EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Environmental Affairs Department
107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

May 6, 2020

Ms. Carolyn Fusaro
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Remediation Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Reference: **Ridgefield Rails-to-Trails**
Significant Environmental Hazard Status Update Form: Soil

Dear Ms. Fusaro:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy (Eversource) submits the enclosed Significant Environmental Hazard (SEH) Status Update Form: Soil for the Ridgefield Rails-to-Trails located between Prospect Street and Florida Road in Ridgefield, Connecticut (the Site).

An SEH Notification (SEHN) was submitted to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) on December 14, 1998. The SEHN reported that shallow soils (upper two feet) have been impacted with arsenic at a concentration that exceeds the SEH criteria. Remedial activities were conducted as part of a rails-to-trails construction project which was initiated in September 2000 and completed in December 2000. A liner system, comprised of stone screenings and processed aggregate over a geocomposite, geomembrane and geotextile, was installed as a protective cap on the entire railroad bed. As such, the SEH condition has been mitigated. In July 2014, Fuss & O'Neill Engineers, Inc. developed a Maintenance and Observation Plan for the Site designed to reduce the risk of liner exposure by identifying and addressing potential problems before they materialize. Semi-annual inspections have been completed to visually check drainage systems, erosion on trail surfaces, stability of trail slopes, accumulated sediment in swales, and vegetative growth. Based upon these inspections, periodic maintenance and repair have been performed as required.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this submittal, please contact me at (860) 665-5751.

Very truly yours,

Eversource

Drew Blicharz

Drew P. Blicharz, Environmental Specialist for
Gary Iadarola, Manager – Environmental Remediation Group
Enclosure

Significant Environmental Hazard Status Update Form: Soil [Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 22a-6u]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION & LAND REUSE
REMEDIATION DIVISION
79 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127 www.ct.gov/deep/remediation

Complete and submit this form, accompanied by attachments as requested, to meet the requirement under CGS section 22a-6u(k)(2) to provide a description of any continuing actions being taken to monitor, mitigate, or abate a Significant Environmental Hazard condition in surface soil.

RemID# **DEEP Use Only** SEH#

Part I – Site Identification

Identify the parcel at which a Significant Environmental Hazard (SEH) condition was identified:

Name of Site: Ridgefield Rails-to-Trails

Address or Location: Between Prospect Street and Florida Road

City/Town: Ridgefield State: CT Zip Code: 06879

Date(s) DEEP was notified: 12/14/98 DEEP Case Manager (if known): CAROLYN FUSARO

Part II – SEH Information

A. SEH Condition Reported

☒ 30x Industrial/Commercial Direct Expose Criteria (DEC) (for industrial/commercial use, i.e. non-residential)

☐ 15x Industrial/Commercial DEC (for metals or PCBs at industrial/commercial properties that are within 300 feet of a current residential use)

☐ 15x Residential DEC (for current residential use)

B. Has the extent of the SEH condition been fully delineated horizontally and vertically in the top two feet of soil, pursuant to CGS section 22a-6u(d)(3)(A)?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Date report delineating SEH condition submitted: 4/4/01

C. A site map is attached depicting the specific locations and extent of the soil contamination, including contaminant concentrations that exceed SEH notification thresholds. ☐

Part III – SEH Mitigation Status Update

Describe any steps being taken to delineate, monitor, mitigate, and/or abate the SEH condition and any proposed future actions, pursuant to CGS section 22a-6u(d)(3).

A. Report Frequency

1. Annual reports are due on **June 1st** of each year using this form.
   This submittal is the annual report. ☒
2. **In the event that mitigation measures fail, a supplemental report, using this form, is required within 30 days of discovery of such event and must describe how this condition was addressed in C.4. below.** This submittal is a supplemental report. ☐

B. SEH Mitigation

1. Area that exceeds SEH soil notification thresholds is:

Covered by pavement maintained in good condition	YES ☐	NO ☒
Fenced off from the general public	YES ☐	NO ☒
Identified by posted warning signs	YES ☐	NO ☒

2. Provide any additional details of the mitigation measures taken to prevent exposure to the contaminated soil exceeding the SEH notification threshold. CHECK IF NONE ☒

A liner system, comprised of stone screenings and processed aggregate over a geocomposite, geomembrane and geotextile, serves as a protective cap on the entire railroad bed below where the trail has been created.

