

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

CR 2021-001

NORTHERN UTILITIES, INC.

**Petition for License
to Construct and Maintain a Distribution Gas Main
under Public Waters in Rochester**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On August 4, 2021, Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern) filed a petition for a license to construct and maintain a natural gas distribution main under public waters in Rochester. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department, will be posted to the Department's website at www.energy.nh.gov.

Northern seeks an after-the-fact license for the construction and maintenance of a new 12-inch coated steel natural gas distribution main pipeline under the bed of the Cocheco River extending from lot 137-3, owned by Northern, to lot 136-76, owned by the City of Rochester. The crossing site is located just northeast of Exit 12 of NH Route 125 (Gonic Road) in Rochester. Northern obtained a Shoreland Impact Permit for the project from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) on September 8, 2021.

The Department reviewed the filing to assess the necessity of the requested license to meet the reasonable requirements of reliable service to the public, as required by RSA 371:17; and whether the license may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the identified public waters in Rochester, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. The applicant and any interested party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

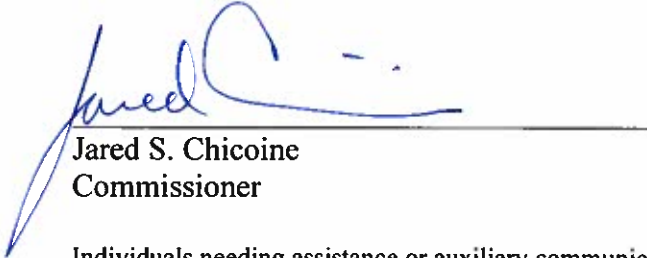
ORDERED, that, the Department will hold a prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on December 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., at which any interested party may provide its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any interested party who wishes to participate in the proceeding shall file a written petition to intervene stating the interested party's basis for intervention consistent with RSA 541-A:32 and Puc 203.17 and specifying any objection the party has to the proposed crossing license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than December 17, 2021, prior to the Prehearing Conference. Failure to submit a Petition to Intervene at least three business days prior to the Prehearing Conference will constitute a waiver of the right to object to the Petition and the requested license; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Northern, Department staff, and any intervening parties may hold a technical session to review the petition, as needed; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Northern shall notify all abutters to the proposed crossings by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides a delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the property parcels subject to the proposed crossings. On or before December 17, 2021, Northern shall file with the Department a list of all abutters so notified and copies of the return delivery confirmations. In addition, Northern shall mail a copy of this order of notice to: (i) the City Clerk of Rochester, New Hampshire; (ii) the

New Hampshire Attorney General; and (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, and publish a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one business day after the date of issue.



Jared S. Chicoine
Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Department of Energy, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-3670; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the scheduled event.