

**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-\_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR AMENDED LICENSE TO REPLACE SHIELD  
WIRE OVER AND ACROSS THE PEMIGEWASSET RIVER AND WINNISQUAM  
LAKE, IN THE TOWNS OF FRANKLIN AND BELMONT, 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 (“State”), hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for amended licenses to replace a shield wire over and across public waters encompassing the Pemigewasset River in the Town of Franklin and Winnisquam Lake in the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire. In support of this petition Eversource 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 115Kv electrical transmission line, designated as the Eversource L176 Line, over and across the following public waters, and as depicted in greater detail in Location Exhibits 1 & 2 and the corresponding Engineering Exhibits 1A and 2A. These public waters crossings were previously licensed by the Commission pursuant to the Orders referenced below.
  - A. Pemigewasset River, Franklin (Structures 14 to 15) - Order No. 11,915, issued July 10, 1975;
  - B. Winnisquam Lake, Belmont (Structures 103 to 104) – Order No. 11,949, issued August 4, 1975;
2. Eversource is commencing to replace the existing shield wire on the L176 Line with 0.646-inch diameter fiber optical ground wire, which will impact the public waters crossing locations which are the subject of this Petition. The 115KV transmission wire

and 34.5 KV distribution wire located below the shield wire in these crossing locations will not be impacted or altered by the shield wire replacement. This shield wire replacement project is part of a reliability project for the L176 line to continue to meet current, as well as future, projected electricity demands.

3. The attached Exhibits 1 and 2, dated August 2019, show the general location of the L176 Line public waters crossings as part of Eversource's project. The design and specifications of the shield wire replacement crossings for the L176 Line will be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawing for the public waters crossings, attached as Exhibits 3 and 4.
4. All conductors have been drawn in Exhibits 3 and 4 to show the maximum sag conditions in reference to the water crossings.
5. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearances of the crossings over the public waters crossing locations at a height no less than what is required by the 2017 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1) which is 18.6 feet for 115kV over public waters not suitable for sail boating. The actual minimum height over the public waters are depicted on the attached Exhibits 3 and 4.
6. The Pemmigewasset River crossing is located in Zone AE with a 100-year flood level elevation of 308 feet. This elevation is based on the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). For the purposes of calculating clearance, the 100-year flood elevations were used, as it was readily available. This is higher than the 10-year flood elevation required by NESC and provides a conservative clearance requirement. The Winnisquam Lake crossing is located in Zone A but no 100-year flood level elevation has been set by FEMA, as confirmed by Rick Ball, Belmont Land Use Technician.
7. Wetland impacts associated with access to accomplish the shield wire replacement will not entail any work activities which involve the temporary impact of nontidal wetlands, nontidal surface waters, and banks adjacent to nontidal surface waters under one acre. Accordingly, a NHDES Utility Maintenance Notification is not required for construction access.

8. It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the public waters crossings will be affected by this petition, as the L176 is an existing line and the shield wire replacement shall be accomplished within Eversource's existing utility easements.
9. Eversource submits that the amended licenses petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters to be crossed. Minimum safe line clearances above the water surfaces will be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment of the public of the public waters will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the replacement of the overhead shield wire crossings.

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

1. Find that the amended license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the public waters which are the subject of this petition;
2. Grant Eversource amended licenses to replace a shield wire across the public waters as identified and described in this 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 an order for its publication.

Respectfully submitted 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

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

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