

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CRE 2022-001

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

**Petition for License and License Amendment to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines
Over and Across Public Water in Atkinson, New Hampshire**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On April 28, 2022,¹ Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource, or the Company) filed a petition for a license and license amendment to construct and maintain an existing 4.16 kV electric distribution line (the 3818 Line) over and across public waters in Atkinson. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department, will be posted to the Department's website at Utility Crossings Over State Lands and Public Waters/NH Department of Energy.

The original construction date of the 3818 Line is unknown but predates 1976 when one of the two public water crossing spans part of this petition was licensed pursuant to Order No. 12,219. The second public water crossing span that is the subject of this petition, over Island Pond, was not previously licensed.

In its current petition, Eversource proposes to: (1) replace existing wood structures 1/12, 1/13, 1/16 and 1/17 with similar wood poles; and (2) transfer the existing conductor to the new poles. All replacement structures will be located within 10 feet of their current locations.

¹ Eversource filed an initial petition with attachments on January 27, 2022 and resubmitted a corrected petition with revised exhibits on April 28, 2022, as a result of errors identified by Department Safety Bureau staff.

The 3818 Line crosses public waters of the Island Pond in Atkinson between Structures 1/12 and 1/13, and between Structures 1/16 and 1/17. Specific locations of the crossing structures are further detailed in the docket filings and illustrated in petition attachments.

According to the petition, the structure replacement work will be accomplished within existing right-of-way easements, thereby mitigating impacts and concerns of property owners affected by the project. Eversource will obtain a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Shoreland Permit Notification (PBN) and a Statutory Permit by Notification (PBN) for the work planned under this petition in relation to temporary impacts to wetlands, and the shoreland buffer and will be secured prior to the commencement of construction.

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 in Atkinson, as required for approval under RSA 371:20. The applicant and any interested party has the right to have an attorney represent the party 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 June 1, 2022 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 crossings license. Petitions to Intervene shall be submitted to the

Commissioner of the Department, with copies sent to the Petitioner that is seeking a license, no later than May 27, 2022. 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 crossings by causing a copy of this order of notice to be sent, by any major delivery service that provides delivery confirmation, to the owners of all properties immediately adjacent and contiguous to the State land parcels that are subject to the proposed crossings. On or before May 27, 2022, 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 Atkinson, New Hampshire; (ii) the New Hampshire Attorney General; (iii) the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; (iv) the New Hampshire Department of Transportation; and (v) the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, 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
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. **Queries regarding this petition and associated docket filings may be submitted to Crossings@energy.nh.gov.**