Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Appeal of Tree Warden Decision Regarding Tree Removal
Property Address: 452 Lockwood Road, Fairfield, CT 06825 | **Date:** August 13, 2026

Dear Executive Secretary,

I am writing to formally appeal the decision of the Fairfield Tree Warden regarding the removal of a tree located at my property at 452 Lockwood Road in Fairfield. As the property owner, I originally consented to the removal of this tree, as proposed by United Illuminating with their line clearance program, because of concerns regarding its health, condition, and safety. However, the Tree Warden subsequently modified the proposed work from removal to trimming. I respectfully request that PURA reconsider this decision and allow the tree to be removed rather than limiting the work to trimming.

My concerns regarding this tree are based on both professional observations and the tree's history. A few years ago, I had a private arborist inspect the tree. The arborist expressed concerns regarding the tree's overall health and condition, as he noted moss growth around the base of the tree and pointed out the condition of the bark. Of even greater concern is the tree's history of losing a substantial number of branches during even light winds. This recurring pattern concerns me because it suggests that the tree is declining in health and may not be stable enough to withstand eventual severe weather.

As the property owner, I am also concerned that trimming is only a temporary solution to clear power lines and doesn't address the underlying risk of the tree falling. The tree was already trimmed a few days ago by tree contractors, and all the trimming that was done was below the power lines; all the branches above still pose a risk to utility infrastructure. I want to emphasize that I am not requesting removal for aesthetic reasons or personal convenience, but because I believe it is the safest and best long-term solution. I asked the Tree Warden a few years ago to let me remove the tree on my own (the tree is within town boundaries), but I didn't receive permission. United Illuminating seems to be on the same page as me, wanting to remove the tree, but the Tree Warden overruled the decision once again for an undisclosed reason.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my appeal. I respectfully request that PURA reverse or modify the Tree Warden's decision and permit the removal of the tree. I appreciate your consideration of my safety concerns described above, and I am willing to provide any additional information that may be required.

Sincerely,

Dariusz Zumbrzycki
Phone: 203-912-4668 | **Email:** darekzumb@yahoo.com

UI

An Avangrid company

Customer Notification of Proposed Tree Work

United Illuminating (UI) and its contractors, working under the oversight of a UI arborist, perform ongoing vegetation management. We ask for your support to ensure a safe, reliable energy grid.

Trees on Private Property: We do not trim or remove trees on private property without the owner's consent, except when there is an immediate hazard or threat.

Trees on Public Property or Right-of-Way: Abutting property owners are notified of proposed tree work and may consent, object or seek a modification. UI reserves the right to appeal.

United Illuminating, 180 Marsh Hill Road, Orange, CT 06477
Visit **uinet.com/trees** or email **trees@uinet.com**

Work Proposal

UI and its contractors will be performing tree work in your neighborhood to maintain a safe and reliable energy grid. You will not be charged for this work.

6- -2026
DATE

Mark Lange
CONTACT NAME

860-753-1097
PHONE EMAIL

We propose the following work on or around: July 2026

- ☐ Pruning or removal of tree branches
- ☐ Removal of brush (small, unplanted trees up to 6 inches in trunk diameter at chest height)
- ☒ Removal of trees; please call contractor for consultation
- ☐ Hand-treatment of stumps with herbicide to prevent re-sprouting

Brush will be chipped. Bulk wood will be: ☐ Left on site ☒ Removed

Property address: 452 Lockwood Rd

Description of work: Remove one tree to establish UPZ clearance from the powerlines.

Tree Warden/State DOT: Jeff Minder

203-256-3177
PHONE ADDRESS

Note: Stump grinding is the responsibility and option of the property owner. UI and it contractors do not assume responsibility should the tree(s) fall prior to completion of the tree work. However, if you object to the proposed tree work, you will not be billed by UI for any resulting damage if the tree(s) fall on any utility infrastructure. For information, visit **uinet.com/trees**, email **trees@uinet.com**, or contact the contractor at the number listed above.

Customer Response

To respond, or if you have questions, call or email the contact provided on the Work Proposal, at left. Leave name, property address and contact information. Or, submit this form as follows to respond.

1. Fully complete the form.
2. Insert the **white copy** back into the door hanger. Return it to the door where you found it for pickup within two business days.
3. Keep the **pink copy** for your records.
4. Give the **yellow copy** to the tree warden/DOT commissioner listed on this form if you choose to object or seek a modification to the work plan.

Iwonna Mscichowska / Dariusz Zumbrzy
CUSTOMER NAME

203-219-9244 / 203-912-4668
DAYTIME PHONE EVENING PHONE EMAIL

☒ I am the owner of this property, located at:
452 Lockwood Rd. Fairfield CT 06825
ADDRESS CITY/TOWN STATE ZIP

☒ I consent to the proposed tree work.
☐ I object to the proposed tree work.
☐ I request a modification to the proposed tree work.

Dariusz Zumbrzy, Mscichowska
YOUR SIGNATURE

☐ I do not own this property. The owner is:

NAME PHONE

ADDRESS CITY/TOWN STATE ZIP