

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**CR 2021-012**

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

**LICENSE NO. CR 2021-012**

**December 15, 2021**

**License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines  
Over and Across State Land in Goffstown and Hooksett  
and Public Waters in Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester**

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) pursuant to RSA 371:17 to modify and maintain its O161 electric transmission line over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Goffstown and Hooksett, and public waters in Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester.

**I. BACKGROUND**

On October 20, 2021, Eversource filed a petition with the NH Department of Energy (Department), pursuant to RSA 371:17, requesting a license to reconstruct and maintain a 115 kV electric transmission line (the O161 Line) in Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester. On November 4, 2021, the Department's Enforcement Division Staff filed a recommendation that the petition be approved and a license granted. The petition and subsequent docket filings are posted to the Department's website ([energy.nh.gov](http://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**

The O161 electric transmission line extends over and across property owned by the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) between Structures 20 and 21 in Hooksett, and between Structures 72 and 74 in Goffstown. The line also extends over and across the public waters of the Merrimack River between Structures 6 and 7 in Hooksett, Black Brook between Structures 38 and 39 from Manchester into Goffstown, and the Piscataquog River between Structures 73 and 74 in Goffstown. Locations of the crossing structures are further specified in the docket filings. The license authorizes the replacement of the existing shield wire and optical ground wire (OPGW) with a new OPGW cable that will run along the entire O161 circuit. The license also authorizes the 2020 replacement of then existing wood structures with steel monopoles that support the crossing span over Black Brook in Manchester/Goffstown.

**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 crossings. According to the petition, Eversource obtained a NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Utility Maintenance Notification and will obtain a Statutory Permit by Notification for the project.

**C. Property Rights**

Eversource submitted that the line amendments will occur within existing right-of-way easements, thereby mitigating impacts to property owners affected by the project.

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

According to the petition, the crossings were designed 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 identified State lands or public waters. 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 Goffstown and Hooksett, and public waters in Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester, 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 land and public waters at the crossing locations in Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester, 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 Goffstown, Hooksett, and Manchester by first class mail no later than December 20, 2021, with a signed affidavit of compliance filed with the Department no later than 10 days following the issuance of this license.

By order of the Department of Energy of New Hampshire this 15th day of December, 2021.



Jared S. Chicoine  
Commissioner