

September 12, 2017

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

RE: Docket No. 468: Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project
*Development and Management Plan - Notice of Location of Material Laydown and Staging
Yard, 29 Stony Hill Road, Town of Bethel*

Dear Chairman Stein:

Pursuant to Section 16-50j-62(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, Condition 2(d) of the Connecticut Siting Council's (the "Council") Decision and Order in Docket No. 468, and Volume 3, Attachment A, Section A.3.1 of the *Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project ("Project") Development and Management ("D&M") Plan for New 115-kV Transmission Line*, The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy ("Eversource") submits the above-referenced notice of the proposed temporary material laydown and staging area (the "yard") to the Council for its review and approval.

The proposed location of the yard is on an approximately 7.6-acre vacant parcel located at 29 Stony Hill Road (U.S. Route 6) (the "Parcel"), in the central portion of the Town of Bethel. The Parcel is bordered by Stony Hill Road to the north, Benedict Road and commercial properties to the west, a commercial property to the east, and woodlands to the south. The yard will occupy approximately 6 acres of the Parcel. Existing access to the Parcel is available from both Stony Hill and Benedict roads. Figures 1 and 2 (attached) illustrate the general location of the Parcel and provide an aerial view of the Parcel and nearby land uses.

Eversource proposes to use the yard for the storage of materials and supplies during the construction of the Project. Specifically, the yard will provide space for the storage of transmission line structures, anchor bolts, insulators, conductors, hardware, and timber mats. Construction trailers and portable bathroom facilities will be set up on the yard for use by the personnel assigned to the yard, which also will provide parking for construction vehicles and equipment and for the personal vehicles of construction personnel. Materials will be delivered to and stored at the yard prior to transport to specific work sites along the Project right-of-way by Eversource's construction contractor.¹

The Parcel is owned by Village Square, Inc. The Parcel was previously used for the storage, processing, and resale of earthen materials. The topography of the Parcel, which is at an elevation of about 520 feet above mean sea level, is generally level, except for a mound of staged gravel fill, located on the northern portion of the site near Stony Hill Road. Nearly the entire Parcel is characterized by hard-packed processed material, which has been overgrown with grasses and shrubby vegetation. Narrow stands of trees are present along the perimeter of the Parcel, particularly along the southern property boundary. In addition, some isolated trees are found on other portions of the Parcel. No tree clearing would be required for the yard. Except for a small wetland, which is located on the

¹ Note: This yard is proposed for use only for material storage, laydown, and staging. Eversource's construction contractor(s) are responsible for identifying sites for their construction staging purposes. The Council will be notified when such sites are identified.

southwestern portion of the Parcel (refer to Figure 2), the Parcel is upland. The site is zoned for RT6 Business Zone use.

A review of historical records demonstrates that the entire Parcel has been extensively disturbed, over decades. It is not located within a floodplain; has no potential to contain intact cultural resources (due to extensive past earth disturbance); and is not directly proximate to any residential uses. A review of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base publicly-available maps (June 2017) indicated that there are no state-or federally-listed species or significant natural communities known to be present near the Parcel.

Some site preparation work, consisting of mowing herbaceous vegetation and, if necessary, adding gravel, will be required to create a level base for material storage activities on upland portions of the yard. To minimize the potential for inadvertent impacts to the small on-site wetland during material storage and laydown activities, Eversource will install and maintain silt fence or equivalent erosion and sedimentation controls around the boundaries of the wetland. If necessary, similar controls also will be installed along portions of the southern boundary of the Parcel (outside the tree line) to avoid the potential for any sedimentation into the wetlands located south of the Parcel. Erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed and maintained in accordance with Eversource's *Best Management Practices Manual for Massachusetts and Connecticut (Construction and Maintenance Environmental Requirements): September 2016* (refer to the Project D&M Plan, Volume 3, Attachment E).

After the completion of Eversource activities, the yard will be restored, as appropriate, pursuant to Eversource's lease agreement with the landowner.

Eversource has provided notice of the use of the Parcel to the Town of Bethel.

Enclosed please find an original and 15 copies of this submission.

