

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

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

**LICENSE NO. CRE 2024-003**

**April 2, 2024**

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

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to construct and maintain its 380 Line, an existing 345kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Londonderry, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings, and as specified in the Enforcement Division's recommendation. The 380 Line was not previously licensed perhaps due to oversight.

**I. BACKGROUND**

On March 19, 2024, 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 380 Line, an existing 345kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across State-owned land in Londonderry, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings. On March 29, 2024, 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](http://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 380 Line, which is a 345kV overhead electric transmission line that extends over and across land owned by the State of New Hampshire and managed by the Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in Londonderry. The Eversource 380 line was originally built in 1970.

The proposed project for the 380 Line encompasses replacing existing wood Structure 5 with a weathering steel equivalent, to be located within 10 feet of the current structure location. Structure 4 was replaced with weathering steel in 2018. The existing conductors and static wires will remain unchanged as a result of this project.

The 380 Line crosses a rail trail owned by the State and managed by NHDOT between Structures 4 and 5 in the Town of Londonderry. Structure 5 is located approximately 200 feet east of where the line crosses Rockingham Road and the NHDOT parcel crossing begins approximately 370 feet east of Structure 5. The State-owned land crossing continues another 95 feet east towards Structure 4.

The proposed and existing structures create a total span of 584.8 feet, with 95.1 feet of the span 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 obtained for the work planned under this application in relation to temporary impacts associated with the structure replacement prior to the commencement of construction.

**C. Property Rights**

According to Eversource, abutters to the NHDOT/State-owned land in Londonderry will not be affected by the proposed project, because the crossing structure is being replaced and rebuilt within existing right-of-way easements. The work will be undertaken in coordination with NHDOT, as they manage the rail trail parcel, and construction signage and spotters will be utilized to ensure public safety during the wire transfer from the old wood structure to the new steel structure.

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

According to the application, 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 NHDOT/State land parcel in Londonderry.

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), which is 32.7 feet for 345 kV wires over track rails of railroads, or in this case, where a railroad could be reestablished.

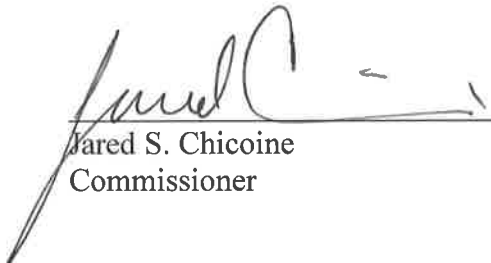
Eversource proposes to install one Type A Steel structure. Structure 5 will have two vertical steel poles and is designed to be 97 feet. Line supporting structures are required to conform to strength and loading specifications described in NESC 2012 rule 252, 260, and 261.

Enforcement Division staff reviewed the specifications of the proposed replacement work and found them to be in conformance with N.H. admin. R., Puc 306.01 and applicable 2012 NESC rules. The minimum clearance requirements with respect to ground level and design conditions at 285o F have been met. Staff verified the depicted wire specifications and loading conditions detailed by Eversource in application Exhibit 2.

## II. DEPARTMENT DECISION

Eversource is authorized pursuant to RSA 371:17, *et seq.*, to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric lines over and across the NHDOT/State land in Londonderry, 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 amendment is 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 Londonderry, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. Therefore, the application is approved.

By order of the Department of Energy of New Hampshire this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024.



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.