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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

DOCKET No. CR 2023 - 005

APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR A LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS IN DOVER, DURHAM, LEE AND NOTTINGHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource"), a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire, hereby submits an application the Department of Energy ("Department") for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Dover, Durham, Lee and Nottingham, New Hampshire. In support of this application 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 307 Line, which was originally built in 1972 between Eliot Substation in Eliot, Maine and Deerfield Substation in Deerfield, New Hampshire. The public water crossings at the Piscataqua River and the Bellamy River that are the subject of this application were licensed in 1953 under D-7649-13 (Order # 6668) and 1954 under D-E3341 (Order #6471), respectively copies of which are included with this application submission. The public water crossings at the Oyster River and the North River that are also the subject of this application were not previously licensed owing to oversite, or that the waterbodies were not designated as public waters at the time the 307 Line was built. The 307 Line in New Hampshire will be licensed in its entirety as a result of this application.

2. The proposed project for the 307 encompasses replacing the single existing alumoweld static wire with an optical ground wire (OPGW) at the pole top position. The crossing at Exhibit 3 (Structure 65 and 66) currently has two alumoweld wires and one pole top alumoweld will be replaced with the proposed OPGW. At the other crossing locations, an existing OPGW will remain, and the existing alumoweld wire will be replaced with the proposed OPGW. All of the structures at the waterbody crossing locations are steel structures which are to remain. Structures 49 and 50, at the Piscataqua River crossing, and Structure 65 at the Bellamy River crossing are original steel structures installed when the line was built in 1972 and are not in need of replacement. Structures 106 and 107 at the Oyster River crossing, and Structure 161 at the North River crossing were replaced from wood to weathered steel in 2015. Structure 162 at the North River crossing was replaced from wood to weathered steel in 2017, and Structure 66 at the Bellamy River crossing was replaced from wood to weathered steel in 2018. These prior structure replacements were not licensed owing to oversite and the 307 Line will be fully licensed as a result of this application.

3. All prior structure replacement locations were installed within 10 feet of the original locations.

4. The locations of the public water crossings which are the subject of this application are depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

> Exhibit 2 – The 307 Line crosses the Piscataqua River between Eliot, Maine and the City of Dover, New Hampshire between Structures 49 and 50, which span begins approximately 260 feet northwest of where the 307 Line crosses Houde Road, which is approximately 1,500 feet southwest from the intersection of Houde Road and Heron Cove Road in Eliot, Maine. The span extends northwest approximately 825 feet to the west bank (New Hampshire side) of the Piscataqua River, which is approximately 3800 feet east (along the existing 307 Line alignment) from where the 307 Line crosses Middle Road in Dover, which is approximately 400 feet north from the intersection of Middle Road and Isaac Lucas Circle in the City of Dover, NH.

> Exhibit 3 – The 307 Line crosses the Bellamy River and the state-owned land administered by the NH Department of Transportation between Structures 65 and 66 in the City of Dover. The

span begins approximately 80 feet west from where the 307 Line crosses Finch Lane, which is approximately 1,250 feet northwest from the intersection of Finch Lane and Spur Road in the City of Dover. The crossing extends over the state-owned land approximately 356 feet to where the state-owned property ends and the Bellamy River crossing begins. The Bellamy River crossing extends approximately 200 feet west to the west bank of the river, which is approximately 2,000 feet east from where the 307 Line crosses Shaws Lane, which is approximately 665 feet northeast from the intersection of Shaws Lane and Garrison Road in the City of Dover.

Exhibit 4 – The 307 Line crosses the Oyster River between Structures 106 and 107 in the Towns of Durham and Lee, which span commences in the Town of Durham approximately 905 feet east from where the 307 Line crosses Turtle Pond Road (aka NH Route 155). The crossing extends approximately 48 feet west to the east bank of the Oyster River, which is approximately where the Oyster River continues to flow southeast from under Turtle Pond Road (aka NH Route 155). The crossing location is approximately 950 feet northeast from the intersection of Turtle Pond Road (aka NH Route 155) and Captain Smith Emerson Road in the Town of Lee.

Exhibit 5 – The 307 Line crosses the North River between Structures 161 and 162 in the Town of Nottingham, which span commences approximately 960 feet west from where the 307 Line crosses Priest Road, which is approximately 3,800 feet northeast from the intersection of Priest Road and Stage Road (aka NH Route 152). The crossing extends approximately 36 feet to the west bank of the North River, which is approximately 720 feet east from where the 307 Line crosses Stage Road (aka NH Route 152), which is approximately 2,300 feet north from the intersection of Stage Road (NH Route 152) and Priest Road.

5. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing span that is the subject of this application are as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibits 2 through 5.

6. The location of structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing spans:

(a) Public water: Piscataqua River (Exhibit 2)
- i. Structures: 49 to 50
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 1099.8
- iii. Piscataqua River Span (ft): 825.7

(b) Public water: Bellamy River (Exhibit 3)
- i. Structures: 65 to 66
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 829.4

iii. Bellamy River Span (ft): 200

(c) State-owned Land: City of Dover, Map K, Lot 35-A (Exhibit 3)
i. Structures: 65 to 66
ii. Structure Span (ft): 829.4
iii. State-owned Land Span (ft): 355.9

(d) Public water: Oyster River (Exhibit 4)
i. Structures: 106 to 107
ii. Structure Span (ft): 1095
iii. Oyster River Span (ft): 48.3

(e) Public water: North River (Exhibit 5)
i. Structures: 161 to 162
ii. Structure Span (ft): 1,002.9
iii. North River Span (ft): 36.2

7. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibit 2 through 5 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water and state-owned land crossings. Flood elevations for the water crossing spans used in calculating clearance is based on FEMA flood map or FEMA elevation interpolation guidelines is as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibits 2 through 5.

8. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 46.8 feet over water areas suitable for sailboating including lakes, ponds, reservoirs, tidal waters, rivers, streams and canals with unobstructed surface area of over 2,000 acres as noted on Exhibits 2 and 3, 23.0 feet for 345 kV wires over water areas not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited in respect to all of the public water crossings that are the subject of this application and as noted on Exhibit 3 through 5, and is 24.8 feet for 345 kV wires over state-owned lands as other areas traversed by vehicles, such as cultivated, grazing, forest, and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc. depicted on Exhibit 3. The actual minimum height over the public water and state-owned land are depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 through 5 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) will be required for temporary impacts associated with the wire installation

described in this application and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. NHDES Utility Maintenance Notifications were obtained to account for temporary wetland impacts related to the previous structure replacements, in 2015, 2017 and 2018, NHDES Permit # 2015-00650, 2017-00160, and 2018-00304, respectively.

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does regulate the Piscataqua River and the Bellamy River as navigable waters and the scope of work discussed in this application at the subject crossing location will be licensed via Self-Verification under the ACOE New Hampshire Programmatic General Permit #4 and which licensing will be accomplished prior to commencement of the maintenance project. The Oyster River and North River crossing locations are not regulated by ACOE as navigable waters.

11. The wire installation work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. When wires are being transferred, Eversource will ensure the waterbody and state-owned land is clear of any recreational users before work commences. Additionally, a guard structure will be utilized when wires are being transferred from the old structure to the new, to limit the possibilities of the wire falling into the waterbody or state-owned land to protect the general public.

12. Eversource submits that the license application herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public water and state-owned land because safe clearances will be maintained at all times and appropriate precautions to ensure the safety of recreational users will be undertaken while the maintenance work is performed.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license application herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public waters and state-owned land crossing which are the subject of this application;

2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public water and state-owned land described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 7th day of March, 2023.

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

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