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Via Hand Delivery

July 14, 2015

Todd Bianco
Siting Board Coordinator
Energy Facility Siting Board
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**Re: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
V148N 115kV Transmission Line Reconductoring Project ("Project")
Docket No. SB-2015-03**

Dear Mr. Bianco:

I am enclosing for filing an original and five (5) copies of National Grid's responses to the First Set of Data Requests submitted by the Energy Facility Siting Board in the above referenced matter.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing on the enclosed copy and return it to me. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Peter V. Lacouture

PVL/blv

Enclosures

Copy to: Margaret Curran, Esq., Chairperson (*via hand delivery*)
Kevin M. Flynn (*via hand delivery*)
Janet Coit (*via hand delivery*)
Patricia S. Lucarelli, Esq. (*via hand delivery*)
Service List (*via electronic mail*)

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY:	
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID'S NOTICE OF INTENT	:
APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL V-148N	:
115KV TRANSMISSION LINE	:
RECONDUCTORING PROJECT	:
	DOCKET NO. SB-2015-03

**NATIONAL GRID'S RESPONSES TO THE
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD'S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS**

DATA REQUEST NO. 1-1: What is the total length and number of structures to be worked on in each town? When is work expected to start and end in each town?

RESPONSE:

The line is a total of 4.2 miles long. 2.1 miles are located in North Smithfield, and 2.1 miles are located in Lincoln. 23 structures will be worked on in North Smithfield, and 22 structures will be worked on in Lincoln.

In the Town of North Smithfield, work is planned to begin in February of 2016 and conclude in May of 2016.

In the Town of Lincoln, work is planned to begin in February of 2016 and conclude in July of 2016.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-2: Provide a description of any community outreach engaged in by National Grid regarding this project.

RESPONSE:

As described in section 3.9 of the Company's filing, the Project Team met with community officials from North Smithfield and Lincoln, Rhode Island on December 17, 2014 to provide them with a description of the project and proposed project timeline. The Project Team had an additional meeting with representatives of the Town of Lincoln on January 21, 2015 to review access to the ROW near the Handy Pond Conservation Area.

Approximately 6 months prior to construction, abutters within 200 feet of the ROW will be sent Project Fact Sheets which describe the Project need, location and construction schedule.

Approximately two weeks prior to construction, abutters within 200 feet of the ROW will be sent construction courtesy notices.

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**NATIONAL GRID'S RESPONSES TO THE
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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-3: Provide copies of any materials distributed as part of National Grid's community outreach, including briefing material to local officials. Provide copies of draft materials that will be distributed to abutters as described in Section 3.9.

RESPONSE: Last December, the Project Team scheduled meetings with local officials from the Town of North Smithfield and Town of Lincoln to review the project. Provided as Attachment 1-3(a) is a copy of the handout from these meetings.

Please see the Company's response to Data Request No. 1-2. Provided as Attachment 1-3(b) is a draft Fact Sheet that the Company will send to abutters within 200 feet of the ROW approximately 6 months prior to construction. Approximately two weeks prior to the start of construction, the Company will send a construction courtesy notice to abutters within 200 feet of the ROW. The Project Team will also keep the Towns apprised of the construction status.

V148N Reconductoring Project

North Smithfield & Lincoln, RI

December 17, 2014



Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Need/Benefits
- Project Location
- Project Overview
- Construction Sequence/Schedule
- Outreach
- Contact Information

Project Need

■ Project Need

- October 2013, Brayton Point Energy, LLC, submitted retirement request for Brayton Point, a 1528 MW generation plant in Somerset, MA to cease its operation on June 1, 2017
- ISO-NE identified reliability issues caused by Brayton Point retirement
- ISO-NE announced the selection of V-148N 115kV transmission line reconductoring project as the preferred solution to mitigate system overloads

Project Benefits

- Project Benefits
 - Lower estimated cost compared to other solutions
 - Relative time to construct
 - Minimal change to the transmission system
 - Maintains reliable transmission service to customers in the North Smithfield and Lincoln areas of Rhode Island

