

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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

DOCKET No. DE 21-099

**PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A
EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN
ELECTRIC LINES OVER AND ACROSS LAKE SUNAPEE IN SUNAPEE, 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 certain public waters in Sunapee, 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 34.5 kV electrical distribution line, designated as the Eversource 316 Line, originally constructed in 1964, over and across the public waters comprising a portion of Lake Sunapee in Sunapee, New Hampshire. For reasons unknown a license was not obtained when the subject crossing span was originally constructed but will be fully licensed pursuant to this petition. The location of the public water crossing which is the subject of this petition is depicted on the Overview Map attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and a more detailed location description is as follows:

The 316 Line crosses one public waterbody, Lake Sunapee, between structures 61 and 62 in the Town of Sunapee. The crossing occurs over Sunapee Cove, which is located at the northern extent of the waterbody. The line crosses Sunny Knoll Road and runs east approximately 250 to Lake Sunapee and then continues an additional 195 feet onto the Sunapee Cove Assisted Living property.

2. Through Eversource's ongoing program of field inspection, Eversource has determined that Structure 62 at the eastern side of the subject crossing span requires replacement to continue to function safely and reliability. Existing wood structure 62 will be replaced with a steel pole and will have full cross arms to hold the two outer conductors in place of the existing davit arms. The three existing conductors and one existing neutral wire will be transferred to new replacement Structures 62 and shall otherwise remain unchanged. Wood Structure 61 remains in good condition and already has crossarms and therefore does not require modification or replacement.

3. The design of replacement Structure 62 is in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), as shown on the Eversource Plan and Profile Drawing, attached as Exhibit 2. Replacement structure 62 will be installed within 10 feet of the current structure.

4. Wire specifications for the Lake Sunapee crossing span are depicted and noted on the Exhibit 2 Structure Detail and Plan View.

5. This petition addresses the following crossing spans:

- a. Lake Sunapee: Sunapee (Exhibit 2)
 - i. Structures: 61 to 62
 - ii. Structure Span (ft): 194.84
 - iii. Public Waters Span: 174.5

6. All conductors and neutral wire have been drawn on Exhibit 2 to show the minimum clearance at maximum sag conditions in reference to the public water body span, as noted.

7. Eversource will maintain and operate the clearance of the crossing over Lake Sunapee at a height no less than what is required by the 2012 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC, Table 232-1), which requires at least 37.5 feet for 34.5 kV neutral wire over waters suitable for sail boating including lakes and ponds with unobstructed surface area of over 2000 acres.

8. The clearance over the 100 year flood level as depicted on the attached Exhibit 2 exceeds that minimum requirement. Flood level elevations were derived as stated in Note 3 on Exhibit 2.

9. A New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) for temporary impacts within the shoreland buffer will be required for the structure replacement subject to this petition. A Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) for temporary impacts to wetlands is required on other parts of the project that are not subject to this petition. Both permits will be obtained prior to conducting the work.

10. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) does not regulate the subject portion of Lake Sunapee as navigable waters.

11. It is not anticipated that abutters on either side of the Lake Sunapee crossing would be affected by the proposed structure replacements, as the 316 Line is an existing line and the work that will be performed outside the limits of the public waters is within Eversource's existing utility easements as noted on Exhibit 2.

12. Eversource submits that the license petitioned for herein may be exercised without substantially affecting the rights of the public in the public waters of Lake Sunapee. Minimum safe clearances above the public waters shall be maintained at all times. The use and enjoyment by the public of Lake Sunapee will not be diminished in any material respect as a result of the described structure replacement.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

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

Dated at Manchester, New Hampshire this 23rd day of June, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik R. Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

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