

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

DOCKET NO. DE 20-\_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT  
AND MAINTAIN ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS LANDS  
OWNED BY THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE TOWNS OF  
PETERBOROUGH AND TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”) a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire (“State”), hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for license(s) to construct and maintain electric lines over and across lands owned by the State of New Hampshire in the Towns of Peterborough and Temple, New Hampshire. In support of this petition Eversource states as follows:

1. In order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead and surface mounted 4 kV electrical distribution line, designated as the Eversource 3155x9 circuit, over and across three parcels of land owned by the State of New Hampshire (Peterborough Map R001-017-001; Peterborough Map R001-017-000; and Temple Map 00001B-000001-000001), as shown in Exhibits 1 through 11. These State owned land crossings were previously installed by Greenville Electric Company and were not previously licensed by the Commission for reasons unknown to Eversource. The replacement of these crossings in connection with the Miller State Park project will be fully licensed under the petition.
2. Eversource is commencing a project rebuild the infrastructure on the existing 3155x9 circuit to update the line to current codes and to continue to meet current, as well as future, projected electricity demands, which will impact the crossing locations which are the subject of this Petition. The existing overhead portions of the circuit are believed to have been constructed

circa 1927 and the portions located within conduit on the ground pre-date 1972. Of the existing 19 wood poles, 10 will be replaced in kind and new conductor installed. New Poles 81/5, 81/6, 81/7 and 81/8 will be replaced with weathered steel structures. Five of the existing wood poles will be eliminated entirely. On the upper portion of the mountain where the conductor is located within surface mounted conduit, 16 new wooden poles and new conductor will be installed and existing surface mounted conduit and conductor will be removed.

3. The attached Exhibit 0 provides an overview of the 3155x9 circuit crossings over the State's land parcels within a new utility corridor area which will be authorized by the New Hampshire Division of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) pursuant to a Use and Occupancy License which Eversource has applied for concurrent with this petition and will be obtained prior to commencement of the project that is the subject of this petition. The new utility corridor will be sixteen (16) feet wide from the boundary of the State owned land property at the north boundary of the Rte. 101 Right Of Way to the MIT building (depicted on Exhibits 4 and 5) and twenty (20) feet wide from the MIT building to the summit termination point. The Exhibits also depict construction access routes which will be authorized by DNCR through the Director, Division of Parks & Recreation and the Director, Division of Forests and Lands, pursuant to a Special Use Permit which Eversource has applied for concurrent with this petition and will be obtained prior to commencement of the project that is the subject of this petition.
4. The design and proposed construction of the reconstructed 3155x9 circuit over the State's land parcels will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). Wire and structure specifications shall be as shown on the attached as Exhibits 1 through Exhibit 11 and as described in the "Pole by Pole Construction Details" document attached as Appendix 1.
5. The locations of the structures create the following crossing spans of State owned lands:

State of New Hampshire: Peterborough Map R001-017-001; Peterborough Map R001-017-000; and Temple Map 00001B-000001-000001, excluding NHDOT ROW areas, (Exhibits 1-11):

- i Structures: P 37/47 to Secondary Handhole 29T2J1 at the summit
- ii Total Structure Span (ft): 5,429
- iii State Land Span (ft): 4,949

6. The conductor has been modeled and drawn in Exhibit 1 through Exhibit 11 to show the maximum sag conditions in reference to the State owned lands based on tensioning and environmental conditions noted on the Exhibit “Assumptions / Clarifications”. There will be space for 4 communications cables below the Eversource conductor and those communications cables have been depicted on Exhibits 1 through 11 to demonstrate that they would satisfy NESC clearance requirements, however, installation of communications cables on the new poles is not part of Eversource’s project.
7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings over the State owned locations at a height no less than what is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 14.5 feet to ground for open supply conductors rated 750V – 22 kV over spaces and ways subject to pedestrians or restricted traffic only, where equestrians, vehicles, or other mobile units, exceeding 8 feet in height. The actual minimum height over the State owned lands are depicted on the attached Exhibit 1 through Exhibit 11 and exceed NESC minimum requirements.
8. A field survey of the proposed utility corridor was performed by the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau (NHNHB). All plant species present, 16 herbaceous and 9 woody species, were recorded. None of these species are tracked by NHNHB. None of these forest areas are in a condition or level of development that would warrant formal documentation as exemplary by NHNHB.
9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) statutory permit by notification (SPN) is required for temporary impacts to nontidal wetlands and will be obtained prior to commencement of the project that is the subject of this petition. A SPN for temporary impacts in proximity to Strs. 81/3 and 81/5 was approved by NHDES on April 27, 2020 (see NHDES File #2020-00867).
10. It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the State owned land crossings will be affected by this petition as the closest abutters outside the Miller State Park are considerably

distant from the new license area with the interior of the Miller State Park, excepting Pinnacle Towers Inc. which owns a parcel at the summit and whose infrastructure located thereon shall be served by the upgraded circuit.

11. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the State owned land parcels. Minimum safe line clearances above the land surfaces will be maintained at all times and the reconstructed circuit will improve safety for the public, particularly with respect to the removal of the existing surface conduit conditions. The use and enjoyment of the public of the State owned lands will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the re-construction of the circuit with pole mounted overhead line crossings.

**WHEREFORE**, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

1. Find that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the state owned lands which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across the State's land parcels as identified and described in this Petition;
3. Issue an order *Nisi* and an order for its publication.

Respectfully submitted 22nd day of July, 2020.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW  
HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

By: 

Erik R. Newman  
Senior Counsel  
Eversource Energy  
780 North Commercial Street  
P. O. Box 330  
Manchester, NH 03105-0330  
(603) 634-2459  
Erik.Newman@Eversource.com