STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

LICENSE NO. CRE 2023-015

June 20, 2023

Application for License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across State Owned Land in Hooksett

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a
Eversource Energy (Eversource) to construct and maintain its D121 Line, an existing electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Hooksett, as described in its application and depicted in its filings, and as specified in the Enforcement Division's recommendation. The D121 Line was previously licensed in 2021 under CRE 2021-008.

I. BACKGROUND

On June 14, 2023, Eversource filed an application with the N.H. Department of Energy (Department), pursuant to RSA 371:17, requesting a license to construct and maintain its D121 Line, an existing 115kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across State-owned land in Hooksett, as described in its application and depicted in its filings. On June 20, 2023, the Department's Enforcement Division Staff filed a recommendation that the application be approved, and a license granted, based on the application filings, applicable statutes, rules, NESC requirements, and land ownership, as well as public need, safety, and impact. The application and subsequent docket filings are posted to the Department's website (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

This license pertains to Eversource's D121 Line, which is a 115kV overhead electric transmission line that extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire.

The Eversource D121 line was originally built in 1957.

The proposed project for the D121 Line encompasses replacing wood Structure 93 with a weathering steel equivalent to be located within 10 feet of the current structure location. The existing conductors and OPGW wires will remain unchanged as a result of the proposed project.

The D121 Line crosses the State-owned land between Structures 92 and 93 in the Town of Hooksett. The crossing is located within a largely undeveloped area between Interstate 293 and Hackett Hill Road. The State-owned land crossing begins approximately 2,685 feet north from where the line crosses Poore Road, which is the first line encountered when traveling southeast from the intersection of Hackett Hill Road and Poore Road. The State-owned land crossing between Structures 92 and 93 extends approximately 476 feet in a northeasterly direction.

The proposed location of the new structure creates a total span of 476.1 feet with 403.2 feet crossing State-owned land.

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 crossing. According to the application, a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) will be required for

temporary impacts associated with the structure replacements and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

C. Property Rights

According to Eversource, abutters to the State-owned land in Hooksett will not be affected by the proposed project, because the crossing structures are being replaced and rebuilt within existing right-of-way easements.

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

According to the application, the existing crossings were 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 land parcel in Hooksett.

The line modifications are designed and will be constructed and maintained in accordance with the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

II. DEPARTMENT DECISION

Eversource is authorized pursuant to RSA 371:17, *et seq.*, to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric lines over and across State land in Hooksett, as described in its application and depicted in its filings, and as specified in the Enforcement Division's recommendation.

Based on the factual representations set forth in the application 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 location in Hooksett, as required for approval under RSA 371:20.

Therefore, the application is approved.

By order of the Department of Energy of New Hampshire this 20th day of June 2023.

Jared S. Chicoine Commissioner

Pursuant to RSA 371:20, applicants and other persons directly affected by the issuance or denial of a license may appeal to the Public Utilities Commission within 30 days of the department's decision.