

“I have some 55 years of management experience in the construction industry. I am currently active as a construction supervisor on numerous civil and building projects for the University of NH. I have worked as a construction field supervisor or project manager on such types of projects as interstate highways, large municipal water, sewer and drainage systems, sewer treatment plants and pumping stations, shipyards, bridges, transmission lines, commercial buildings, and many other unique projects. I hold many certifications such as NH licensed blaster, OSHA 500 outreach trainer, MA Construction Supervisor etc. I am familiar with all aspects of the work to be encountered on the Eversource X-178 transmission utility project planned through Easton.”

“My general observation of Eversource oversight many times can be characterized as “after the fact reaction” to incidents that harm the environment. Blame is placed on the contractor constructing the work. The most important role the owner, Eversource, has in a project is preventing incidents before they occur in Easton. A company should be proactive and not reactive.”

Some examples:

- 1) The soil boring at sites for the proposed Northern Pass. I witnessed crews traveling with tracked drilling equipment vehicles moving through wetlands in Deerfield without any wood matting in place.
- 2) Access Road sites at the Deerfield Substation. Roads were not completed and stabilized before crews accessed work areas. After the event in an area similar to Bog Pond, I found the contractor in Deerfield spending the next three days stabilizing the road and pad areas. Again, reactive oversight.
- 3) Soil borings in Kinsman Notch, Easton resulted in contractors' personnel washing drilling mud and concrete slurry waste products into the pristine brooks and waterways in Easton. These sites were never completely cleaned up.
- 4) Boreholes along roads were not adequately capped causing soil collapse. I personally dropped a leg into one such hole near my home in Easton. Where was the oversight to these many locations to prevent possible injury to the many people that walk these roads in Easton? Some holes sat for months in a collapsed condition.
- 5) In Deerfield, when wood to steel structure changeout commenced, adequate access to wetlands was not in place prior to work commencing, which resulted in severe damage to an important wetland and stream headwater area. Months went by before stabilization and cleanup of the area occurred.
- 6) Casing corrugated culvert sections to hold excavations open until steel structures were set in place were left for days uncovered. These excavations average seven feet deep and present a severe hazard to children. Children would die before being heard or

found if they fell in. I wonder if any excavations are ever checked for animal species which may have fallen in and were these animals removed prior to setting structures and backfilling? These excavations are used everywhere in wetlands. I have removed rabbits, amphibians, birds, and reptiles from these excavations in my career. Most important is the safety of people, especially children. Structural casings were left open in a school bus turn around in Deerfield.

7) Debris from wood pole structures removed is not disposed of daily or even for weeks on end. This situation results in potential injury to unsuspecting children. This situation is the norm across southern NH. Eversource assumes children read hazard warning signage. Again, one sees that proactive removal is not being done in a timely manner, which can result in serious injury. Pole debris sits unattended in piles for months.

8) Matting sits on wetland sites for equipment and storage of materials long after work is completed. Wetland species need to be allowed to return in the shortest time possible. I have witnessed this situation throughout the Seacoast NH area.

9) Wood mats are left for extended periods of time in wetlands. Some mat areas are used for equipment and material storage. Aquatic species need these areas. Their survival depends on it.

10) Upland areas immediately next to beaver colonies should not be mowed, mulched, and denuded to near bare earth. Beaver colonies depend on small growth found on the adjacent Right of Way. I have observed no such consideration given to these areas in southern NH.

11) Just for the record, Eversource contractor work hours start as early as 5am in construction yards. Truck traffic is moving through towns by 6am. Vehicles are coming off the Right of Way until after darkness. Access, matting, and foundation crews have been working 6 days a week. Some line work occurs 6 days per week and other operations occur as much as 7 days a week. I have observed this situation throughout NH for the last several years on all the Eversource line replacement projects.

12) I am greatly concerned that Eversource is posting land that is not theirs and they expect no local observation of their work in our town.

These are just a few examples I have observed. There are many more. If I may be of assistance let me know. Jim

Sat, 1/13/24-Jim Page writes, "Eversource crews worked at multiple sites off both sides of Mountain Rd in Deerfield last night until 7pm. One site included the drilling operation on the edge of the wetland/beaver pond. They were back today drilling until 5pm. I was behind a large Michels flatbed last night that traveled over a Raymond town bridge that is posted at 3T load limit. The bridge is structurally unsound. The driver went over it with a about a 20T load at 7pm on its way to get to NH27 via a "short cut". The road crew moved into a prior work area of a few years ago and started the ROW "interstate highway" off the NH107 crossing. As usual no stone runoffs were in place for the first two days."

“The Eversource supervisor for the 115kv transmission work in NH last week stated regarding work hours that their operations were “eight hour days.” Eversource contractors are working from 5am into the night. I just observed their crews working both sides of the Mountain Road area of Deerfield in the most sensitive wetlands this evening at 7pm. I wonder who is the overseer at night in these areas? Did they mean to say Eversource employees go home after 8 hours while their contractors and subcontractors work without oversight under cover of darkness? One structure they were working at was at water’s edge of a pond equal in size to the Bog Pond area in Easton. They were working on the foundation. After dark, if anything goes wrong, no one sees what happens. It is a dangerous and haphazard way to operate. And after all, we the ratepayers are paying the massive overtime billings for the work that will come due shortly.”

Redaction Log

Total Number of Redactions in Document: 1

Redaction Reasons by Page

Page	Reason	Description	Occurrences
1	INV OF PRIVACY	NH RSA 91-A:5 IV Confidential information which would constitute an invasion of privacy if disclosed	1

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Redaction Reasons by Exemption

Reason	Description	Pages (Count)
INV OF PRIVACY	NH RSA 91-A:5 IV Confidential information which would constitute an invasion of privacy if disclosed	1(1)