



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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### **CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

January 14, 2010

Stephen J. Humes, Esq.  
McCarter & English, LLP  
CityPlace I  
185 Asylum Street, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

**RE: PETITION NO. 925** - PSEG Power Connecticut LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the installation and operation of three 48.5 MW peaking units at New Haven Harbor Station, 1 Waterfront Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Humes:

At a public meeting held on January 7, 2010, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that this proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition, dated November 23, 2009.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

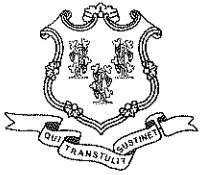
Very truly yours,

Daniel F. Caruso  
Chairman

DFC/RDM/laf

Enclosure: Staff Report dated January 7, 2010

c: The Honorable John DeStefano, Jr, Mayor, City of New Haven  
Frank Gargiulo, Zoning Administrator, City of New Haven  
Leilani M. Holgado, Esq., Assistant General Environmental Counsel, PSEG Services Corp.  
Stephen T. Maginnis, Project Manager, PSEG Power LLC



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**Petition No. 925**  
**PSEG Power Connecticut LLC**  
**New Haven Harbor Station**  
**Staff Report**  
**January 7, 2010**

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On November 23, 2009, the PSEG Power Connecticut LLC (PSEG) submitted a petition to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed installation of three electric peaking generators at PSEG's New Haven Harbor Station on Waterfront Street in New Haven. On December 17, 2009, Council members Philip Ashton, Dr. Barbara Bell, and Wayne Estey and Council staff member Robert Mercier met PSEG representatives and members of the general public at the proposed site to review the petition. PSEG was represented by Stephen Humes, Esq.

PSEG proposes to install and operate three electric generating units rated at 48.5 megawatts each. The generators would be operated as peaking units capable of starting within ten minutes of being dispatched by ISO New England. The units would assist in the reliable operations of the Connecticut electrical system providing generating capacity to meet the need for electricity during high demand periods. The units would provide summer electrical capacity of 129.6 MW and a winter capacity of 145.5 MW. The units would have black start capability to provide electricity during electrical system failures. The units are expected to run approximately 40 times per year. The proposed project is in response to Public Act 07-242, Section 50, which directed the DPUC to issue a request for proposals for peaking generation within Connecticut.

Consistent with Section 16-50k of Connecticut General Statutes and "notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or title 16a, the council shall, in the exercise of its jurisdiction over the siting of generating facilities, approve by declaratory ruling the construction of a facility solely for the purpose of generating electricity, other than an electric generating facility that uses nuclear materials or coal as fuel, at a site where an electric generating facility operated prior to July 1, 2004".

The units would interconnect with The United Illuminating Company's East Shore Substation adjacent to the site via an overhead line connection utilizing 13.8 to 115 kV step-up transformers. The overhead connection would extend approximately 400 feet. ISO-New England is currently reviewing the interconnection proposal. At the Council's request, PSEG performed a preliminary analysis of an underground connection and determined the underground route would be more costly than the proposed overhead line connection due to presence of Cross Sound Cable that traverses the project area and a high water table.

The site is located at PSEG's New Haven Harbor Station property in an industrial area of New Haven. The 43-acre parcel contains a 466 MW electric generating facility constructed in 1975 that operates on oil and natural gas. The station consists of a 65,500-square foot building, 220 feet in height, an 11,600 square foot warehouse, two 13.6 million gallon No. 6 fuel oil tanks and a 389-foot tall exhaust stack. The site is surrounded by industrial or public works facilities, including the New Haven waster water treatment plant, ESCO, Inc., Motiva oil terminal, and UI's East Shore Substation. New Haven Harbor is located to the west.

