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November 16, 2020

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

**Re: NOTICE OF LINE DECOMMISSIONING – 311 LINE OVER STATE OWNED
LAND AND PUBLIC WATERS IN HENNIKER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Dear Director Howland:

Please accept this letter on behalf of Eversource Energy to include in the docket for the 34.5 kV 311 Line, as notice of a section of the Line's impending decommissioning.

The 311 Line was constructed in and runs from Hillsboro to Webster. It was most recently licensed in Docket DE 00-073 pursuant to Order No 23, 480 (copy enclosed). A tap line coming off the 311 Line that includes Poles 311/153-Z1, 311/153-2, and Poles 311/155-1 to 311/155-14 in Henniker (the "Tap Line") used to feed Henniker substation (previously removed) has been permanent de-energized and is scheduled for a decommissioning project to commence December 14th, 2020. The Tap Line is depicted on the Map Sheets 1 through 3 hereto. The Tap Line feeds no customers and no longer serves any useful purpose.

The Tap Line crosses the Contoocook River, a public water of the State of New Hampshire, between poles 311/155-8 and 311/155-9, as depicted on the enclosed Map Sheets 2 and 3. Additionally, the Tap Line crosses State Owned land under the administration of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation between poles 311/155-9 and 311/155-14, as depicted on the enclosed Map Sheets 1 and 2. The Tap Line also crosses certain lands owned by the Army Corps associated with the Hopkinton-Everett Lakes Flood Risk Management Area, which parcels are identified on the enclosed Map Sheets 2 and 3.

Coordination of the decommissioning project has been undertaken with the Army Corps and a Special Use Permit dated November 13, 2020 has been obtained to perform the decommissioning activity upon Army Corps lands and to utilize an unimproved trail used primarily for snowmobile and OHRV uses within the Army Corps land. Trail signage and flagging, where appropriate, will be implemented in coordination with the project.

Planning for the decommissioning project has also been coordinated with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to accomplish the decommissioning upon State owned lands depicted on Map Sheets 1 and 2, and their authorization to proceed will be obtained prior to project commencement.

The Army Corps and DOT are the only abutters to the 311 Tap line location. Eversource will

also notify the Town of Henniker, prior to project commencement and will take precautions to ensure that no members of the public are utilizing the Contoocook River in the vicinity of the river crossing span when the line is removed from that location.

The scope of the decommissioning project entails removal of 16 wood poles and associated wood crossarms, overhead bare conductor and hardware including insulators. The majority of poles will be removed in their entirety and pole butt holes backfilled; however, due to limited vehicle accessibility, poles 311/155-7 and 311/155-8 will be cut at ground surface.

There are no impacts to wetlands associated with access and structure removals.

Thank you for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions about the decommissioning project. Provided no further inquiry is received, the project will commence on December 14th and is expected to be completed by year-end, subject to receipt of the aforementioned approvals from DOT and the Army Corps.

Pursuant to the Commission's notice of March 17, 2020, this filing is only being provided by email.

Sincerely,



Erik Newman
Senior Counsel

CC: Paul Kasper, Lynn Fabrizio