

**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 AMENDMENT TO CONSTRUCT AND
MAINTAIN ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS PUBLIC WATERS IN
ROCHESTER, 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 a license amendment to construct and maintain electric lines over and across public waters in Rochester, 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 C129 Line, originally constructed in 1953, over and across public waters of the Isinglass River in Rochester, New Hampshire. The two crossings locations of the Isinglass River were most recently licensed in Docket 11-073 pursuant to Order 25,261 (copy enclosed).

2. A high level perspective of the locations of the two public water crossing spans are depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit #1. A more detailed perspective including satellite imagery in the vicinity of the two crossing locations and identifying significant nearby roadways and notable businesses in relation to the crossing locations is attached hereto as Exhibit #4. Google Earth coordinates for the approximate location of the four structures to be replaced at the two crossing locations are also included on Exhibit #4 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 and 3 notes the approximate number of feet and direction from the crossing structure spans to the nearest significant thoroughfare, Flagg Road.

3. This petition supports Eversource's plan to replace four original wood structures (208, 209, 210 & 211) at the two crossing spans that are the subject of this petition with steel structures. The four steel replacement structures are depicted in the Structure Details of Exhibits 2 and 3 hereto and maintain the same structure configuration as their original wood counterparts. The four replacement structures will be relocated within 10' of their current location

4. The C129 Line project also encompasses replacement of the two existing shield wires with two OPGW communications wires having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on Exhibits 2 and 3. The existing conductor having the specifications noted in the Cable Schedule on Exhibits 2 and 3 will be transferred from the original wood poles to the steel replacement structures.

5. The design of the four replacement structures for the C129 Line over the Isinglass River 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 3.

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

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

- I. Isinglass River: Rochester (Exhibit 2)
 - i. Structures: 208 to 209
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 459.3'
 - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 139'

II. Isinglass River: Rochester (Exhibit 2)

- i. Structures: 210 to 211
- ii. Structure Span (ft): 582.3'
- iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 235.1'

8. All conductors and wires have been drawn on Exhibits 2 and 3 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water crossings.

9. 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 18.6' for water areas not suitable for sail boating. The actual minimum height over the public waters are depicted on the attached Exhibits 2 and 3 and exceeds the minimum requirement.

10. A 100-year flood elevation level was established based upon confirmation of location within Zone A according to the FEMA Flood FIRMette, 9/1/20 and contour interpolation as noted in Note 3 on Exhibits 2 and 3.

11. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) and a Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) will be required for temporary wetland impacts and temporary impacts within the shoreland buffer to the Isinglass River in Rochester to accomplish the structure replacements that are the subject of this petition. Both NHDES permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. No other environmental permitting is required.

12. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portions of Isinglass River in Rochester as navigable waters. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.

13. It was not anticipated that abutters on either side of the public water crossing spans that are the subject of this petition would be affected by the structure replacement scope of this project as the C129 Line is an existing line and the structure replacement work at the two crossing spans that

are the subject of this petition will be performed fully within Eversource's existing utility easements.

14. Eversource submits that the license amendment petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters of the Isinglass River in Rochester. Minimum safe clearances above the water surface will be maintained at all times. As such, the use and enjoyment by the public of the Isinglass River will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the proposed structure replacements.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

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

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 9th day of November, 2020.

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



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