

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

DATE: September 21, 2021

AT (OFFICE): NH Dept. of Energy

FROM: Kenneth Walsh *KGW*
Utility Analyst IV – Division of Enforcement

SUBJECT: CR2021-04 Eversource Energy
Petition for License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across
State Owned Land in Londonderry, New Hampshire
Division of Enforcement, **Safety Bureau Recommendation**

TO: Jared Chicoine, Interim Commissioner, Department of Energy
Christopher Ellms, Jr., Deputy Commissioner, Department of Energy

CC: Thomas Frantz, Director of Regulatory Division
Richard Chagnon, Regulatory Division
Lynn Fabrizio, Division of Enforcement
Randall Knepper, Division of Enforcement
Paul Kasper, Division of Enforcement

The Division of Enforcement's review of the above petition consisted of the following elements:

- Petition contents and history;
- Applicable State statute;
- Review of the existing crossing(s) previously licensed by the PUC;
- Review of land ownership of existing pole structures;
- Review of NESC code requirements as described in Puc 300;
- Review of public need and public impact, including applicability of other State regulations; and
- Conclusions and Recommendations.

1. Petition contents and history

On June 30, 2021, Public Service New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource, or the Company) filed a petition for a license pursuant to RSA 371:17 to construct and maintain the Eversource R187 Line, which is an existing three phase 115kV transmission line that crosses State land in Londonderry owned by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and the New Hampshire Department of Public Works.

The existing crossings over State land was not previously licensed for unknown reasons, according to the petition.

This proposed project is to replace (6) existing laminated wood structures with weathered steel structures. The (3) existing transmission conductors and (1) existing shield wire will remain unchanged and will be transferred to the new structures.

Common to all these noted structures, existing conductors consist of (3) ACSR 1272 45/7 kcmil conductors and (1) existing 7 No. 8 Alumoweld shield wire will be transferred with the shield wire being vertically attached above the conductors. .

The conductor cable clearance requirements were met using the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) based on the design conditions at 285 deg F. for all crossings within this petition. This scenario was the governing condition, which yielded the greatest sag and lowest clearance. Only 28.1 feet clearance is required by the NESC Table 232-1 for tracks of railroads. Only 20.1 feet clearance is required by the NESC Table 232-1 for other areas traversed by vehicles, such as cultivated, grazing, forest, and orchard lands, industrial sites, and commercial sites. Staff verified the computed sags with SAG 10 commercial software using inputs as stated in the petition.

The scope of this project begins at Structure #5 east of where the R187 Line crosses over Route 28 (Rockingham Road) then heading west across the rail trail to Structure #6. The R187 Line then heads southwest to Structure #12 approximately 3,000 feet southwest from Route 28.

The land crossing spans 528.2 feet between Structures #5 and #6 with 81.6 feet spanning State owned land. See Safety Map #1.

The land crossing spans 1603.1 feet between Structures #12 and #15 with 535.0 feet spanning State owned land. See Safety Map #2.

The following table provides the summary of this petition with all crossings to include structure numbers, types, spans, ES design criteria, and NESC compliance:

Dept. of Energy Safety Bureau Summary Table

Eversource R187 Line - State Land Crossings						
Structure	Type	Span (Pole to Pole)	Distance (feet)	Minimum NESC Table 232-1 Clearance (ft.)	ES Vertical Design Clearance (ft.)	Complies with NESC Table 232-1 (Y/N)
5	93.5' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9	5-6	528.2	28.1	52.7	Y
6	75.0' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9					
12	75.0' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9	12-13	651.8	20.1	26.1	Y
13	75.0' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9					
14	88.5' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9	13-14	525.9	20.1	34.7*	Y
15	79.0' steel single pole, ST-1, CLH9	14-15	425.4	20.1	53.4	Y

* - lowest clearance within the two separate state owned lands

2. New Hampshire statute referenced in petition (as modified by N.H. House Bill 2 on June 3, 2021)

371:17 Licenses for New Poles (2021, 91:260, eff. July 1, 2021)

3. Review of existing license(s) and permissions previously granted by the PUC for these locations of the State owned land in Londonderry.

