STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY

LICENSE NO. CRE 2021-026

April 12, 2022

License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across Public Waters in Warner and Sutton

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to modify and maintain its 3410 and 317 Lines, existing electric distribution lines that extend over and across public waters in Warner and Sutton. The 3410 Line was not previously licensed but the 317 Line was licensed under DE 15-088 by Order No. 25,787.

I. BACKGROUND

On December 22, 2021,¹ Eversource filed a petition with the N.H. Department of Energy (Department), pursuant to RSA 371:17, requesting a license to construct and maintain an existing overhead 2.4 kV electric distribution line (the 3410 Line) and an existing overhead 19.9/34.5 kV electrical distribution line (the 317 Line), both of which extend over and across public waters in Warner and Sutton and were redesignated as the 3410/317 Line. On March 23, 2022, the Department’s Enforcement Division Staff filed a recommendation that the petition be approved, and a license granted, based on the petition filings, applicable statutes, rules, NESC requirements, and land ownership, as well as public need, safety, and impact. The

¹ The Company filed a replacement petition on March 15, 2022 and a second replacement petition on March 23, 2022.
petition and subsequent docket filings are posted to the Department’s website (energy.nh.gov) at Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters | NH Department of Energy.

II. SUMMARY OF LICENSE

A. Crossing Locations and Construction

This license pertains to Eversource’s 3410/317 Line, a 19.9/34.5 kV electric transmission line that extends over and across land owned by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and public waters of the Warner River in Warner and Sutton. The 3410/317 Line crosses public waters of the Warner River in Warner and Sutton between Structures 4A/16 to 4A/17 and 4A/21 to 4A/21Y approximately 550 feet southwest from the intersection of NH State Route 103 and E. Roby District Road. The new 3410/317 Line structures will be wood replacements and the structures associated with the Warner River crossings will be installed within 10 feet of the existing 3410 wood structures, except for new 3410/317 Line Structure 4A/21 which will shift 20’ west, away from the Warner River.

The length of span between Structures 4A/16 and 4A/17 is 160’ and between 4A/21 and 4A/21Y is 222’. The length of span over and across public water is 150.2’.

The license also authorizes the reconductoring of conductors and will consist of three 477 ACC phase conductors and one neutral 4/0 ACSR conductor.

B. Regulatory Requirements

Eversource is responsible for obtaining any and all other federal, state, or local permits required by authorities having jurisdiction for the construction and installation of the proposed crossing. According to the petition, Eversource will secure a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) and a Statutory Permit by Notification (PBN) for the work planned under this petition in relation to temporary impacts to wetlands, and the shoreland buffer prior to the commencement of construction.
C. Property Rights

According to Eversource, abutters to the public waters of the Warner River in Warner and Sutton will not be affected by the proposed project, because the crossing structures are being replaced and rebuilt within existing right-of-way easements.

D. Service to the Public and the Effect on Public Rights

According to the petition, the existing crossings were constructed, operated, and maintained to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public. Eversource affirmed that the proposed modifications will continue to meet that public need and will not substantially affect the public’s use and enjoyment of the public waters of Warner River in Warner and Sutton.

The line modifications are designed and will be constructed and maintained in accordance with the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). The clearance requirement with respect to the water crossing was calculated using a 100-year flood level, which is a more conservative analysis than the NESC 10-year flood clearance requirement.

III. DEPARTMENT DECISION

Eversource is authorized, pursuant to RSA 371:17, et seq., to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric lines over and across the public waters of the Warner River in Warner and Sutton, as described in its petition and depicted in its filings and as specified in the Enforcement Division’s recommendation. Based on the factual representations set forth in the petition and the recommendation, the Department finds that the requested crossing amendments are necessary to meet the reasonable requirements of reliable service to the public, as required by RSA 371:17, and that the requested license may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the subject public waters at the crossing locations in Warner and Sutton, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. Therefore, the petition is approved.
We require a copy of this license to be provided to the Town Clerks of Warner and Sutton by first class mail no later than April 15, 2022 with a signed affidavit of compliance filed with the Department no later than 10 days following the issuance of the license.

By order of the Department of Energy of New Hampshire this 12th day of April, 2022.

Jared S. Chicoine
Commissioner