C. Inspection and Maintenance of Mitigation Measures

1. List dates of inspection since last annual report (mm/dd/yy):

4/28/20	10/30/19	4/11/19	10/19/18

2. Checklist for inspection of mitigation measures for most recent inspection:

☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ NA	Cracking of asphalt or concrete?
☒ Yes	☐ No	☐ NA	Changes in surface profile (settling, potholes, roots)?
☒ Yes	☐ No	☐ NA	Exposed geotextile membrane or soil erosion?
☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ NA	New construction, paving, or landscaping?
☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ NA	Opening in fence that could allow access?
☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ NA	Warning signs present and legible?
☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ NA	Other conditions - describe:

3. Provide current photo documentation of mitigation measures.

Date of photos: 4/28/20 PHOTOS ATTACHED ☒

4. Describe any maintenance of mitigation measures that has been completed since the last report. CHECK IF NONE ☐

Based upon the observations from the April 2019 inspection, additional trail maintenance and repair activities were completed in October and November 2019 including removal of vegetation and sediment from select swales, placement of rip-rap to stabilize slopes, and trail surface restoration work including two areas where the geotextile fabric was exposed. Based upon the observations from the April 2020 inspection, exposed geotextile fabric near the Prospect Street trail entrance will be repaired in 2020.

Part IV – SEH Abatement Update

A. Abatement Status

1. ☒ SEH condition has been abated (complete Part IV.B.)
2. Date abatement plan (to be) submitted:
3. Anticipated date of completion of abatement:

B. Abatement Details

1. SEH condition has been abated such that notice would not be required under CGS section 22a-6u(k)(3) by:

   ☐ Removal of soil above notification threshold values in the top two feet of soil.

   ☒ Rendering the soil inaccessible as defined in the Remediation Standard Regulations ("RSRs," sections 22a-133k-1 through -3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies).

   ☐ Remediation of the release in accordance with the RSRs.

2. ☐ A report describing actions taken to permanently abate the SEH condition is attached.

   a. ☐ A table of analytical data that are the basis for determining that a SEH condition no longer exists is included in the attached report.

   b. ☐ A site map indicating the location of samples identifying that the SEH condition has been fully abated is included in the attached report.

3. If a report(s) has (have) already been submitted that documents the abatement of the SEH condition, list the reports below for reference. CHECK IF NONE ☐

Report Name	Preparer	Submittal Date (mm/dd/yy)	DEEP Unit Name (where submitted)
Ridgefield SEH Hazard Evaluation Completion Report	Timothy Keeney	4/4/01	BWM-PERD

Part V – Party Identification and Contact Information

A. Site Owner Has this information changed? Yes ☒ No ☐

Owner Name: CL&P dba Eversource Energy.

Contact Person: Drew P. Blicharz Title: Environmental Specialist

Contact E-mail: drew.blicharz@eversource.com Contact Phone:8606655751 Ext.

Mailing Address: 107 Selden Street

City/Town: Berlin State:CT Zip Code: 06037

B. Environmental Consultant Has this information changed? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name: Not Applicable Title:

Firm:

E-mail: Phone: Ext.

Mailing Address:

City/Town: State: Zip Code:

C. Entity Acting on Behalf of the Owner Has this information changed? Yes ☐ No ☒

If the person signing this form is not the site owner, describe that person's relationship to the site and its owner and enter contact information below. If an entity who is not the site owner is acting on behalf of the owner to mitigate or abate the hazard condition, provide details of this agreement.

Contact Name:

Contact Person: Title:

Contact E-mail: Contact Phone: Ext.

Mailing Address:

City/Town: State: Zip Code:

