -- no -- Mr.

5 Boucheri, please confine yourself to the issue before us

6 --

7 MR. BOUCHERI: Okay --

8 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: -- which is the

9 proposal --

10 MR. BOUCHERI: -- let me get back to the

11 nitty-gritty of it. This is the only way to go.

12 Underneath the East Main Street bridge there are all

13 other utilities --

14 AUDIO TECHNICIAN: Sir --

15 A VOICE: Wait a minute --

16 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: You need to --

17 you need the microphone for us to record what you're

18 saying.

19 MR. BOUCHERI: Is it on now?

20 AUDIO TECHNICIAN: Yes.

21 MR. BOUCHERI: Okay. Under the East Main

22 Street bridge it turns out to be sewer lines -- sanitary

23 sewer lines and storm sewer lines. Then you have the

24 utilities and -- and the rest of the utility people that

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1 go underneath that. And that has to be lowered four to
2 five feet with a pumping station. So if we dug halfway
3 to China, we might be able to put this transmission line
4 under the bridge, which makes no sense to me because the
5 public is going to be paying for it anyhow and it's going
6 to be so conflicted that if it ever needed repair, you'd
7 never get to it, you'd have to tear everything back out
8 again.

9 Now we're being impacted from Lincoln
10 Avenue on through with Urban Transit Way II, so that's
11 going by us. The new bridge or bridges are going to go
12 by us. So you know, how much can you do. Why don't we
13 go the right way and come down and let's -- let's face
14 it, what you call busy streets and everything else,
15 everybody is impacted by them. When they did Urban
16 Transit Way I there was impact. When they did downtown,
17 they did Cheshire Boulevard, they did Washington
18 Boulevard 30 years ago, all impacted, but look what it is
19 today. So we have to give a little to get a little. So
20 when you get all finished with this, if we do this and it
21 takes a year and we're better for it, I don't see why
22 we're not doing it. But if we go back to the idea that
23 we're going to say not in my backyard and be negative
24 about everything, we're going nowhere. This is going to

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1 go through.

2 I think this is one of the very best
3 things. It's been thought out well and it impacts a lot
4 less people and they're not going to have it tore up all
5 of it for a year. They're going to tear it up and move
6 on. They're going to cover it. They're going to do
7 temporary paving. It's not like we're going to tear it
8 up the whole length of mile and a half and then we're
9 going to cover it all over. That's ridiculous. It's a
10 progression and it's a little bit at a time. I thank you
11 very much.

12 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Brook
13 Boucheri.

14 MS. BROOK BOUCHERI: Good evening, ladies
15 and gentlemen. My name is Brook Boucheri. I'm a
16 resident of the Town of New Canaan. And I just heard
17 somebody behind me say why are they here, they live in
18 New Canaan. We own property at 914 East Main Street. We
19 own a very large commercial piece.

20 We are -- my husband is the Vice Chairman
21 of the East Side Partnership and I'm a member of the
22 Board of Directors of the East Side Partnership. I'm an
23 independent business woman. I'm a licensed real estate
24 broker in the State of Connecticut, a licensed real

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1 estate broker in the State of Florida. I'm a past buyer
2 for a chain of 800 retail stores.

3 I think that we need to think large and
4 small. I think that everybody should have a voice and
5 everybody's opinion really does matter. I hear what you
6 said and I hear what you said, sir. As to the City of
7 Stamford, as somebody who watches what has happened on
8 the east side, we do a lot of talking at the East Side
9 Partnership asking the city to listen to us. We don't
10 get a real long way with them truthfully. We talk about
11 which sections of the city this is going to support.

12 I used to work for William Sotheby, who is
13 owned by BLT. If we're going to call a spade a spade,
14 this supports the south end. That particular developer
15 has not come forward and offered the east side any
16 concessions as to what they intend to do for us. This is
17 going to be on our backs. One way or the other it's
18 going to be on the backs of the east side.

19 My preferred route is the red route, the
20 one that comes down Lincoln, goes underneath the train
21 trestle, comes down Culloden and gets off the commercial
22 and residential backs of the east side as quickly as
23 possible. My husband spoke to you of SUT Phase 2, he
24 spoke to you of the east side railroad bridge. We also

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1 have something that the City of Stamford is paying to
2 study, they're paying somebody called SWERPA to study a
3 new train stop on the east side, money that was
4 absolutely wasted. The people are not from the
5 community, they know nothing about the east side. We
6 cannot get them to think about doing all of this at once.
7 From a business perspective you do things one time and
8 you do it the right way and you do not do it again. You
9 do not impact the residents, you do not impact the
10 businesses, you do not re-rip up our roads 14 times. You
11 will put us out of business and you will put us off the
12 real estate tax rolls for the City of Stamford. They
13 don't care. They don't listen to the east side.