The State owned land crossing span in Londonderry was not previously licensed.

Eversource asserts that environmental impacts from this project will require permits from the NH Department of Environmental Services and that the Company will obtain these before commencing work.

4. Review of land ownership of proposed pole structures

In its petition, Eversource specifies that the structures and wires pursuant to this petition cross State owned land in Londonderry, New Hampshire.

5. Review of NESC code requirements as described in Puc 300

The Safety Bureau reviewed the specifications related to the design and re-construction of this crossing project as described in the petition, attachments, and all supplemental support documents and corrections filed by the Company, and found them to be in conformance with N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 306 and applicable sections of NESC C2-2012.

6. Review of public need and public impact

The R187 transmission line is an integral part of Eversource's existing electric transmission system in New Hampshire. The crossing locations identified in the petition are in Londonderry. The Company asserts in its petition that the existing crossings will be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the identified State land located in Londonderry.

The Safety Bureau verified that minimum safe line clearances above the land will be maintained at all times, and determined that public use and enjoyment of the State owned land will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the proposed overhead line crossings.

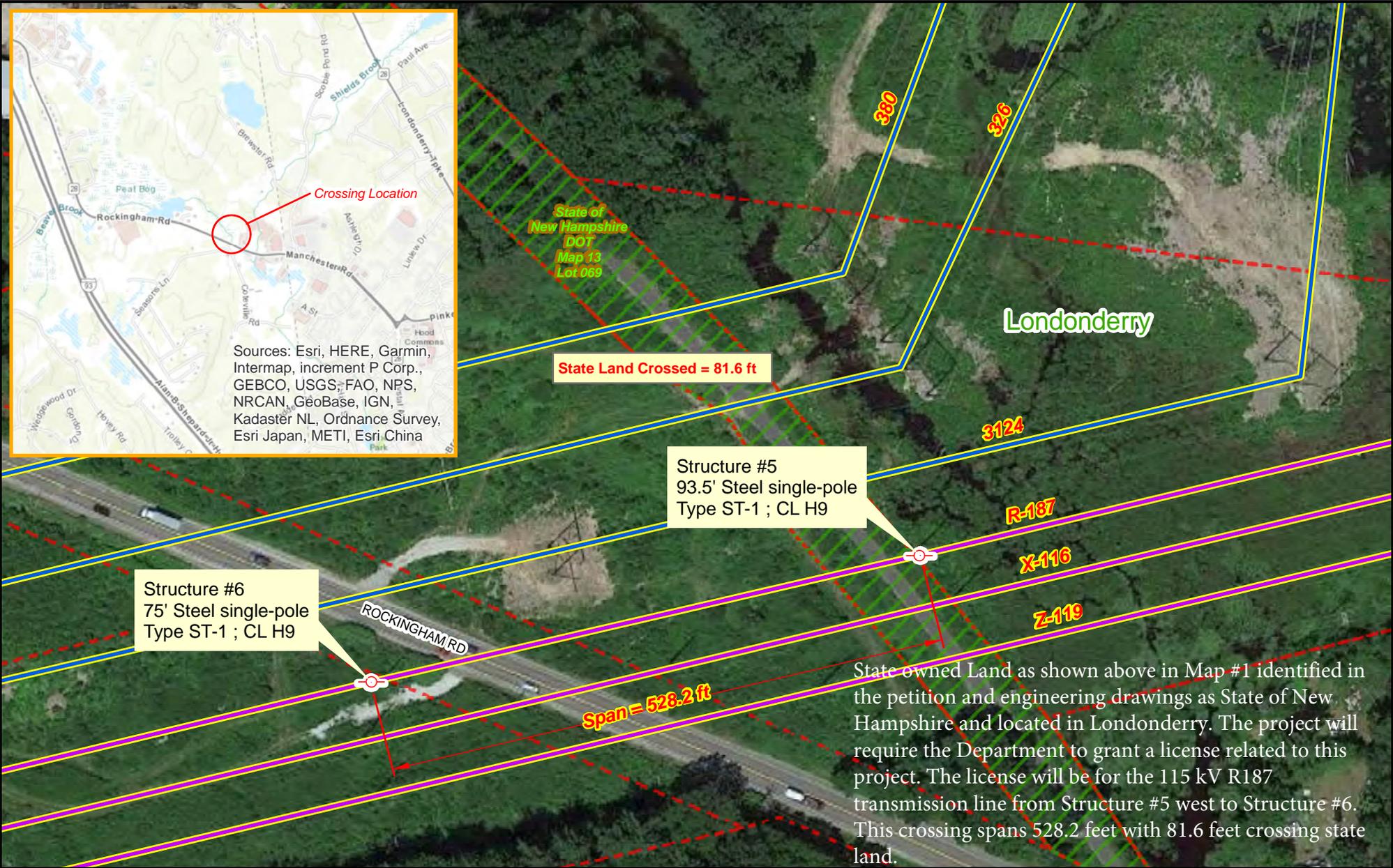
Safety Bureau Recommendation:

