

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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

**DOCKET No. DE 20-**

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

Pursuant to RSA 371:17, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”), a public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the State of New Hampshire, hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), for certain licenses and amended licenses (herein, collectively, the “Licenses”) to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Antrim and Hillsborough and State owned land in Antrim, New Hampshire. In support of this petition 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 X104 Line and originally constructed in 1954, over and across certain public waters and State owned lands. There are six public water crossing spans and one State owned land crossing span, encompassing three abutting State owned parcels, which are the subject of this petition. Three crossings of the North Branch River in Antrim and Hillsborough, the one crossing of Steels Pond in Antrim, and one of the three State owned land parcels crossed in Antrim (Map 214, Lot 34) that are the subject of this petition were most recently licensed in Docket 19-149 pursuant to Order 26,355. One of two crossings of Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim (between Structures 26 and 27) was most recently licensed in Docket 19-134 pursuant to Order 26,334. A second crossing of Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim (between Structures 35 & 36) that is also the subject of this petition has not been previously licensed. The State owned land

span between Structures 38 and 41 in Antrim also encompasses two additional State owned land parcels (Map 214, Lot 103 & Map 214, Lot 41), administered by the Dept. of Environmental Services, which have not been previously licensed, in addition to the previously licensed crossing of Map 214, Lot 34.

2. The six public water crossing spans and one State owned land crossing span that comprise this petition are depicted on Exhibits 1 through 7. Those exhibits are grouped to include a three part depiction of the crossing spans, including: (1) a high level perspective of the locations of all the crossing spans shown in Exhibit 1; (2) a plan and profile depiction of the span; and (3) a more detailed perspective including satellite imagery in the vicinity of the spans that identifies significant nearby roadways and notable businesses and community institutions in relation to the crossing locations. Google Earth coordinates for the approximate location of the structures supporting the seven spans that are the subject of this petition are also included on Exhibits 2A, 3A, 6A, and 7A to enable PUC staff and members of the general public to easily navigate to the subject locations via google maps to further orient themselves as to the location of the crossings. Additionally, the Plan View of Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 notes the approximate number of feet and direction from the crossing structure spans to the nearest significant thoroughfare.

3. This petition supports Eversource's plan to replace a total of three existing wood structures with steel structures: Structure 5 at a crossing of the North Branch River in Hillsborough, *See*, Ex. 2A (the complimentary Structure 4 at said span was replaced with a steel structure in 2016 pursuant to Order 26, 355 in Docket 19-149); and Structures 35 and 36 at a crossing of the Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim, *See*, Ex. 6A. The configuration of the three steel replacement structures are depicted in the Structure Details of Exhibits 2 and 4 hereto. The three replacement structures will be relocated within 10' of their current location. With these three steel replacement structures, all structures supporting the seven spans that are the subject of this petition will have been upgraded from wood to steel.

4. At the two crossing spans where the structure replacements discussed in the previous paragraph are located, the existing conductor, having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on the attached Exhibits, will be transferred from the existing poles to the steel structures.

5. The X104 Line project also encompasses replacement of the two existing shield wires at all seven crossing spans that are the subject of this petition with OPGW communications wires having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

6. The design of the three replacement structures for the X104 Line over the North Branch River and Franklin Pierce Lake are in accordance with the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and are depicted on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawings, attached as Exhibits 2 and 4.

7. Wire specifications and loading condition to establish maximum sag for the seven crossing spans that are the subject of this petition are as indicated on the Structure Detail and Profile Views of Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

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

I. North Branch River: Hillsborough (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: 3 to 4
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 537'
- iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 84.2'

II. North Branch River: Hillsborough (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: 4 to 5
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 565'
- iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 150'

III. Franklin Pierce Lake: Antrim (Exhibit 3)

- i. Structures: 26 to 27
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 510'
- iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 71.4'

IV. Franklin Pierce Lake: Antrim (Exhibit 4)

- i. Structures: 35 to 36
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 995'
  - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 485.2'
  
- V. North Branch River: Antrim (Exhibit 5)
  - i. Structures: 38 to 39
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 723'
  - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 44.3'
  
- VI. State Owned Land, Map 214, Lots 34, 103 & 41: Antrim (Exhibit 5 & 6)
  - i. Structures: 38 to 41
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 1589'
  - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 903'
  
- VII. Steels Pond: Antrim (Exhibit 7)
  - i. Structures: 44 to 45
  - ii. Structure Span (ft): 628'
  - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 458.3'

9. All conductors and cables have been drawn on Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the depicted public water and State owned land crossings.

10. 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: (i) 18.6' for water areas not suitable for sail boating in regards to the two public waters crossings of the North Branch River and crossing of Steels Pond depicted on Exhibits 2, 5 and 7; (ii) 30.1' for water areas suitable for sail boating with a surface area over 20 acres and under 200 acres in regards to the two crossings of Franklin Pierce Lake depicted on Exhibits 3 and 4; and (iii) 20.1' for roads, streets and other areas subject to truck traffic in regards to the State owned land crossing depicted on Exhibits 5 and 6. The actual minimum height over the public waters and State owned lands are depicted on the attached Exhibits and exceeds the minimum requirement.

11. A 100-year flood elevation level for the six public water crossing spans was established based upon confirmation of 100 year flood elevation from the FEMA Flood Map Service Center, National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette dated 1/16/2020.

12. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) for temporary impacts to wetlands in Antrim and Hillsborough will be required to accomplish the project scope, as well as a Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) for temporary impacts within the shoreland buffer to the North Branch River in Hillsborough and Antrim, Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim and Steels Pond in Antrim. Said SPN's and PBN's will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. No other environmental permitting is required.

13. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portions of North Branch River in Hillsborough and Antrim, Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim and Steels Pond in Antrim, as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.

14. It was not anticipated that abutters on either side of the public water crossing spans and State owned land span that are the subject of this petition would be affected by the scope of this project as the X104 Line is an existing line and the structure replacement and OPGW installation work at the seven crossing spans that are the subject of this petition will be performed fully within Eversource's existing utility easements.


15. Eversource submits that the Licenses petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters of the North Branch River in Hillsborough and Antrim, Franklin Pierce Lake in Antrim and Steels Pond in Antrim, or the State Owned Land in Antrim. Minimum safe clearances above the water and land surface will be maintained at all times. As such, the use and enjoyment by the public of the public waters and State owned land will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the proposed scope of work.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

1. Find that the Licenses petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in the public waters and State owned land which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant Eversource Licenses to construct and maintain electric lines over and across the public waters and State owned land as identified and described in this petition;
3. Issue an order *Nisi* and orders for its publication.

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2020.

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



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