

From: [Brown, Brooke - FS, NH](#)
To: [Shingler, Michael - FS, NH](#); [Fauce, Jasmin - FS, NH](#)
Subject: RE: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:35:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Playing a bit of catch up here. Do we know volume of trees? Can we count the tree removal towards our target? Can they hire markers so workload is not on us? This is a project with much public interest and I am interested in ensuring everything is properly documented. How do wildlife and soils feel about chipping?

Let's discuss.



Brooke M. Brown ([she/her](#))
District Ranger
Forest Service
White Mountain National Forest
Pemigewasset Ranger District

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c: [REDACTED]
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From: Shingler, Michael - FS, NH <michael.j.shingler@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 6:56 AM
To: Fauce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.fauce@usda.gov>; Brown, Brooke - FS, NH <brooke.brown@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

Thanks, Jasmine

After reading their response, I have a better understanding of their plans for the slash that will occur. My only concern, and it's a small one, is chipping of the material. We typically do not allow chipping on timber sales unless its extremely regulated. With chipped material, it makes it more difficult to implement the regional and forest timber theft prevention plan.

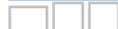
I know this isn't a timber sale, and there is no motivation for Eversource to steal timber, so my concerns are very low. I'll also mention that the workload to mark all those trees is significant and I'm not sure if or when we could get that done. Brooke has the authority to wave marking requirements on low theft potential items so if she is OK with chipping of material of unmarked items, we should be good to go. In my professional opinion this is a very low risk situation but it should be closely monitored during operations.



Michael Shingler, Forester
Assistant District Ranger
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From: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.faunce@usda.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 3:48 PM

To: Brown, Brooke - FS, NH <brooke.brown@usda.gov>; Shingler, Michael - FS, NH <michael.i.shingler@usda.gov>

Subject: FW: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

Forwarding Eversource's response to some of my follow up questions upon reviewing their SPD proposal.

Mike – please see the third question as it pertains to the tree cutting conversation we had last week. Hopefully that helps answer some of our initial concerns?

Thanks,



Jasmin Faunce (she/her)
Realty Specialist
Forest Service
White Mountain National Forest

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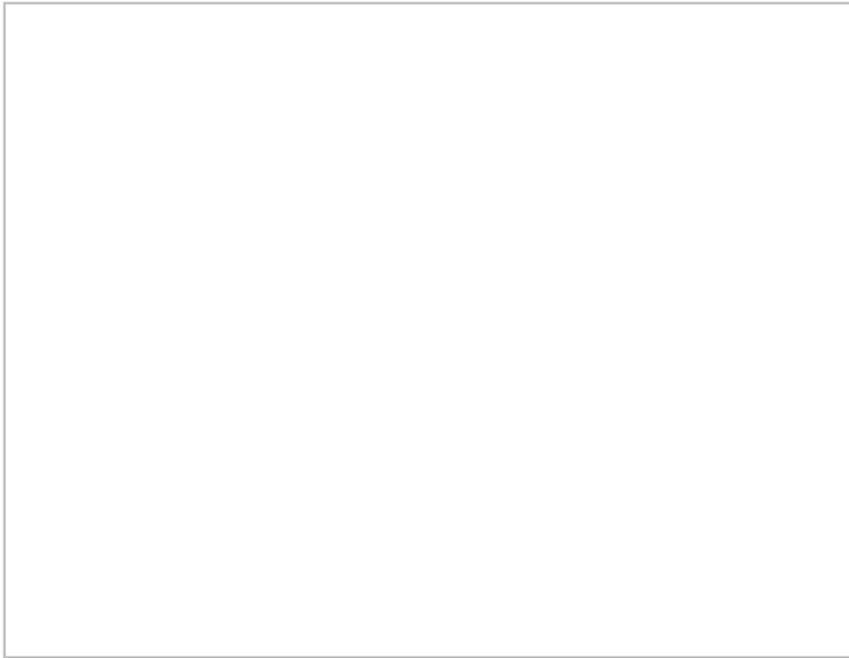
From: Nelson, Kurt I <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 9:10 AM
To: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.faunce@usda.gov>; lindsey.white (gza.com) <lindsey.white@gza.com>
Cc: Tracy Tarr <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>; Kwapiszeski, Jacob <jacob.kwapiszeski@eversource.com>; Harris, Samuel D <samuel.harris@eversource.com>; Strachan, Angus P <angus.strachan@eversource.com>; Meyer, Jared M <jared.meyer@eversource.com>; Codispoti, Jennifer A <jennifer.codispoti@eversource.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

Hi Jasmin,

Here are some responses to your questions:

...Please describe the take off/landing areas? Especially those you have identified on FS? In previous meetings, the south side of Bog Pond was mentioned – is this the extra large work pad between STR 249-250?