14 So I implore you to listen to somebody who
15 does business there, who does business in the City of
16 Stamford and who cares about the residents. I represent
17 people who do business and buy properties at 200 thousand
18 dollars and at 3.4 million dollars and I care about every
19 last one of them. You do it the quickest way possible
20 and you get off the backs of the citizens.

21 And that's all I have to say. Please do
22 the red route.

23 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Diana
24 D'Agostino.

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1 MS. DIANA D'AGOSTINO: Hello everyone.
2 Diana D'Agostino, D, apostrophe, A-g-o-s-t-i-n-o. The A
3 is also capitalized.

4 I'm not a property owner on any of the
5 route, but we are on Lincoln Avenue with a small business
6 with six employees, about a million dollars in sales, and
7 it's a manufacturing facility, deliveries in and out and
8 access in and out to our building there -- every day is
9 so important to what we do. And I just want to express a
10 concern about the schedule and how long we would be out
11 of business. You know what, if it's more than a week or
12 two, we're probably out of business. And so I just want
13 to state for the record that as a small business owner
14 there on the east side that -- you know, what
15 consideration do we have about how we're going to
16 continue business. It's not something that you can
17 easily locate. There's a lot of equipment in there and
18 six employees in the City of Stamford. And that's really
19 all I have to say.

20 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Ivo
21 Granata.

22 MR. IVO GRANATA: I-v-o, the last name is
23 Granata, G-r-a-n-a-t-a.

24 I've been in Stamford 42 years. And if

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1 you'll look around, all you see is office buildings and
2 residences, okay. Yeah, we're growing the town.

3 I am a manufacturer. There is no space left in
4 Stamford for manufacturers like me, just none. I used to
5 have a shop where Fairway Market is now, that used to be
6 my shop. I was chased out of there along with 20 other
7 businesses. And four -- actually three of those
8 businesses that were on Canal Street are now on this
9 building on Lincoln Avenue. We are the third building
10 from the power station on Lincoln Avenue. And they --
11 they plan on cutting our building, going this way, and
12 going into our parking lot to the railroad station. We
13 have a tree company behind us with about 20 trucks, they
14 have booms, shredders, they have big containers. They
15 come in and out of Lincoln Avenue every day. Lincoln
16 Avenue, I've been there 13 years, has gotten very very
17 busy. It's an extremely busy road. So my point is if
18 you -- you know, if you're going to do this thing, you're
19 going to lock me in this way and that way. Actually this
20 is my building and you're going to go like this. My
21 office is in the corner of that building and you're going
22 to put 115 megawatt power 10 feet away from my office.
23 Also the EMF impact on this I'd like to know. So now we
24 have three businesses -- four businesses in this little

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1 building here that would be very extremely
2 inconvenienced. And I don't know what the financial
3 impact of this is going to be yet, but I'm sure there's
4 going to be some. And that's all I wanted to say.

5 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. That
6 exhausts the list of people that had signed up. Is there
7 anyone else from the public who would like to be heard
8 this evening? If not, the Council will now close the
9 public comment session of this hearing and resume the
10 evidentiary session, which began this afternoon. And I
11 believe you -- counselor, you have a correction to make
12 on some information from this afternoon?

13 MS. MARIANNE DUBUQUE: Yes, Mr. Chairman,
14 thank you.

15 Our correction at the end of the
16 evidentiary hearing actually confused matters a little
17 bit more. So we want to re-correct our correction
18 because it turned out that Mr. Gagnon -- what Mr. Gagnon
19 was saying was actually partially correct, but the rest
20 of the team thought it was something entirely different.
21 So we're just going to go back over the event.

22 Mr. Gagnon, you were speaking about this
23 afternoon the blackout and the issue with violating
24 reliability standards. Was in fact the 2008 blackout in

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1 Florida?

2 MR. GAGNON: That is correct.

3 MS. DUBUQUE: And the past correction
4 about the 2003 event in Chicago, that was an entirely
5 different event that you were not speaking about?

6 MR. GAGNON: That is correct.

7 MS. DUBUQUE: Okay. And the last question
8 is you were asked about whether the company was fined.
9 And I believe at that point you said you thought they
10 were. But do you have any -- anything to add to that
11 statement?

