

**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 BABOOSIC BROOK  
IN THE TOWN OF MERRIMACK, 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 (“State”), hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), for license(s) to construct and maintain electric lines over and across Baboosic Brook in the Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire. In support of this petition, Eversource 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 115 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource B143 Line, over and across the Baboosic Brook, as shown in Exhibits 1-2. This Baboosic Brook Crossing was not previously licensed by the Commission.
2. Eversource is commencing a project to modify or rebuild a number of the structures on its existing B143 Transmission Line, which will impact 4 brook crossing locations which are the subject of this petition. This structure replacement and repair is part of Eversource’s reliability project for the B143 to continue to meet current, as well as future, project electricity demands. No conductor, shield wire or neutral wire is proposed to be replaced as part of this project; instead, existing conductors and wires will be transferred to the new structures, (Str. 135-139), which will be a steel structure replacement of the wood structures.
3. The attached Exhibit 1, dated August 20, 2019, shows the general location of the B143 Line crossing of Baboosic Brook to be rebuilt as part of Eversource’s project. The design and proposed construction of the replacement crossings for the B143 line over Baboosic

Brook will be in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawing for the crossing of Baboosic Brook (see Attached Exhibit 2).

4. Wire and structure specifications for Baboosic Brook Crossings:

I. Wire:

1. Shield Wire: (2) 7#8 Alumoweld
2. Transmission Wire: (3) 795 ACSR 36/1 (COOT) (1.040" diameter)
3. ADSS Wire: 72 Fiber ADSS (0.643" diameter)

II. Structure Types and Pole Heights: From North to South

1. Str. 135: 2 Pole Type T, Class H1 1x Brace at 70'
2. Str. 136: 2 Pole Type T, Class H1 1x Brace at 80'
3. Str. 137: 2 Pole Type T, Class H1 1x Brace at 70'
4. Str. 138: 2 Pole Type T, Class H1 1x Brace at 70'
5. Str. 139: 2 Pole Type T, Class H1 1x Brace at 75'

5. The location of the structures creates the following crossing spans (Exhibit 2): Baboosic Brook: 472.00 feet (str.135 to str.136), 440.25 feet (str.136 to str. 137), 428.50 feet (str.137 to str.138), and 522.80 (str.138 to str.139). Total crossing span length is 1863.55 feet.
6. All conductors have been drawn in Exhibit 2 to show the maximum sag conditions in reference to the State waters.
7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearance of the wire crossing over Baboosic Brook at a height of no less than is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NECS, Table 232-1).
8. For the Baboosic Brook crossing, the 100-year flood level was established based upon FEMA flood zone maps for that area (Zone AE on map 33011C0388D, 176-177 feet, effective date: September 25, 2009). 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, as it was readily available. This is higher than the 10-year flood elevation required by NESC and provides a conservative clearance requirement.
9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Utility Maintenance Notification is required for construction access and work activities which involve the temporary impact of nontidal wetlands, nontidal surface waters, and banks adjacent to

nontidal surface waters under 1 acre and is applicable to the State land crossings. This project is designated UMN Permit File number 2019-00268.

10. A NHDES Shoreland Permit “Permit by Notification Application” is required for construction activities within 250 feet of a NHDES Protected shoreland. A permit by notification application is pending.
11. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portion of the Baboosic Brook as a navigable water. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.
12. It is not anticipated that abutters adjacent to the public lands will be affected by this petition. The B143 is an existing transmission 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 the public in the public waters of Baboosic Brook. Minimum safe line clearances above the land surfaces will be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment of Baboosic Brook 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 rights in the public waters which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant the Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across Baboosic Brook as identified and described in this Petition; and
3. Issue an order *Nisi* and orders for its publication.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

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

By Its Attorney



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