

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**CR 2021-014
(formerly PUC DE 21-099)**

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

LICENSE NO. CR 2021-014

November 5, 2021

**License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across Public Waters in Sunapee**

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to reconstruct and maintain its 316 Line, an existing electric transmission line that extends over and across public waters in Sunapee. This crossing was not previously licensed.

I. BACKGROUND

On June 23, 2021,¹ Eversource filed a petition with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, pursuant to RSA 371:17, requesting a license to modify, construct, and maintain its 316 Line, a 34.5 kV electric transmission line, over and across certain public waters in Sunapee. On June 23, 2021,² 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. On September 28, 2021, the Commission transferred the petition to the New Hampshire Department of Energy (Department). The petition and

¹ Eversource filed its initial petition on May 13, 2021; a revised replacement petition was filed on June 23, 2021.

² Department Staff filed a recommendation on June 22, 2021; an updated recommendation was filed on June 23, 2021, pursuant to the revised petition.

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 316 Line that extends over and across the northwestern end of Lake Sunapee in Sunapee. The 316 Line crosses the lake between Structures 61 and 62. The license authorizes the replacement of original wood Structure 62 with a steel structure. Three existing conductors and one neutral wire will be transferred to the new replacement structure under this license.

B. Regulatory Requirements

Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) Shoreland 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 public waters of Lake Sunapee in Sunapee will not be affected by the proposed project, because the 316 Line is an existing line and the structure replacement work will be accomplished within an existing utility easement.

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 public waters of Lake Sunapee. The line modifications are designed and will be constructed and maintained in accordance with the

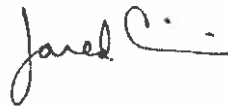
2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). The clearance requirements with respect to the water crossing were calculated using a 100-year flood level, a more conservative analysis than the NESC 10-year flood clearance requirement.

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 Lake Sunapee in Sunapee, 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 waters at the crossing location in Sunapee, 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 Clerk of Sunapee 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 following the issuance of the license.

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



Jared S. Chicoine
Commissioner