

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

LICENSE NO. CRE 2024-007

August 6, 2024

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

This license is granted to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) to construct and maintain its U199 Line, an existing 115kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across public waters and land owned by the State of New Hampshire in Littleton, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings, and as specified in the Enforcement Division's recommendation. The U199 Line at the Moore Reservoir crossing between existing Structures #25 and #26, and at the Ammonoosuc River between existing Structures #64 and #65, #71 and #72, and #73 and #74, respectively, 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). The U199 Line crosses State-owned land between existing Structures #78 and #79, which is an active rail trail administered by the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT). Eversource states that this crossing was not licensed either owing to an oversight or because the line may have been built on land prior to State ownership, but will be licensed as a result of this application.

I. BACKGROUND

On July 11, 2024,¹ 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 U199 Line, an existing 115kV electric transmission line, to the extent that it extends over and across public waters and State-owned land in Littleton, all as described in its application and depicted in its filings. On August 5, 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 (www.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 U199 Line, which is a 115kV overhead electric transmission line that extends over and across public waters of the Ammonoosuc River, Moore Reservoir, and land owned by the State of New Hampshire and administered by the Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in Littleton. The Eversource U199 line between Littleton Substation in Littleton and Streeter Pond Tap Substation in Littleton was originally built in 1971.

The proposed project for the U199 Line encompasses replacing the six existing wood structures with weathered steel structures and one existing steel structure with a new steel structure. The three existing transmission conductors will be replaced with three new

¹ The company filed an amended application on August 1, 2024.

conductors per the cable schedule. Additionally, the two existing pole top mounted 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, respectively, having the specifications detailed under the Cable Schedule. The shield wires between renumbered Structures #70 and #71, and between #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 under-build configuration, with OPGW shield wire and ADSS cables having the specifications detailed under Cable Schedule.

Common to all these noted structures, the replacement conductors consist of three ACSS 1272 54/19 kcmil conductors. The OPGW wires (48F) will be vertically attached above the conductors. The ADSS communications cable (144F) will be under-build as noted.

The scope of this project begins at Structure #25 in Littleton around the Moore Reservoir boat launch then heading southeast crossing Moore Reservoir to Structure #26. The U199 Line then continues southeast to Structure #64, which then crosses the Ammonoosuc River to Structure #65. The U199 then traverses southward again crossing the Ammonoosuc River in several locations and ultimately crossing State-owned land ending at Structure #78.

The water crossing in Littleton spans 975.9 feet between Structures #25 and #26 with 703.0 feet crossing the Moore Reservoir.

The water crossing in Littleton spans 496.9 feet between Structures #64 and #65 with 139.9 feet (comprising 107.6 feet + 32.3 feet) crossing the Ammonoosuc River.

The water crossing in Littleton spans 419.8 feet between Structures #70 and #71 with 122.8 feet spanning the Ammonoosuc River.

The water crossing in Littleton spans 775.4 feet between Structures #72 and #73 with 351.6 feet spanning the Ammonoosuc River.

The land crossing in Littleton spans 391.4 feet between Structures #77 and #78 with 64.3 feet spanning 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) Standard Dredge and Fill Permit and a Shoreland Statutory Permit by Notification (PBN) 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.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portions of the Ammonoosuc River or the Moore Reservoir as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from ACOE is not required.

C. Property Rights

According to Eversource, abutters to the Ammonoosuc River, Moore Reservoir, and NHDOT/State-owned land in Littleton 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 public waters of the Ammonoosuc River, Moore Reservoir, or the State land parcel in Littleton.

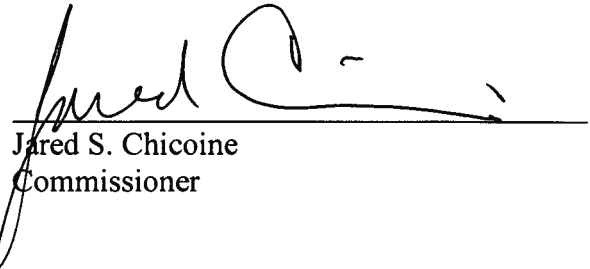
The line modifications are designed and will be constructed and maintained in conformance with N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 306 and applicable sections of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) C2-2012.

The conductor cable clearance requirements were met using the NESC based on the design conditions at 392⁰ F for all crossings within this petition. This scenario was the governing condition, which yielded the greatest sag and lowest clearance.

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 public waters of the Ammonoosuc River, Moore Reservoir, and State land in Littleton, 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 public waters and subject land at the crossing locations in Littleton, 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 August 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.