STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY
TEN FRANKLIN SQUARE
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051

DOCKET NO. 26-08-12 **PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF METHOD AND MANNER OF CONSTRUCTION AND PERMISSION TO ENERGIZE THE DANBURY UNDERGROUND CABLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 1270 AND 1337 LINES (APPROXIMATELY 50 FEET OF OPEN DUCT BANK CROSSING)**

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

PROPOSED FINAL DECISION

This proposed final decision is being distributed to the participants in this proceeding for comment. The proposed decision is not final. The Authority will consider the participants' arguments and exceptions before reaching a final decision, which may differ from the proposed decision. Therefore, this proposed decision does not establish any precedent and does not necessarily represent the Authority's final conclusion.

PROPOSED FINAL DECISION

I. SUMMARY

On August 12, 2026, The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource or Company) submitted a petition (Petition) requesting that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) approve the method and manner of construction of and provide permission to energize approximately 50 feet of an underground concrete encased duct bank limited to the Enbridge Algonquin Gas Pipeline Crossing located between Station 180+00 and Station 180+50 (Project).[1] The Authority approves the method and manner of construction of the Project and approves permission to energize following completion of the Project.

II. STANDARD OF REVIEW

The Company is required to provide the following in conformance with Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 16-11-137 and 16-11-139:

- Local names of the points through which the line will pass and the towns through which it will pass;
- the length of the line;
- electrical descriptions of the line including voltage, frequency, number of phases, and number of conductors;
- the general types of construction to be employed; the character of materials to be employed;
- a description of lightning protection;
- titles of specifications and standards to which the construction will conform;
- names of utilities and municipalities whose facilities are crossed or paralleled by the line;
- the dates of planned construction and energization;
- drawings showing location, depth, and clearances of all known underground circuits, tracks, and other underground facilities of other utilities and municipalities;
- maps showing the route of the line and locations of the circuits; and
- copies of letters from each railroad, municipality or other utility affected, stating that it has been notified of the details of the proposed line and that it offers no objection to the method or manner of construction.

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[1] On March 6, 2025, the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) approved the transmission project. Petition, p. 5; see CSC Petition No. 1642 The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project consisting of the replacement and partial relocation of its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) 1270 and 1337 high pressure fluid filled (HPFF) electric transmission cables with cross linked polyethylene (XLPE) electric transmission cables along approximately 3.6 miles of existing and new right-of-way between Triangle Street Substation and Middle River Substation in Danbury, Connecticut and related electric transmission cable and substation improvements.

III. EVERSOURCE PETITION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In Docket No. 25-06-27, Petition for Approval of Method and Manner of Construction and Permission to Energize the Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project (1270 and 1337 Lines), the Authority approved the Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project involving the 1270 and 1337 Lines between Triangle Substation and Middle River Substation in Danbury. The Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project involves replacing the existing high-pressure fluid-filled transmission cables, which have exceeded their operating life, with solid-dielectric insulated cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) cables. See Decision, August 6, 2025, Docket No. 25-06-27**.** The Enbridge Algonquin Gas Pipeline Crossing Project constitutes a segment of the Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project; however, approval of that segment was deferred pending completion of an engineering review by Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC (Enbridge) concerning the proposed crossing beneath facilities owned and operated by Enbridge.[2] Id.

This Petition seeks solely for the construction of and permission to energize approximately 50 feet of an underground concrete encased duct bank segment limited to the Enbridge Algonquin Gas Pipeline Crossing (Station 180+00 to Station 180+50). Petition, p. 3. Specifically, the duct bank will be installed at a depth below grade of approximately 12 feet, crossing under the 42-inch Enbridge Algonquin Gas Pipeline. Within the duct bank, the 3-phase conductor cables, communication lines, and grounding lines will be pulled through individually placed polyvinyl chloride (PVC) conduits, with their alignment held in place using specifically designed conduit spacer assemblies then encased with high-strength thermal concrete. Id.

The proposed construction will take place on Westville Avenue Extension which intersects Middle River Road and Filmore Avenue within the City of Danbury (Danbury). Id., p. 2. Materials to be used in the construction of the transmission lines include:

- Minimum 3,000 psi concrete encased duct banks;
- Schedule 40 PVC conduits;
- Thermally Controlled Low Strength Material with a maximum compressive strength of 200 psi;
- Road materials as prescribed, if necessary, by Danbury and the DOT;
- 115-kV 5000-kcmil aluminum cables with XLPE insulation;
- Two 500-kcmil ground continuity conductors; and
- Fiber optic cables for communication.

Id., p. 3.

[2] Enbridge has authorized Eversource to construct the underground transmission lines construction near its infrastructure provided that all work is performed in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). Petition, Exhibit B.

The Project was reviewed to identify the utilities, municipalities, agencies, and railroads affected by the Project, whose exposed or underground circuits, or other facilities are crossed over or under by the proposed work.[3] Petition, p. 4.

Construction of the approximately 50-foot underground concrete encased duct bank crossing is scheduled to begin in early Fall 2026 and is expected to be completed within 30 days. Id. Eversource will energize these circuits after completion of construction of the entire Danbury Underground Cable Replacement Project which is anticipated by 2028. Id.

IV. AUTHORITY ANALYSIS

The Company provided the information required by Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 16-11-137 and 16-11-139. See, Petition, pp. 1-5, Exhibits A, B and C. All construction plans comply in accordance with Part 2 of the 2023 Edition of the NESC required by Conn. Agencies Regs. § 16-11-134. Id., p. 4.

The Authority reviewed the information and plans filed in the record pursuant to General Statutes § 16-243 and Conn. Agencies Regs §§ 16-11-137 and 16-11-139. The Authority finds that the Company satisfied the application requirements and grants approval of construction at the locations cited above. The Authority also grants approval to energize after completion of the Project.

V. CONCLUSION AND ORDER

The Authority approves the method and manner of construction of the Project and approves permission to energize following completion of the Project.

To comply with the order below, the Company shall file an electronic version of any compliance through the Authority's website at www.ct.gov/pura. Submissions filed in compliance with the Authority's orders must be identified by all three of the following: Docket Number, Title, and Order Number.

1. Not more than 30 days following completion of the Project, the Company shall file as compliance the date on which construction was completed. The Authority will not require a field inspection for this Project.

[3] A Letter of No Objection from Enbridge is included as an attachment to the Petition. Petition, Exhibit B.