

Permitted and Non-Permitted Use on Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages thousands of miles of transmission and distribution line rights-of-way throughout its service territories in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Making sure that these rights-of-way are free of obstructions is vital to public and employee safety, and ensures a reliable electric system for everyone. That's why inspecting and protecting these rights-of-way is a critical part of what we do.

Transmission and Distribution Rights-of-Way

A right-of-way is the corridor of land that Eversource uses to access, construct, operate, and maintain electric and other utility facilities. Rights-of-way typically contain wood or metal structures with high-voltage electric lines. The majority of the rights-of-way used for our electric system were established through the purchase of easement rights by Eversource from owners of the underlying property. While Eversource has rights to operate and maintain the electric system through these easements, the underlying property is still owned by private parties. Their rights to use the property continue, subject to Eversource's easement rights. Government requirements mandate that safe distances be maintained from power lines to prevent contact accidents and ensure electric system reliability. As a result, some uses of property within the right-of-way are not permitted.

Uses that affect right-of-way access or safety (Non-Permitted Use)

Non-permitted uses by a landowner of property in the rights-of-way can create hazards that may not be obvious, but which could result in power outages or tragedy. Non-permitted use is any use of the property within the rights-of-way that restricts Eversource's ability to construct, maintain and operate power lines and electrical facilities. Common examples include: buildings, swimming pools, fuel tanks, sheds, fences, decks, and flag poles. Also included are underground items such as septic systems, utilities, drainage systems, wells, sprinkler or irrigation systems and invisible fencing for pets.

Permitted Use Application

We want to work with landowners to evaluate any proposed use of the easement area to make sure it is safe and does not interfere with system reliability. By submitting a "Permitted

Use Application," landowners can ensure that any planned use of the rights-of-way on their property adheres to mandated government standards and Eversource's guidelines. A Permitted Use Application Package is available from Eversource and provides details on what information should be provided in the application. To request a package from Eversource, please contact: Manager of T&D ROW's and Surveying, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037.

Eversource will review the proposed use to see that it does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities.

The evaluation process is a careful evaluation of proposed changes to the rights-of-way and requires a minimum of 60 days. The length of the evaluation period depends on the complexity, accuracy and completeness of the application. Eversource will look to see that the proposed use does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities. During the evaluation, Eversource may request revisions to the application and additional information or documents. The results of the evaluation will determine if the intended use is permitted. If approved, Eversource will provide the terms and conditions associated with the approval. Alternatively, if denied, Eversource will provide the reasons for the denial.

For More Information:

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