

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**DOCKET No. CR 2022-009**

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A  
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR A LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN  
ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS AND STATE OWNED  
LAND IN CONCORD, BOW AND PEMBROKE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”), a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire, hereby petitions the Department of Energy (“Department”), for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters and State owned land in Concord, Bow and Pembroke, New Hampshire. In support of this petition Eversource states as follows:

1. In order to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 115 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource M108 Line, originally constructed in 1951 as the V-182 and rebuilt in 2007 and later redesignated the M108, over and across public waters and State owned land in Concord, Bow, and Pembroke, New Hampshire. The public water crossing at the Merrimack River that is included in this petition was previously licensed in 2007 under DE 08-064 (Order No. 24,859). The State owned land that is also included in this petition was not previously licensed, either owing to an oversight or because the land at issue was not State owned at the time of the line’s construction.

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that certain existing wood structures at the Merrimack River crossing and State owned land crossing spans that are the subject of the petition, Structures 3, 25, 26 and 28, need to be replaced promptly

to continue to function safely and reliably. Those structures will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents that will be located within 10' of the original structure location. The State owned land includes additional structures spanning from Structure 25 to 32, but this petition only seeks to license work on the State owned land within a subset of those structures from Structure 25 to 29, to accommodate the need for prompt replacement of Structures 25, 26 and 28 owing to asset condition. The entirety of the M108 Line will be rebuilt in 2023 and the State owned land span will be licensed at that time. The replacement of Structures 25, 26 and 28 petitioned for herein will be incorporated into the rebuild design. The M108's existing three conductors, single OPGW wire, and single static wire between Structures 2 and 3, and Structures 25 and 26, whose specifications are identified on Exhibit 2 and 3, will be unchanged in the course of relocation to the replacement steel structures.

3. The location of the public water crossings and State owned land crossing which are the subject of this petition are depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

Exhibit 2 – The M108 Line crosses the Merrimack River in the Towns of Bow and Concord between Structures 2 and 3, which span commences near the end of Garvins Falls Road in the Town of Bow, approximately 265 feet south of where Garvins Falls Road crosses the existing Pan Am rail road and extending east approximately 532 feet to the east bank of the Merrimack River, to Structure 3. That easterly end of the span is approximately 1,500 feet west from where the M108 Line crosses Garvins Falls Road, which is approximately 1.65 miles southeast from the intersection of Garvins Falls Road and Manchester Street (State Route 3).

Exhibits 3 and 4 - The M108 Line crosses a State-owned land parcel associated with NH National Guard Facility in the Town Pembroke between new Structures 25 and 32, which span starts approximately 3,500 feet northeast from where the M108 Line crosses Pembroke Street (State Route 3), which is approximately 1,300 feet northwest from the intersection of Pembroke Street (State Route 3) and Sheep Davis Road (State Route 106). The portion of that State owned land parcel encompassing the structure replacements petitioned for herein, between Structure 25 to Structure 29, extends approximately 1,920 feet north to the interior of the State owned parcel. The balance of the State owned land span from Structure 29 to Structure 32 extends north approximately 1,341.5 feet to the State owned land boundary, which coincides with the southern bank of the Suocook River, which is approximately 2,100 feet south from where the M108 Line crosses Chenell Drive, which is approximately 750 feet west from the intersection of Chenell Drive and Sheep Davis Road (State Route 106).

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this petition are as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2 and 3.

5. The location of structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing span:

(a) Public water: Merrimack River (Exhibit 2)

i. Structures: 2 to 3

ii. Structure Span (ft): 818.2

iii. Merrimack River Span (ft): 532.7

(b) State Owned Land: Pembroke Map/Block 632/18 (Exhibit 3 & 4)

ii. Structures: 25 to 29

iii. Structure Span (ft): 2,184.7

iv. State Owned Land Span (ft): 1,920.6

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 and 3 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water and State owned land crossings. Flood elevation for the Merrimack River crossing span used in calculating clearance is based on FEMA flood map data as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibit 2.

7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 18.6' for 115 kV conductor over waters not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to the crossing between Structures 2 and 3 (Exhibit 2), and 20.1' for 115 kV conductor over areas traversed by vehicles including cultivated, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc. in respect to the crossing between Structures 25 to 29 (Exhibit 3 and 4). The actual minimum height over the public water and State owned land is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 and 3 and exceeds the respective minimum requirements.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) and Shoreland Permit Notification (PBN) will be required for temporary impacts associated with the structure replacement and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

9. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does regulate the subject portion of the Merrimack River as navigable waters and scope of work discussed in this petition at that crossing location is covered through Self-Verification process under the ACOE New Hampshire Programmatic General Permit #4, provided that there will be no decrease in existing clearances, which is the case for the scope petitioned herein.

10. The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope.

11. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public waters and State owned land because safe clearances will be maintained at all times.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public water and State owned land crossing which is the subject of this petition;

2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across State owned land described in this petition;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY  
By Its Attorney



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