Based on the results of its review of the petition, attachments, and all other supporting documents filed, the Safety Bureau recommends that the Department:

- 1) Find that the license Eversource requests in this petition may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in State owned land; and
- 2) Grant Eversource a license to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric lines and communication cables pursuant to RSA 371:17 and Puc 306.01, over and across State owned land in Londonderry, New Hampshire, as specified in the petition.

Attachments

NH State Land (NHDOT) - ENG CR 2021-04 Eversource Crossing - Map 1



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China

State Land Crossed = 81.6 ft

Structure #5
93.5' Steel single-pole
Type ST-1 ; CL H9

Structure #6
75' Steel single-pole
Type ST-1 ; CL H9

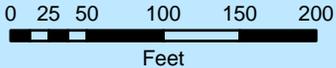
Span = 528.2 ft

State owned Land as shown above in Map #1 identified in the petition and engineering drawings as State of New Hampshire and located in Londonderry. The project will require the Department to grant a license related to this project. The license will be for the 115 kV R187 transmission line from Structure #5 west to Structure #6. This crossing spans 528.2 feet with 81.6 feet crossing state land.

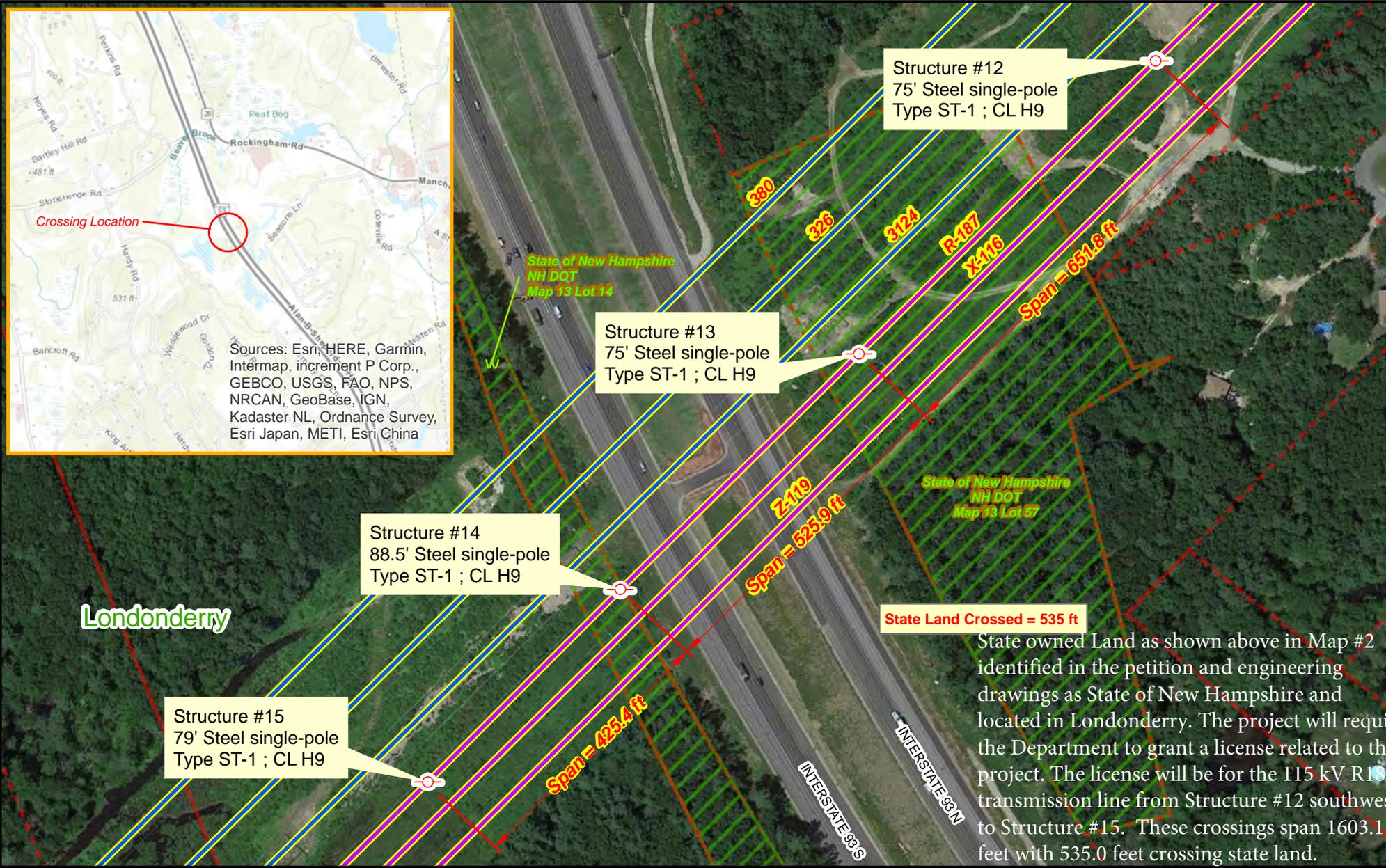
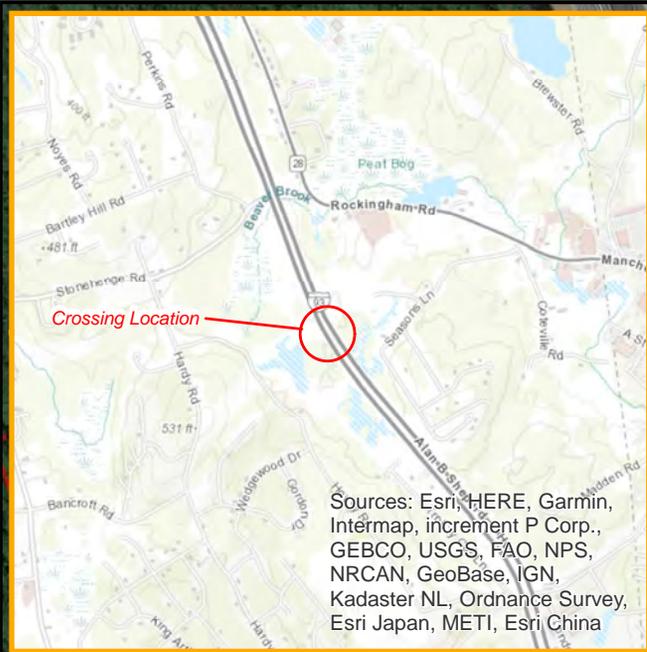
	Utility Structure		Parcel
	345 kV Lines		State Land Parcel
	115 kV Lines		



Prepared by:
NH Department of Energy
Enforcement Division
Safety Bureau



NH State Land (NHDOT) - ENG CR 2021-04 Eversource Crossing - Map 2



State owned Land as shown above in Map #2 identified in the petition and engineering drawings as State of New Hampshire and located in Londonderry. The project will require the Department to grant a license related to this project. The license will be for the 115 kV R187 transmission line from Structure #12 southwest to Structure #15. These crossings span 1603.1 feet with 535.0 feet crossing state land.

Utility Structure	Parcel
345 kV Lines	State Land Parcel
115 kV Lines	



Prepared by:
NH Department of Energy
Enforcement Division
Safety Bureau

