

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

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

CR 2024 - 007

**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 STATE-OWNED LAND AND PUBLIC
WATERS IN LITTLETON, 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 public waters and state-owned land in Littleton, 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 U199 Line located between Littleton Substation in Littleton and Streeter Pond Tap Substation in Littleton that was constructed in 1971. The U199 Line crosses the public water at Moore Reservoir between existing Structures 25 and 26, and the Ammonoosuc River between existing Structures 64 and 65, 71 and 72, and 73 and 74, which were previously licensed under Order # 10,338 (D-E6077) and are the subject of this application. Existing Structures 71 and 72 were subsequently replaced pursuant to license issued under Order 25,726 (DE 14-194) and existing Structures 73 and 74 were subsequently replaced pursuant to license issued under Order 25,778 (DE 14-373). As part of this project, existing structures 71, 72 and 74 will remain and existing Structure 73 will be replaced with an engineered structure similar to the adjacent structures in order to strengthen the spans at this location. The U199 Line crosses state-owned land between existing Structure 78 and 79, which is an active rail trail administered by the NH Department of Transportation (DOT), for which no license was identified either owing

to oversite or because the line was constructed before the state took ownership, but which will be licensed as a result of this application.

2. The proposed project for the Line U199 encompasses a structure replacement, reconductoring and shield wire replacement with OPGW project. The replacement structures at the public water and state-owned land crossings will be renumbered as detailed in Exhibit 7, noting that Structures 25, 26, 64, and 65 shall not be renumbered. The existing wood structures at the state-owned land and public water crossing spans will be replaced with a weathering steel equivalent¹ having the design and specification depicted and noted in the Structure Details of Exhibits 2 through 6. The proposed project also encompasses reconductoring the three existing conductors with three new conductors having the specifications detailed in the Cable Schedule on Exhibit 2 through 6. Additionally, the two existing pole top mounted wires, being shield wires, will be replaced with two OPGW communication cables at crossing spans between Structures 25 and 26, 64 and 65, and renumbered Structures 77 and 78 having the specifications detailed under the Cable Schedule on Exhibits 2, 3, and 6. The shield wires between renumbered Structures 70 and 71, and 72 and 73 will be replaced with one OPGW communication cable and one static shield wire and an additional wire, an ADSS communication cable, will be installed in an underbuild configuration, which OPGW shield wire and ADSS cables have the specifications detailed under Cable Schedule on Exhibits 4 and 5. The replacement structures will be installed within 10 feet of the current locations.

3. The locations of the public water and state-owned land crossings 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 U199 Line crosses the Moore Reservoir between Structures 25 and 26 in Town of Littleton, which span commences approximately where the line crosses the Moore Reservoir boat lunch and picnic area located at the intersection of Partridge Lake Road and NH Route 18/135 (aka St. Johnsbury Road). The span extends approximately 703 feet southeast to the southeast bank of Moore Reservoir.

¹ Renumbered Structures 70, 71, 72 and 73 were previously replaced from wood to steel in 2016, and renumbered Structures 70, 71 and 73 will remain, and renumbered Structure 72 will be replaced under the current planned project.

Exhibit 3 – The U199 Line crosses the Ammonoosuc River at two crossing locations between Structures 64 and 65 in the Town of Littleton, which span commences approximately 875 feet southeast from where the line crosses US Route 302/NH Route 10 (aka Meadow Street), which is immediately north from the entrance to the commercial property of 615 Meadow Street, Littleton. The span extends east approximately 234 feet, which includes both crossings, to the east bank of the Ammonoosuc River.

Exhibit 4 – The U199 Line crosses the Ammonoosuc River between renumbered Structures 70 and 71 in the Town of Littleton, which span commences approximately 200 feet southwest from renumbered Structure 70, which is located 190 feet west from the intersection of Industrial Park Road and Rotobec Drive. The span extends approximately 123 feet southwest to the west bank of the Ammonoosuc River.

Exhibit 5 - The U199 Line crosses the Ammonoosuc River between renumbered Structures 72 and 73 in the Town of Littleton, which span commences approximately 320 feet south from renumbered Structure 72, which is located behind (northeast corner) the commercial property at 1037 Meadow Street, Littleton. The span extends approximately 351 feet southeast to the east bank of the Ammonoosuc River.

Exhibit 6 – The U199 Line crosses the state-owned land, known as the Ammonoosuc Recreational Rail Trail, in Littleton between renumbered Structures 77 and 78, which span commences approximately 1,500 feet northwest from where the line crosses Eustis Hill Road, which is located approximately 800 feet southwest from the intersection of Industrial Park Road and Eustis Hill Road. The span extends approximately 64 feet southeast to the property line with Map 99, Block 44 in the Town of Littleton.

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing spans that are the subject of this application are as indicated on the Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2 through 6.

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

(a) Public water: Moore Reservoir (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: 25 to 26
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 975.9
- iii. Moore Reservoir (ft): 703.0

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

- i. Structures: 64 to 65
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 496.9

iii. Ammonoosuc River (ft): 139.9²

(c) Public water: Ammonoosuc River (Exhibit 4)

- i. Structures (renumbered): 70 to 71
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 419.8
- iii. Ammonoosuc River (ft): 122.8

(d) Public water: Ammonoosuc River (Exhibit 5)

- i. Structures (renumbered): 72 to 73
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 775.4
- iii. Ammonoosuc River (ft): 351.6

(e) State-Owned Land Map/Block/Lot: Littleton Map/Lot 91/45 (Exhibit 6)

- i. Structures (renumbered): 77 to 78
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 391.4
- iii. State Land Span (ft): 64.3

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 through 6 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water and state-owned land crossings.
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: 30.1 feet for 115 kV wires over water areas suitable for sailboating including lakes, ponds, reservoirs, tidal waters, rivers, streams and canals with an unobstructed surface areas of 20 to 200 acres in respect to the public water crossing depicted in Exhibit 2; 18.6 feet for 115 kV wires over water areas not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to the public water crossing depicted in Exhibits 3; 14.0 feet for ADSS wires (0 kV) over water areas not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to the public water crossings depicted in Exhibits 4 and 5; and 28.1 feet for 115 kV wires over top of track of railroads in respect to the state-owned land crossing depicted on Exhibit 6. The actual minimum height over the public water and

² The Ammonoosuc River span between new Structures 64 and 65 comprises of two separate water crossings, 107.6' and 32.3', totaling 139.9'.

state-owned land crossings are depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 through 6 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Standard Dredge and Fill Permit (SDF) will be required for temporary and permanent impacts associated with the structure replacements described in this application. NHDES SDF and Shoreland PBN applications have been submitted (NHDES SDF Application # 2024-00149 and Shoreland PBN Application # 2024-01287, and # 2024-01283) and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction within jurisdictional areas.
9. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not have jurisdiction over the subject portion of the Moore Reservoir and the Ammonoosuc River as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from ACOE is not required.
10. The structure replacements, conductor replacements, OPGW/shield wire and ADSS wire installation work will be accomplished within existing rights-of-way, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. When wires are being transferred, Eversource will ensure the waterbodies and state-owned lands are 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 state-owned land or public water, to further protect the general public.
11. Eversource submits that the license application herein is necessary in order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public owing to the degraded condition of the existing wood structures to be replaced and Eversource's tariff obligations and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) reliability standards to ensure safe and reliable electric transmission. This important transmission system maintenance project may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public water 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 and state-owned land crossings, which is the subject of this application;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters and state-owned land described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 1st day of August 2024.

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



Erik R. Newman, Senior Counsel, Legal
780 North Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101
(603) 634-2459