



TOWN OF **GREENWICH**

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Peter J. Tesei
First Selectman

Press release

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Greenwich First Selectman Peter J. Tesei reacts to Eversource decision to withdraw plan

GREENWICH, CT - Greenwich First Selectman Peter J. Tesei said that he is satisfied with the Connecticut Department of Transportation decision not to issue a license that would have allowed Eversource to install overhead transmission lines along the Metro-North Railroad corridor.

“I am satisfied that state officials have decided that installation of electric transmission lines - the need for which has yet to be fully documented, would be disruptive to the continued daily operation of one of the region’s busiest transit hubs,” Mr. Tesei said on Tuesday. Because of the State’s licensure denial, Eversource has withdrawn the alternative plan.

The Town has been researching various alternatives to the plan announced by Eversource in May that it would seek permission from the Connecticut Siting Council to install overhead wires along the Metro-North corridor from Cos Cob to central Greenwich where it would then build a new substation on Railroad Avenue. The utility’s proposal follows last year’s denial by the Siting Council of a similar plan that the Town opposed because need and costs were not justified by the utility.

Mr. Tesei also acknowledged that hundreds, if not thousands of collective hours, spent by various Town officials, lawyers and volunteer experts reviewing Eversource documents, visiting with residents and trying to develop an alternative plan.

“I look forward to the Town’s team of federal, state and local officials, experts and residents, continuing our collaboration to help Eversource develop an environmentally sensitive and financially acceptable plan that will address not only the current, but the future utility needs of Greenwich’s residents and its businesses,” Mr. Tesei said.

Mr. Tesei also thanked U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) as well as members of Greenwich's state Legislative delegation, especially state Sen. L. Scott Frantz and state Rep. Livvy Floren, for their intervention and support of the Town's position.

Mr. Tesei added, "We will continue to be vigilant as to Eversource's proposals to ensure they are putting the interest of Greenwich residents first."

The Connecticut Siting Council's public hearing on the Eversource request for approval of an alternate modified plan will be held as scheduled – at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 13, 2017 in the Cole Auditorium of Greenwich Library, 101 W. Putnam Ave.

More information regarding the plans can be found on the Connecticut Siting Council's website:
<http://www.ct.gov/csc/cwp/view.asp?a=962&Q=592736&PM=1>

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