Should you, other Council members, or Council staff have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at kathleen.shanley@eversource.com or telephone at (860) 728-4527.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Shanley
Manager - Transmission Siting

Attachments

cc: The Honorable Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman, Town of Bethel
Beth Cavagna, Director/Town Planner, Town of Bethel

Figure 1: General Location of Proposed Staging Area/Laydown Yard at 29 Stony Hill Road: Town of Bethel

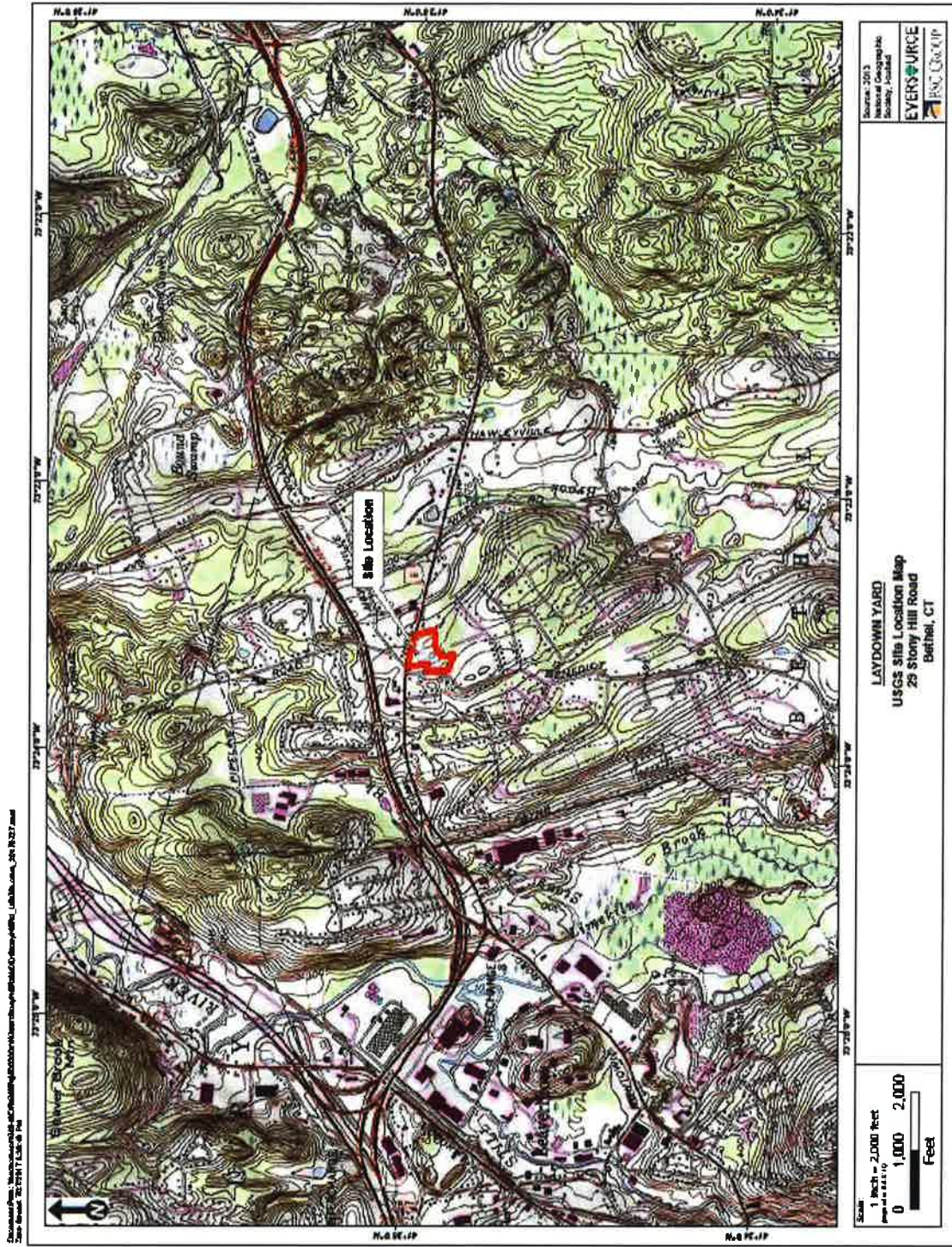
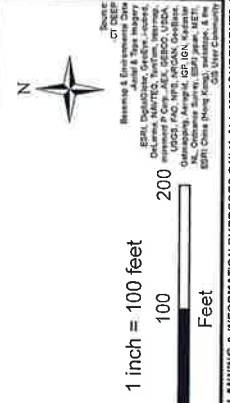


Figure 2: Site Map: Proposed Yard, 29 Stony Hill Road, Town of Bethel



NOTE: SILT FENCING WILL BE INSTALLED AROUND ON-SITE WETLAND AND IN OTHER AREAS AS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF CONSTRUCTION.

- Legend**
- Existing Access
 - Silt Fence (approx. location)
 - Wetland Area
 - Proposed Laydown Area (approx. 6 acres)
 - Parcel Boundary



**SWCT RELIABILITY PROJECT
PROPOSED LAYDOWN YARD**

Environmental Resources Map

29 Stony Hill Road
Bethel, CT



THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED FOR GENERAL PLANNING & INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. ALL MEASUREMENTS & LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.