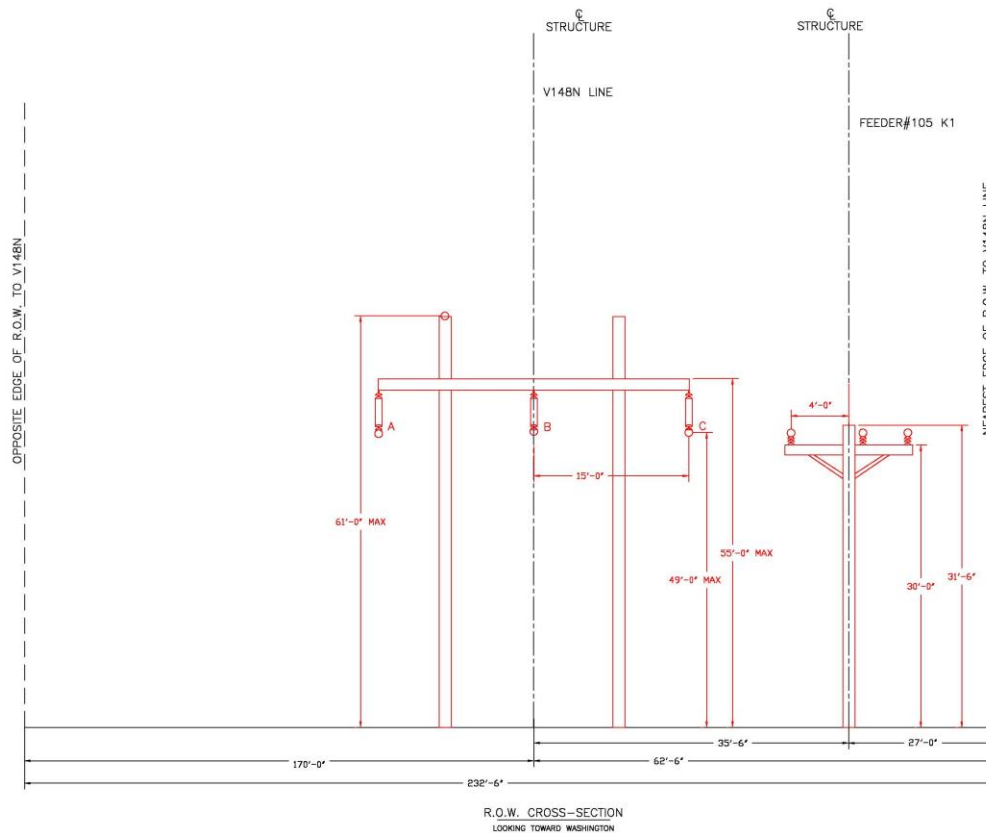
Project Location

■ LOCUS MAP

Project Overview

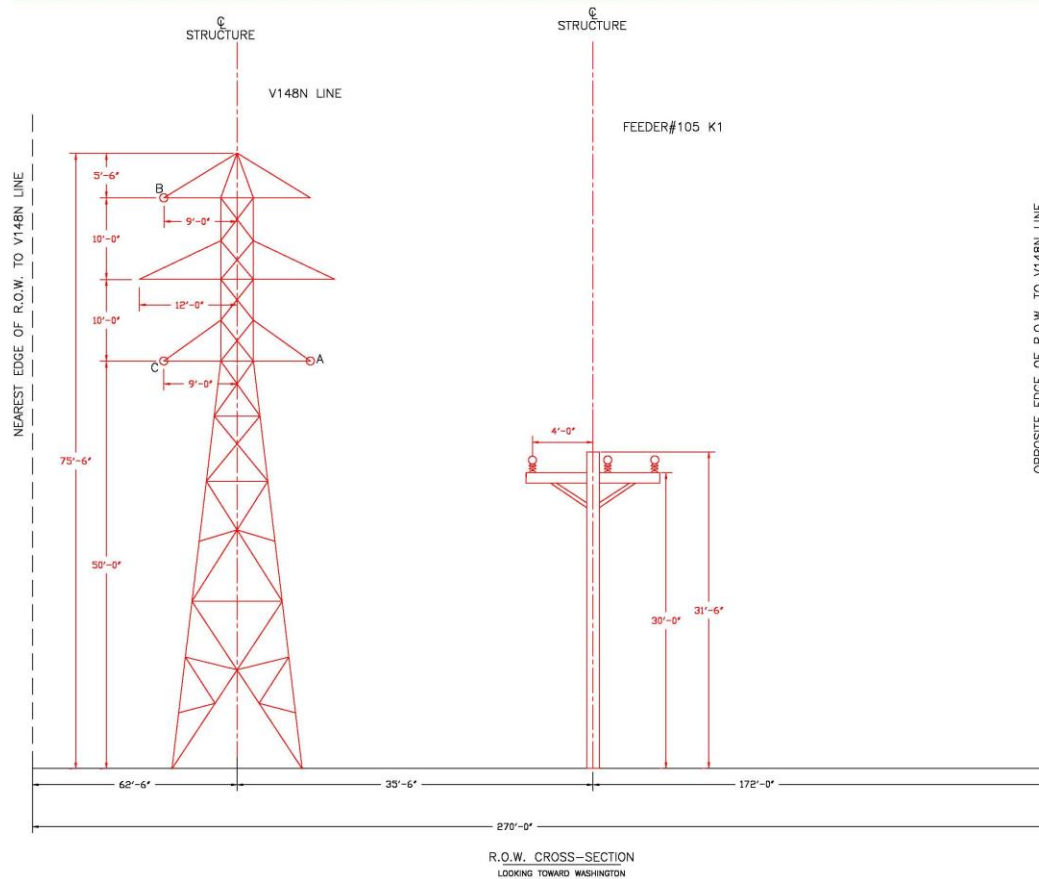
- Replace conductor (wire) of existing 4.2 mile transmission line with new, larger conductor capable of carrying more power
- Replace six (6) wood structures with steel structures
- Reinforce thirty one (31) towers by replacing specified angle members
- All within existing transmission corridor between Woonsocket Substation and Washington Substation

