

In August of 2018 Eversource inspected structures on the X-178. This was part of Eversource’s plan to inspect all its lines in five years, perhaps in preparation for its new expanded use of the asset condition project category. Eversource may have thought the PAC might ask about the condition ratings of the structures. These 2018 inspections rated a few poles on the X-178 as category D because of bear damage. (I’ve seen many bear-scratched poles on the X-178, none which appeared compromised.) These Category D poles (or structures) were presumably among the 11 structures replaced on the X-178 (1) in 2020.

In 2024 Eversource released [information](#) that showed it did not replace any structures on the X-178 between 2018 and some time in 2020. This suggests that a Category D structure is not necessarily “in imminent danger of failure and that is where we would uh, we would not be putting together a presentation for PAC for example. We would be declaring an uh, declaring an emergency, and pulling an outage to go out and replace or repair that structure within weeks and or months.” Chris Soderman. Eversource (6/20/2024)

Table 1 – X-178 Structure In-Service Years

Year	X-178	Segment 1	Segment 2	Segment 3
1953 ³	28	28	0	0
1958	2	0	0	2
1969	175	0	0	175
1971	22	21	1	0
1983	83	1	79	3
1985	266	112	151	3
2002	2	0	0	2
2012	2	0	1	1
2015	1	1	0	0
2020	11	11	0	0
2023	2	1	0	1
Total	594	175	232	187

Eversource’s October 17, 2018 per-structure costs for its proposed replacement of 56 structures on the X-178 were similar to those for its other lines, indicating that most, if not all, of these structures were not on Section 2 where work in WMNF would have increased costs.

Only 13 of the 56 structures identified by Eversource in 2018 have been replaced. Since it was rebuilt in 1985, only one structure has been replaced on the X-178 (2).

Below: from Eversource's October 17, 2018 [presentation](#) to the PAC

Line	Proposed Replace (2018-2019)	Est. Replace Cost (\$M)
A126	49	\$8.3
H123	29	\$6.0
H141	44	\$7.7
K174	43	\$8.7
L163	64	\$14.0
A152	29	\$6.1
X178	56	\$11.2
NH Total	314	\$62.0

The PAC members did not [ask](#) for the ratings of the 1,595 structures Eversource proposed to replace on 41 transmission lines at an average cost of \$250,000. per structure. No one at the PAC asked for Eversource's average costs of a structure replacement over the past 20 years.

The SEC and PUC need Eversource's structure replacement information for all Eversource's NH lines, from 1948 to 2024. This would include the number of structures on each line, the type of wood and size of the poles, the number and location of structures replaced each year, the age of the structures when replaced, the costs of each structure replacement and which replacements included the construction of temporary and permanent roads and construction "pads."

The SEC and PUC need Eversource's complete 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2018 inspection reports for the X-178.

The SEC and PUC need the results of any forensic pole ratings done by Eversource of the 5,283 wood structures in New Hampshire it has cut down and replaced with steel since 2018.

"...two maxims,...are routinely [drawn](#) from the Stanford experiment. The first is that individuals lose their capacity for intellectual and moral judgment in groups; hence, groups are inherently dangerous. The second is that there is an inevitable impetus for people to act tyrannically once they are put in groups and given power."