

**The State of New Hampshire  
Before the  
Public Utilities Commission**

**Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
D/B/A Eversource Energy**

**Docket No. DE-19-162**

**Supplemental Petition of Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
D/B/A Eversource Energy for License to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and  
Across the Androscoggin River in Gorham, Moose Brook in Gorham and Land Owned by  
the State of New Hampshire in Whitefield, Gorham and Randolph, 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 to construct and maintain electric lines over and across the Androscoggin River and Moose Brook in Gorham and certain land owned by the State of New Hampshire (State) in Whitefield, Gorham and Randolph, New Hampshire, and in support of this supplemental petition states as follows:

1. In order to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public, Eversource has previously constructed and currently operates and maintains an overhead 115-kV electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource S136 Line, over and across the Androscoggin River in Gorham as shown on Exhibit 7 and over and across the Moose Brook as shown on Exhibit 6. Eversource also operates and maintains the same S136 line over and across four State owned lands at locations associated with the Presidential Rail Trail (Rail Trail) owned by the State of New Hampshire as shown on Exhibits 2, 3, 4 and 5. These crossings have not been previously licensed by the Commission, due either to oversight, or because the lands involved were in private ownership at the time of the original construction of the existing lines and no crossing license was required.

2. Eversource completed three structure replacements (Str. 264, 265, and 280) in 2017 and two structure replacements (Str. 230, 231) in 2018 along the existing S136 Line, affecting three spans of State owned rail trail. Additionally, Eversource intends to complete two additional structure replacements in 2020 (Str. 293 & 294) along the existing S136 Line in addition to replacing the existing static wire with OPGW in all seven crossing locations that are the subject of this supplemental petition. No conductor, shield wire or neutral wire was or will be added or replaced as part of these structure replacements; instead, existing conductors and wires were and will be transferred to the new structures, which are steel structure replacements of the original wood structures.
3. The attached Exhibit 1 shows the general location of the S136 Line crossings over the State owned land and public waters as part of Eversource's S136 project. The design and proposed construction of the replacement crossings for the S136 Line will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawing for the crossings of the Rail Trail, Moose Brook and the Androscoggin River (see attached Exhibits 2-7).
4. Wire and structure specifications for the crossing locations are as noted in the Cable Schedule and structure depictions on Exhibits 2-7.
5. The locations of the structures create the following crossing spans between poles:
  - a. Rail Trail: Whitefield (Exhibit 2)
    - i. Structure: 58 to 59
    - ii. Structure Span (ft): 214
    - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 95.6
  - b. Rail Trail: Randolph (Exhibit 3)
    - i. Structure: 230 to 231
    - ii. Structure Span (ft): 360
    - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 183.7
  - c. Rail Trail: Gorham (Exhibit 4)
    - i. Structure: 263 to 265
    - ii. Structure Span (ft): 1,141
    - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 115
  - d. Rail Trail: Gorham (Exhibit 5):
    - i. Structures: 280 to 282

- ii. Structure Span (ft): 939
    - iii. State Owned Land Span (ft): 111.8
  - e. Moose Brook: Gorham (Exhibit 6):
    - i. Structures: 282 to 283
    - ii. Structure Span (ft): 476
    - iii. Public Waters Span (ft): 29.6
  - f. Androscoggin River: Gorham (Exhibit 7)
    - i. Structures: 293 to 294
    - ii. Structure Span (ft): 557
    - iii. Public Waters Span: 243.5
- 6. All conductors have been drawn in Exhibits 2-7 to show the maximum sag conditions in reference to the public waters and State owned lands.
- 7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearance of the wire crossing over the Androscoggin River and Moose Brook at a height no less than is required by the 2017 NESC (Table 232-1) which is 18.6 feet for open supply conductors (115 kV) over waters not suitable for sailboating and 16.1 feet over State owned lands subject to pedestrian or restricted traffic. The actual minimum height of the S136 Line over the crossing spans are depicted on the attached Exhibits 2 through 7 and exceed the minimum required clearances.
- 8. For the Androscoggin River and Moose Brook crossings, the 100-year flood level was established based on a FEMA flood zone maps for the crossing area with an effective date: February 20, 2013. These elevations are based on the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). For the purposes of calculating clearance, the 100-year flood elevation was used. This is higher than the 10-year flood elevation required by NESC and provides a conservative clearance requirement.
- 9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Utility Maintenance Notification (UMN) was required for temporary impacts to nontidal wetlands associated with construction activities for the structure replacements that were previously completed, with UMN# 2019-00269 (Gorham) and UMN #2019-00398 (Randolph). New Hampshire Department of

Environmental Services statutory permit by notifications (SPN) have been obtained for the work to be completed in 2020, which is the subject of this supplemental petition in SPN #2020-00599 (Whitefield) SPN #2020-00558 (Gorham), and SPN #2020-00592 (Randolph).

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portion of the Androscoggin River and Moose Brook as a navigable water. As a result, a crossing permit from the ACOE is not required.
11. It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the Androscoggin River, Moose Brook or State owned land crossings will be affected by this supplemental, as the S136 Line is an existing line, and the crossing structures are being replaced and rebuilt within Eversource's existing utility easements.
12. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public waters of the Androscoggin River, Moose Brook and State owned lands. Minimum safe line clearances above the State owned land and Androscoggin River and Moose Brook surfaces and affected shorelines will be maintained at all times. The public use and enjoyment of the Androscoggin River, Moose Brook and State owned lands will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the replacement of the overhead line crossings.

**WHEREFORE**, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

1. Find that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting State owned lands and public waters which are the subject of this supplemental petition;
2. Grant the Company a license to replace the structures on the State owned lands and public waters as identified and described in this supplemental petition;
3. Authorize Eversource to submit any future proposed alteration(s) to the amended licenses granted herein at least 60 days prior to undertaking any such alteration(s); and
4. Issue an order *Nisi* and orders for its publication.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW  
HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE  
ENERGY

By Its Attorney



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