

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

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

DOCKET No. CR 2022 -

**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 PUBLIC WATERS IN BERLIN, 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 the Department of Energy (“Department”) for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Berlin, 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 W179 Line, which was originally built in 1947 between Berlin East Side Substation in Berlin and Paris Substation in Dummer. The public water crossing at the Androscoggin River that is the subject of this application was previously licensed in 1976 under DE 76-22 (Order No. 12,219, the relevant portions of which are submitted herewith). In 2016 the structure on the west side of the Androscoggin River span was replaced from wood to weathering steel without obtaining a license owing to an oversight.

2. The proposed project for the W179 encompasses a structure replacement and reconductoring project. The wood structure at the public water crossing span will be replaced with a weathering steel equivalent having the design and specification depicted and noted in the Structure Details of Exhibits 2 and 3. The proposed project also encompasses reconductoring the three existing conductors with three new conductors having the specifications detailed under the

Cable Schedule on Exhibit 3. Additionally, the single pole top mounted shield wire will be replaced with an OPGW communication cable and a second pole top OPGW will also be added having the specifications noted in the said Cable Schedule. The structures at the public water crossing will be renumbered; original Structures 61 and 62 will be renumbered to 62 and 63.

3. New Structure 63 was installed within 10 feet of the prior location. New Structure 62 will be replaced within 10 feet of the existing pole location.

4. The locations of the public water crossing which is the subject of this application is depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

Exhibit 2 – The W179 Line crosses the public water of the Androscoggin River in the Town of Berlin between original structures 61 and 62 (new structure numbers 62 and 63), which span commences approximately 690 feet northwest from where the W179 line crosses East Main Street in Berlin, which is approximately 610 feet south from the intersection of Industrial Park Drive and East Main Street. The public water crossing extends northwest approximately 276 feet to the west side of the Androscoggin River, which is approximately 283 feet west to where the W179 Line crosses NH Route 16 which is approximately 760 feet south from the intersection of NH Route 16 and Victoria Lane in Berlin, NH.

5. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this application are as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 3.

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

- (a) Public water: Androscoggin River (Exhibits 2 and 3)
 - i. Structures (new): 62 to 63
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 824
 - iii. Androscoggin River Span (ft): 276

7. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 3 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water crossing. Flood elevation for the

Androscoggin crossing span used in calculating clearance are based on FEMA flood map data and guidance as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibit 2.

8. 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 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 on Exhibits 2 and 3. The actual minimum height over the public water are depicted on the attached Exhibit 3 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN), and Shoreland Permit Notification (PBN) will be required for temporary impacts associated with the structure replacements described in this application and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portion of the Androscoggin River as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from ACOE is not required.

11. The structure replacements, conductor replacements and OPGW installation work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. When wires are being transferred, Eversource will ensure the waterbody is 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 river to protect the general public.

12. Eversource submits that the license application herein 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 crossing which is the subject of this application;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public water described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 6th day of December, 2022.

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



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