The proposed facility would be constructed in an area consisting of a grass field and gravel parking areas, north of the existing station (Unit 1). The proposed facility would include three General Electric LM6000PC combustion turbines, capable of running on both natural gas and ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) fuel, and supporting infrastructure including a 30-foot high 280,000 gallon fuel oil tank, gas compressors, step up transformer, a 36-foot high 390,000 gallon demineralized water tank, 5,000 gallon ammonia tank, filter building, power control module, an auxiliary building, and a 31-foot exhaust duct and associated exhaust stack. The final height of the exhaust stack has not been determined and would range between 130-213 feet depending on the final air permit issued by the DEP.

Natural gas would be delivered via a Southern Connecticut Gas Company pipeline that traverses the site. Operation of the three generators would require 1,400 thousand cubic feet of gas/hour. The gas supply in the New Haven area is at the end of the pipeline network and is subject to engineering controls to allow for an adequate gas supply to residential areas. All gas to the station is curtailed when the outside temperature is less than 27° F.

The 280,000 gallon oil tank is sufficient for a 24 hour supply. The tank would be refilled on an as needed basis from tanker trucks originating from the oil terminal immediately north of the site. Oil would be used during natural gas curtailment periods or when the generators are dispatched with a short lead time.

### **Environmental Impact**

The proposed project site is in an open area on the property. Soil excavated for the project would be tested and disposed of in accordance with regulatory criteria. A stand of pine trees on the eastern limits of the project area would be transplanted to the west of the project site, adjacent to the harbor. No endangered, threatened or special concern species would be affected by the project. The project would have no effect on historic or archeological resources. Noise from the proposed facility would be within applicable noise standards.

The project would use approximately 265 gallons/minute of water from the City's potable water system at full load, mainly for the inlet coolers on the units to allow for more efficient generation. Water usage and wastewater discharge would be permitted under the station's existing water permit. Wastewater would be discharged to the City's wastewater treatment system.

PSEG submitted a New Source Review Air Permit Application to the Department of Environmental Protection on October 20, 2009. In accordance with the permit, PSEG would employ Best Available Control Technology to minimize air emissions to control air pollutants. Nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds would be controlled by selective catalytic reduction system and ULSD. The use of ULSD and natural gas meet the requirements of Best Available Control Technology for control of particulate matter and sulfur dioxide emissions. Selective Catalytic Reduction technology would reduce nitrogen oxide emissions and an oxidation catalyst would reduce carbon monoxide and volatile organic compound emissions.

In accordance with the Environmental Justice Act, PSEG, DEP, the City of New Haven, and community groups met over several months to discuss the project's impact on the surrounding neighborhood. The meetings resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between all stakeholders that achieved a no net increase in nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions when the existing generator and the three proposed peaking units are operating simultaneously during high demand periods, achieved by operating restrictions on the existing unit and the prioritization of natural gas as a fuel. The MOU was approved by the DEP and would be implemented and enforced under the plant's existing Title V Operating Permit

currently under DEP review. PSEG also agreed to provide \$500,000 to the City to further air quality improvements such as upgrading sanitation vehicles so that they would emit less particulates.

The site is in an industrial area along the east side of New Haven Harbor. The nearest residential area is located approximately 2,100 feet east of the site along Woodward Ave. A city park is approximately 800 feet south of the existing powerhouse. The visibility impact of the proposed facility would be negligible given the industrial nature of the area and the current height of the existing powerhouse and associated exhaust stack. Both structures are currently marked with aviation safety lighting.

### **Community Outreach**

PSEG first discussed the project with the City in February 2008, prior to PSEG's participation in the DPUC's proceeding regarding peaking generation. PSEG filed formal notice of the petition with the City on July 17, 2009, followed by a community outreach program that included meeting with various City officials and community groups. An informal public meeting was held on August 4, 2009 that included visual displays, an information session and a question and comment session. Notice of the hearing was sent to all abutters, nearby residents, local officials and community groups by mail. Public notice of the meeting was published in local papers and a sign describing the purpose of the meeting was placed at the site. A website describing the proposed project and an informational telephone hotline were established. A bus tour of the proposed project was conducted on August 15, 2009. On November 23, 2009, Mayor John Destefano, Jr. submitted a letter in support of the project.