

THE CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL DECISION

By its Decision and Order dated February 13, 2007, the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) granted a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115-kV/13.8 electric substation and associated facilities located at 3-7 Wildflower Lane, Trumbull, Connecticut.

The complete Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order (Docket No. 317) can be found on the CSC website at <http://www.ct.gov/csc>

HOW THE SUBSTATION BENEFITS TRUMBULL

When the substation is operational, the Town of Trumbull will receive an estimated additional \$350,000.00 in tax dollars annually from UI. Trumbull residents will be assured of continued electric reliability and capacity to meet both current and future needs.

SERVICE LIFE OF THE TRUMBULL SUBSTATION

The service life of the substation equipment is estimated to be 40 years or more.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is UI building a new substation?

- During the past 10 years Trumbull's residential electrical use has increased by 38%. Its commercial usage has increased, for the same period, by 45%.
- UI has no substation in Trumbull. UI presently serves the residents and businesses in the Town of Trumbull from 2 substations – one is located in Shelton and one is located in Bridgeport. These two existing substations are either at or near their maximum capacity.
- Without the addition of a new substation, the Trumbull area is at high risk of experiencing rolling blackouts if equipment were to fail at either of the existing substations during periods of peak demand.
- By building a new substation in Trumbull, UI's Trumbull customers will gain reliability by having local demand fed by local infrastructure and by the electric distribution system having the capacity to meet both current and future needs.

- Increasing the regional capacity with a new Trumbull substation will also allow Substations in Bridgeport and Shelton to more reliably serve the other customers in the region, both today and in the future.

Why is UI building the new substation on Wildflower Lane?

- UI examined 11 potential sites for the new substation and determined, for reasons of economic practicability, reliability, and long term expansion of the electric grid, the property currently owned by UI at Wildflower Lane is the most suitable location.
- The CSC granted approval to UI to build the substation along the south side of the existing Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) 1710/1730 115 kV transmission line right-of-way.

What type of substation is UI building in Trumbull?

- UI is building an open air- insulated 58MVA substation on its 4.85 acre parcel on Wildflower Lane. The estimated cost is \$22,400,000.
- The substation's footprint will be approximately 335 feet by 200 feet.
- The tallest structure within the substation fence line will be approximately 76 feet.
- The tallest structure outside the substation fence line would be a new transmission structure which will be approximately 85 feet.
- The substation will be surrounded by a 17 foot architectural wall. This wall will be surrounded by Mountbatten Juniper trees when completed.
- The construction process is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete, we expect to have the Trumbull Substation on line in the summer of 2008.

The substation will be located near residential properties, will there be impacts?

- UI submitted electric and magnetic field calculations as part of the application to the CSC. The new substation is not predicted to increase the magnetic fields at any of the abutting properties, including the abutting residences.
- The noise emitted from the substation will have no appreciable impact on nearby homes. UI filed a noise assessment study as part of the CSC application.
- The homes on Stella Street will be buffered from the substation by approximately 120 feet of woody terrain between the UI property line and the substation wall. Additionally, the proposed mature plantings around the perimeter of the wall will soften any seasonal views of the substation.
- The home on Wildflower Lane will be approx. 175 feet from the substation's wall line. The 175 feet includes the width of the street and the mature plantings. Additionally, the entrance from Wildflower Lane

will be angled in such a way that there will be no direct views from the street or the house.

- The home on the northwest side of the CL&P right-of-way will be separated from the substation by existing brushy groundcover and the 110 foot cleared right-of-way. The house is approx. 110 feet from the substation wall line.
- The home on the northeast side of the CL&P right-of-way will be buffered by existing woody brush and the CL&P right of way. The house is approx. 360 feet away from the nearest new structure.

Were there any other proposals for the design of the substation?

- In addition to its proposed design, UI examined several different design modifications including (1) building a Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) and placing the substation behind an architectural concrete panel wall, and (2) building a Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) and enclosing the substation in a structure which resembles a barn, enclosed by a chain link fence.
- Each alternative design adds incremental cost to the substation.
- The CSC considered each of these alternative designs.

What was the Connecticut Siting Council process once the application was filed?

- The CSC considered UI's application following the procedures set forth in the State's statutes and regulations. This process included an October 24th field visit to the proposed site and the alternative site proposed by the Town. It also included an October 24th local public hearing.
- The CSC also held evidentiary hearings on October 26th and November 26th at its offices in New Britain.
- Citizens were invited to write or email comments to the CSC up to 30 days after the last hearing date (November 26th).

When will the substation be in service?

- The substation will be in operation by mid-summer of 2008.

ALLOWABLE WORK HOURS:

The approved allowable work hours for the Trumbull Substation are 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. There will be limited times during the construction process that work will take place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, this is due to the nature of the operation. The work being conducted during these extended work hours will not be loud or impactful to the immediate environment.

SITE SAFETY

The substation will be constructed in accordance with the standards of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) all Federal, State and Local laws. The safety of the general public and our workers is UI's number one priority.

SITE ACCESS

The Trumbull substation construction site at 3-7 Wildflower Lane is private property. Unauthorized entry to the site is dangerous. Additionally, anyone so trespassing is subject to arrest and subsequent legal action.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For all substation inquiries contact:

Samantha Crowley

Communications Manager

203-499-3824

samantha.crowley@uinet.com

For Media Relations issues:

Al Carbone

Sr. Communications Specialist

203-499-2247

albert.carbone@uinet.com

