EVERSOURCE

Project Approval Form

Project Title: 2026 Pole Integrity	Project Number: CD02545
Date Prepared: 03/03/2025	**Company:** Eversource CT
Organization: Electric System Operations	**Project Category:** POLE INTEGRITY PROGRAM
Project Initiator: [redacted]	**Project Type:** Annual
Initiating Organization: Distribution	**Capital Investment part of original Op Plan:** Yes
Project Manager: [redacted]	**Emergency Related Request?** No
Project Sponsor: [redacted]	**Facility Type** (check all that apply)**:** ☐ PTF ☐ non-PTF ☒ Distribution ☐ N/A (General Plant)
Required in service date: 12/31/2026	**NWS Excludable:** ☒ Yes ☐ No
Total Capital Request: $12,500K	**Authorization Type:** Full Funding

1. Executive Summary

This initiative captures the cost necessary to replace or reinforce wood poles found during the annual pole inspections that cannot remain in service due to loss of strength from decay or insect infestation.

The partial estimate of $7,050K was based on outdated historical WO data. Due to an increase in both volume and cost, the revised estimate now reflects the need to raise the total capital request to $12,500K.

COMPARISON:

Cost Comparison Overview			
Estimate Source	**Cost Per Pole**	**Pole Quantity**	**Total Estimate**
Partial Funding Request	[redacted]	[redacted]	$7,050K
Updated Full Funding Request	[redacted]	[redacted]	**$12,500K**
VARIANCE	[redacted]	[redacted]	$5,450K

This initiative also captures the replacement of leaning poles that were identified during the pole inspection process, and they are prone to failure posing a risk to public safety and the system's reliability. Leaning pole locations are created when soil disturbances and pole attachments affect the original pole's orientation because of accumulation of moisture in the ground, severe weather and or storm damages.

Pole replacement's locations for CD02545 find were derived from the 2025 Annual Pole inspection process but construction will take place in 2026. Work Orders are expected to be written from June 2025 and January 2026 to promptly start construction in March 2026.

The Pole inspection process follows a 15-year cycle; therefore, Eversource will inspect 9 towns or 33,043 poles in Year 2025. Please refer to 'Attachment – E' at the end showing the towns that were selected for the 2025 pole inspection. Depending on weather, the pole inspection will take place from April 1st through October 31st, 2025. Results of the 2025 pole inspection will identify normal rejects; priority rejects, and leaning poles and the results will be available in the SharePoint Reject Pole Inspection Group.

Project cost estimates were generated using historical costs of contractor resources completing past Defective Pole Project work.

The total project capital request is $12,500K

Project Cost Summary

Note: Dollar values are in thousands.

Capital Costs	2026	2027	2028+	Total
Direct Capital Costs				
Internal Labor and Construction Equipment	143.8	0.0	0.0	143.8
Outside Services	5,125	0.0	0.0	5,125
Materials	562.5	0.0	0.0	562.5
Removals	2,822.5	0.0	0.0	2,822.5
Risk and Contingency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal – Direct Costs	**9,025**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**9,025**
Indirect Capital Costs				
Indirect/Overheads (including benefits)	3,430.8	0.0	0.0	3,430.8
Capitalized interest or AFUDC, if any	39.7	0.0	0.0	39.7
Subtotal – Indirect Costs	**3,470.7**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**3,470.7**
Total Gross Capital Costs	**$12,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$12,500**
Customer Contribution	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Net Capital Project Costs	**$12,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$12,500**

2. Technical Justification

Background, Project Need/Justification, and Project Scope

a. Project Need

This project includes the replacement or reinforcement of wooden poles found during yearly inspections that cannot remain in service due to loss of strength from decay or insect infestation and leaning poles that were identified severe in the field.

b. Project Scope

Re Pole data collected by 2025 inspection yielded the scope of work for this 2026 project. Approximate counts are below:

Approximate Defective Pole Replacements – [redacted]

Capital Maintenance Items:

Due to the recent storms, the Capital Maintenance items will be reevaluated and therefore, the costs are excluded from this PAF

c. Project Cost

Scope of Work	Approximate Counts	Capital Cost per pole	Capital Cost Total
Defective Pole Replacements	[redacted]		$12,500K
			$12,500K

d. Project Background

Replacement and reinforcements of defective poles supports safety, reliability, and commitments to the customer.

3. Alternatives Considered

NWS Exclusion Criteria (select all that apply)

☐ Project cost < $250k	☐ New Service
☐ CDOT Relocation	☐ Generator interconnection project
☒ Maintenance, Asset condition or safety related*	

An alternative option would be to do nothing and leave the poles as they are. However, this would result in having defective poles on the Eversource grid which are prone to failure.

