



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

June 28, 2024

EVERSOURCE ENERGY
C/O JEREMY FENNELL
13 LEGENDS DRIVE
HOOKSETT NH 03106

Re: Approved Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application (RSA 482-A)
NHDES File Number: 2024-01100
Subject Property: Existing Right of Way (ROW), Dummer

Dear Applicant:

On June 28, 2024, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Wetlands Bureau approved the above-referenced Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application. Enclosed please find Wetlands Permit # 2024-01100 to temporarily impact 42,884 square feet (0.98 acres) of palustrine scrub-shrub and emergent wetlands for the use of construction mats for access and work pads around the previously replaced utility poles for the completion of overhead wire replacement work within the W179 utility ROW in Dummer. This is for the portion of a large-scale project where the installation of construction mats in wetlands exceeds one growing season for completion of the replacement of overhead static wires with optical ground wire.

This approval is based on the following findings:

1. The purpose of the project is to repair and replace the critical infrastructure within the W179 utility line right-of-way.
2. Wetland impacts associated with this utility project were originally permitted under NHDES Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) File #2023-00699, which expired on June 5, 2024.
3. The applicant has completed the structure replacement work and anticipates that the remaining overhead wire work for this utility project will be completed by the end of the 2024 growing season and all construction matting will be removed from NHDES jurisdiction.
4. The applicant has submitted a restoration plan for the remaining 17.5% of the originally permitted temporary wetland impact areas.
5. The applicant has demonstrated avoidance and minimization in accordance with Env-Wt 311.07 in the following ways:
 - a. Impacts to vernal pools have been avoided.
 - b. No construction matting has been installed in priority resource areas (PRAS) for more than one growing season.
 - c. No stream crossings have been installed for more than one growing season.
6. Given the limited mitigation proposed and the large scale of proposed impacts, NHDES has required comprehensive monitoring and restoration to ensure there is not a permanent loss of wetlands functions and values.
7. Per Rule Env-Wt 311.06(h), the municipal conservation commission did not provide comments on the proposed project.
8. Per Rule Env-Wt 313.01(a)(1)(a), the applicant has met the requirements of Env-Wt 311.10 regarding functional assessments.

In accordance with RSA 482-A:10, RSA 21-O:14, and Rules Ec-Wet 100-200, **any person aggrieved by this decision may file a Notice of Appeal directly with the NH Wetlands Council (Council) within 30 days of the decision date, June 28, 2024.** Every ground claiming the decision is unlawful or unreasonable must be fully set forth in the Notice of Appeal.

www.des.nh.gov

29 Hazen Drive • PO Box 95 • Concord, NH 03302-0095
NHDES Main Line: (603) 271-3503 • Subsurface Fax: (603) 271-6683 • Wetlands Fax: (603) 271-6588
TDD Access: Relay NH 1 (800) 735-2964

File # 2024-01100

June 28, 2024

Page 2 of 2

Only the grounds set forth in the Notice of Appeal are considered by the Council. Information about the Council, including Council Rules, is available at <https://www.nhec.nh.gov/wetlands-council/about>. For appeal related issues, contact the Council Appeals Clerk at (603) 271-3650.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Amanda.L.Barker-Jobin@des.nh.gov or (603)271-6909.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann Tilton
Assistant Bureau Administrator, Wetlands Bureau
Land Resources Management, Water Division

Enclosure

Copied: Thomas Tetreau, Stantac Consulting Services
Town of Dummer Municipal Clerk/Conservation Commission
Keith Golet, USACOE