

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

<p>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 rebuild of Eversource's 115 kV electric transmission line in the Towns of Waterford and Concord, Vermont</p>	<p>Case No. 24-____-PET</p>
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PETITION

NOW COMES Public Service Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”), and hereby submits this petition to the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248 and Commission Rule 5.403, for a certificate of public good authorizing the rebuild of Eversource’s 115 kV, so-called “Q195” electric transmission line (“Q195 Line”) located in the Towns of Waterford and Concord, Vermont.

In support of this Petition, Eversource states as follows:

1. Eversource operates New England's largest energy delivery system, serving customers in New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Massachusetts.
2. Eversource owns and operates the Q195 Line, a 17.5 mile 115-kV transmission line located in both New Hampshire and Vermont that runs from Littleton to Whitefield, New Hampshire, with a 9-mile portion traversing the towns of Waterford and Concord, Vermont.
3. Eversource is registered to do business in Vermont but does not provide retail electric service to any customers in Vermont and is not a Vermont utility.
4. The construction of the Q195 Line in 1958 predates Section 248 of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated (“Section 248”), and as such the line was not previously issued a CPG by the Commission.¹
5. The Q195 Line occupies an established Eversource right-of-way (“ROW”) that varies from 140 feet to 150 feet in width within a multiple ROW utility corridor which varies from 265 feet to 325 feet at full width and is maintained edge to edge. For approximately 5.4

¹ *Petition of Public Service Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a Eversource Energy, for a Non-Substantial Change Determination*, Dkt. 8487, Order of 5/7/15 at n.3.

miles, from structure 208 in Waterford north to structure 141 in Concord, the Q195 ROW is adjacent to National Grid’s 450-kV DC Line 451 and 452 ROW abutting to the northwest. A National Grid 34 kV subtransmission line ROW abuts the Eversource Q195 Line ROW to the southeast for a distance of approximately 7.6 miles.

6. The 115 structures supporting the Q195 Line in Vermont are primarily of wood and are of an “H-frame” design, except for 15 wood 3-pole structures and two weathering steel structures. The structure replacements are needed due to age, overloading, and as part of an Eversource reliability initiative to add reliable high-speed, high-capacity intra-system communications to all Eversource substation and transmission facilities over the next six years to facilitate outage response and reliability objectives.

7. Eversource is planning to commence the Project in 2025-2026.

8. Eversource duly provided 45-day advance notice of the Project in accordance with Commission Rule 5.402 on August 12, 2024.

9. With the submission of this petition and accompanying documents, Eversource has satisfied the petition filing requirements specified in Commission Rule 5.403.

10. The Project will promote the general good of the State and satisfies the statutory criteria contained in § 248 as demonstrated by the prefiled testimony and exhibits filed with this Petition.

11. In support of this Petition, Eversource submits prefiled testimony and exhibits sponsored by the following witnesses:

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Subject/Section 248 Criteria Addressed</u>
Samuel Harris	Describes the overall Project, the proposed construction schedule, and the following Section 248 criteria: advance notice requirements (30 V.S.A. § 248(f)); need for the project (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(2); system stability and reliability and impacts upon the transmission system (30 V.S.A. §§ 248(b)(3) and 248(b)(10)); economic benefit ((30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(4); greenhouse gas emissions (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5)); noise (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5)); public health & safety (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5)); waste disposal (10 V.S.A. §

6086(a)(1)(B)); water conservation (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(1)(C)); sufficiency of water and burden on existing supply (10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(2) & (3)); soil erosion (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(4)); transportation systems/traffic (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(5)); educational and municipal impacts (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(6) and (7)); primary agricultural soils (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(9)(B)); and development affecting public investments (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) & 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(9)(K)).

Ryan Scott

Addresses the following Section 248 criteria: orderly development of the region (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(1)); natural environment, aesthetics, and historic sites (30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5)).

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

- a. Deem the Petition complete and duly notice a scheduling conference for this case;
- b. Issue findings consistent with this Petition and prefiled testimony and exhibits that the Project will promote the general good of the State of Vermont as required by 30 V.S.A. § 248;
- c. Issue a certificate of public good for the Project consistent with this Petition and prefiled testimony and exhibits; and
- d. Grant such further relief as the Commission determines is necessary, just, and proper.

DATED at Burlington, Vermont, this 5th day of December, 2024.

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