



City of Shelton
Shelton Conservation Commission
54 Hill Street
Shelton, Conn. 06484



October 10, 2012

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CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

Linda Roberts
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Proposed UI Substation at Old Stratford Road, Shelton
Docket No. 433

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The Shelton Conservation Commission and its Trails Committee have reviewed United Illuminating's application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115/13.8 kilovolt substation located at 14 Old Stratford Road, Shelton.

Our comments concern the scenic Far Mill River, which abuts the rear (northern) edge of the site. This river is a very popular fishing stream for both native and stocked trout and salmon. The CT DEEP stocks the river twice year. It is also popular with advanced kayakers due to the many rapids and waterfalls.

The City of Shelton, the Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Trout Unlimited, and the Far Mill River Association have worked for many years to protect the Far Mill River and to provide for public access. We request that the applicant establish a natural riparian buffer from the shoreline to the existing drive (30-50 feet). This buffer would function to shade the water and keep temperatures down, screen the adjacent commercial facilities from river users, lower noise levels, improve water quality, and provide a river corridor for plants and animals to travel or expand through. As part of establishing this riparian buffer, we ask that the applicant remove the invasive species along the river.

We further request that pedestrian access be provided for throughout the riparian zone, as well as parking for two cars near the existing hickory tree located in a traffic island on the northwest corner of the parcel.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Harbinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas Harbinson
Chairman

Cc: HVA
Trout Unlimited
Far Mill River Association
Shelton Land Conservation Trust
United Illuminating