

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

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

DOCKET No. DE 20-195

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR AN AMENDED LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND
MAINTAIN ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS IN
DEERFIELD, 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 amendment to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Deerfield, 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 373 Line, originally constructed in 1960, over and across public waters of the Lamprey River in Deerfield, New Hampshire. The single crossing span that is the subject of this petition was most recently licensed pursuant to Order 26,281 in Docket 19-097, which encompassed the replacement of the original wood structures 212 and 213 at this span with steel replacement structures. The proposed project for the 373 Line will complete installation of OPGW communications cable between the Deerfield substation and Scobie Pond substation in Derry. The only other PUC crossing span between those terminating substations, located between Structures 242 to 243 in Raymond, was licensed for both structure replacement (wood to steel) and OPGW communications cable installation pursuant to Order 26,402 in Docket DE 20-033, so this petition will complete structure replacement and communications functionality reliability upgrades between those terminating substations for the 373 Line.

2. A high level perspective of the locations of the public water crossing span is depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit #1. A more detailed perspective including satellite imagery in the vicinity of the crossing location and identifying significant nearby roadways and notable businesses and community institutions in relation to the crossing location is attached hereto as Exhibit #3. Google Earth coordinates for the approximate location of the two structures comprising the crossing span of the Lamprey River are also included on Exhibit #3 to enable PUC staff and members of the general public to easily navigate to the subject locations via google maps to further orient themselves as to the location of the crossing.

3. The 373 project scope encompasses replacement of one of the two existing static wires at the Lamprey River crossing span with OPGW communications cable having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on Exhibit 2. The existing six conductors and second shield wire having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on Exhibit 2 will be unchanged by this project.

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 the Structure Detail and Profile Views of Exhibit 2.

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

- I. Lamprey River: Deerfield (Exhibit 2)
 - i. Structures: 212 to 213
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 996.6'
 - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 305.2'

6. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water 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 23.2'

for 345 kV over water areas not suitable for sail boating. The actual minimum height over the public waters is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

8. A 100-year flood elevation level was established based upon consultation of FEMA flood map with an effective date of May 17, 2005.

9. There will be no wetland impacts and only limited temporary ground impacts associated with the OPGW communications cable installation, requiring neither a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) nor a Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN). No other environmental permitting is required.

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portions of the Lamprey River in Deerfield as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.

11. It was not anticipated that abutters on either side of the public water crossing span that is the subject of this petition would be affected by the structure replacement scope of this project as the 373 Line is an existing line and Eversource is the fee owner on both sides of the Lamprey River crossing. The project will be coordinated with the Town of Deerfield police to ensure the safety of the public's use of Raymond Road within the crossing span.

12. Eversource submits that the license amendment petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters of the Lamprey River in Deerfield. Minimum safe clearances above the water surface will be maintained at all times. As such, the use and enjoyment by the public of the Lamprey River will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the proposed OPGW communications cable installation.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

1. Find that the amended license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public waters which are the subject of this petition;

2. Grant Eversource an amended license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across the public waters as identified and described in this petition;
3. Issue an order *Nisi* and orders for its publication.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 22nd day of December, 2020.

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



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