EVERSOURCE

Project Approval Form

Project Title: 2026 Frontier Pole Shifts	Project Number: CD02546
Date Prepared: 05/28/2025	**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: 2,620.8K	**Authorization Type:** Full Funding

1. Executive Summary

The Frontier Pole Shifts project supports the 45-day PURA-mandated timeframe for Eversource transfers to new pole sets. This project includes the transfer of Eversource equipment onto Frontier Defective Pole Replacements throughout 2026. As Frontier replaces defective poles, Eversource will receive an automatic design request through the Alden One database to create a WR for the equipment transfer.

The original $450K estimate was based on outdated historical WO data for 228 shifts at lower unit costs. Due to an increase in both volume and cost, the revised estimate now reflects [redacted] shifts at a cost of [redacted] per pole shift, raising the total capital request to $2,620.8K, a 482% increase.

COMPARISON:

Cost Comparison Overview			
Estimate Source	**Cost Per Pole**	**Pole Quantity**	**Total Estimate**
Partial Funding Request	[redacted]	[redacted]	$450K
Full Funding Request	[redacted]	[redacted]	**$2,620.8K**
VARIANCE	[redacted]	[redacted]	$2,170.8K

Between 2018 and 2023, Frontier primarily reinforced decayed or defective poles using C-Trusses rather than replacing them.

Starting in 2024, Eversource has noted a reversal in philosophy resulting in replacing defective poles rather than reinforcing them. This change has led to a significant rise in the number of Frontier pole shifts.

The project capital request is **$2,620.8K**

2. Project Cost Summary

Note: Dollar values are in thousands.

Capital Costs	Year 2026	Year 2027	Year 2028+	Total
Direct Capital Costs				
Internal Labor and Construction Equipment	$30.9	$0.0	$0.0	$30.9
Outside Services	$1,074.5	$0.0	$0.0	$1,074.5
Materials	$118.2	$0.0	$0.0	$118.2
Removals	$670.4	$0.0	$0.0	$670.4
Risk and Contingency	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
Other	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
Subtotal – Direct Costs	**$1892.8**	**$0.0**	**$0.0**	**$1892.8**
Indirect Capital Costs				
Indirect/Overheads (including benefits)	$719.3	$0.0	$0.0	$719.3
Capitalized interest or AFUDC, if any	$8.1	$0.0	$0.0	$8.1
Subtotal – Indirect Costs	**$727.5**	$0.0	$0.0	**$727.5**
Total Gross Capital Costs	**$2,620.8**	**$0.0**	**$0.0**	**$2,620.8**
Customer Contribution	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
Total Net Capital Project Costs	**$2,620.8**	**$0.0**	**$0.0**	**$2,620.8**

3. Technical Justification

Background, Project Need/Justification, and Project Scope

a. Background

This project will allow Eversource to remain PURA compliant and decrease the number of double poles in the field.

CD02546 - 2026 Frontier Pole Shifts	
	Capital
Cost per pole	[redacted]
# of Poles	
Total Estimate	$2,620.8K

b. Project Need

CD02546 is a blanket project that includes the transfer of Eversource equipment onto Frontier Defective Pole Replacements throughout 2026.

The Frontier Pole Shifts project supports the 45-day PURA mandated timeframe for Eversource transfers to new pole sets.

c. Project Scope

Frontier has estimated this to occur approximately [redacted] times throughout 2026 based on the data received this year in 2025.

4. 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.

5. Project Schedule

Add any additional milestones that are pertinent to the project

Milestone/Phase Name	Estimated Date
Partial Approval	October 2024
100% Detailed Engineering Completion	February 2025
Fully Funded	June 2025
Construction Start	February 2026
In Service Date	December 2026

6. Regulatory Decisions

N/A

7. Codes and Standards

N/A

8. Risk and Contingencies

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	Medium	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.

9. 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]

References
1. CD02449 – Supplemental PAF

10. 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 to be inspected in 2025)	*YES*
F. Other (Partial Funding Document)	*YES*

ATTACHMENT – 'E'

TOWNS INSPECTED IN 2025, Construction in 2025-2026

ATTACHMENT 'F' (Partial Funding Document)

Operations Project Authorization Form

Project Title: 2026 Frontier Pole Shifts	**Project Number: CD02546**
Date Prepared: 12/15/2024	**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: $450K	**Authorization Type:** Partial Funding

Executive Summary

The Frontier Pole Shifts project supports the 45-day PURA mandated timeframe for Eversource transfers to new pole sets. This project includes the transfer of Eversource equipment onto Frontier Defective Pole Replacements throughout 2026. As Frontier replaces defective poles.

During the last 5 years, the number of Frontier pole shifts has declined due to a change in philosophy by Frontier which now prefers to C-Truss rather than replace its decayed/defective poles.

The total project capital request is $450K.

Project Costs Summary

Note: Dollar values are in thousands

Capital Costs	2026	2027	2028	Total
Internal Labor and Construction Equipment	5.2	0.0	0.0	5.2
Outside Services	184.5	0.0	0.0	184.5
Materials	20.3	0.0	0.0	20.3
Removals	115.1	0.0	0.0	115.1
Risk and Contingency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	**325.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**325.0**

Indirect Capital Costs	2026	2027	2028	Total
Indirects/Overheads (Including benefits)	123.5	0.0	0.0	123.5
Capitalized interest or AFUDC, if any	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.4
Subtotal	**124.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**124.9**
Total Capital Costs (Gross)	**$450.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**$450.0**
Less Total Customer Contribution	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Project Costs (Net)	**$450**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**$450**

Technical Justification:

Project Need, Objective and Justification:

CD02546 is a blanket project that includes the transfer of Eversource equipment onto Frontier Defective Pole Replacements throughout 2026.

The Frontier Pole Shifts project supports the 45-day PURA mandated timeframe for Eversource transfers to new pole sets.

Project Scope:

Frontier has estimated this to occur approximately [redacted] times throughout 2024 based on historical counts. During 2022, the Company has noticed a reduced number of Frontier shift due to a change in Frontier strategy. Frontier prefers reinforcing rather than replacing poles thus reducing the number of Frontier shifts.

Major Material:

N/A

Background:

This project will allow Eversource to remain PURA compliant and decrease the number of double poles in the field.

Alternatives Considered:

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

Project is a compliance obligation - no alternatives considered - no financial benefit

Regulatory Approvals:

Are Regulatory body approvals needed for the project?

No

Project Schedule

Milestone/Phase Name	Estimated Date
Full Funding Approval	January 2026
Construction Start	February 2026
In Service Date	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 historical costs of transfers.
Construction resources / storm delays	2025-2026	Medium	Will use competitive bidding to ensure lowest outside labor cost if internal resources unavailable.
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.

References

Cost Estimate and Assumptions:

Historical costs for transfers were used to estimate the work. Per the project scope above, we estimate [redacted] poles. This estimate is based on conversation with Frontier about the shift forecast.

CD02110 - 2023 Frontier Transfer project Estimate			
	Capital		
Cost per pole	[redacted]		
# of Poles			
Total Estimate	$450K		

Defective pole analysis budget

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

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

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

N/A