STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO THE : DOCKET NO. 12-01-10

TREE TRIMMING PRACTICES OF :

CONNECTICUT'S UTILITY COMPANIES : January 27, 2014

REQUEST OF THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY REGARDING TECHNICAL MEETING

For the reasons set forth below, The United Illuminating Company ("UI" or the "Company") hereby requests that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA" or the "Authority") convene a technical meeting prior to rendering a final decision in this docket.

The Company has reviewed the numerous written comments submitted to the Authority, including those of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") that asked PURA to incorporate certain recommendations of the State Vegetation Management Task Force ("SVMTF") in the final Decision. Similarly, UI has been contacted directly by numerous customers and elected officials expressing concern as to the scope and impact of the Authority's November 19, 2013 draft decision on the trees in their communities and their ability to provide input into the processes relating to vegetation management.

As detailed in Connecticut Light and Power Company's January 24, 2014 letter to the Authority, since this docket was opened, there have been several important developments that have had a direct impact on how vegetation management activities are

to be carried out in the state.¹ The Company understands that this docket, and these developments, are of concern to the Company's customers and to the municipalities within UI's service territory, and clarification would be helpful as to the roles of the municipalities and customers in the new vegetation management process.

During the proposed technical meeting, customers and municipalities will have the opportunity to discuss their concerns, and UI will be able to clarify and respond to the concerns that have been expressed to the Company regarding the scope of its vegetation management program and more specifically as to the role of the towns and property owners in the program. Additionally, the technical meeting will afford everyone the opportunity to discuss the balance and shared underlying objective of decreasing the damage to utility facilities caused by trees during and after extreme weather, while maintaining the character of our communities. We hope and believe those discussions will assist the Authority in the finalization of the decision in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY

By:

Bruce L. McDermott
Bruce L. McDermott

Managing Counsel - Operations
UIL Holdings Corporation

157 Church Street

New Haven, CT 06506-0901

(203) 499-2422

¹ The developments include the issuance of the SVMTF Report on August 24, 2012, the Authority's approval of UI's rate case in Docket No. 13-01-1 which provides for funding of the Company's Enhanced Tree Trimming initiative and the passage of Section 60 of Public Act 13-298 that, among other things, modified the notification requirements associated with tree trimming activities.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that on this 27th day of January, 2014, an original of the foregoing will be delivered by hand to Nicholas E. Neeley, Acting Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051, one (1) copy will be delivered by e-mail on this 27th day of January, 2014, to the Office of Consumer Counsel, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051, and one (1) copy will be mailed, postage prepaid or e-mailed, on this 27th day of January, 2014, to all other known parties and intervenors.

Bruce L. McDermott

Bruce L. McDermott