

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**CR 2021-011
(formerly PUC DE 21-122)**

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

LICENSE NO. CR 2021-011

November 5, 2021

**License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across State Lands in Exeter and Brentwood**

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to reconstruct and maintain its H141 Line, an existing electric transmission line that extends over and across lands owned by the State of New Hampshire in Exeter and Brentwood. These crossings were not previously licensed.

I. BACKGROUND

On June 17, 2021, Eversource filed a petition with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to RSA 371:17, requesting a license to modify, construct, and maintain its H141 Line, a 115 kV electric transmission line, over and across State lands in Exeter and Brentwood. On September 7, 2021, the Commission transferred the petition to the New Hampshire Department of Energy (Department). On September 10, 2021, the Department's Enforcement Division Safety Bureau 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 petition and subsequent docket filings are posted to the Department's website at [Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters | NH Department of Energy](#).

II. SUMMARY OF LICENSE

A. Crossing Location and Construction

This license pertains to the segment of Eversource's H141 Line that extends over and across land owned by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in Exeter, and land owned by the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game (NH Fish & Game) in Brentwood. The H141 Line crosses State land in Exeter from Structure 175 to Structure 177 within a utility right of way between Epping Road and NH Route 101W/101E, and in Brentwood between Structures 181 and 189 within a utility right-of-way, from the east side of Pine Road west to Deer Hill Road. The license authorizes the replacement of original wood Structures 175 through 177, 182 through 184, and 186 through 188 with weathered steel structures. Three existing conductors, one static wire, and one optical ground wire (OPGW) will be transferred to the new replacement structures under this license.

B. Regulatory Requirements

Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland Statutory Permit by Notification prior to the commencement of this project, and 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.

C. Property Rights

Based on the petition, abutters to the State lands in Exeter and Brentwood will not be affected by the proposed project, because the structure replacement work will occur within existing right-of-way easements and safe clearances to ground will be maintained.

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

The petition states that the existing crossing was constructed, operated, and maintained to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public. Eversource affirmed

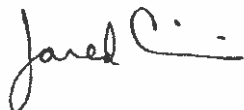
that the proposed modifications will continue to meet that public need, and will not substantially affect the public's use and enjoyment of the State lands in Exeter or Brentwood. The line modifications are designed and will be constructed and maintained in accordance with the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

III. DEPARTMENT DECISION

Eversource is authorized, pursuant to RSA 371:17, *et seq.*, to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric lines over and across State lands in Exeter and Brentwood, as described in its petition and depicted in its filings and as specified in the Safety Bureau'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 land at the crossing locations in Exeter and Brentwood, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. Therefore, the petition is approved.

We require copies of this license to be provided to the Town Clerks of Exeter and Brentwood by first class mail no later than November 10, 2021, with a signed affidavit of compliance filed with the Department no later than 10 days after the issuance of the license.

By order of the New Hampshire Department of Energy this 5th day of November, 2021.



Jared S. Chicoine
Commissioner