



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY**  
**OFFICE OF EDUCATION, OUTREACH, & ENFORCEMENT**

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE08

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – RESILIENCE AND RELIABILITY  
STANDARDS AND PROGRAMS

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MINUTES

These minutes are a summary of the initial activities to date of the Vegetation Management Working Group (Working Group) created by Motion Ruling No. 40 within Docket No. 17-12-03RE08.

1. Current Members of the Working Group Include:

- The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's (Authority) Office of Education, Outreach and Enforcement (EOE)
- United Illuminating
- Eversource
- CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (Division of Forestry)
- Frontier Communications
- Eversource Energy Center at the University of Connecticut
- CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy)
- Office of the Consumer Counsel
- Connecticut Council of Small Towns
- Connecticut Tree Warden's Association
- Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
- Connecticut Urban Forest Council

2. On December 27, 2022 the members held an introductory meeting to meet each other, discuss the charter, and how the working group would function.

3. On January 17 and March 9, 2023, members discussed the first substantive topic for the group, which concerned emergency vegetation management under Conn. Gen. Stat. 16-234(e). This was a subject of a PURA decision under docket 18-12-25. The group addressed questions about the extent of trimming allowed under this statutory provision. After numerous discussions, it was determined that there was sufficient information in the 18-12-25 record and elsewhere to conduct vegetation management activities under Conn. Gen. Stat. 16-234(e), and as a consequence, the group will not recommend any specific action on that topic at this time. The group may revisit this issue in the future.

4. On May 16, 2023, the group discussed topics related to customer complaints about vegetation management (complaints that both ask for vegetation management to be conducted, and complaints contesting vegetation management activities). There was specific interest in the possibility of incorporating increased stump grinding into vegetation management activities. The group is investigating prior PURA evaluations of this topic. Additionally, the group is evaluating whether there are any systematic patterns in complaints that can be discussed.

5. The next meeting for the working group will continue to focus on customer complaint topics.

If there are any questions regarding the working group process, please contact Attorney Dave Sherry at [david.sherry@ct.gov](mailto:david.sherry@ct.gov).