

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company’s Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** August 25, 2005

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** 115 kV Underground Route

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** The area has received only a trace of precipitation since the last inspection as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Vault Openings and Trench Construction <b>Bethel Educational Park, Bethel</b>	- Work in the Bethel Educational Park is largely limited to restoration in the ROW sections. All lawn and sidewalk restoration work is complete. 8/25/05	- A few minor issues remain in this area but they were being attended. See erosion control for specifics. 8/25/05
<b>Hoyts Hill Transition Structure</b>	- A few piles of materials remain here at the edge of the access road and Rt. 58. 8/25/05	- See erosion control section for site specific information. 8/25/05
<b>Gallows Hill Road and Rt. 107, Redding</b>	-Now that infrastructure is complete in the roadways, crews are in the manholes to begin blowing cable. 8/25/05 - Several crews continue to actively trenching in Rt. 107. 8/25/05	- Restoration efforts were noted in many locations. See erosion control and additional sections for more specific information.8/25/05
<b>Rt. 58, Bethel</b>	- Trench/conduit installation was occurring along Rt. 58 in several locations including in the vicinity of #66 and #145. 8/25/05	- Activities are fairly well contained to the roadway and additional efforts have been made. See the erosion control and additional sections for more information. 8/25/05

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
<p><b>Broad Street/ROW and Rt. 7, Norwalk</b></p>	<p>- A large jacking pit is under construction off Broad St. for the future bore under the railroad. Some small soil stockpiles were present and should either be removed or placed with silt fence. 8/25/05</p>	<p>-Activities were fairly well contained but see the erosion control section for more information. 8/25/05</p>
	<p>-O&amp;G returned to the area for trenching following the operations of a separate contractor outside of the project for the gas line. 8/25/05 - The vault installation seen last week near the Shell station was complete. 8/25/05</p>	<p>-None at this time. 8/25/05</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)</p>	<p>- For the most part, silt fence has been well installed in most locations where the work is located adjacent to wetlands and soils are being handled appropriately. 8/25/05  - Many repairs and restoration efforts continue to be made. 8/25/05</p>	<p>- Continue to be proactive in maintenance as necessary. See below for site-specific issues. 8/25/05</p>
<p><b>Bethel Educational Park</b></p>	<p>- All disturbed areas within school lawns were restored and mulched and sidewalk work was complete. 8/25/05 - Restoration efforts were also ongoing along the ROW. 8/25/05  - The ROW near the southern caisson still had the sediment against the fence at the low spot within the brush and a small gap in the fence. 8/25/05  - A small spot in the fence near the soil stockpile at the edge of the ROW was close to being toppled 8/25/05</p>	<p>- Keep the controls in good repair until the ROW is revegetated. 8/19/05  - Crews were moving towards this area making repairs in the silt fence and they were notified. 8/25/05</p>

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<b>Hoyts Hill Transition Structure (Off Rt. 58)</b>	<p>-The access road and area are cleaned up for the most part. A few piles remained near the street. 8/25/05</p> <p>- A pile of lumber over the silt fence has been identified as belonging to the owner of the adjacent house.8/25/05</p>	<p>- Make any necessary repairs to the fence and keep areas maintained. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The siting council suggested that NU could offer to remove the wood/debris for the owner. 8/25/05</p>
<b>Route 58</b>	<p>- Efforts have been made to protect some catch basins in areas of active work but other areas were inconsistent. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Filter fabric in the grate is an acceptable measure when haybales are difficult to maintain. 8/25/05</p> <p>- At the Mathers storage area off Rt. 58, the silt fence was pulled back from the wetland vegetation as recommended and the area is in good condition. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The fence near proposed handhole #4 has been re-installed correctly as recommended. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Work returned to the vicinity and the additional silt fence was installed as recommended. There was one rip in the fence in the vicinity that needs repair. 8/25/05</p>	<p>-In all work areas, contain slurry or mobile sediment to work areas and street sweep the road extent including the gutters, regularly. Place and maintain controls on all catch basins and inlets which may receive muds. 8/25/05</p> <p>-None at this time. 8/25/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Continue to maintain fence when necessary. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Some debris was noted beyond the silt fence in this general area. The silt fence should be seen as a work limit and materials should be contained. 8/25/05</p>