12 MR. GAGNON: Yes. It's been documented in
13 a FERC docket, No. IN08-5-000.

14 MS. DUBUQUE: And what was documented?

15 MR. GAGNON: What was documented was that
16 there were civil penalties of 25 million dollars,
17 numerous reliability enhancements and improvements that
18 were required after it. There was 25 transmission lines
19 lost, 4,000 -- 4,000 megawatts of generation was dropped,
20 and about 3,600 megawatts of load was dropped in that
21 event.

22 MS. DUBUQUE: And again, that is the 2008
23 Florida event?

24 MR. GAGNON: That is correct.

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1 MS. DUBUQUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Thank you. Mr.
3 Martin, you have a question?

4 MR. DAVID MARTIN: Yes, I do. When you
5 are digging up the street, either Lincoln Avenue or Scott
6 Place or Culloden Road where there are like local
7 businesses and residences, what provisions will you be
8 making to provide access to local either residents or
9 business owners for their establishments?

10 MR. GAGNON: We'll definitely be working
11 closely with the city and trying to figure how the best
12 traffic control and management would be conducted. So
13 it's going to be a coordination effort with the city to
14 understand the requirements.

15 MR. MARTIN: And then once you finish
16 working for the day, what will you do with the trenches
17 you've excavated at any one given time?

18 MR. GAGNON: I'm not sure I followed your
19 question.

20 MR. MARTIN: Well if you are working in a
21 certain area and you have an open trench, what do you do
22 at night?

23 MR. GAGNON: We would cover it with a
24 steel plate, so the vehicles could drive on it at night.

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1 MR. MARTIN: Would you -- and what hours
2 do you anticipate doing your work between generally
3 speaking?

4 MR. GAGNON: Initially we're going to be
5 looking at 7:00 to 7:00 -- 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

6 MR. MARTIN: Okay. And that would be
7 every day, seven days a week or just on -- during the
8 weekdays or --

9 MR. GAGNON: I think the --

10 MR. MARTIN: -- or Monday through
11 Saturday?

12 MR. GAGNON: We're going to be working
13 with the city and trying to figure out how best to manage
14 the time out there.

15 MR. MARTIN: Okay, thank you.

16 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: I hate to prolong
17 it, but you said you'd be working with the city. And
18 what I gather from some of these public comments is
19 they're not too happy with the cooperation with the city.
20 So is it possible you could possibly have someone that
21 these individual shop owners, business owners and so
22 forth could contact at CL&P to try and work things out if
23 the cooperation with the city is not satisfactory to
24 these people?

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1 MR. GAGNON: Yes.

2 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Because I can
3 appreciate if someone's business is there and you're
4 tearing up the road, I mean it's -- you know, it's tough
5 enough to get along when you've got a full day -- you
6 know -- so if you could put that on your agenda please to
7 do. You have a question?

8 MR. PHILIP T. ASHTON: Would -- would you
9 consider night construction to avoid disruption during
10 the day?

11 MR. GAGNON: Yes. We have done that in
12 the past.

13 MR. ASHTON: I know you've done it in the
14 past, but I didn't hear that answer tonight. And that's
15 --

16 MR. GAGNON: Yes, it is --

17 MR. ASHTON: -- a viable option --

18 MR. GAGNON: It is definitely a viable
19 option.

20 MR. ASHTON: Would you consider working on
21 a project like this in several locations simultaneously
22 so that you can get in and out as fast as possible?

23 MR. GAGNON: Yes, that is true. Yes, we
24 can.

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1 MR. ASHTON: Okay, thank you.

2 ACTING CHAIRMAN MURPHY: Anybody else? If
3 not, then we'll close this hearing. But before closing
4 this hearing, the Siting Council announces that briefs
5 and proposed findings of fact may be filed with the
6 Council by any party or intervenor no later than April
7 29, 2013. The submission of briefs or proposed findings
8 of facts are not required by this Council, rather we
9 leave it to the choice of the parties and the
10 intervenor.

11 Anyone who has not become a party or
12 intervenor, but who desires to make his or her views
13 known to the Council, may file written statements with
14 the Council within 30 days of today.

15 The Council will issue draft findings of
16 fact. And thereafter, parties and intervenors may
17 identify errors or inconsistencies between the Council's
18 draft findings of fact and the record. However, no new
19 information, no new evidence, no argument, and no reply
20 briefs without our permission will be considered by the
21 Council.

22 Copies of this transcript -- excuse me --
23 the transcript of this hearing will be filed with the
24 Stamford City Clerk's Office.

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1 I, therefore, declare this hearing
2 adjourned. I thank you for your participation and
3 everybody drive carefully on your way home. Good
4 evening.

5
6 (Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 7:50
7 p.m.)

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