

**STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Petition of Public Service Company of New	)	
Hampshire, d/b/a Eversource Energy, pursuant	)	
to 30 V.S.A. § 248, for a certificate of public	)	
good authorizing the replacement of	)	24-____-PET
Eversource's 115 kV electric transmission line	)	
located in the Towns of Waterford and Concord,	)	
Vermont	)	

**PREFILED TESTIMONY OF  
RYAN SCOTT ON BEHALF OF  
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

November 1, 2024

Mr. Scott’s prefiled testimony introduces the Natural Resource Memorandum, Aesthetic & Orderly Development Report, and Historic Resources Assessment prepared by VHB for the Project.

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## **EXHIBITS**

**Exhibit PET RMS-1  
Exhibit PET RMS-2  
Exhibit PET RMS-3  
Exhibit PET RMS-4**

**Curriculum Vitae of Ryan Scott  
Natural Resources Memorandum  
Aesthetic & Orderly Development Report  
Section 248 Historic Resources Assessment**

[illegible]

# 1. Introduction

3 A1. My name is Ryan Scott. I am a Senior Ecologist, Professional Wetlands Scientist, and  
4 Certified Professional in Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control at Vanasse Hangen  
5 Brustlin, Inc. (“VHB”). My business address is 40 IDX Drive, Building 100, Suite 200,  
6 South Burlington, VT 05403. My resume is included with my testimony as Exhibit PET  
7 RMS-1.

8

9 Q2. What is the purpose of your testimony?

10 A2. VHB was contracted to perform natural resource, aesthetic, and cultural resource

11 assessments for Eversource Energy's ("Eversource") planned rebuild of the Q195 line (the

12 "Project"). The Project is described in the prefiled testimony of Mr. Samuel Harris of

13 Eversource. My testimony introduces the Natural Resources Report, the Aesthetics and

14 Orderly Development Analysis Report, and the and Cultural Resources Assessment

15 prepared by subject matters experts employed by VHB for the Project.

1  
2                   **2. Summary of Natural and Cultural Resources, Aesthetics and Orderly**  
3                   **Development Findings**

4   Q3.    In your opinion, will the Project result in an undue adverse impact upon the statutory  
5           criteria you evaluated under 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(1), (b)(5) & (b)(8)?

6   A3.    No. VHB conducted an assessment of the Project's potential effects on the natural  
7           environment, aesthetics, orderly development in the region, and cultural resources in  
8           accordance with these criteria. As part of our review, site investigations were conducted in  
9           2022 and 2023 by various technical staff and subject matter experts employed by or sub-  
10          contracted by VHB. Our assessments and conclusions are set forth in the Natural Resources  
11          Report, Exhibit PET RMS-2, the Aesthetic and Orderly Development Report, Exhibit PET  
12          RMS-3 and the Section 248 Historic Resources Assessment, Exhibit PET RMS-4. Our  
13          reports are also based on a review of the Natural Resource Atlas prepared by the Vermont  
14          Agency of Natural Resources, where applicable. With respect to each of the criteria, we  
15          conclude that the Project will meet the applicable regulations. Based upon these  
16          assessments, it is my opinion that the Project will not result in an undue adverse impact  
17          upon aesthetics, historic sites, or the natural environment, nor will it unduly interfere with  
18          the orderly development of the region, in accordance with these criteria. Please refer to  
19          Exhibit PET RMS-2, Exhibit PET RMS-3, and Exhibit PET RMS-4.

20  
21   Q4.    Does the Project require collateral permits for the proposed work?

1 A4: Yes. The Project anticipates obtaining the following collateral permits: Vermont Individual  
2 Wetland Permit, Vermont Individual Stormwater Construction Permit, Vermont Flood  
3 Hazard and River Corridor Registration, and a Department of the Army General Permit for  
4 activities subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction in Waters of the U.S., which  
5 will also include approval under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act for aerial  
6 crossings of a Traditionally Navigable Waterway.

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8 **3. Conclusion**

9 Q5. Does this conclude your testimony?

10 A5. Yes.

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**AFFIDAVIT OF RYAN SCOTT**

On this 1st day of November, 2024, I, Ryan Scott, do hereby swear and affirm that the information provided in my Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I have personal knowledge of, and am able to testify as to the validity of the information contained in my Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits. I declare that the above statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if the above statements are false, I may be subject to sanctions by the Commission pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 30.



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Ryan Scott