

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

LICENSE NO. CRE 2023-024

October 6, 2023

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

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to construct and maintain its K174 Line, an existing 115kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Croydon, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings, and as specified in the Enforcement Division's recommendation. The K174 Line, between Structures 74 and 104 was previously licensed in 2020 under DE 20-119. Eversource is seeking to re-license the State-owned land crossing between Structures 75 to 81 for required maintenance in order to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public.

I. BACKGROUND

On September 27, 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 K174 Line, an existing 115kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across State-owned land in Croydon, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings. On October 2, 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 K174 Line, which is a 115kV overhead electric transmission line that extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Croydon, which is administered by the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game. The Eversource K174 line was originally built in 1967.

The proposed project for the K174 Line involves replacing existing wood Structures 76, 77, 78, 79, and 80 with weathering steel equivalents, which will be located within 10' of current structure locations, in order to improve safety and reliability. The existing three conductors, OPGW wire, and shieldwire will be unchanged in the course of the structure replacements.

The relevant State-owned land crossing span, located in Croydon and operated by the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game, commences at Structure 75 and ends at Structure 81, and encompasses the replacement of Structures 76 to 80. Structure 75 is located approximately 875 feet northwest from where the K174 Line crosses Fletcher Road, which is approximately 2,500 feet southwest from the intersection of Fletcher Road and Brighton Road. The crossing extends approximately 2,445.7 feet northwest from Structure 75 to Structure 81.

The proposed structure locations create a span of 2,445.7 feet between Structure 75 and 81, with 2,445.7 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) is required and will be obtained for the work planned under this application in relation to temporary impacts associated with the structure replacements prior to the commencement of construction.

C. Property Rights

According to Eversource, abutters to the State-owned land in Croydon 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 Croydon.

Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances over State-owned land at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). The actual minimum height over the State-owned land exceeds the respective requirements. The specifications of the proposed replacement work and proposed structure locations were found to be in conformance with the N.H. Admin. Rule PUC 306.

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-owned land in Croydon, 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 Croydon, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. Therefore, the application is approved.

By order of the Department of Energy of New Hampshire this 6th day of October 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.