

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

DOCKET No. CR 2024 - 001

**APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR A LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN
ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS AND STATE OWNED
LAND IN DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”), a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire, hereby submits an application to the Department of Energy (“Department”), for a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters and state owned land in Dover, New Hampshire. In support of this application Eversource states as follows:

1. In order to meet the requirements for reasonable service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 115 kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource R169 Line, originally constructed in 1953, and rebuilt in 2002. The most recent licensing history for the crossings that are the subject of this application are as follows:

- The public water crossing at the Piscataqua River was previously licensed in 1955 under DE-3442 (order No. 6,668);
- One (of two) public water crossings at the Cocheco River was previously licensed in 2001 under DE 01-233 (Order No. 23,860);
- The second water crossing at the Cocheco River was previously licensed in 2022 under CR 2022-019 (License No. 2022-019); and
- The state owned lands that are included in this application were previously licensed in 2022 under CR 2022-019 (License No. 2022-019).

2. As part of its ongoing asset condition inspection program, Eversource determined that the certain existing wood structures at the state owned land and public waterbody crossings need to be replaced to continue to function safely and reliably. In conjunction with the structure replacement project, all structures are being renumbered such that existing Structures 4, 5, and 21 through 30 shall be renumbered to Structures 3, 4, and 20 through 29, respectively. Replacement/renumbered structures 19, 20, 21, 22 at the state owned land and Structures 27 and 28 at the Cocheco River crossings will be replaced with weathering steel equivalents. Replacement/renumbered structures 19, 20, 22, 27 and 28 will be located within 10' of the current structure locations. Replacement/renumbered Structure 21 will be located 40' northwest from the existing location to allow for additional work space away from a property boundary rock wall. The remaining wood structure that are part of the crossing spans covered by this application, being renumbered Structure 29 at the Cocheco River crossing span, will be designed and replaced as part of a subsequent project associated with the existing Cocheco Street Substation in the future.

3. In addition to the structure replacements, the existing pole top static wire along the entire R169 Line is being removed and replaced with an OPGW having the specifications and configuration shown on the Cable Schedule and Structure Details on Exhibits 2 through 10. The three existing conductors, the existing ADSS, and the existing static wire will remain unchanged in the course of performing the structure replacements. The specifications and configuration of those existing wires are shown on the Cable Schedule and Structure Details on Exhibits 2 through 10.

4. The locations of the public water and state owned land crossings which are the subject of this application are depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

Exhibit 2 – The R169 Line crosses the Piscataqua River between Eliot, Maine and the City of Dover, New Hampshire between renumbered Structures 3 and 4, which span begins approximately 260 feet northwest of where the R169 Line crosses Houde Road, which is approximately 1,500 feet southwest from the intersection of Houde Road and Heron Cove Road in Eliot, Maine. The span extends northwest approximately 825 feet to the west bank (New Hampshire side) of the Piscataqua River, which is approximately 3800 feet east (along the existing R169 Line alignment) from where the R169 Line crosses Middle Road in Dover,

which is approximately 400 feet north from the intersection of Middle Road and Isaac Lucas Circle in the City of Dover, NH.

Exhibit 3 through 9 – The R169 Line crosses state owned land in the City of Dover between renumbered Structures 19 and 27, which span commences along the northwest edge of McKone Lane where the R169 Line crosses McKone Lane, which road crossing is located approximately 1,200 feet east from the intersection of McKone Lane and Henry Law Ave. The span continues northwest approximately 1,017 feet to a private driveway encompassed by Dover assessor Map K-1-A-0 where said private driveway bisects the state owned land span. The state owned land span resumes on the westerly side of the driveway and continues northwest approximately 2,101 feet to the west bank of the Cocheco River.

Exhibit 9 – The R169 Line crosses the Cocheco River in the City of Dover between renumbered Structures 26 and 27, which span commences along the southwestern bank of the Cocheco River, which is approximately 3,000 feet northwest from where the line crosses McKone Lane, which road crossing is approximately 1,200 feet east from the intersection of McKone Lane and Henry Law Ave. The span continues northwest over the Cocheco River approximately 515 feet to an Eversource owned property that fronts the Cocheco River and is southwest of the residential neighborhood on Gerry's Lane.

