

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CR 2021-023

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

**Petition for License and License Amendments to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across State Owned Land in Troy, Marlborough and Keene and Public Waters
in Troy, Marlborough, Keene and Swanzey, New Hampshire**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On November 24, 2021, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition for a license to construct and maintain its 115 kV electric transmission line (the T198 Line) over and across State land in Troy, Marlborough and Keene and public waters in Troy, Marlborough, Keene and Swanzey, New Hampshire. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department, will be posted to the Department's website (www.energy.nh.gov) at [Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters-NH Department of Energy](#). On December 2, 2021, Eversource filed a replacement petition as requested by Safety Bureau to account for clarification on prior licenses, amendments, and facility changes.

Segments of the T198 Line have been previously licensed to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public. Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 115kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource T198 Line, over and across certain parcels of land owned by the State of New Hampshire and public waters. The T198 was originally constructed in 1962 and was previously licensed for structure replacements at Strs. 130 and 131 in DE 94-272 under Order 21,873. Also, in DE 08-112 under Order 24,904 several State-owned land and water crossing spans¹ were licensed

after-the-fact, which Order also licensed the installation of an ADSS communications wire underbuild. DE 08-112 omitted two State owned land spans (Str 17-22 and Str 27-29) from the crossing spans that were licensed after-the-fact, either because the land was not in State ownership at the time or due to oversight. Those spans will be licensed hereby. Eversource seeks a license for the maintenance project which is the subject of this petition will replace original wood structures 17-22, 27-30, 71-72, 97-98, 99-100, 110-111, 130-131, 146-147, 150-151-152 with weathering steel, having the configurations and specifications depicted and noted in the Exhibits. The project will also replace an existing pole top shield wire with OPGW communications cable having the specifications noted on the Exhibits' Cable Schedules. Lastly, a second OPGW communications cable will be added to the structures opposite outer pole top having the same specifications. The structure replacements are being undertaken to address asset condition matters identified through Eversource's ongoing inspection program and to support the additional weight from the addition of a second OPGW communication wire to provide enhanced system reliability and emergency response functionality. The three existing conductors and one existing ADSS wire will be unchanged and transferred to the replacement structures.

According to the petition, Eversource asserts that environmental impacts will require permits from the NH Department of Environmental Services and that the Company will obtain these before commencing work.

The Department will review the filing to assess the necessity of the requested license to meet the reasonable requirements of reliable service to the public, as required by RSA 371:17, and whether the license may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the identified State land in Troy, Marlborough and Keene and public waters in Troy,

Marlborough, Keene and Swanzey, New Hampshire, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. The applicant and any interested party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby


ORDERED, that, the Department will hold a prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on February 1, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., at which any interested party may provide its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any interested party who wishes to participate in the proceeding shall file a written petition to intervene stating the interested party's basis for intervention consistent with RSA 541-A:32 and Puc 203.17 and specifying any objection the party has to the proposed crossing license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than January 27, 2022. Failure to submit a Petition to Intervene at least three business days prior to the Prehearing Conference will constitute a waiver of the right to object to the Petition and the requested license; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Eversource, Department staff, and any intervening parties may hold a technical session to review the petition, as needed; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all abutters to the proposed crossings by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the State land and water parcels that are

subject to the proposed crossings. On or before January 21, 2022, Eversource shall file with the Department a list of all abutters so notified and copies of the return delivery confirmations. In addition, Eversource shall mail a copy of this order of notice to: (i) the Town Clerks of Troy, Marlborough, Keene and Swanzey, New Hampshire; (ii) the New Hampshire Attorney General; (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; and (iv) the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, and publish a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one business day after the date of issue.



Jared S. Chicoine
Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Department of Energy, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-3670; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the scheduled e