4. Project Schedule

Milestone/Phase Name	Estimated Date
100% Detailed Engineering Completion	May 2025 – January 2026
Fully Funded	June-December 2025
Construction Start	March 2026
In Service Date	31st December, 2026

5. Regulatory Decisions

N/A

6. Codes and Standards

EMP 5.61, WMS 08.14-234, WMS 08.15-234, TD953, WMS 08.14-1, WMS 08.15-1

7. Risk and Risk Mitigation Plans

Risk Mitigation:

Risk Event	Risk Horizon	Likelihood of Occurrence	Risk Mitigation

Actual cost higher than estimated due to scope changes.	2025-2026	Low	Included contingency costs in the funding request. Perform detailed Field Analysis and walk down in project development to avoid potential issues.
Customer Permission / Siting Council / Municipal approvals	2025-2026	Low	Design to minimize customer impact. Project Preplanning and customer/community outreach.
Internal construction resources not available to perform the work.	2025-2026	Low	Plan internal resources to perform the work. Use competitive bidding to ensure lowest outside labor cost.
Internal engineering resources not available to perform the work.	2025-2026	Low	Plan internal resources to perform the work. Use competitive bidding to ensure lowest outside labor cost.
Materials Shortage or long lead times	2025-2026	Low	Pre-order long lead time material; minimize the use of non-standard and non-stocked material.
Storm delays	2025-2026	Medium	If storm activity delays work, we may be forced to use external resources.
System abnormal configuration	2025-2026	Low	Schedule work to minimize system abnormal time. Install temporary bypasses/equipment if system will be abnormal for extended periods.
Technological risks involving integration of new technology	2025-2026	Low	Before use of new technology ensure support of standards and manufacturer. Schedule project to accommodate for extra time or ensure new technology is not on the critical path.
Wetlands / Environmentally sensitive area	2025-2026	Low	Use of mats and specialty equipment, only work during certain times of the year.

8. References

CD02545 Defective Pole Program (Inspection 2025; Construction 2026)	
Defective Poles CD02545	12,500K
Frontier Shifts CD02546	2,620.8K
Total 2026 Pole Integrity Budget	15,120.8K

Analysis Defective Pole Projects CD02545	
Avg. Cost to replace (capital+expense)	
Defective Poles from Pole inspection 2025, construction in 2026	[redacted]
Condition based Defective. Target Poles >Class 2.	
Condition based Defective. Target Poles Class 5 (Carry-Over from 2023 into 2024)	
Total Replacements	[redacted]

*Number of poles subject to change based on the findings from the pole inspection.

References
1. CD02222 – 2025 Pole Integrity
2. CD02444 – 2024 Pole Integrity

9. Attachments (One Line Diagrams, Images, etc.)

Attachment	Included in Submittal?
A. Cost Estimate	*N/A*
B. P6 Schedule	*N/A*
C. Geographic Map	*N/A*
D. System and Station One-Lines	*N/A*
E. Other (List of Towns being inspected in 2025)	*YES*
F. Other (Partial Funding PAF)	*YES*

ATTACHMENT – 'E'

TOWNS INSPECTED IN 2025, Construction in 2026

TOWNS W=Wester, C=Central, E=Eastern	POLES TO BE INSPECTED IN 2025
[redacted]	
TOTAL	**33,043**

ATTACHMENT – 'F' (Partial PAF Document)

Operations Project Authorization Form

Project Title: 2026 Pole Integrity	**Project Number: CD02545**
Date Prepared: 09/15/2024	**Company:** Eversource CT
Organization: Electric Field Operations	**Class(es) of Plant:** D Line
Project Initiator: [redacted]	**Project Category:** POLE INTEGRITY PROGRAM
Project Manager: [redacted]	**Project Type:** Specific
Project Sponsor: [redacted]	**Capital Investment part of original Operating Plan:** Yes
Estimated in service date: 12/31/2026	**Emergency Related Request?** No
Eng./Constr. Resources Budgeted? Yes	**Facility Type** (check all that apply)**:**
Total Gross Capital Request: $7,050K	**Authorization Type:** Partial Funding

Executive Summary

This initiative captures the cost necessary to replace or reinforce wood poles found during the annual pole inspections that cannot remain in service due to loss of strength from decay or insect infestation.

This initiative also captures the replacement of leaning poles that were identified during the pole inspection process, and they are prone to failure posing a risk to public safety and the system's reliability. Leaning pole locations are created when soil disturbances and pole attachments affect the original pole's orientation because of accumulation of moisture in the ground, severe weather and or storm damages.

