

Easton Conservation Commission Permitting Briefing

Eversource Transmission Line Rebuild Project



January 3, 2024

Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Scope
- Permitting Overview
- Construction and Restoration Phases
- Schedule and Next Steps

What Do We Need to Do?

Replace the existing transmission line for improved system reliability

- Replace the older, degraded wooden pole structures with new weathering steel structures.
- Install new transmission wire (conductor) and add new communication wire (OPGW).
- The new steel structures will be able to support the weight of the new wires and will better withstand the storms we experience here in New Hampshire.
- The line must be built to present-day electrical safety standards and codes, which require more robust structures.

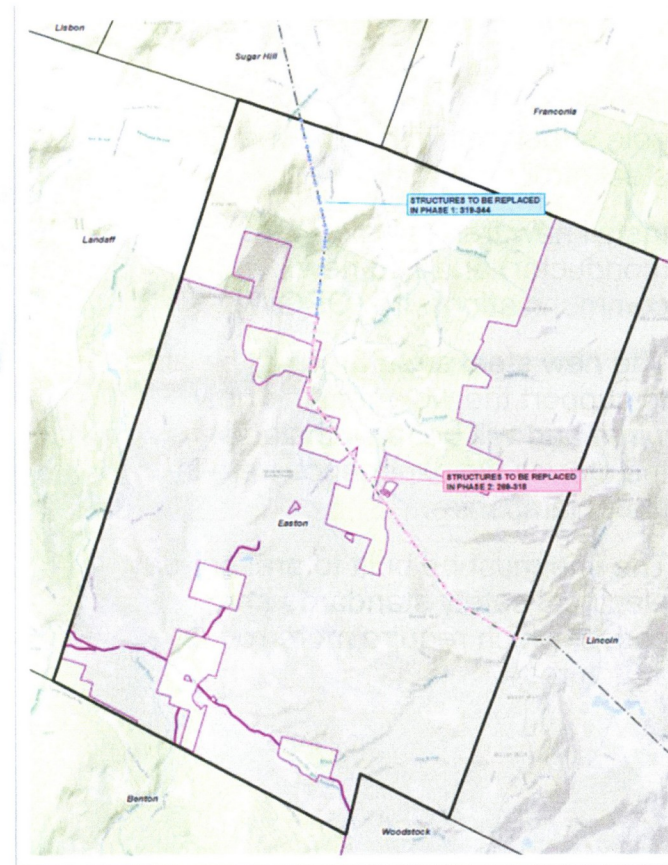


Easton Scope

A safer, more resilient, more reliable system

X178 Segment 2 Information

- 20.8 miles
- 232 Structures (231 will be replaced)
 - 76 structures in Easton
 - Phase 1 – Outside WMNF (25 structures)
 - Phase 2 – Within WMNF (49 structures)



Permitting

Based on preliminary assessment, Eversource expects that permit review from the following agencies

Federal

- United State Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Fish & Wildlife Service
- Federal Aviation Administration
- US Forest Service (NEPA) EA

State

- NHDES Wetlands, Shoreland and Alteration of Terrain programs
- NH Fish & Game Department
- NH Natural Heritage Bureau
- NH Department of Energy
- NH Department of Natural & Cultural Resources

Local

- Permitting pursuant to local land use ordinances as required.



Project Sequencing and Permitting

- Due to the long timeframe for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) permitting in the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF), the X-178-2 project is proposed to be permitted and constructed in two phases in the Town of Easton (subject to change)
 - Phase 1 (Structures 297 – 299; 302 – 304; 319 – 344) will encompass those structure locations that **are not in** or require access through the **WMNF**.
 - Phase 2 (Structures 269– 318) will encompass those structure locations that **are in** or require access through the **WMNF**.
- Eversource will prepare separate permit applications for both Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Permitting Summary for Easton



X178 LINE REBUILD PERMITTING SUMMARY									
Town	Project Name	Termination Locations	Length of Project in Easton (mi)	# of Structures in Easton	Eversource Permitting Contact	Environmental Vendor	State Environmental Permits	Federal Environmental Permits	Exp. Timeline for AoT/SDF Submittal
Easton	X178-2 Line Rebuild	N Woodstock Substation in N Woodstock to Streeter Pond Switchyard in Sugar Hill	xx	76	Kurt Nelson	GZA	AoT, SDF	NEPA EA, ACOE SGP, EPA CGP	Mar-24/Jan-24
AoT	NHDES Alteration of Terrain for land disturbance Copy of application sent to Town Clerk, Municipality has 14 days from Notice of Acceptance to provide comment to NHDES								
SDF	NHDES Wetlands Standard Dredge & Fill for impacts to wetlands and waterways Four copies of application provided to Town Clerk, Optional Pre-application meeting with Conservation Commission, Municipality has 14 days from Notice of Acceptance to provide comment to NHDES								
Shoreland	PBN Shoreland Permit by Notification for land disturbance within shoreland areas								
NEPA EA	National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Assessment for work in the White Mountain National Forest Public outreach, comment opportunity as determined appropriate by US Forest Service								
ACOE SGP	Army Corps of Engineers State General Permit for work in wetlands and waterways The ACOE application is the NHDES SDF application								
EPA CGP	Environmental Protection Agency Construction General Permit for land disturbance Notice of Intent submitted to EPA just prior to start of construction								

Construction & Restoration Phases



B112 Active Civil Construction 2023



E115 Restoration –Construction Complete 2023



O154 Restoration –Construction Complete 2023



D142 Construction Complete 2022



A111 Construction Complete 2022

Project Schedule

- Phase 1
 - Q4 2023 – Q2 2024: Permitting
 - NHDES Wetlands Preapplication Meeting Q4 2023
 - NHDES Wetlands Permit Application submittal Q1 2024
 - NHDES AoT Permit Application submittal Q1 2024
 - Local Permitting Q1-Q2 2024
 - Q2 2024: Pre-Construction Information Session
 - Q3 2024 – Q4 2026: Construction
 - Restoration will be ongoing during construction for stabilization to the extent it's possible.
- Phase 2
 - Q4 2023 - Q2 2025: Permitting
 - Q3 2025 – Q4 2026: Construction

This schedule is weather dependent and subject to change