Cross Section



- Typical ROW Cross Section
- H-Frame Structure

Cross Section



- Typical ROW Cross Section
- Lattice Tower

Construction Sequence

- Vegetation mowing to allow access for construction equipment
- Installation of erosion control devices to include straw bales, silt fencing, and swamp mats
- Installation of 6 replacement structures including foundations
- Installation of new conductor
- Restoration and clean-up of ROW (debris removal, seed/mulch disturbed areas and stabilize soils)

Construction Schedule

- **Community/Municipal Outreach:** Start December 2014 – continue to end of project
- **Permitting:** Anticipated late Spring 2015
 - **Energy Facility Siting Board**
 - **USACE Category 2 Application Package and Associated 401 WQC**
 - **Local Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinances**
- **Construction Start:** Upon approval and receipt of all environmental permits, Fall 2015
- **Construction Complete:** Spring 2016

Outreach

- Project Fact Sheets sent to abutters and municipal leadership
- Prior to the start of construction, Project Construction Updates sent to abutters and municipal leadership
- One on One meetings with concerned property owners

Contacts

Contacts:

Danielle Aretz, Stakeholder Management Specialist

(O) 781-907-3081

(C) 508-505-6219

danielle.aretz@nationalgrid.com

Fact Sheet

V148N Reconductoring Project – North Smithfield & Lincoln, RI

National Grid is committed to delivering safe and reliable energy to our customers. Reflective of this commitment, we are replacing the conductors (wires) on the existing V148N Transmission Line.

What: National Grid will be replacing the existing conductors on 4.2 miles of transmission line. The Project will also involve the removal of one wooden structure, the replacement of six (6) wooden structures with steel structures, and the reinforcement of thirty one (31) existing towers.

Where: All Project-related work will take place within the existing transmission corridor between Woonsocket Substation (located on 76 Greenville Road in North Smithfield) and the Washington Substation (located off the George Washington Highway) in Lincoln. Please see the attached map for the general location of the transmission corridor where the work will take place.

