

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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

DOCKET No. DE 21-

**PETITION 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 IN EXETER AND
BRENTWOOD, 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 petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across State owned land in Exeter and Brentwood, New Hampshire. In support of this petition 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 H141 Line, originally constructed around 1950, over and across State owned lands in Exeter and Brentwood, New Hampshire. The State land crossings were not previously licensed, either because the lands were not in State ownership at that time or otherwise for reasons unknown.

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that original wood structures 175 through 177 and 182, 183, 184,¹ 186, 187 & 188 need to be replaced

¹ Wood Structure 185 was replaced with a steel equivalent in 2018 following asset condition evaluation and without obtaining a license as a result of oversight.

to continue to function safely and reliably². Those structures will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents that will be located within 10' of the original structure location with the exception of Structure 176, which will be moved approximately 200' east on the same alignment to minimize wetland impacts arising from both this project and future maintenance. The existing three conductors, one static wire and one OPGW communications wire, whose specifications are identified on the Exhibits 4 Cable Schedule, will be unchanged in the course of relocation to the new steel structures.

3. The two State owned land spans that are the subject of this petition are depicted on Exhibit 1 as a high-level perspective of the location. Additional site location descriptions of those spans are as follows.

Exhibit 2: The H141 Line crosses the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (“DOT”) property in the town of Exeter between structures 175 and 177. Said DOT property is located along the south side of State Route 27/Epping Road and the crossing span commences approximately 1,500 feet from the intersection of State Route 27 and Blue Hawk Drive (entrance to the Exeter Highschool). The H141 line extends southerly over the DOT land approximately 356 feet to the edge of property Map 29, Lot 2, which is located between State Route 27 and State Route 101.

Exhibit 3 – The H141 Line crosses State of New Hampshire NH Fish and Game (“NHFG”) property in the town of Brentwood between structures 181 and 189. Said NHFG property is located along the west side of Pine Rd. and the crossing span commences approximately 2,500 feet from the intersection of Pine Road and State Route 27/Epping Road. The H141 Line extends westerly over the NHFG land approximately 2,910.9 feet to the edge of property Map 206, Block 90, Lot 2, which parcel is located approximately 1,120 feet east of where the H141 line crosses Deer Hill Road at the intersection of Deer Hill Road and Long Meadow Drive.

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this petition are as indicated on Profile Views of Exhibits 2 and 3 and the Cable Schedules of Exhibit 4.

² Wood Structure 181, which is depicted on Exhibit 3 and supports one of the subject crossing spans but is itself not located on State owned land was determined to be in satisfactory condition not requiring replacement at this time.

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

(a) State Owned Land: Brentwood Map/Block: 29/1 (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: Str. 175 to 177
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 906.2
- iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 356

(b) State Owned Land: Brentwood Map/Block: 203/36 (Exhibit 3)

- i. Structures: Str. 181 to 189
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 3719.2
- iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 2910.9

6. All conductors and static wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 and 3 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the State owned land crossings.

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 20.1' for surfaces traversed by vehicles, such as cultivating, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc., under 115 kV conductor. The actual minimum height over State owned land is depicted on the attached Exhibits 2 and 3 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) will be required to accomplish the structure replacements and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.³ No other environmental permits are required.

9. 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.

³ There were no wetland impacts requiring a SPN for the Structure 185 replacement undertaken in 2018.

10. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public in the State owned lands because safe clearances to ground will be maintained at all times.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

1. Find that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the State owned lands which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across the State owned lands described in this petition;
3. Issue an order *Nisi* and orders for its publication.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 17th day of June, 2021.

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



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