

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

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

**CR No. 2024-008**

**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  
WATER IN FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”), 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 State-owned land and public water in Franklin, 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 M127 Line. The M127 Line was originally built in 1967 and runs between Webster Substation in Franklin and North Road Substation in Sunapee. The M127 Line crosses State-owned land between the Webster Substation, Structure 0.5 and Structure 1, and a public water between Structure 1 and 2, which crossings were licensed under Order # 26,389 (DE 20-014), and are the subject of this application.

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that certain existing wood structures on Eversource’s J125 Line, which crosses under the M127 Line in Franklin, need to be replaced. To accommodate necessary clearances from the new wire height of the J125 Line as a result of the structure replacements, which are themselves increasing in height, the M127 Structures 0.5 must increase by 20 feet and the uplift which results from that

M127 Line 0.5 Structure height increase, in turn, requires the M127 Line Structure 1 to increase by 15 feet. Structures 0.5 and 1 will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents having a similar design to the existing wood structures and will be located within 10' of the existing structure locations. The M127 Line's existing three conductors, static wire and OPGW wire, having the specifications indicated on the Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2, shall remain unchanged and will be relocated to the new replacement structures.

3. The location of the State-owned land and public waterbody 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 M127 Line crosses State-owned land, a rail trail operated by Department of Transportation known as the Northern Rail Trail, in the City of Franklin and is located between the southwestern side of the Webster Substation and M127 Structure 1. This crossing commences approximately 60 feet from the southwestern facing fence line of the Webster Substation along the M127 Line, which is 270 feet northeast from where the M127 Line crosses Garneau Road, which is approximately 530 feet northwest from the intersection of Garneau Road and Carr Street in Franklin, NH. The span continues approximately 136 feet southwest to the southerly property boundary of the rail trail (no map/lot number).

The M127 Line crosses Chance Pond Brook in the City of Franklin between Structures 1 and 2. The Chance Pond Brook crossing commences approximately 90 feet southwest from where the M127 Line crosses Garneau Road, which is approximately 530 feet northwest from the intersection of Garneau Road and Carr Street in Franklin, NH. The span continues approximately 221 feet southwest to the southwest bank of Chance Pond Brook.

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

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

- (a) State-owned Land: Franklin No Map/lot (Exhibit 2)
  - i. Structures: Webster Substation to Structure 1
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 288.6
  - iii. State-owned land Span (ft): 136.1

(b) Public Waterbody: Chance Pond Brook (Exhibit 2)

i. Structures: Structure 1 to Structure 2

ii. Structure Span (ft): 514.1

iii. Chance Pond Brook Span (ft): 220.9

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the State-owned land and public waterbody crossing. The flood elevation data on which the public waterbody clearance is measured is as noted in Note 3 of Exhibit 2.

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: 28.1' for 115 kV conductor over top of track rail in respect to the State-owned land crossing between the Webster Substation and Structure 1 (Exhibit 2), and is 18.6' for 115 kV conductor over waterbodies not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to the crossing of Chance Pond Brook (Exhibit 2). The actual minimum height over State-owned land and the public waterbody is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 and exceeds the respective minimum requirement.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Shoreland Statutory Permit by Notification (PBN) will be required for temporary impacts to the shoreland buffer associated with the structure replacement and is covered under NHDES File No. 2023-00825. This project does not require any impacts to wetlands thus a NHDES Standard Dredge and Fill or Statutory Permit by Notification is not required.

9. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not have jurisdiction over Chance Pond Brook as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from ACOE is not required.

10. The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. Traffic control flaggers or Police Detail will be used to monitor the construction at the State-owned land crossing and guard structures used during the wire transfer over the public

waterbody to ensure work areas are safe and clear of pedestrians as an added precaution to ensure the public's safety.

11. Eversource submits that the license applied for 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 project may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the State-owned land and public waters because safe clearances will be maintained at all times.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license application for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the State-owned land and public waterbody crossings which are the subject of this application; and
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across State-owned land and public water crossings described in this application.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 22<sup>nd</sup> 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