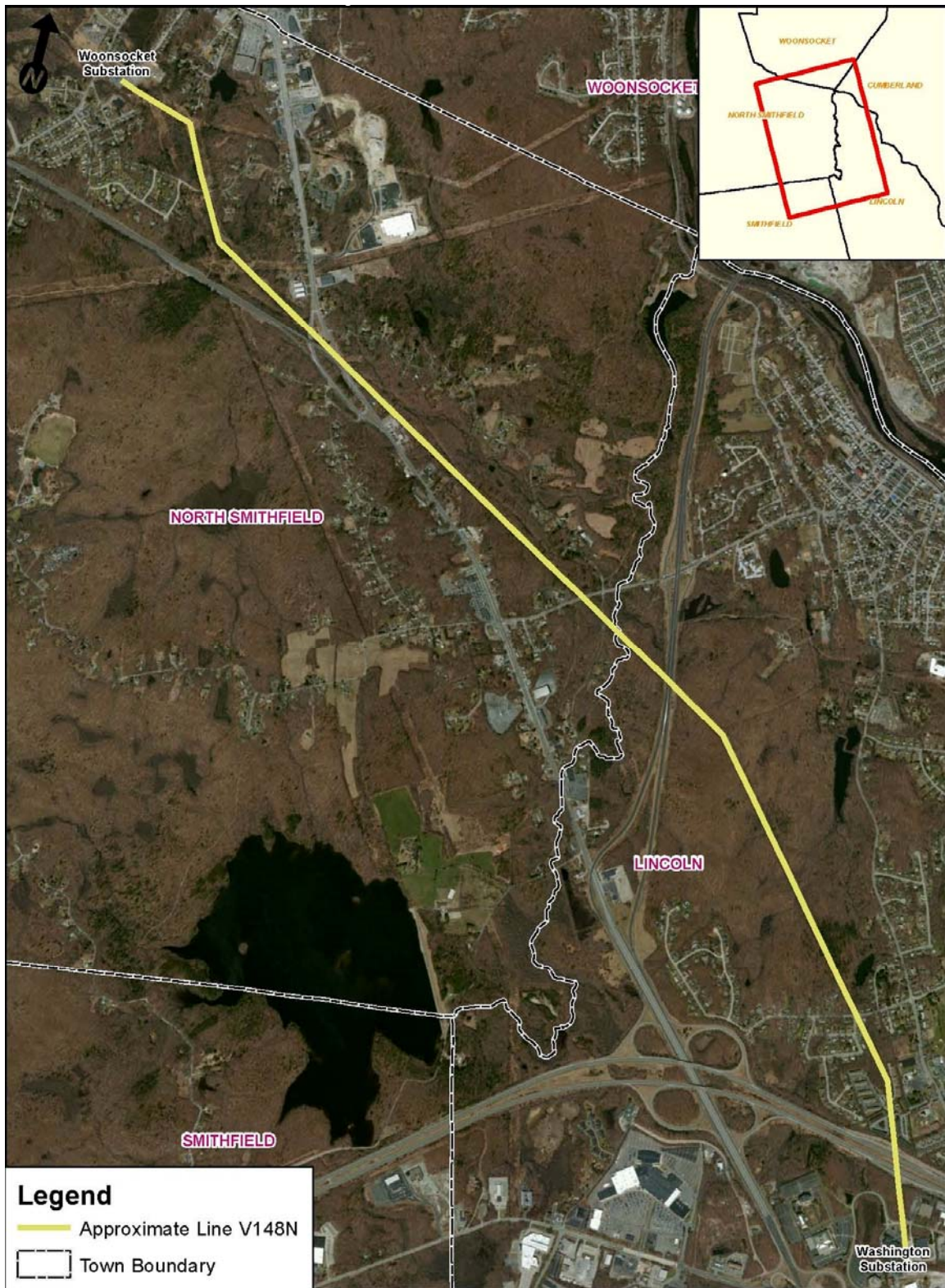
Why: A strong electrical transmission and distribution system is vital to our region's safety, security, and economic prosperity. This work is part of an overall program designed to provide safe, reliable electricity for the region.

When: Pending Federal, State and local permit approvals, construction is scheduled to begin early 2016 and completed in the Summer of 2016.

Community Collaboration: National Grid is undertaking community outreach to inform Project neighbors, public officials and other stakeholders about the Project. We commit to keeping local officials, residents, businesses, and community groups informed about the Project. You will receive an additional Project notice approximately 2-3 weeks prior to the start of construction. If you have any questions or would like further information, please feel free to contact me.

We value community input and welcome your questions and feedback.

Danielle S. Aretz
Stakeholder Relations
National Grid
Office: 781-907-3081
Email: Danielle.Aretz@NationalGrid.com



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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-4: How many property owners in each town directly abut the ROW's utilized for this project, and what has National Grid done to communicate with these abutters?

RESPONSE:

In North Smithfield, thirty-five (35) properties directly abut the Project ROW; of these, eight are residential properties. In Lincoln, twenty (20) properties directly abut the Project ROW; of these, seven are residential properties.

As discussed in the Company's response to Data Request No. 1-3, the Company will send a Project Fact Sheet to abutters within 200 feet of the ROW approximately six months prior to the start of construction. Approximately 2 weeks prior to construction, the Company will send a construction courtesy notice to abutters within 200 feet of the ROW.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-5: Detail any documented concerns received from individual landowners related to this project. Please include a copy of such communication received by the Company, if any exists, a description of any actions taken and/or copies of communications made to those individuals to address those concerns and/or the anticipated resolution by National Grid.

RESPONSE: To date, the Company has not received any communication from landowners related to this project.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-6: Where in proximity to the residential areas are the structures that are being replaced?

