

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

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

Docket No. DE 19-_____

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A EVERSOURCE
ENERGY FOR LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN ELECTRIC LINES OVER
AND ACROSS THE SOUHEGAN RIVER AND LAND OWNED BY THE STATE OF NEW
HAMPSHIRE IN GREENVILLE, 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 the Souhegan River and certain land owned by the State of New Hampshire (“State”) in Greenville, New Hampshire, and in support of this petition 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 345 kV electrical transmission Line, designated as the Eversource 367 Line, over and across the Souhegan River and one (1) land parcel owned by the State of New Hampshire, as shown in Exhibit #1. The Souhegan River crossing was previously licensed by the Commission under Order No. 9,886 dated February 24, 1970, issued in Docket D-E5813. The state land parcel in Greenville, designated as Tax Map 3, Lot 39, was not previously licensed, as the land was in private ownership when the 367 Line was originally constructed, and therefore no Commission license was required.
2. In 2015, Eversource completed two (2) structure replacements (Str. 251, 252) along the existing 367 transmission Line, which impacted the state land parcel and Souhegan River crossing which are the subject of this petition. A petition was not submitted prior to this work being completed, and as such, will be licensed under this petition. No conductor, shield wire or neutral wire was replaced as part of the project; instead, existing conductors and wires were transferred to the new structures, which were a steel structure replacement of the wood structures.
3. The attached Exhibit #1 – Overview Map, dated June 2019, shows the general location of the 367 Line crossings over the State’s land parcel to be rebuilt as part of Eversource’s project. The design and proposed construction of the replacement crossings for the 367 Line over the State’s land parcel will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawing for the crossing of the Souhegan River and State land parcel (see attached Exhibit #2).

4. Wire and structure specifications for both the Souhegan River and State Land parcel:
 - a. Wire:
 - i. Shield Wire: 7#8 Alumoweld & OPGW
 - ii. Transmission Wire: 850.8 ACSR 45/7
 - b. Structure Type and Pole Height:
 - i. Str 251: H-Frame Steel Structure, 100-95' Overall Height (OAL), 88' Aboveground Height (AGH)
 - ii. Str 252: H-Frame Steel Structure, 75' OAL, 61' AGH
5. The locations of the structures create the following crossing spans:
 - a. Souhegan River: 1,426 feet (structure to structure)
 - b. NH Department of Transportation Land Crossing: Map 3, Lot 39, Greenville (Exhibit 2):
 - i. Structures: 251-252
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 1,426
 - iii. Public Land Span (ft): 83
6. All conductors have been drawn in Exhibit 2 to show the maximum sag conditions in reference to the public lands.
7. The Petitioner will maintain and operate the clearance of the wire crossing over the State's land at a height no less than is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 25.2 feet to ground for 345kV open supply conductors.
8. The Petitioner will maintain and operate the clearance of the wire crossing over the Souhegan River at a height no less than is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 20 feet for open supply conductors (345 kV) and 14 feet for overhead shield wires and neutral conductors to water areas not suitable for sail boating. The actual minimum height of the 367 Line over the River is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2.
9. For the Souhegan River crossing, the 100-year flood level was established based on a combination of field survey, and FEMA flood zone maps for that area (Zone X, effective date: 665.0 feet). This elevation is based on the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). For the purposes of calculating clearance, the 100-year flood elevation was used. This is higher than the 10-year flood elevation required by NESC and provides a conservative clearance requirement.
10. A NHDES Utility Maintenance Notification (UMN) was required for temporary impacts to nontidal wetlands associated with construction activities. The UMN was accepted by NHDES on June 18, 2015 for the Town Greenville.
11. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portion of the Souhegan River as a navigable water. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.

12. It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the Souhegan River or State land crossing will be affected by this petition, as the 367 Line is an existing line, and the crossing structures are being replaced and rebuilt within Eversource's existing utility easements.
13. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of public lands of Greenville. Minimum safe Line clearances above the public land and River surfaces and affected shorelines will be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment of the public of the public lands and the River will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the replacement of the 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 lands and public waters which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant the Company a license to replace the structures on the public lands and public waters as identified and described in this Petition; and
3. Issue an order Nisi and orders for its publication.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 27th day of June, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW
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By Its Attorney



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