

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

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

DOCKET No. CR 2023 - 006

**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 AND STATE-OWNED
LAND IN CONCORD, BOW AND PEMBROKE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”), 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 and State-owned land in Concord, Bow and Pembroke, 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 115 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource M108 Line, originally constructed in 1951 as the V-182 and rebuilt in 2007, and later redesignated the M108, over and across public waters and State-owned land in Concord, Bow, and Pembroke, New Hampshire. The public water crossings at the Merrimack River between Structures 2 and 3, that is included in this application was previously licensed in 2022 under CRE 2022-009. The public water crossings at the Soucook River between Structures 11 and 12 and 31 and 32, that is included in this application was previously licensed in 2008 under DE 08-064 (Order No. 24,859). The State-owned land between Structures 25 and 29 was licensed in 2022 under CRE 2022-009, which accounted for a subset of total structures within the continuous state land span between Structures 25 and 32. As a result of this application, the M108 line will be licensed in its entirety.

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that certain existing wood structures at the Merrimack River and Soucook River crossings and State-owned land crossing spans that are the subject of the application, Structures 2, 11, 12, 27, and 29 through 32 need to be replaced promptly to continue to function safely and reliably. Those structures will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents that will be located within 10' of the original structure location. The M108's existing three conductors, single OPGW wire, and single static wire within the spans encompassing Structures 2 to 3, Structure 11 to 12 and Structures 25 through 32, whose specifications are identified on Exhibit 2 through 7, will be unchanged in the course of performing the steel structure replacements.

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

Exhibit 2 – The M108 Line crosses the Merrimack River in the Towns of Bow and Concord between Structures 2 and 3, which span commences near the end of Garvins Falls Road in the Town of Bow, approximately 265 feet south of where Garvins Falls Road crosses the existing Pan Am railroad and extending east approximately 532 feet to the east bank of the Merrimack River, to Structure 3. That easterly end of the span is approximately 1,500 feet west from where the M108 Line crosses Garvins Falls Road, which is approximately 1.65 miles southeast from the intersection of Garvins Falls Road and Manchester Street (State Route 3).

Exhibit 3 – The M108 Line crosses the Soucook River in the Towns of Concord and Pembroke, NH between Structures 11 and 12, which span commences approximately 2,180 feet northeast from where the M108 Line crosses Garvins Falls Road, which is approximately 1.61 miles southeast from the intersection of Garvins Falls Road and Manchester Street (aka NH Route 3) in Concord. The waterbody crossing span extends northeast approximately 50 feet to the east bank of the Soucook River.

Exhibits 4 through 7 - The M108 Line crosses a State-owned land parcel associated with NH National Guard Facility in the Town Pembroke between new Structures 25 and 32, which span starts approximately 3,500 feet northeast from where the M108 Line crosses Pembroke Street (State Route 3), which is approximately 1,300 feet northwest from the intersection of Pembroke Street (State Route 3) and Sheep Davis Road (State Route 106). The state-owned land crossing

span extends northeast approximately 2,966 feet to the south or west bank of the Soucook River, where the State-owned land parcel ends and the waterbody crossing begins.

The Soucook River crossing span between Structures 31 and 31 commences approximately 2,100 feet south from where the M108 Line crosses Chenell Drive, which is approximately 750 feet west from the intersection of Chenell Drive and Sheep Davis Road (State Route 106). The waterbody crossing span extends northeast approximately 388 feet to the north back of the Soucook River.

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this application is as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2 through 7.

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

(a) Public water: Merrimack River (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: 2 to 3
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 816.2
- iii. Merrimack River Span (ft): 533.6

(b) Public water: Soucook River (Exhibit 3)

- i. Structures: 11 to 12
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 401.3
- iii. Soucook River Span (ft): 50.2

(c) State-owned Land: Pembroke Map/Block/lot 632/18/0, 632/18/14 (Exhibit 4 through 7)

- i. Structures: 25 to 32
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 4,239.5
- iii. State-owned land Span (ft): 2,966.7

(d) Public water: Soucook River (Exhibit 7)

- i. Structures: 31 to 32
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 1,172.8
- iii. Soucook River Span (ft): 388.1

(e) All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 through 7 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water and State-owned land crossings. Flood elevation for the Merrimack River and Soucook River crossing spans used in

calculating clearance is based on FEMA flood map data as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibit 2, 3 and 7.

(f) 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 18.6' for 115 kV conductor over waters not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to the crossing between Structures 2 and 3¹ (Exhibit 2), Structures 11 and 12 (Exhibit 3), and Structure 31 and 32 (Exhibit 7), and 20.1' for 115 kV conductor over areas traversed by vehicles including cultivated, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc. in respect to the crossing between Structures 25 to 32 (Exhibit 4 through 7). The actual minimum height over the public water and State-owned land is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 through 7 and exceeds the respective minimum requirements.

(g) A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) and Shoreland Permit Notification (PBN) will be required for temporary impacts associated with certain of the structure replacements and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

(h) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does regulate the subject portion of the Merrimack River as navigable waters and scope of work discussed in this application at that crossing location is covered through Self-Verification process under the ACOE New Hampshire Programmatic General Permit #4, provided that there will be no decrease in existing clearances, which is the case for the scope application herein. The ACOE does not regulate any parts of the Soucook River.

(i) The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope.

¹ Even though the Merrimack is deemed navigable by ACOE, this crossing span is located just below the Garvins Falls Dam which has rock outcrops and rock shoals that would make it not suitable for sailboating.

(j) Eversource submits that the license applied for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public waters and State-owned land because safe clearances will be maintained at all times.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license applied for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public water and State-owned land crossing which is the subject of this application;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across State-owned land and public waters described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 23rd day of February, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY
By Its Attorney



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