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<p><b>Gallows Hill Road and Rt. 107 (Lonetown Rd)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work on the infrastructure of Gallows Hill is complete. Crews are working to begin blowing cable. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Silt fence is being pulled from areas along the roadway that do not have disturbed soil surfaces. The areas where the fence was are being mulched. 8/25/05</li> <li>- A haybale check dam was recommended for the end of the silt fence near#116 to prevent sedimentation from the pull off. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Some materials such as trench shoring were placed off roadway in the woods near the intersection with Gallows Hill.</li> <li>- Most catch basins along Rt. 107 seem to have protection measures in place. Continue to be consistent with measures. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Fabric in the grate is an accepted measure if haybales are difficult to maintain. 8/25/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-None at this time. 8/25/05</li> <li>- None at this time but continue to monitor. Add seed here if necessary. Maintain fence in any areas not yet vegetated including vault #13. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Materials should be stored appropriately and not placed into the woods in undesignated storage. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Continue to remain aware of containing mobile slurry and protecting catch basins and inlets. 8/19/05</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Broad Street and Rt. 7, Norwalk</b></p>	<p><b>-Correction:</b> The work on the structure near the substation was identified as being part of the work there and not under the purview of the 115kV work.            - Continue to remove any debris and brush from the ROW. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The gas line work on Broad Street that generated the stockpiles has been completed and was not under the purview of the 115kV work. 8/25/05</p> <p>- O&amp;G has returned to the area to continue with the trench work. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The large jacking pit is in place on Broad St. and is contained. A few soil piles were located here. 8/25/05</p> <p>-Nightwork on Rt. 7 continues. No issues were noted leftover during the day inspection. 8/25/05</p>	<p>- Perform regular “good housekeeping” to remove leftover materials and clean up the workspace. 8/25/05</p> <p>- These piles should be removed or placed with silt fence if they are to remain. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The vac truck approach used at night is a very effective means of handling the muds. Continue to utilize consistently.</p>
<p>Contaminated Soils</p>	<p>- Contaminated soil is being stored and labeled separately from that considered “background polluted”. Contaminated soils are eventually brought off site to an O&amp;G facility in Bridgeport. Water from contaminated soils are sent to frac trucks and tanks            Occasionally, soils are being stored temporarily at Redding Yard until they are trucked to Bridgeport or the landfill. 8/25/05</p>	<p>- All soils appear to be handled appropriately. 8/25/05</p> <p>- It has been determined that the Redding landfill will use all soils from the roadways in Redding that are considered clean, (based on acceptable RSR levels), as daily cover.</p>
<p>Adjacent Wetlands and Waterways</p>	<p>-Additional controls continue to be installed at the Redding Yard in an effort to control the concrete washout area. Fabric was placed appropriately below the check dams to catch discharge from the outlet but need to be expanded. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Silt fence at the storage area off Rt. 58 has been pulled back from</p>	<p>- See storage yard section for more information. 8/25/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 8/25/05</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	the wetland vegetation as recommended. 8/25/05	
Staging, Storage, and Parking Areas	<p>- The concrete storage area for <b>Rt. 7</b> work near the Merritt Parkway cloverleaf still needs some attention. The concrete discharge was still seen in the soil but was not reaching the outlet at this point. 8/19-8/25/05</p> <p>- In <b>Redding Town Yard</b>, soil excavate is only temporarily stored here until it can be trucked for disposal in the O&amp;G facility in Bridgeport or the Redding landfill. The end of the outlet check dam appeared to need some maintenance 8/25/05</p> <p>- The storage area for materials, conduit and equipment at the <b>Bethel Educational Park</b> was almost empty. 8/25/05</p> <p>- The Mathers storage area was identified off Rt. 58 has the silt fence pulled back as recommended. 8/25/05</p> <p>- Another yard was identified at the intersection of Rt. 58 and Sunset Hill Rd. Silt fence was installed. 8/25/05</p>	<p>- This area is used for 115kV and other O&amp;G projects in the area. It still needs to be reinforced and controlled. 8/19-8/25/05</p> <p>- The concrete bin should continue to be emptied regularly to prevent overflow. The outlet check dams should be lengthened slightly or turned up at the end to prevent any flow around them 8/25/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 8/25/05</p> <p>-None at this time. 8/25/05</p> <p>- None at this time. Continue to maintain and monitor. 8/25/05</p>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- No species of concern are located in the areas of construction.	- N/A
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<p>- Mulching of bare areas is ongoing and should continue and areas should be seeded as necessary. The recently completed vault area near Lois Lane should be mulched if work is not returning. 8/25/05</p> <p>-The ROW in Bethel Ed. Park was being restored this week. Topsoil was being graded in. Revegetation</p>	<p>- The D&amp;M plan requires that disturbed areas to be left for more than 21-30 days before work returns here should be temporarily stabilized with mulch or seed within 7-14 days.</p> <p>- Continue to send restoration crews out in time with D&amp;M requirements and seed mulch</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	will reduce sedimentation. 8/25/05.	areas where needed. 8/25/05.
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Almost all dewatering discharge along the route is being directed to frac trucks or tanks due to concerns about the polluted soils. 7/21-8/25/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It appears that the storage and disposal solution will continue due to concerns about the background pollutants in soils, even in those not considered contaminated. 7/21-8/25/05</li> <li>It may be important to determine total daily volumes of water removal and evaluate whether this is a stress to the watershed or not a significant impact. 7/21-8/25/05</li> </ul>
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No blasting is occurring in any areas at this time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time.</li> </ul>
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The designated concrete washout corral at Bethel Ed. Park was removed. 8/25/05</li> <li>- Better controls were needed at the concrete washout area for Rt. 7 nightwork. Discharge was not reaching the inlet on Rt. 7 this time but this should be investigated. 8/25/05</li> <li>-A few drips were noted from a dump truck on the Bethel Ed. ROW. The driver was informed.</li> <li>A report of any leaks or spills that reach the ground and occur during the week should be provided to BSC from internal project inspectors 6/15-8/25/05</li> <li>- In general catch basins, inlets and swales should continue to consistently be protected especially in any area with sawcutting activities. 8/25/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continue to make sure concrete washouts are restricted to designated areas. 8/19/05</li> <li>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. Check equipment status on a regular basis and keep spill kits on hand. Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li> <li>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and material containers.</li> <li>- Equipment and materials should not be stored in wooded areas unless it is designated for storage.</li> </ul>
Additional Observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A few posts and "guardrail" cable have been knocked over near #116 Gallows Hill. 8/19-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The existing posts are fairly worn here but some repairs/replacements should be</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	8/25/05	made. 8/25/05

