

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

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

**DOCKET No. CR 2022 - 029**

**APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A  
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR A LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN  
ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS IN PLYMOUTH AND  
HOLDERNESS, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”), a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire, hereby submits an application to the Department of Energy (“Department”) for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Plymouth and Holderness, New Hampshire. In support of this application 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 34.5 kV electrical distribution line, designated as the Eversource 343 Line. The original construction date of the line is unknown, however records related to the 343 Line date back to 1963. The public water crossing at Pemigewasset River that is included in this application was previously licensed in 1976 under DE 76-22 (Order No. 12,219).

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that the existing wood structures at the public water crossing that is the subject of this application need to be replaced promptly to continue to function safely and reliably. Structures 9 and 10 at the Pemigewasset River crossing span will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents that will be located within 10’ of the current structures’ locations. The three existing conductors at the crossing span shall remain unchanged in the course of performing the structure replacements. The

specifications and configuration of those existing wires and replacement structures are shown on the Cable Schedule and Structure Details on Exhibit 2.

3. The location of the public water crossing which is the subject of this application is depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

Exhibit 2 – The 343 Line crosses the public waters of the Pemigewasset River in the towns of Holderness and Plymouth between Structures 9 and 10, which span commences approximately 2,000 feet north from where the 343 Line crosses Route 175A, which is approximately 575 feet west from the intersection of Route 175A and the Interstate 93-southbound on-ramp at Exit 25. The waterbody crossing extends north approximately 255 feet to the northern bank of the Pemigewasset River, which point is approximately 1,370 feet east from where the 343 Line crosses NH Route 25 (aka Main Street) in Plymouth immediately north of the Route 25 bridge over the Baker River in Plymouth.

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this application are as indicated on the Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2.

5. The location of structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing span:

- (A) Public water: Pemigewasset River (Exhibit 2)
  - i. Structures: 9 to 10
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 552
  - iii. Pemigewasset River Span (ft): 255

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water crossing. Flood elevation for Pemigewasset River crossing span used in calculating clearance is based on FEMA flood map data as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibit 2.

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 17.0 feet for 34.5 kV wires over water areas not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is

prohibited in respect to the public water crossing depicted on Exhibit 2. The subject crossing span exceeds that minimum clearance requirement.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) in the Town of Plymouth and a Shoreland Permit by Notification will be required for temporary impacts associated with the structure replacements and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

9. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the Pemigewasset River as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.

10. The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements (with the exception of parcel Map 101, Lot 111, owned by the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District, for which no easement was identified but with whom Eversource is in discussions to secure and which will be obtained prior to commencement of any work on that parcel), thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. When wires are being transferred, Eversource will ensure the waterbody is clear of any recreational users before work commences. Additionally, a guard structure will be utilized when wires are being transferred from the old structure to the new, to limit the possibilities of the wire falling into the river to protect the general public.

11. Eversource submits that the license applied for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public waters because safe clearances will be maintained at all times and appropriate precautions to ensure the safety of recreational users will be undertaken while the maintenance work is performed.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license application herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public water crossing which are the subject of this application;

2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public water described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

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", is positioned above the typed name of the attorney.

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