

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**CR 2021-013
(formerly DE 21-094)**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**Petition for License
to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across
Lake Winnisquam in Belmont**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On May 6, 2021,¹ Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition for a license to reconstruct and maintain its J125 115 kV electric transmission line (the J125 Line) over and across public waters of Lake Winnisquam in Belmont. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department of Energy (Department), will be posted to the Department's website at www.energy.nh.gov.

Eversource seeks a license to replace two existing wood structures (Structures 100 and 102) along the J125 Line section that spans the Ephrams Bay segment of Lake Winnisquam in Belmont. Three existing conductors, one existing static wire and one existing optical ground wire (OPGW) line will be transferred to the new replacement structures. A third structure (Structure 101), currently located mid-span on a peninsula in Ephrams Bay, will be eliminated entirely and all wires will be re-tensioned as a result. The proposed project begins at Structure 100 approximately 2,500 feet northeast of where the J125 Line crosses over the intersection of

¹ Eversource filed an initial petition on May 6, 2021; replacement exhibits were filed on June 4, 2021. The original construction of this segment of the J125 Line was licensed by the N.H. Public Utilities Commission under Order No. 11,949 issued on August 4, 1975 in Docket DE 75-149.

Grey Rocks Road and Donway Drive in Belmont. The J125 Line then crosses Lake Winnisquam to Structure 102 at the northeast corner of Ephrams Bay. According to the petition, Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Statutory Permit by Notification (SPN) and a Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN) for temporary impacts associated with the removal of Structure 101 and the replacement of Structures 100 and 102.

The Department will review the filing to assess the necessity of the requested license to meet the reasonable requirements of reliable service to the public, as required by RSA 371:17; and whether the license may be exercised without substantially affecting public rights in the identified public waters of Lake Winnisquam in Belmont, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. The applicant and any interested party has the right to have an attorney represent the party in this matter at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that, the Department will hold a prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on October 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., at which any interested party may provide its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any interested party who wishes to participate in the proceeding shall file a written petition to intervene stating the interested party's basis for intervention consistent with RSA 541-A:32 and Puc 203.17 and specifying any objection the party has to the proposed crossing license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the Interim Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than October 15, 2021, three business days prior to the Prehearing Conference. Failure to submit a Petition to Intervene at least three business days prior to the Prehearing

Conference will constitute a waiver of the right to object to the Petition and the requested license; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Eversource, Department staff, and any intervening parties may hold a technical session to review the petition, as needed; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all abutters to the proposed crossing by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides a delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the property subject to the proposed crossing, and including properties located across public roads or public waters that are within one-half mile of the location of the proposed crossing. On or before October 15, 2021, Eversource shall file with the Department a list of all abutters so notified and copies of the return delivery confirmations. In addition, Eversource shall mail a copy of this order of notice to: (i) the Town Clerk of Belmont; (ii) the New Hampshire Attorney General; and (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; and publish a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one business day after the date of issue.



Jared S. Chicoine
Interim Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Department of Energy, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-3670; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the scheduled event.