- There is one existing helicopter pad location within the ROW adjacent to new structure 269 as shown in the screen shot below on the project plan set.



- The extra large work pad at Str 249/250 is for wire pulling activities and also for use as a staging area for materials and equipment.
- Based on conversations with our helicopter contractor, it is likely that personnel will be transported into the ROW corridor via smaller helicopters at various locations within the established ROW corridor, work pads will not need to be established for these landing areas.

Why are the work pads at STR 249-250 and WTR 266 larger than usual? What is the reduction plan for those work pads post project?

- The larger pads at these locations are for wire pulling activities and use for equipment and material staging. These work pads can be reduced in size or completely restored, preferably by placing temporarily windrowed top soils back over the gravel pads. Removal of gravel material from the Forest would require significantly more truck trips and would extend the construction schedule duration significantly. For future maintenance purposes an approximately 30x60 gravel area is proposed to remain at each upland structure location to provide a flat stable area for vehicle access for future maintenance. Gravel pads do eventually revegetate on their own with native vegetation without topsoil amendments.

539 trees were identified as needing to be removed to create access roads. We typically require all trees to remain on site. With this volume, and not being a forester, I'm concerned about it getting piled up in an unruly manner. I'm especially concerned about the density of the trees around the trail junction on page 164 of the project summary. Can you please speak to your proposed plan on how the cut trees will be managed on the ground?

- Looking at the tree summary on page 164 of the Project Summary Document there are approximately 100 trees at this location over a distance of approximately 1,800 ft (approx. 0.34 miles). Of the approximately 100 trees, 16 were 12" DBH or greater and 66 were 6" DBH or less, so generally speaking the trees in question are on the smaller size over a fairly good distance. Tree tops and smaller diameter trees (approx. 6" DBH or less) can be chipped with a tow-behind chipper with chips broadcast into the woods. Trees would be felled in a manner as to not damage surrounding trees. Felled logs would be sectioned as needed and placed into the woods line to ensure ground contact to promote natural decay.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Also – I would like to request a Teams meeting with you and the NHDES to discuss some geotechnical drilling work that we need to do in the WMNF to support the design of the micro-pile structures. The geotechnical drilling would entail flying in matting and equipment and setting up temporary drilling platforms at various locations within the ROW corridor. We would like to perform this work this winter, which would be optimal for wetlands impact avoidance and minimization, and are hoping that the review process as laid out in the DRAFT O&M Manual for this type of activity would be utilized. We'd appreciate your input and review of this effort.

Thank you.

Kurt Nelson



Manager, Licensing & Permitting

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kurt.nelson@eversource.com

From: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.faunce@usda.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 4:01 PM

To: lindsey.white (gza.com) <lindsey.white@gza.com>

Cc: Tracy Tarr <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>; Nelson, Kurt I <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>

Subject: RE: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

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Hi again,

One more question popped into my head – in regards to tree cutting. 539 trees were identified as needing to be removed to create access roads. We typically require all trees to remain on site. With this volume, and not being a forester, I'm concerned about it getting piled up in an unruly manner. I'm especially concerned about the density of the trees around the trail junction on page 164 of the project summary. Can you please speak to your proposed plan on how the cut trees will be managed on the ground?

Thanks,
Jasmin

From: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 12:59 PM
To: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Cc: Tracy Tarr <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>; Kurt I. Nelson <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

Hi Lindsey,

Thank you for your proposal. A couple of follow up questions:

- We had discussed in previous meetings the details of helicopter usage. While the project summary captures the helicopter installation methods, can you please describe the take off/landing areas? Especially those you have identified on FS? In previous meetings, the south side of Bog Pond was mentioned – is this the extra large work pad between STR 249-250?
- Why are the work pads at STR 249-250 and WTR 266 larger than usual? What is the reduction plan for those work pads post project?

Thanks,



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From: Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@gza.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 4:23 PM
To: Faunce, Jasmin - FS, NH <jasmin.faunce@usda.gov>
Cc: Tracy Tarr <Tracy.Tarr@gza.com>; Leberman, Marianne - FS, NH <marianne.leberman@usda.gov>; Kurt I. Nelson <kurt.nelson@eversource.com>
Subject: [External Email]Eversource X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Small Projects Day Application

[External Email]

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Hi Jasmin,

On behalf of Eversource, please find attached the Small Projects Day Application for the X178-2 Transmission Line Rebuild Project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

Thanks,

Lindsey E. White, CPSS

Project Manager

GZA | 5 Commerce Park North | Bedford, NH 03110

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