

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: April 3, 2015
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

NHPUC 3APR15PM3:49

FROM: Rorie E. Patterson, Staff Attorney

SUBJECT: DE 15-041 Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.
Petition for Water Crossing License
Tide Mill Creek, Hampton, NH

TO: Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
Tom Frantz, Director, Electric Division
Les Stachow, Assistant Director, Electric Division
Randy Knepper, Director, Safety Division

This memorandum pertains to the pending request by Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES), for a license to cross the Tide Mill Creek,¹ in Hampton, New Hampshire. UES's petition requests the license for one circuit, the "3353 line." However, the attachments to the petition, including drawings, reference another 34.5kV circuit known as the "3342 line." Staff's recommendation filed on March 23, 2015, construed UES's petition as requesting a license for both the 3342 line and the 3353 line.

Today, I spoke with UES's Senior Design Engineer, Nate Sherwood, about the difference between the petition and Staff's recommendation. He agreed with Staff's construction of the petition – as a crossing license request for both the 3342 and the 3353 lines - and offered the following explanation. Mr. Sherwood stated that at the time of the filing, UES planned only to proceed with relocating the 3353 line. After the filing, due to favorable pricing conditions, UES decided to relocate the 3342 line, too. Mr. Sherwood stated that he discussed this change of plans with Commission Staff and understood from this discussion that a revised petition was not necessary.

I also asked Mr. Sherwood about the observation in Staff's recommendation that the poles supporting the relocated lines did not have space for more than one attachment, which FairPoint will presumably use. Mr. Sherwood indicated that UES has been contacted by another third-party to attach lines to the new poles, but UES is uncertain about that party's need for a water crossing license. Mr. Sherwood stated that, if a water crossing license is needed, the third party will need to file a request with the Commission, and, if there is no room on the poles for an additional attachment, the third party would be responsible for the costs associated with upgrading the poles to accommodate that attachment.

¹ UES's petition refers to the crossing as spanning the Hampton River, but Staff's recommendation states that "the appropriate crossing should be referenced as Tide Mill Creek."

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**