Part VI – Signature of Property Owner or Entity Acting on Owner's Behalf

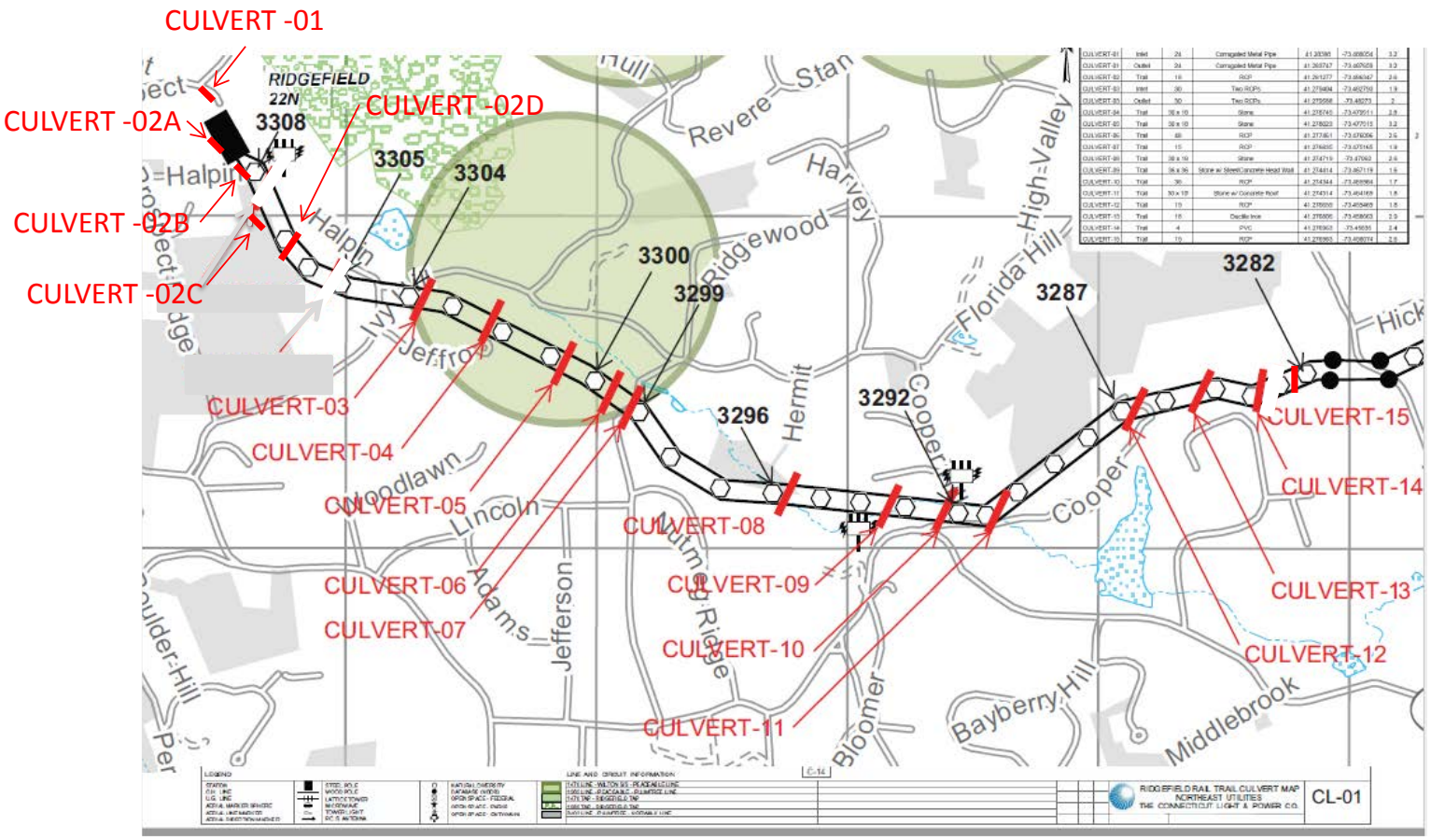
"I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments, and certify that based on reasonable investigation the submitted information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that this form is complete and accurate as prescribed by the Commissioner without alteration of the text."

Name: Drew P. Blicharz Title (if applicable): Environmental Specialist

Signature Drew Blicharz Date: 5/6/2020

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: REMEDIATION DIVISION
<ATTN: CASE MANAGER, IF KNOWN>
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
79 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

Ridgefield Rail-to-Trail Culverts



Ridgefield Rails-to-Trails
SEH Status Update Form - Soil

Photographs

Site Inspection on April 28, 2020

Area Repaired in 2019





Stabilized Slope Adjacent to Substation,
Reestablished Swale, Repaired Trail Surface

Area Repaired in 2019





Stabilized Slope Adjacent to Substation and Reestablished Swale

Area Repaired in 2019



Removed Stormwater Runoff Materials in Swale and Repaired Trail Surface

Area Repaired in 2019



Looking away from Monopole



Looking back toward Monopole

Stabilized Slopes, Reestablished Swale, and Repaired Trail Surfaces

Area Repaired in 2019





Repaired Trail Surface and
Stabilized Slope

Area Requires Repair in 2020





Trail and Slope Erosion at the
Prospect Street Entrance