

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

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

DOCKET No. CR 2021 -

**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 STATE OWNED LAND IN MERRIMACK
AND BEDFORD, 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 State owned land in Merrimack and Bedford, 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 V191 Line, originally constructed in 2005 over and across State owned land in Merrimack, New Hampshire. In conjunction with the V191 construction, a 34.5 kV line designated as the Eversource 323 Line was underbuilt to the V191 on the same structures over and across said State owned land in Merrimack and Bedford. The State owned land crossing that is the subject of this petition was not licensed when it was constructed, likely owing to an oversight.

2. The V191 / 323 was constructed with a combination of laminated wood monopole and steel monopole structures. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource has determined that the original laminated wood monopoles at the State owned land crossing span that is the subject of this petition (encompassing Structures 11 to 16) need to be replaced to continue

to function safely and reliably. Those structures will be replaced with weathering steel monopole equivalents which are depicted on Exhibits 2 and 3 and which will be located within 10' of the original structure location, except for Str. 14 which will be relocated approximately 20' to the north to in order to meet current clearance requirements. The V191's existing three conductors and one OPGW communications wire, as well as the 323 Line's existing 3 conductors and one neutral wire, all of whose specifications are identified on the Exhibit 2 and 3 Cable Schedules, will be unchanged in the course of relocation to the new steel structures.

3. The State owned land span that is the subject of this petition is depicted on Exhibit 1 as a high-level perspective of the location. Additional site location descriptions of the span is as follows.

Exhibit 2 and 3 – The V191 Line crosses three consecutive state owned properties between Structures 11 and 18 in the Town of Merrimack and Bedford. The V191 Line is predominantly located near the west bank of the Merrimack River and is also parallel to the existing Pan Am railroad in the towns of Merrimack and Bedford. The crossing location starts from where the line crosses over the Raymond Wiczorek Drive, just west of where the road crosses the Merrimack River, and extends approximately 2,128.7 feet south from said location to where the span ends at the property boundary between Map 7E, Lot 1 and Map 7E, Lot 42 in Merrimack. Said common property boundary is itself located approximately 280 feet from the northeast corner of the paved parking lot of the “Extraspace” Storage facility off the Daniel Webster Highway.

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 spans:

- (a) State Owned Land: Merrimack, Map 7E, Lot 1 (Exhibit 2); Bedford, Map 36, Lots 10 & 11 (Exhibit 3)
 - i. Structures: 11 to 18
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 2421.2
 - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 2128.7

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 and 3 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the State owned land crossings.

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 18.5' for 34.5 kV conductor and 15.5' for neutral wire over areas traversed by vehicles including cultivated, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc. The actual minimum height over the State owned lands is depicted on the attached Exhibits 2 and 3 and exceeds the respective minimum requirements.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) will be required for temporary impacts to wetlands in both Merrimack and Bedford associated with the structure replacements. A NHDES Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) for temporary impacts within the shoreland buffer to the Merrimack River in both Merrimack and Bedford will also be required. Both permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

9. 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.

10. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public in the State owned lands because safe clearances to ground 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 State owned lands which are the subject of this petition;

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

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 15th day of October, 2021.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik R. Newman".

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