## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

## CRE 2025 - 001

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 STATE-OWNED LAND AND PUBLIC WATERS IN LONDONDERRY AND MANCHESTER, 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 submits an application to the Department of Energy ("Department"), for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over state-owned lands in Londonderry and public waters in Manchester, New Hampshire. In support of this application Eversource states as follows:

In order to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 115 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource I158 Line. The I158 Line runs between Scobie Pond Substation in Londonderry and Huse Road Substation in Manchester and was built in 2002 largely using laminated wood system poles. The I158 Line crosses state-owned land between existing Structures 12 through 14, and existing Structures 29 through 33, and crosses Cohas Brook, a public waterbody, between existing Structures 70 and 71, all of which were not previously licensed, likely owing to oversite. As a result of this application, the I158 Line will be licensed in its entirety.

1. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that certain existing laminated wood structures at the state-owned land and public water crossing spans that are the subject of the application, specifically existing Structures 12, 13, 14, 29, 31, 32, 33, 70 and 71 need to be replaced promptly to continue to function safely and reliably. In conjunction

with the planned structure replacement project, certain structures are being renumbered due to the permanent removal of existing Structure 30 such that existing structure numbers 12, 13, 14, 29, 31, 32, 33, 70 and 71 shall be renumbered Structures 17, 18, 19, 34, 35, 36, 37, 74, and 75, respectively. The new and renumbered, replacement structures 17, 18, 19, 34, 35, 36, 37, 74, and 75, will be weathering steel equivalents having a similar design to the existing wood structures and that will be located within 10' of the existing structure location. The I158's existing static wire at the crossing locations will also be replaced with an optical ground wire (OPGW), whose specifications are identified on Exhibits 2 through 5, in the course of performing the structure replacements. The I158 Line's existing three conductors, having the specifications indicated on the Cable Schedules of Exhibits 2 through 5, shall remain unchanged and will be relocated to the new replacement structures.

2. The locations of the state-owned land and 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 I158 Line crosses state-owned land in the Town of Londonderry between existing Structures 12 to 14. The span commences approximately 4,050 feet southeast from where the I158 Line crosses Liberty Drive, which is approximately 1,440 feet northeast from the intersection of Liberty Drive and Independence Drive. The crossing extends northwest approximately 358 feet to the boundary of Map 16, Lot 38-1.

Exhibits 3-4 - The I158 Line crosses state-owned land in the Town of Londonderry between existing Structures 29 to 33. The span commences approximately 850 feet southeast from where the I158 Line crosses Jacks Bridge Road, which is approximately 1,490 feet northeast from the intersection of Jacks Bridge Road and Symmes Drive. The crossing extends northwest approximately 1,660 feet to the boundary of Londonderry Map 15, Block 103, Lot 1.

Exhibit 5– The I158 Line crosses Cohas Brook in the City of Manchester and is located between existing Structures 70 and 71, which crossing commences approximately 2,600 feet northwest from where the I158 Line crosses Sheffield Road, which is approximately 670 feet northeast from the intersection of Sheffield Road and South Willow Street (aka NH Route 28). The crossing extends approximately 45 feet to the north bank of Cohas Brook.

- 3. Wire specifications and loading conditions to establish maximum sag for the crossing spans that are the subject of this application are as indicated in the Profile View and Cable Schedule of Exhibits 2 through 5. The flood elevation used to determine the clearance over Cohas Brook is indicated in Note 3 in Exhibit 5.
- 4. The location of structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing span:

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(a) State-owned Land: Londonderry Map/lot 16/100 (Exhibit 2) i.Structures: 17 to 19 (new) ii.Structure Span (ft): 755.8 iii.State-owned land Span (ft): 358
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- (b) State-owned Land: Londonderry Map/Block/lot 15/103/2 (Exhibit 3 to 4) i.Structures: 34 to 37 (new) ii.Structure Span (ft): 1,658.5 iii.State-owned land Span (ft): 642.3
- (c) Public Water Crossing: Cohas Brook, (Exhibit 5)
  i.Structures: 74 and 75
  ii.Structure Span (ft): 550
  iii.Cohas Brook Span (ft): 45.5
- 5. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 through 5 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the state-owned land and public water crossings.
- 6. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings at a height no less than what is required by the 2023 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is: 20.1' for 115 kV conductor over other areas traversed by vehicles such as cultivated, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc., in respect to the crossing between new Structures 17 to 19 (Exhibit 2), and Structures 34 to 37 (Exhibits 3 to 4); and 18.6' for 115 kV conductor over water areas not suitable for sail boating or where sail boating is prohibited in respect to the crossing between new Structures 74 and 75 (Exhibit 5). The actual minimum height over the state-owned land

and public waters is depicted on the attached Exhibits 2 through 5 and exceeds the respective minimum requirements.

- 7. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Standard Dredge and Fill permit (SDF) will be required for temporary and permanent impacts associated the structure replacements described in this application. A NHDES SDF has been submitted and permit received (NHDES SDF Permit #2024-00707).
- 8. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subjection portion of Cohas Brook as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.
- 9. The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. Guard structures at public water and state land crossings will be utilized during the OPGW installation and crossing locations monitored prior to wire installation to ensure work areas are clear of pedestrians as an added precaution to ensure the public's safety.
- 10. Eversource submits that the license applied for herein is necessary in order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public owing to the degraded condition of the existing wood laminated structures to be replaced and Eversource's tariff obligations and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) reliability standards to ensure safe and reliable electric transmission. This important transmission system project may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the state-owned land and public waters because safe clearances will be maintained at all times.

## WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

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

2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across stateowned land and public waters described in this application.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 22nd day of January, 2025.

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