STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CR 2021-009 (formerly PUC DE 21-085)

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

Petition for License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across State Owned Land in Northumberland and Public Waters in Lancaster

ORDER OF NOTICE

On June 3, 2021,¹ Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition for a new license to reconstruct and maintain its D142 Line, a 115 kV electric transmission line that extends over and across State-owned land in Northumberland and public waters in Lancaster. 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 at <u>www.energy.nh.gov</u>.

Eversource seeks to replace 27 existing wood structures that support the D142 transmission line over Cape Horn State Forest property in Northumberland, and 4 existing wood structures that support the D142 line over two public waters – Otter Brook and the Israel River – in Lancaster. Eversource also seeks to reconductor the electric lines attached to each structure. According to the petition, Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands permit and a Shoreland Permit by Notification for the Otter Brook and Israel River crossings in Lancaster.

09/28/2021

¹ Eversource filed an initial petition on April 28, 2021; a replacement petition with corrections was filed on June 3, 2021.

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-owned land and public waters in Northumberland and Lancaster, 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 October 14, 2021 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 the objection the party has to the proposed crossing license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the Interim Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than Friday, October 8, 2021, three business days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 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, the 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 a delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the property subject to each crossing, and including properties located across public roads or public waters that are within one-half mile of the location of each proposed crossing. On or before October 8, 2021, 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 the New Hampshire Attorney General, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, and the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, 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 Interim 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 one week prior to the scheduled event.