Brief Project Description: On behalf of Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) d/b/a Eversource Energy, VHB will be submitting a NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Wetlands Permit Application for the proposed utility maintenance along the 115-kV V182 and F139 Electric Transmission Lines. These lines share a utility right-of-way (ROW) that runs approximately 14.3 miles from the Webster Substation in Franklin, NH to the Farmwood Substation in Concord, NH. Please refer to the attached Aerial Map and USGS Maps. These lines require maintenance due to the age and condition of the approximately 147 wooden structures along the V182 Line (20 in Concord) and 142 wooden structures along the F139 Line (16 in Concord) resulting from woodpecker damage, insect damage, and pole rot. This project involves the replacement of all wooden structures along both lines with weathered steel, along with the complete rebuild of the F139 Line which includes the replacement of the conductors, replacement of the ceramic insulators with glass insulators, and the installation of optical grounding wire (OPGW) in accordance with current construction methods and materials. The proposed OPGW installation on this line improves communication along the electric grid. Temporary impacts to wetlands will be required to access the existing poles. Timber mats will be placed at crossing locations and around poles in wetlands for access to minimize impacts from construction equipment. Stream crossings will be bridged with mats to maintain flow and avoid impact. Work is planned to begin in June 2023. This project will be submitted to NHDES as a Major Impact Wetlands Permit Application per NHDES Wetland Rule Env-Wt 521.06(c) instead of Utility Maintenance Activity Statutory Permits-by-Notification (SPNs) since some of the timber matting will be in place for longer than one growing season. A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Application will also be submitted to the City of Concord. Please refer to the attached **Pre-Application** Meeting Slides for additional project details.

Figure 1: Aerial Map

Overhead Eversource Lines

Municipal Boundary

Lines F139 & V182 Rebuild Project | Franklin, Northfield, Canterbury, & Concord, NH

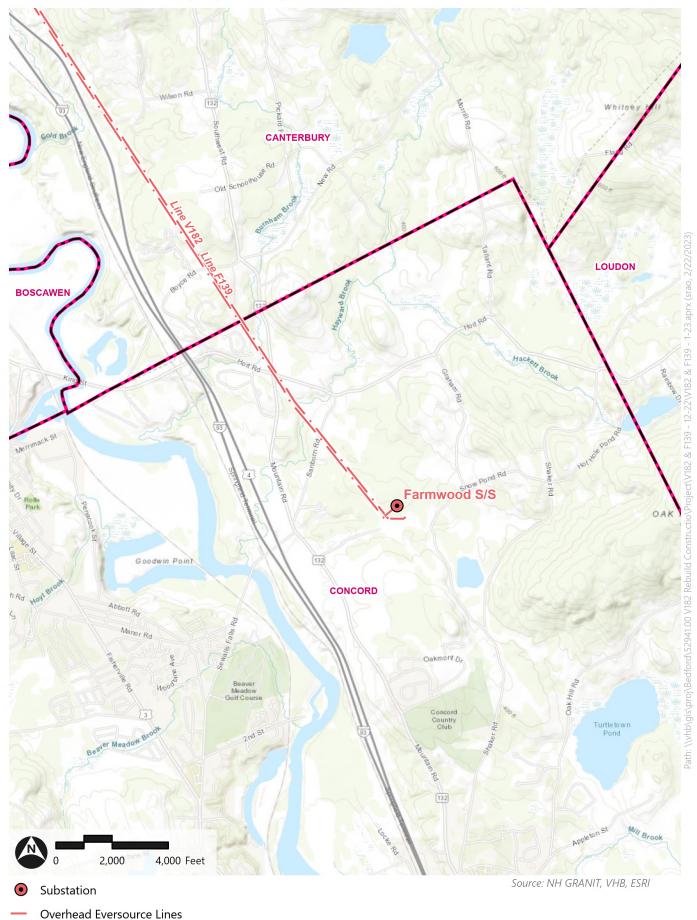




Figure 2C: USGS Overview

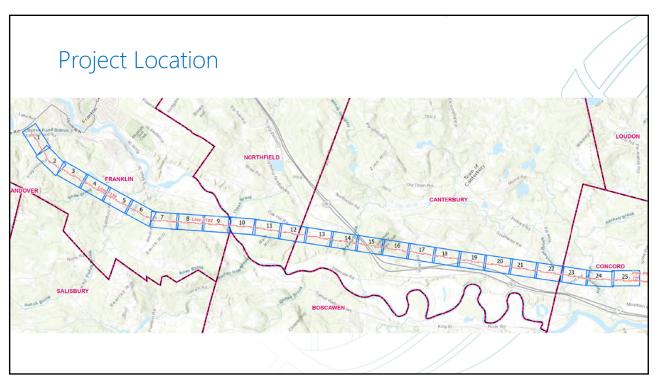
Lines F139 & V182 Rebuild Project | Canterbury & Concord





Municipal Boundary





Project Overview

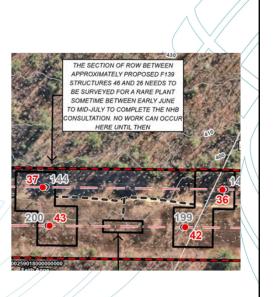
- The V182 and F139 Electric Transmission Lines share an ~14.3-mile-long utility ROW.
 - Replace wooden structures with weathered steel (~289 total) along both lines.
 - Along the F139 Line:
 - Replace ceramic insulators with glass insulators.
 - Replace conductors.
 - Install fiberoptic cable (OPGW).
- Construction duration: summer 2023 winter 2024.
- Currently propose ~10.45 acres of temporary wetland impact through timber matting.



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RTE Species Coordination

- <u>NHB</u>: A survey for the upright false bindweed is proposed in areas of appropriate habitat (dry, open, sandy areas) approximately between Proposed F139 Structures 46 and 26, at the request of NHB.
- <u>NHF&G</u>: Coordination with NHF&G is ongoing.
 - <u>PVPs:</u> All potential vernal pools (PVPs) will be revisited in the spring to confirm and document them.
- <u>USFWS</u>: Coordination with the USFWS for the northeastern bulrush was initiated on 2/3/23 with a Project Review Package.



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Other Project Permitting

- NHDES Shoreland Permit-by-Notification (PBN) will be prepared for impacts within the 250-foot Protected Shoreland of the Merrimack River in Franklin and Northfield.
- NHDES Alteration of Terrain (AoT) Permit
- Municipal Permits:
 - Franklin Height Variance
 - Concord Conditional Use Permit (CUP)
 - No permitting is required in Northfield or Canterbury.
- NHDOT and Local Driveway Permits
- NPDES Construction General Permit (CGP):
 - Notice of Intent (NOI)
 - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