RESPONSE:

Please refer to Figures 3-3: Permitting and Access Plans and 6-1: Land Use. The scope of the Project involves the removal of one wood structure and the replacement of six wood structures with steel structures. Structures 2, 3, 4, 178A, 179, and 209-1 are the six structures to be replaced.¹ The location of each of these structures is represented on Figure 3-3, by either a yellow or purple dot. The chart below summarizes the proximity of residential structures to replacement structures.

Proximity of Replacement Structures to Nearest Residence

Structure No.	Street	Existing Structure's Proximity to Nearest Residence	Replacement Structure's Proximity to Nearest Residence
2	Urrico Ave	310 Feet	305 Feet
3	Candlewood Rd	205 Feet	203 Feet
4	Candlewood Rd	223 Feet	198 Feet
5 (to be removed)	Candlewood Rd	170 Feet	-
178A	Hanton Road	685 Feet	696 Feet
179	Hanton Road	780 Feet	790 Feet
209-1	Blackstone Valley Place/George Washington Highway	1,460 Feet	1,470 Feet

¹ Structure 5 will be removed and will not be replaced.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-7: The Environmental Report identifies an increase in the height of the new structures as ranging from 0.5 feet to 11 feet. Where in proximity to residential areas are these structures located and will existing vegetation provide an adequate screen?

RESPONSE:

Please refer to the Company's response to Data Request No. 1-6. The closest residential areas to the structures being replaced are located at the ends of Urrico Avenue and Candlewood Road in North Smithfield. These residential areas are near Structures 2 through 5, but are also in proximity to the Woonsocket Substation. Structures 2 through 5 on the V148 Line are located between two (2) other utility corridors, the H17 115kV Transmission Line corridor to the North and the Q143/R144 115 kV Transmission Line corridor to the South. There is also a distribution feeder designated as the 105K1 present between Structures 3, 4, and 5 and the Candlewood Road residence. Therefore, these residences are located in an area populated with utility infrastructure.

In addition, between these two residences and Structures 2, 3, and 4, there are thick stands of tall evergreen and deciduous trees that provide visual screening. The closest structure to a residence is Structure 5 which is being removed as part of this Project. The replacement Structures 3 and 4 will be shorter than Structure 5.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-8: Describe how thirty-one towers and associated hardware will be reinforced.

RESPONSE:

Tower reinforcements include replacing specific tower members and bolts on each side of 31 towers to structurally support the new conductors.

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DATA REQUEST NO. 1-9: Explain where to a much smaller degree highly erodible land is present other than in the Project area as stated in Section 7.2 paragraph five of the Environmental Report:

