## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CR 2021-011 (formerly DE 21-122)

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

Petition for License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across State Lands in Exeter and Brentwood

## **ORDER OF NOTICE**

On June 17, 2021, Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition for a license to reconstruct and maintain its 115 kV electric transmission line (the H141 Line) over and across State lands in Exeter and Brentwood. 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 (<a href="www.energy.gov">www.energy.gov</a>) at <a href="https://docs.nigs.gov">Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters</a> | NH Department of Energy.

The H141 Line was originally constructed around 1950 and crosses land owned by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in Exeter between Structures 175 and 177, and land owned by New Hampshire Fish and Game between Structures 181 and 189 in Brentwood. The land crossings were not previously licensed. Eversource now seeks a license to replace original wood Structures 175 through 177, and Structures 182, 183, 184, 186, 187 and 188 with weathered steel equivalents that will each be located within 10 feet of the original structure locations, with the exception of Structure 176, which is currently located within a large wetland and will be moved approximately 200 feet east to minimize wetland impacts. Structure

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185 was replaced in 2018, but was not licensed at that time. The three existing conductors, one static wire, and one optical ground wire (OPGW) will be transferred to the new replacement structures. According to the petition, Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) prior to commencing work on the H141 Line at this location, and no other environmental permits are required.

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 owned lands in Exeter and Brentwood, 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 3, 2021 at 10:00 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 October 29, 2021. Failure to submit a Petition to Intervene at least three

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> 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,
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> 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 crossings by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides a delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the State land parcels subject to the proposed crossings. On or before October 29, 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 Town Clerks of Brentwood and Exeter, New Hampshire; (ii) the New Hampshire Attorney General; (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Transportation; (iv) New Hampshire Fish and Game; 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.

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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.