Exhibit 10 – The R169 Line crosses the Cocheco River in the City of Dover between Structures 28 and 29, which span commences along the eastern bank of the Cocheco River, located on the Eversource owned property that fronts the Cocheco River and is accessed from Cocheco Street. The span continues northwest over the Cocheco River approximately 641 feet to a second Eversource owned property located between the northeast bank of the Cocheco River and Cocheco Street, across the street to the Eversource Cocheco Street substation.

5. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the crossing spans that are the subject of this application are as indicated on Profile View and Cable Schedules of Exhibits 2 through 10.

6. The location of the renumbered structures and max sag conditions creates the following crossing spans:

- (a) Public water: Piscataqua River (Exhibit 2)
 - i. Structures: 3 to 4
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 1,095.8
 - iii. Piscataqua River Span (ft): 853.8

- (b) State owned Land Map/Lot: Dover Map/Lot N-18-1-0, K-1-B-0, K-1-A-1, K-2-0-0, (Exhibit 3 to 9)

- i.Structures: 19 to 27
- ii.Structure Span (ft): 4,023.3
- iii.State Land Span (ft): 3,076.2

(c) Public water: Cocheco River (Exhibit 9)

- i.Structures: 26 to 27
- ii.Structure Span (ft): 515.8
- iii.Cocheco River Span (ft): 291.1

(d) Public water: Cocheco River (Exhibit 10)

- i.Structures: 28 to 29
- ii.Structure Span (ft): 641.7
- iii.Cocheco River Span (ft): 346.8

7. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 through 10 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the state owned land crossing and public water crossings. Flood elevation for the Piscataqua River and Cocheco River crossing spans used in calculating clearance is based on FEMA flood map data as indicated in Note 3 to Exhibits 2, 9 and 10.

8. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is: 37.5 feet for neutral/ADSS wires over water areas suitable for sailboating including lakes, ponds, reservoirs, tidal waters, rivers, streams and canals with an unobstructed surface area over 2,000 acres¹ in respect to the public water crossing depicted on Exhibit 2, 9 and 10; and which is 15.5' for neutral/ADSS wires over areas traversed by vehicles such as cultivated, grazing, forest and orchard lands, industrial sites, commercial sites, etc. in respect to the state owned land span depicted on Exhibit 3 through 9. The actual minimum height over the public water and state owned land is depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 through 10 and exceeds the respective minimum requirements.

9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) wetland statutory permit by notification (SPN) and Shoreland Permit Notification (PBN) will be required for

¹ The Piscataqua River and the Cocheco River at the crossing locations are normally used to provide access for sailboats to a larger body of water, and so the clearance criteria for the larger body of water, in this case greater than 2,000 acres, is used.

temporary impacts associated with the structure replacements and will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does regulate the subject portion of the Coheco River as navigable waters. The scope of work discussed in this application at the subject public water crossing of the Piscataqua River will be licensed via Pre-Construction Notification under the ACOE New Hampshire Programmatic General Permit #4 and which licensing will be accomplished prior to commencement of the structure replacement project.

11. The structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project scope. When wires are being transferred, Eversource will ensure the waterbody is clear of any recreational users before work commences. Additionally, a guard structure will be utilized when wires are being transferred from the old structure to the new, to limit the possibilities of the wire falling into the river or the state-owned land to protect the general public.

12. Eversource submits that the license application herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the use and enjoyment of the public waters and state owned land because safe clearances will be maintained at all times and appropriate precautions to ensure the safety of recreational users will be undertaken while the maintenance work is performed.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Department:

1. Find that the license applied for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public waters and state owned land crossing which are the subject of this application;
2. Grant Eversource a license to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public water and state owned land described in this application;

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 15th day of February, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY
By Its Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik R. Newman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and "R".

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