

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE V. LULU T. SANBORN, AIMEE TRUELSON
AND DORIS RYAN

Petition for a right of way for the construction and maintenance of transmission lines across lands in Franklin, and assessment of damages occasioned thereby.

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Appearances: for the Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Irving H. Soden.

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REPORT

By this petition, filed January 19, 1953, the Public Service Company of New Hampshire, a duly organized New Hampshire corporation, operating as an electric public utility in various parts of the State, seeks a finding by this Commission, pursuant to R. L. c. 294, that the grant to it of a right of way for the construction and maintenance of an electric transmission line over a privately-owned tract of land in the City of Franklin is necessary to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public, and the assessment of damages and compensation therefor to the owners. Following due notice, hearing was held on the petition in Franklin on February 25, 1953, and a view of the premises was taken on February 20, 1953.

The Public Service Company of New Hampshire represents that, in order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public, it is necessary for it to construct a 110 KV transmission line from its Webster Sub-station in Franklin to a sub-station in North Woodstock. It submits that this line is needed to interconnect generating capacity in the southern section of the State, particularly that of the Schiller Plant, with its service area in the northern part of the State. In this manner, the proposed line will benefit the Company's entire system and enable it to serve the increasing load projected by its load growth anticipations.

In its course, the proposed line will cross approximately 545 feet of the land of the Minnie Truelson Estate near its northeast corner. The Company seeks a right of way 125 feet in width adjacent to the Company's presently owned and occupied right of way, so that the area involved is approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The land proposed to be crossed consists of rocky, lightly timbered wood land.

A land and timber expert for the Company testified that the damages occasioned by the crossing amount to \$32.50. This figure is arrived at by pricing the land at \$5.00 per acre, 1,000 feet of timber at \$10 per thousand, 750 feet of hard wood at \$8 per thousand feet and $4\frac{1}{2}$ cords of wood at \$2 per cord.

The Company has offered the landowners \$100 for the right of way, based on $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land at \$20 an acre, 2,000 feet of timber at \$15 per thousand feet, and 20 cords of wood at \$2 per cord. The Company submits that this offer is comparable to that at which it has purchased a like right of way over similar property in the vicinity of the crossing proposed herein.

No evidence was offered by the landowners.

Upon investigation of the premises, and consideration of the evidence submitted, this Commission finds that the rights sought herein by the Public Service Company of New Hampshire are necessary to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public. This Commission further finds that the damage to the property in question, attendant upon the construction of the proposed transmission line, amounts to \$100. Our order will issue accordingly.

James H. Darnall
Edward R. Thouton
Earl K. Kaba
Commissioners

Filed March 3, 1953.