



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
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May 12, 2016

Pamela Monroe, Administrator
NH Site Evaluation Committee
21 Fruit South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

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Re: Application of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource") for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Construction of a New 115 kV Transmission Line from Madbury Substation to Portsmouth Substation SEC Docket No. 2015-04

Dear Ms. Monroe:

This letter is to notify you that the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (DHR) has completed its determination as to whether or not the above referenced application contains sufficient information for a decision of completeness.

The DHR has a responsibility to review the project under NH RSA 227-C:9, as well as under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NH RSA 227-C:9 directs all state agencies, departments, commissions and institutions to fully cooperate with the DHR in identifying historical resources and addressing adverse effects during state-assisted projects, activities and programs. Section 106 of the NHPA requires consideration of historic preservation in the multitude of federal actions that take place nationwide. Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on them prior to implementation. For the Section 106 review of the Seacoast Reliability Project, the US Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) has been designated the lead federal agency for the review.

Pursuant to NH RSA 162-H:7, IV, the DHR has conducted a preliminary review of the application and cannot consider it sufficient given the incomplete status of resource identification within the project area.

- Archaeological/below-ground resources: complete
- Architectural/above-ground resources: incomplete; Identification of all historic sites located within the area of potential effects is not complete. Therefore, the application is considered incomplete until the applicant concludes the identification process and amends its application materials with the SEC. Since filing the SEC application on April 12, 2016, the applicant has submitted additional resource identification products to the DHR. The identification effort is on-going and incomplete as of the date of this correspondence.

Pursuant to NH RSA 162-H:7-a, the DHR designates two staff liaisons to assist the Committee if it has further questions: Edna Feighner, Review & Compliance Coordinator and Archaeologist, edna.feighner@dcr.nh.gov, and Nadine Miller, Preservation Project Reviewer, nadine.miller@dcr.nh.gov. Thank you for providing the DHR an opportunity to comment, if you have any questions please contact me at 271-6628.

Sincerely,

Nadine Miller
Preservation Project Reviewer

