Date Filed: September 17, 2026

Witness: Brendan J. O'Brien, Garrett J. Murray, John P. DiPaola-Tromba, Sean D. Redding and Jenna M. Turner
Request from: Office of Education, Outreach, and Enforcement

Question:

(VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM) Refer to Exhibit CLP-VMP-1, pp. 28, 36. Respond to the following:

a. Identify the total test year cost for the Company's execution of the ground-based LiDAR evaluation. Additionally, identify the total LiDAR evaluation costs that are included in the rate year and, if applicable, explain why the costs are expected to recur.
b. Explain the nature of the $950,000 LiDAR costs included on p. 36 and provide supporting calculations or other related documentation.

Response:

a. The total cost of the LiDAR pilot was $701,053, which included collection, processing, and analysis of the terrestrial LiDAR on approximately 4,000 miles of scheduled 2026 circuits. The cost to collect the terrestrial LiDAR was $379,800 and the cost to process and analyze the LiDAR data was $321,253.36. The recurring cost of LiDAR, and the pertinence of collecting terrestrial LiDAR on an annual basis is due to the natural cyclical growth and decline of the Connecticut roadside forest.

b. The $950,000 LiDAR costs include the collection, processing, and analysis of 2028 Scheduled Maintenance Trimming ("SMT") circuit mileage and 2028 Midcycle program mileage. The 2025 LiDAR pilot cost was increased for inflation at approximately 4% each year, which increases the estimated 2027 LiDAR cost to $773,000. In addition to the SMT circuit mileage, the Midcycle program mileage is also included within the LiDAR program scope. The Midcycle program includes approximately 1,000 additional miles and the 25% increase in mileage collected brings the total LiDAR program cost to an estimated $950,000.