Pole replacement's locations for CD02545 find were derived from the 2025 Annual Pole inspection process but construction will take place in year 2026. Work Orders are expected to be written from May 2025 and January 2026 to promptly start construction in March 2026.

The Pole inspection process follows a 10-year cycle; therefore, Eversource will inspect 11 towns or 30,637 poles in Year 2025. Please refer to Attachment 1 showing the towns that were selected for the 2025 pole inspection. Depending on weather, the pole inspection will take place from April 1st through October 31st, 2025. Results of the 2025 pole inspection will identify normal rejects; priority rejects and leaning poles and the results will be available in the SharePoint Reject Pole Inspection Group.

Project cost estimates were generated using historical costs of contractor resources completing past Defective Pole Project work.

The total project capital request is $7,050K

Project Costs Summary

Note: Dollar values are in thousands

Capital Costs	2026	2027	2028	Total
Internal Labor and Construction Equipment	80.9	0.0	0.0	80.9
Outside Services	2,890.4	0.0	0.0	2,890.4
Materials	317.3	0.0	0.0	317.3
Removals	1,803.9	0.0	0.0	1,803.9
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Risk and Contingency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	**5,092.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**	5,092.6
Indirect Capital Costs	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**Total**
Indirects/Overheads (including benefits)	1,935.0	0.0	0.0	1,935.0
Capitalized interest or AFUDC, if any	22.4	0.0	0.0	22.4
Subtotal	1,957.5	**0.0**	**0.0**	1,957.5
Total Capital Costs (Gross)	**$7,050**	**$0**	**$0**	**$7,050**
Less Total Customer Contribution	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Project Costs (Net)	**$7,050**	**$0**	**$0**	**$7,050**

Technical Justification:

Project Need, Objective and Justification:

This project includes the replacement or reinforcement of wooden poles found during yearly inspections that cannot remain in service due to loss of strength from decay or insect infestation and leaning poles that were identified severe in the field.

Project Scope:

Pole data collected by 2025 inspection yielded the scope of work for this 2026 project. Approximate counts are below:

Defective Pole Replacements – [redacted]

Capital Maintenance Items**

**Due to the recent storms, the Capital Maintenance items will be reevaluated and therefore, the costs are excluded from this PAF

Project Cost

Scope of Work	Approximate Counts	Capital Cost per pole	Capital Cost Total
Defective Pole Replacements	[redacted]		$7.05M
			$7.05M

Major Material:

[redacted]

Background:

Replacement and reinforcements of defective poles supports safety, reliability, and commitments to the customer.

Alternatives Considered:

Were alternative solutions considered/applicable? Include any cost/benefit analysis.

Alternatives were considered (please describe below)

An alternative would be to do nothing and leave the poles as they are. However, this would result in having defective poles on the Eversource grid which are prone to failure.

Regulatory Approvals:

Are Regulatory body approvals needed for the project?

No

If yes, provide detailed regulatory approvals.

Project Schedule

Milestone/Phase Name	Estimated Date
100% Engineering Completion	May 2025 – January 2026
Construction Start	June 2025
Construction completion	December 2026

Risks and Risk Mitigation Plans

Risk Event	Risk Horizon	Likelihood of Occurrence	Risk Mitigation
Actual cost higher than estimated due to scope changes.	2025-2026	Low	Included contingency costs in the funding request. Perform detailed Field Analysis and walk down in project development to avoid potential issues.
Materials Shortage or long lead times	2025-2026	Low	Pre-order long lead time material; minimize the use of non-standard and non-stocked material.
Storm delays	2025-2026	Medium	If storm activity delays work, we may be forced to use external resources.

References

Defective pole analysis budget

CD02545 Defective Pole Program (Inspection 2025; Construction 2026)	
	$M
Defective Poles CD02545	7.05
Frontier Shifts CD02546	0.45
Total 2026 Pole Integrity Budget	7.5

Analysis Defective Pole Projects CD02545	
Avg. Cost to replace (capital+expense)	
Defective Poles from Pole inspection 2025, construction in 2026	[redacted]
Condition based Defective. Target Poles >Class 2.	
Condition based Defective. Target Poles Class 5 (Carry-Over from 2023 into 2024)	
Total Replacements	[redacted]

*Number of poles subject to change based on the findings from the pole inspection.

Appendices (One-Line Diagrams, Images, etc.)

TOWNS INSPECTED IN 2025, Construction in 2025-2026

TOWNS	POLES INSPECTED IN 2025
[redacted]	
TOTAL	**30,637**