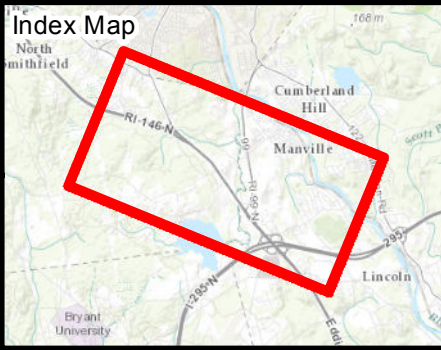
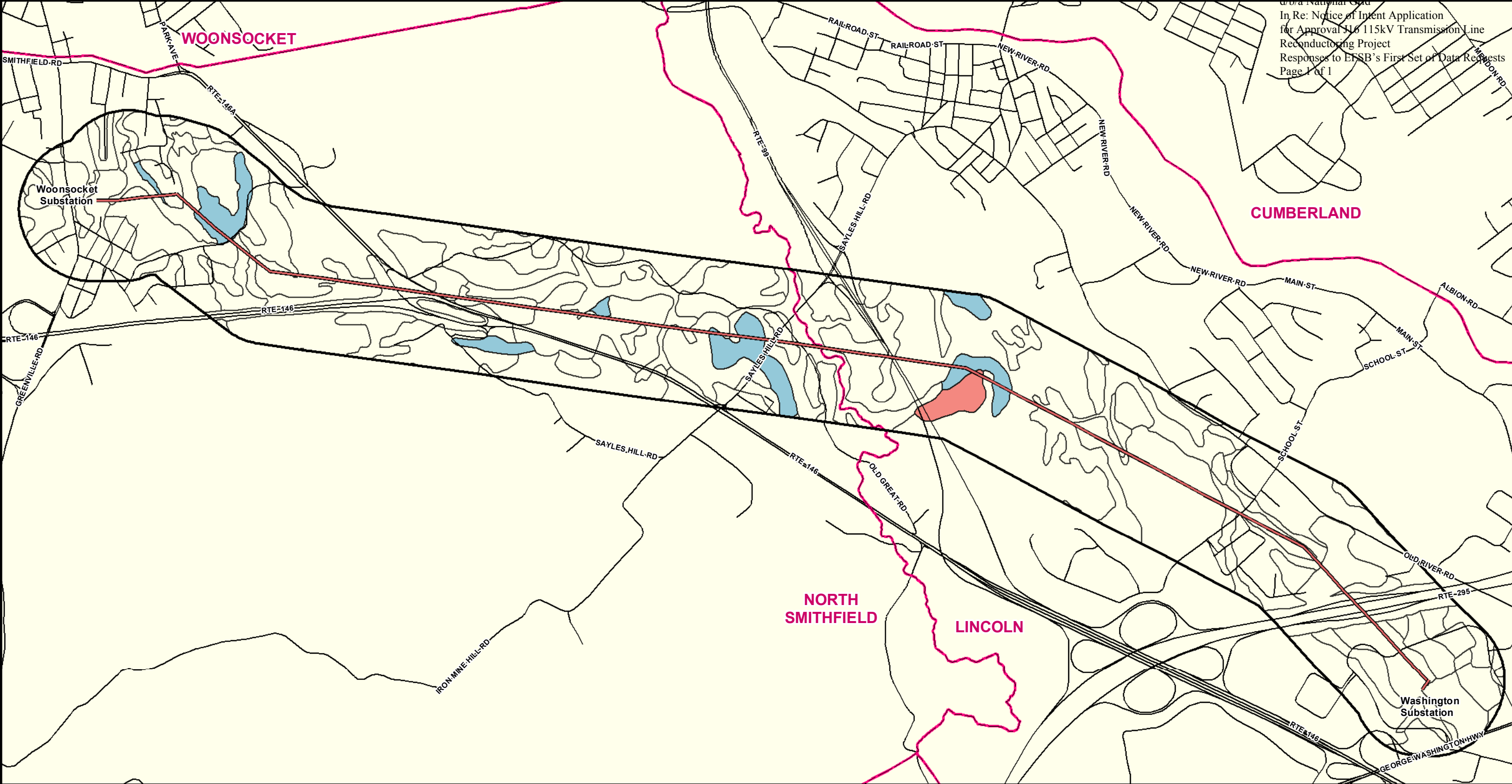
"...potentially highly erodible land is present over a large portion of the Project area, and highly erodible land is also present to a much smaller degree."

RESPONSE: Please refer to Attachment 1-9, labeled Figure 5-2a, NRCS Soil Types and Figures 3-3 which show structure locations . Highly erodible land, according to the NRCS soils data and shown on Figure 5-2a, is located in the following locations:

- A small linear area stretching across the ROW between Structures 2 and 3, corresponding with Wetland W3 and stream S3. No work is proposed in this area.
- An area within the ROW from Hanton Road northwest approximately 700 feet near Structure 176. No ground work is proposed in this area.
- A small area, 160 linear feet in size, along the northeast edge of the ROW between Structures 185 and 186. No work is proposed in this area.
- An area surrounding Structure 188. Access to and from this structure, will cross this area.
- An area, 410 linear feet in size, extending across the ROW from Structure 189 to Structure 190. These two (2) structures are proposed for reinforcement (overhead work) only. This area includes a portion of the access road to Structures 189 and 190.
- An area surrounding Structure 195, which includes access to and from this structure.

- An area between Structures 196 and 197, approximately 75 feet to the southeast of Structure 196, that includes a portion of the access road to Structure 197.

Proper soil erosion and sediment control devices, including but not limited to straw bales, straw wattles, compost mulch tubes and/or siltation fencing will be installed between the work area and highly erodible lands. The soil erosion and sediment controls will be installed in accordance with the Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, the approved plans and permit requirements (as developed based on site-specific conditions), as well as the procedures identified in EG-303NE – Access, Maintenance and Construction Best Management Practices . The controls will function to mitigate construction-related soil erosion and sedimentation, and will also serve as a physical boundary to contain construction activities within approved areas.



Legend

- Approximate Line V148N
- Project Study Area
- Town Boundary
- NRCS Highly Erodible Land**
 - CaD
 - ChC

1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Source: RIGIS Basemap & Environmental Data, Aerial & Topo Imagery, ESRI, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., AEX, GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, ESRI Japan, METI, ESRI China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, & the GIS User Community

**V148N 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE
RECONDUCTORING PROJECT**

Figure 5-2a: NRCS Soil Types

North Smithfield & Lincoln, RI

