

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

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

DOCKET No. DE 21-

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN
ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS STATE OWNED LAND IN
LONDONDERRY, 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, hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across State owned land in Londonderry, New Hampshire. In support of this petition Eversource states as follows:

1. In order to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 345 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource 326 Line, originally constructed in 1970, over and across State owned land encompassing the Londonderry rail trail, in Londonderry, New Hampshire. The State owned land crossing span that is the subject of this petition was not previously licensed.

2. Eversource is undertaking a maintenance project for the 326 Line which will entail replacement of original wood Structure 5 at a State owned land crossing span (Strs. 4-5). Original wood Structure 4 was replaced with a steel structure in the same location and with the same configuration in 2018 without obtaining a license due to an oversight in not identifying the rail trail as State owned land. The steel replacement for Structure 5 will have the same configuration as the original wood structure and will be located within 10’ of the original Structure 5 location. The existing three conductors, static wire and OPGW, whose specifications are identified on the

Exhibit 2 Cable Schedule, will be unchanged in the course of relocation to the steel replacement structures.

3. The one State owned land crossing span that is the subject of this petition is depicted on Exhibit 1 as a high-level perspective of the locations. Additional site location description of that span is as follows.

Exhibit 2 – The 326 Line crosses State owned land encompassing a 51.7' wide rail trail corridor in the town of Londonderry between Structures 4 and 5, just north of the intersection of Route 28, aka Rockingham Road, and Seasons Lane.

4. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this petition are as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibit 2.

5. The location of structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing span:

State Owned Land: Londonderry (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: Str. 4 to 5
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 445'
- iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 51.7'

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the State owned land crossing.

7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossing at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1), which is 32.8' to the top of railroad track. The actual minimum height over the State owned land is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

8. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) standard dredge and fill permit (Permit #2017-3684) was obtained in conjunction with the prior replacement of Structure 4. No environmental permits are required to accomplish the replacement of Structure 5.

9. Eversource owns the parcels abutting this State owned land span and the work will be accomplished within existing ROW easements, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope.

10. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public in the State owned land since safe clearances to ground will be maintained at all times. Additionally, the rail trail will not be utilized for access in support of the maintenance project. When the wires are relocated to the replacement structure over the trail in coordination with the Department of Transportation the trail will be temporarily blocked from use utilizing appropriate signage to ensure the safety of the public.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

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

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 15th day of March, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY
By Its Attorney



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