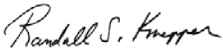


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: April 26, 2016
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: 
Randy Knepper
Director of Safety & Security

SUBJECT: Review of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid
Motion to Alter Crossing Approval Granted Pursuant to
DE15-062, NHPUC Order No. 25,838

TO: Debra Howland, Executive Director
Tom Frantz, Director, Electric Division
Les Stachow, Assistant Director, Electric Division
David Shulock, Staff Attorney

The Safety Division has completed its review of the New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid (NEP) Motion to Alter Crossing Approval Granted Pursuant to DE15-062, NHPUC Order No. 25,838.

To summarize, during the past year Staff completed a comprehensive review of NEP's original Petition and Attachments (DE 15-062, filed on February 11, 2015), as well as other supporting documents and related discovery filed to this docket. In its recommendation, filed on August 7, 2015, Staff supported the petition with the conditions that: (1) all future alterations to the crossing conform to the 2012 edition of the NESC and be resubmitted to the Commission 60 days prior to the alteration; and (2) NEP should be required to maintain and operate the crossings in conformance with the NESC or risk future revocation of the license.

In NHPUC Order No. 25,838¹, dated November 3, 2015, the Commission authorized pursuant to RSA 371:17 *et seq.* to construct, install, operate and maintain electric and other lines consistent with the provisions of the NESC, in accordance with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 306.01, as may be applicable, and as amended from time to time, and all applicable safety standards in existence at that time. The Order Nisi identified eight additional requirements to NEP, one of which ties to this current Motion to Alter Crossing Approval Granted Pursuant to DE15-062, NHPUC Order No. 25,838.

As recommended by Staff, the Commission further ordered in Order No. 25,838, that NEP shall submit any future proposed alteration(s) to the crossing license granted herein at least 60 days prior to any such alteration(s).

¹ Order 25,838 amended Order 25,817 dated September 24, 2015 correcting the town of the crossing from Monroe to Littleton along with other modifications.

Staff has reviewed this Motion and will now summarize the NEP request. As proposed in the Motion, NEP seeks to alter the original proposed location for Structure WT2 by moving it 97 feet south by southwest. The new proposed location for Structure WT2 can be seen in Attachment 1 to this memorandum. NEP seeks to relocate Structure WT2 after a determination that the originally proposed location would not be able to avoid an intermittent stream as previously planned. By altering the location of Structure WT2 by moving it 97 feet south by southwest, NEP is essentially eliminating the potential for construction defects related to the foundation being in the flow path of the intermittent stream.

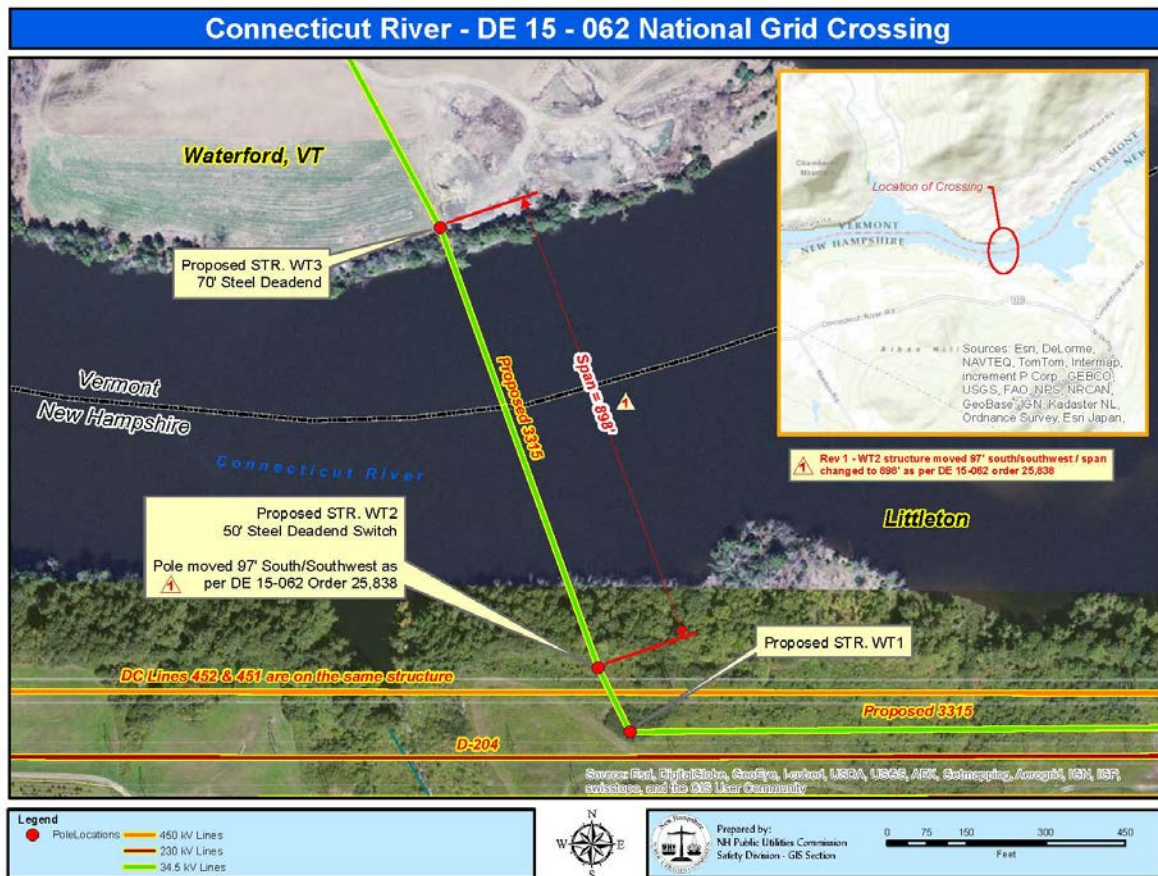
There are additional benefits to the proposed new location for Structure WT2. First, the new location for Structure WT2 will increase clearance over the river by approximately 5 to 10 feet (from 40 feet to approximately 50 feet) dependent upon the lateral distance from the support structures. A fiber optic cable will also be installed and have a minimum clearance of 37 feet above the high water level as approved in the license. The alteration will also result in a decrease in the overall span length across the river by 12 feet (from 910 feet to 898 feet).

All remaining design parameters identified in the license for this crossing will remain unchanged if the Motion to Alter Crossing is approved. The entire project, including the location of Structure WT2, has been designed in accordance with the requirements of NESC.

Recommendation:

Based on the review of this Motion, and the facts related to the Motion that have been summarized in this memorandum, Staff supports the proposed alterations related to the relocation of Structure WT2 and views the changes as further lessening any potential impacts of the water crossing.

All other conditions, as spelled out in the original August 7, 2015 Staff Recommendation, are proposed to remain as originally written.



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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Docket #: 15-062-1 Printed: April 26, 2016

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.**