STATE OF CONNECTICUT
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 26-08-16
APPEAL OF TREE WARDEN'S DECISION
PURSUANT TO GENERAL STATUTES 16-234(c)(6)

NOTICE OF HEARING & PROCEDURAL ORDER
(October 19, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.)

On August 24, 2026, Dariusz Zumbrzycki (Applicant) submitted an appeal of a determination made by the Tree Warden for the Town of Fairfield (Fairfield) to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA). Specifically, the Applicant appeals the determination that The United Illuminating Company (UI or Company) trim rather than remove the subject tree[1] located at 452 Lockwood Road, Fairfield, CT (Property). In response, the Authority is conducting this contested proceeding to address the issues raised in the application. Pursuant to Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 16-1-25, the Authority hereby announces the date of the **evidentiary hearing** in this matter, and issues the below procedural order.

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Authority will hold the evidentiary hearing on **Monday, October 19, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at PURA's offices, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.** See Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 16-1-22 to 16-1-44. The panel of commissioners assigned to this docket, designates Attorney Patrick Fryer as the hearing officer to conduct hearings, as necessary, ascertain the facts, and report thereon to the panel. General Statutes §§ 16 2(c), 16-8(a), and 4-166(13). The purpose of this hearing is for the Authority to receive evidence into the record from the parties. UI has the burden of proving that public convenience and necessity requires the pruning or removal of the tree at issue. General Statutes § 16-234(c)(6)(B). Accordingly, UI is required to provide an opening statement and its evidence to that end, subject to cross examination. Fairfield may present additional evidence and testimony in support of its decision affirming trimming the tree. The Applicant will have the opportunity to cross-examine UI and Fairfield, and to present direct evidence at the hearing, subject to cross-examination by the parties and the assigned hearing officer. The Authority may continue the hearing on additional dates, as deemed necessary.

[1] Initially, Applicant consented to UI's Customer Notification of Proposed Tree Work to remove a tree from the Property.

PROCEDURAL ORDER

No later than **12:00 p.m. on October 14, 2026,** UI shall submit pre-filed testimony it intends to introduce during the evidentiary hearing. Additionally, any attorney of record for any represented party who has not already done so shall file their notice of appearance with the Authority no later than **October 14, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.**

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATION

The Authority, which is within DEEP for administrative purposes only, is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint or require some other accommodation, including equipment to facilitate virtual participation, please contact the **DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at (860) 418-5910 or via email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov**. Any person needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the **State of Connecticut relay number, 7-1-1**. To facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program or event.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 30th day of September, 2026

By direction of the presiding officer,



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.
Executive Secretary

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on September 30, 2026.