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, September 1, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:** *Diana Walden for Don Ukers*



115 kV (Gallows Hill Road): Crews were beginning to work within the manholes in order to blow cables now that the infrastructure is in place in this roadway. 8/25/05



View of area near #116 where sedimentation from a pull off area may require a haybale near the end of the fence. Posts and guardrail cable were also knocked over and should be repaired 8/25/05



**115 kV (Rt. 58 near Putnam Park):** Photo on the left shows where the silt fence was pulled back from the wetland vegetation as recommended. Photo on the right shows where additional silt fence was added as recommended. 8/25/05



**115kV (Rt. 58):** A new staging area near the intersection of Rt. 58 and Sunset Hill Road was identified in this inspection and silt fence was installed. 8/25/05



115kV (Route 58, near Hoyts Hill- Transition Pole): View of the access road which has been cleaned up and stabilized with stone. A few piles of materials remain. 8/25/05



View of the caisson area. The area has been cleaned up for the most part. 8/25/05



115 kV (Bethel Education Park): The area in front of the Bethel Middle School where the vault was installed has been restored and placed with mulch 8/25/05



Photo on the left shows an area near the southern end of the ROW that needs some attention. Silt fence repairs were moving in that direction by Friday. The photo on the right shows the northern portion of the ROW which was also being restored Friday. 8/25/05