

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: March 20, 2012

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Randy Knepper, Director Safety Division RSK

SUBJECT: Docket No. DE 11-232 Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Petition for a License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Under
and Across Bow Lake in the Town of Strafford, New Hampshire

TO: Debra Howland, Executive Director
Tom Frantz, Director, Electric Division
Lynn Fabrizio, Staff Attorney

The Safety Division review of the above petition consisted of the following elements:

- Petition contents and history
- Review of public need and public impact, including applicability of other State regulations
- Conclusions and recommendations

1. **Petition contents and history.**

- On October 18, 2011, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a petition to construct and maintain electric lines under and across Bow Lake in the Town of Strafford, New Hampshire. This underwater crossing comprises a portion of line 63W1 distribution circuit, which PSNH previously operated as a 7.2 kV distribution line to a small island in Bow Lake. The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) had previously licensed this existing underwater crossing in Docket DE 76-96, Order No. 12,375, dated August 30, 1976.
- PSNH has determined it is necessary to replace the 63W1 line in order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public. The upgrade is necessitated by the damaged and deteriorated condition of the existing conduit and cable and the lack of a recorded easement for the existing service in the current location.
- PSNH is petitioning to place a new service under and across Bow Lake to provide service to the island via directional boring.
- On January 9, 2012, PSNH notified the Commission that in order to alleviate safety concerns it permanently removed the existing service to the island and

proposed installation of the new underwater service as soon as weather conditions permit in the spring.

- A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services wetlands permit is not required for this proposed underwater crossing.
- PSNH has obtained the necessary easements for the new crossing from the property owners for the mainland and the Town on Strafford for the island.
- The water crossing locations listed in the petition are listed as Public Lakes and Ponds on the DES official list of public waters in which RSA 371:17 is applicable see:
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/olpw.pdf>

2. Review of public need and public impact.

The Safety Division's review of the petition finds the petition to be in conformance with the applicable sections of the NESC C2-2002.

Staff has determined, after reviewing the petition, that the water crossing requires a license under RSA 371:17. PSNH has demonstrated a public need for the proposed crossing.

3. Recommendations and Conclusions.

The Safety Division recommends the Commission approval of Public Service Company of New Hampshire petition to construct and maintain electric lines under and across Bow Lake in the Town of Strafford, New Hampshire , with the following conditions:

- a) Any slurry used in the directional drilling shall be properly disposed and measures shall be taken to reduce the possibility of frack outs.
- b) Sleeving material shall be used that reduces the quantity of joints to minimize the possibility of water entrance into the interior of the sleeve.
- c) Measurements shall be recorded and documented along the bore path of depth and location of the facilities.
- d) The Commission should require that all future alterations, that may affect the public, to the crossing conform to the requirements of both the 2002 and 2007 editions of the NESC (Part 3) and be resubmitted to the Commission 60 days prior to the alteration.
- e) PSNH should be required to maintain and operate the crossings in conformance with the NESC Part 3.