

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**CR 2021-007
(formerly DE 21-125)**

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

**Petition for License
to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across State Land in Manchester**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On June 22, 2021, Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition for a license to construct and maintain an existing three-phase 115 kV electric transmission line with a 34.5 kV 321 distribution line under-build (the M164 Line) over and across a former railroad bed that is now a State owned rail trail in Manchester. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department, will be posted to the Department's website (www.energy.nh.gov) at [Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters | NH Department of Energy](#).

Eversource's M164 Line was originally constructed around 1950 in an existing right of way for the then existing 321 Line, a 34.5 kV distribution line, which later became an underbuild to the M164 Line. The crossing over State land in Manchester was never previously licensed. Eversource now seeks a license to replace two existing wood structures (Structures 32 and 33) that support the M164 Line across the rail trail owned by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) just south of Route 101/293 and west of Keller Street. The wood structures will be replaced with weathered steel structures that will be located within 10 feet of

the original structure locations. The new structures will increase the height of the line by five feet to meet NHDOT requirements for former railroad property and applicable National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) standards. Three existing M164 transmission conductors and one existing optical grounding and communications wire (OPGW) will be transferred to the new replacement structures, as will the three existing underbuilt 321 Line distribution conductors and one neutral conductor. According to the petition, Eversource will obtain all required New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) permits prior to commencing the replacement project, including a Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN), prior to commencing work along the M164 Line.

The Department will review the filing to assess the necessity of the requested license to meet the reasonable requirements of reliable service to the public, as required by RSA 371:17, and whether the license may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the identified State land in Manchester, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. The applicant and any interested party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that, the Department will hold a prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on November 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., at which any interested party may provide its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any interested party who wishes to participate in the proceeding shall file a written petition to intervene stating the interested party's basis for intervention consistent with RSA 541-A:32 and Puc 203.17 and specifying any objection the

party has to the proposed crossing license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the Interim Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than November 5, 2021. Failure to submit a Petition to Intervene at least three business days prior to the Prehearing Conference will constitute a waiver of the right to object to the Petition and the requested license; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Eversource, Department staff, and any intervening parties may hold a technical session to review the petition, as needed; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all abutters to the proposed crossing by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the crossing site. On or before November 2, 2021, Eversource shall file with the Department a list of all abutters so notified and copies of the return delivery confirmations. In addition, Eversource shall mail a copy of this order of notice to: (i) the City Clerk of Manchester, New Hampshire; (ii) the New Hampshire Attorney General; (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Transportation; and (iv) the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, and publish a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one business day after the date of issue.



Jared S. Chicoine
Interim Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Department of Energy, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-3670; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the scheduled event.