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October 4, 2019

NHPUC 7OCT'19PM8:36

Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**Re: NOTIFICATION OF ALTERATION OF SHIELD WIRE OVER AND ACROSS THE WINNIPESAUKE RIVER IN THE TOWNS OF BELMONT AND TILTON**

Dear Director Howland:

As directed by Commission's Order *Nisi*, 26,170 dated August 24, 2018 issued in Docket DE 18-079, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's hereby submits notice of proposed alteration of said crossing license at least 60 days prior to the contemplated commencement of the alteration activity described in greater detail below.

By way of background, the existing license under Order No. 26,170 approved construction and maintenance of electric lines associated with the 114kV L176 Transmission Line over and across the public waters of the Winnepesaukee River in the Towns of Belmont and Tilton, New Hampshire, including the replacement of one existing utility structure on the western side of the Winnepesaukee River in Tilton identified as L176 Transmission Line Structure 92. The proposed replacement work for Structure 92 was completed in April 2019.

Eversource is now planning to replace the existing shield wire with 0.646-inch diameter fiber optical ground wire (OPGW) for the entirety of the L176 Transmission Line, including the crossing of the Winnepesaukee River approved under the existing license. No conductors or structures are proposed to be replaced as part of the proposed shield wire replacement project.

The attached Location Exhibit 1, dated August 2019, shows the general location of the L176 Line crossing over the Winnepesaukee River as part of the project. The design and proposed shield wire replacement crossings for the L176 Line over the Winnepesaukee River will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Engineering Detail, Exhibit 2.

In addition, it is not anticipated that there will be changes in maximum sag conditions by replacing the existing shield wire. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearance of wire crossing over the Winnepesaukee River at a height no less than is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) which is 18.6 feet for 115 kV open supply

conductors over public waters not suitable for sail boating. For the purposes of calculating clearance, the 100-year flood elevations were used, as it was readily available. This is higher than the 10-year flood elevation required by NESC and provides a conservative clearance requirement.

Accomplishing the shield wire replacement will not entail any work activities which involve the temporary impact of nontidal wetlands, nontidal surface waters, and banks adjacent to nontidal surface waters under one acre. Accordingly, a NHDES Utility Maintenance Notification is not required for construction access.

It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the public waters to be crossed will be affected by this project, as the L176 is an existing line and the shield wire replacement shall be accomplished within Eversource's existing utility easements.

Eversource submits that the shield wire replacement may be accomplished without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters to be crossed. Minimum safe line clearances above the water surfaces will be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment of the public of the public waters will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the replacement of the overhead shield wire crossings.

The shield wire replacement project on the L176 which is the subject of this notice letter is anticipated to commence in no sooner than December 4, 2019.

Should there be any technical questions concerning this notice filing, they may be directed to Eversource's Kurt Nelson, Sr., Land Use Licensing and Permitting Specialist, who can be reached at 603-634-3256.

Thank you for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Erik Newman  
Real Estate and Transactional Counsel

cc via e-mail: OCA