

# Sustainable Substation Solutions

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## Why Sustainable Sub?

#### **LEED® - Like for Substation**

- Trendy
- Benefits
- The Right Solution

### **Investigate Possibilities**

Partner with Northeast Utilities



# Project Introduction

#### **Sherwood Substation Overview**

- 115-kV/13.8- kV Substation in Westport, Connecticut
- Built on existing residential property
- Site drains to existing wetlands
- Located adjacent to Metro North commuter rail line park-n-ride lot
- Study done in parallel with conventional design and construction
- Sherwood Substation built in 2011 using standard design criteria



## Project Introduction

#### Sustainable Substation Initiative

- Concepts modeled after:
  - LEED® Reference Guide
  - Sustainable Sites Initiative
- Reasons for the Initiative
  - Lack of utility green building standards
  - Underutilization of sustainable building practices in substation design
  - Demand environmental responsibility





#### Overview

#### **Sustainable Practices**

- Site Development
- Stormwater Management
- Material Strategies
- Control Building Optimization
- Electric Vehicle Integration
- Public Education and Awareness

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# Site Development

#### **Site Selection**

- Select Brownfield/ Redevelopment Sites
- Avoid Sensitive Ecological Areas
  - Wetlands
  - Riparian Buffer Zones
  - Endangered/Protected Species
     Habitat





# Site Development

### Sustainable Site Development

- Minimize Area of Disturbance
  - Compact electrical configurations
  - Minimize disturbance to surrounding undeveloped and vegetated areas
- Provide Erosion Control BMPs
  - Prevent excessive sedimentation
- Shield Station Lighting
- Minimize Heat Island Effect



# Site Development

#### Water Efficient Landscaping

- Choose Native Plants
- Specify Plant Types that Minimize Erosion







# Stormwater Management

#### Goals

- Control stormwater rates
- Remove 80% or more of Total Suspended Solids
- Minimize erosion of developed areas
- Exceed minimum municipal or state regulations



Pervious Pavement for Driveways



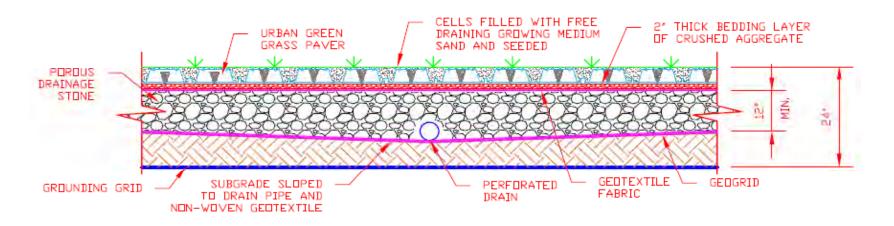
**Sedimentation Basin** 



# Stormwater Management

#### **Stormwater Management Within Substation Fence**

- Use Grass Pavers Where Practical
- Plant with Low Growing Native Vegetation



YARD SURFACING SECTION



# Stormwater Management

#### **Grass and Gravel Pavers**

- Benefits
  - Reduce impervious areas
  - Promote infiltration
  - Stabilize drive surface
  - Reduce Heat Island effect
  - Improve aesthetics

- Drawbacks
  - Increase maintenance procedures inside substations

#### **Stormwater Benefits**

- Meet or Exceed Required Stormwater Design Requirements
- Purchase/Use Smaller Plots of Land
- Less Disturbance and Erosion Potential
- Simplify Permitting Approval Efforts with Smaller Footprints



# Material Strategies

### **Construction Waste Management Plan**

- Waste Recycling and Landfill Diversion
  - Wood
  - Metal
  - Concrete
  - Masonry
  - Asphalt
- Source Reduction
- Coordination Between All Contractors





# Material Strategies

### **Recycled Content Building Materials**

- Fly Ash in Concrete
- Reclaimed Crushed Concrete
- High Recycled Content Steel
- Recycled Plastics
  - Block retaining walls
  - Pipe
  - Geogrids and geotextiles





# Material Strategies

## Regional Materials and Local Suppliers

 Reduction in environmental impact of transportation/shipping

#### **Vendor Selection**

- Sustainable Manufacturing
- Responsible Business Practices



# Control Building Optimization

#### **Control Building Opportunities**

- Building Envelope
  - Increased Insulation
  - Higher R-value
- HVAC
  - Geothermal Heat Pump
- Lighting System
  - High Efficiency Lighting
  - Led Lighting Fixtures
- Auxiliary Power
  - Photovoltaic Panels
  - Small Wind Turbines





# Electric Vehicle Integration

## **Charging Stations**

- Possible Installation Locations
  - Commuter Parking Lots
  - Parking Garages
  - Shopping Centers
  - Residential Buildings
  - Office Complexes

## **Types of Charging Stations**

- Quick Charge DC Charging Stations
- Slow Charge AC Level II





# Public Education and Awareness

#### Partnership with Local Schools

- Utility Involvement in the Community Highlighting:
  - Substation purposes and need
  - Sustainable practices used in the substation
  - Renewable energy projects

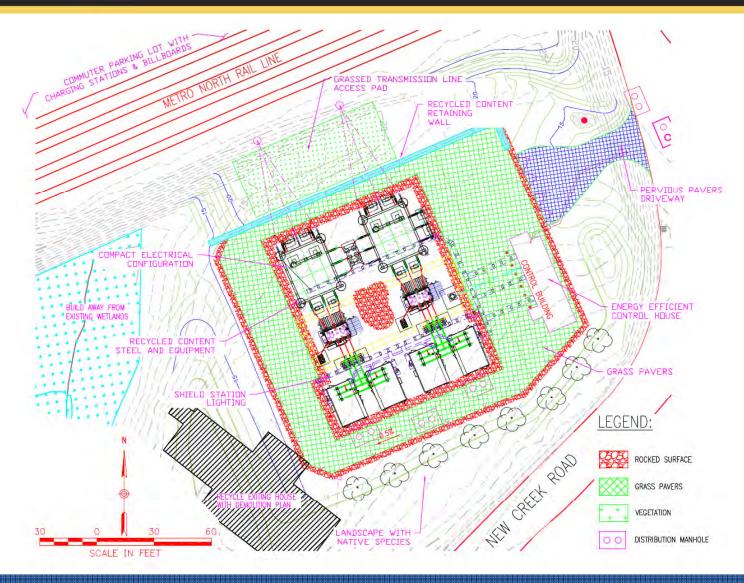
## **Display Boards**

- Locations
  - Substations
  - Charging station locations





# Study Site Layout





#### Cost

- Est. Traditional Substation Cost: \$9.2 mil
- Est. Sustainable Substation Cost: \$9.35 mil
- Estimated Cost Increase: 1.0%





# Next Steps

- Implementation
- Performance Review
- Cost Evaluation
- Bidding With This Design
- Request LEED
   Accreditation for Utility
   Projects





# Questions?

