Electronic Transmittal Form for DEEP Remediation, LUST, and PCB Secure File Transfer (SFT)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
REMEDIATION DIVISION, PCB PROGRAM, AND
LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK COORDINATION PROGRAM
www.ct.gov/deep

This Electronic Transmittal Form must be completed and included as the cover sheet of your electronic document when uploading a document to the Connecticut SFT website. Requirements for Transmittals through the SFT website:

- Documents submitted through the SFT website must include all applicable figures, tables and laboratory data.
- Files must be formatted as PDF/A and use the appropriate naming convention:
  - For Remediation Filings: **REM_REMID #_SiteAddress_Town_DocumentType_DateofDocument**
  - For LUST Filings: **LUST_SiteAddress_Town_AbbreviationForDocumentType_DateofDocument**
  - For PCB Filings: **PCB_SiteAddress_Town_AbbreviationForDocumentType_DateofDocument**
  Example: LUST_1MainStreet_Hartford_ESA_01-01-2001
  Note: For "AbbreviationForDocumentType" use appropriate abbreviation at Transmittal of Documents
- If no Rem ID assigned (new filing) or REM ID is unknown leave field blank

Part I: Primary Recipient*: Remediation Program (* required)

For Remediation documents:	For PCB/LUST documents:
Primary Program*: Other Remediation Program	UST Facility ID: (if applicable)
Rem ID*: 6607	Spill Case Number: (if known)

Part II: Site Information

Site Name*: Ridgefield Rails-To-Trails
Site Address*: Prospect Street to Florida Road
City/Town*: Ridgefield State: CT Zip Code: 06879

Secondary Programs (complete as many as applicable for this document):

Program: Significant Environmental Hazard	Project ID: 81
Program: Select Secondary Program	Project ID:
Program: Select Secondary Program	Project ID:
Program: Select Secondary Program	Project ID:

Provide Project ID for each secondary program if it is known.
Each program has a unique ID (i.e. Rem ID, Spill Case #, UST Facility ID, etc.)

Part III: Document Information (document type required for appropriate program[s] only)

Remediation*: SEH Status Update: Soil
LUST/PCB*: LUST/PCB Document Type
Date of Document*: 5/28/2025 Version: Final

Part IV: Submitter Information

Name*: Drew Blicharz
E-mail*: drew.blicharz@eversource.com
Name of business this document is being submitted on behalf of and contact person email: *
The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Sustainability and Environmental Affairs Department
107 Selden Street, BMN2
Berlin, CT 06037

May 28, 2025

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

Reference: **Ridgefield Rails-to-Trails**
REM ID: 6607, SEH ID: 81
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).

On December 14, 1998, an SEH Notification (SEHN) was submitted to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, now Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP). 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 former railroad bed between Prospect Street and Florida Road. 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 in April and October 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 activities have been performed as required.

In late summer of 2024, several heavy rain events and large volumes of stormwater impacted the trail. At the Cooper Hill Road intersection, the eastern entrance of the trail was washed out revealing the top of the liner. In addition, a reoccurring off-site condition involving a Nutmeg Ridge street stormwater drainage system continued to cause problems at the trail down gradient. Over time, stormwater scouring the slope of a private property continues to deposit material within the swale adjacent to the trail. As a result, stormwater is passing over the trail near monopole 3298 and scouring the trail and a private residence on the opposite side before discharging to the wetlands.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Sustainability and Environmental Affairs Department
107 Selden Street, BMN2
Berlin, CT 06037

Plans were developed to address these two areas at the trail and in early November of 2024, these areas as well as other less significantly damaged areas were repaired.

Several site inspections were performed in late summer/early fall of 2024 during the repair activities and afterward. Based on a more recent inspection performed on April 10, 2025, there are no critical maintenance or repair activities recommended other than the need to address the stormwater drainage issue at Nutmeg Ridge. Since 2019, Eversource has repaired this trail area three times. This issue has been communicated with the Town of Ridgefield multiple times and we understand the Town and Highway Department have been planning to address it.

The next semi-annual inspection is scheduled to take place in October 2025. If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this submittal, please contact me at drew.blicharz@eversource.com or (860) 665-5751.

Sincerely,
Eversource Energy Service Company

Drew Blicharz

Andrew (Drew) P. Blicharz, LEP, CHMM
Senior Environmental Specialist – Remediation

Enclosure: Significant Environmental Hazard (SEH) Status Update Form: Soil
Photographs

cc: Rudy Marconi, First Selectman
Jacob Muller, Public Services and Facilities Director
Dennis DiPinto, Director of Parks and Recreation
Matthew O'Neil, P.E., GEI Consultants, Inc.

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 (REM ID 6607/SEH ID 81)

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 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):

4/10/25	11/25/24	10/1/24	9/4/24

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: 04/10/25 PHOTOS ATTACHED ☒

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

In Aug 2024, heavy rain events and large volumes of stormwater impacted the trail. In Sep and Oct, repairs were evaluated and planned. In Nov 2024, repairs were completed: 1)Portions of top of trail surface were eroded between Monopole 3305 and Ivy Hill Road, and the trail surface was restored. 2)Reoccuring culvert blockage west of MP 3299 resulting from stormwater run-off originating from Old Washington Road and private property was repaired. 3)Reoccurring landslide from a slope adjacent to the trail east of MP 3299 was repaired. 4)Reoccurring swale and trail damage east of MW 3298 as a result of Nutmeg Ridge street stormwater drainage system was repaired. 5)Trail surfaces washed away revealing the liner east of intersection with Cooper Hill Road were repaired. 6)Other minor erosion repairs.

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:

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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: The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy

Contact Person: Andrew (Drew) P. Blicharz Title: Senior Environmental Specialist

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

Mailing Address: 107 Selden Street, BMN2

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

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

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

Signature Drew Blicharz Date: 5/28/25

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 Rails-to-Trails
SEH Status Update Form: Soil

PHOTOGRAPHS

Semi-annual Site Inspections
September - October 2024, and
April 10, 2025

Substation Entrance

October 1, 2024



April 10, 2025



MP 3308 East of Halpin Lane

October 1, 2024



April 10, 2025



MP 3305 West of Ivy Hill Road Intersection

October 1, 2024



April 10, 2025



MP 3298 North of Nutmeg Ridge

October 1, 2024



April 10, 2025



MP 3292 East of Intersection with Cooper Hill Road

September 4, 2024



April 10, 2025

