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NHPUC 70CT'19m3:36

Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**Re: NOTIFICATION OF ALTERATION OF SHIELD WIRE OVER AND ACROSS
LANDS OWNED BY THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE TOWNS OF
BELMONT, TILTON AND LACONIA**

Dear Director Howland:

As directed by Commission's Order *Nisi*, 26,181 dated October 25, 2018 issued in Docket DE 18-081, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's hereby submits notice of proposed alteration of said State lands crossing license at least 60 days prior to the contemplated commencement of the alteration activity described in greater detail below.

By way of background, the existing license under Order No. 26,181 approved construction and maintenance of electric lines associated with the 114kV L176 Transmission Line over and across public lands in the Towns of Belmont, Tilton and Laconia, New Hampshire, including the replacement of the following select existing utility structures associated with crossings of lands owned by the State of New Hampshire. That utility structure replacement work was completed in July 2018.

- NHDOT Property Crossing, Tax Map R19, Lot 14A, Tilton (Structures 70, 71, and 72);
- NH Bureau of Railroads Crossing, Tax Map U04, Lot 73, (Railroad), Tilton (Structure 83);
- NHDES Water Resources Division Property Crossing, Tax Map R21, Lot 07, Tilton (Structures 91 and 92);
- NHDES Water Resources Division Property Crossing, Tax Map R21, Lot 06, Tilton (Structure 92);
- NHDES Dam Bureau Property Crossing, Tax Map 117, Lot 005, Belmont (Structures 92 and 94); and
- State of NH Property Crossing, Tax Map 490, Lot 303-5, Laconia (Structures 148, 149, 150, 151, and 152).

Eversource is now planning to replace the existing shield wire with 0.646-inch diameter fiber optical ground wire (OPGW) for the entirety of the L176 Transmission Line, including the aforementioned six (6) state land crossings. No conductor, neutral wire or structures are proposed to be replaced or altered as part of the proposed shield wire replacement project.

The attached Location Exhibits 1-4 dated August 2019, show the general location of the L176 Line crossing over the State's land parcels as part of the project. The design and proposed shield wire replacement crossings for the L176 Line over the State's land parcels will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Engineering Details, Exhibits 5 to 9.

In addition, it is not anticipated that there will be changes in maximum sag conditions by replacing the existing shield wire. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearance of wire crossing over the Winnepesaukee River at a height no less than is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) which is 20.1 feet to ground for 115 kV open supply conductors over any vehicle/horse accessible areas. The actual minimum height over the State lands are depicted on the attached Exhibits 5 through Exhibit 9.

Certain wetland impacts are required to establish access associated with these state lands crossings. Those impacts have been approved by Permit 2917-02402. No NHDES Utility Maintenance Notification is required for construction access.

It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the State lands to be crossed will be affected by this project, as the L176 is an existing line and the shield wire replacement shall be accomplished within Eversource's existing utility easements.

Eversource submits that the shield wire replacement may be accomplished without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the State lands to be crossed. Minimum safe line clearances above the land will be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment of the public of the State lands will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the replacement of the overhead shield wire crossings.

The shield wire replacement project on the L176 which is the subject of this notice letter is anticipated to commence no earlier than December 4, 2019.

Should there be any technical questions concerning this notice filing, they may be directed to Eversource's Kurt Nelson, Sr., Land Use Licensing and Permitting Specialist, who can be reached at 603-634-3256.

Thank you for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Erik Newman
Real Estate and Transactional Counsel

cc via e-mail: OCA