



ADAM M. DUMVILLE  
Direct Dial: 603.230.4414  
Email: adam.dumville@mcclane.com  
Admitted in NH and MA  
11 South Main Street, Suite 500  
Concord, NH 03301  
T 603.226.0400  
F 603.230.4448

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND HAND DELIVERY**

October 26, 2017

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

**Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-04: Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a  
Eversource Energy for a New 115k Transmission Line from Madbury Substation to  
Portsmouth Substation  
Applicant's Intention to Use a Former Gravel Pit in the Town of Lee as a  
Marshalling Yard**

Dear Ms. Monroe:

I write to inform the Site Evaluation Committee ("Committee") of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's ("Eversource" or the "Applicant") intention to use a former gravel pit in the Town of Lee, New Hampshire, as a marshalling yard, for the temporary storage of transmission structures, conductor, fiber optic cable, insulators, and other materials required for the construction of the proposed Seacoast Reliability Project (the "Project").<sup>1</sup>

The site that the Applicant intends on using, as identified on Attachment A, is a former gravel pit located off of Route 125 / Calef Highway in Lee (the "Site"). Eversource has executed a lease for the 3.5 acre area within the former gravel pit. Eversource may enter into a lease for the 3.0 acre area at a later date. Eversource is currently using the Site as a laydown area for nearby line work and has used the Site several times in the recent past for similar storage activities for transmission line construction, and maintenance work. The Applicant will not cut any trees on the property or excavate or grade any portion of the property, nor will the Applicant make any additional modifications to the Site that might adversely affect the natural environment of the Site. The Applicant intends on using the Site only for storage and will not manipulate the existing Site in anyway.

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<sup>1</sup> The Applicant had previously ordered certain materials for the overhead portion of the Project in advance based on the understanding that a decision would be made by the end of 2017. Now knowing that a Certificate will not be issued before this time, the Applicant requires a place to store materials until the Committee makes a determination about the Application. The Applicant fully understands that the purchase of these materials is at its own risk.

RSA 162-H:5, I provides that “No person shall commence to construct any energy facility within the state unless it has obtained a certificate pursuant to this chapter.” It is the Applicant’s position that use of this Site as proposed does not constitute “commencement of construction” as that term is defined by RSA 162-H. Specifically, “commencement of construction” is defined as

any clearing of the land, excavation or other substantial action that would adversely affect the natural environment of the site of the proposed facility, but does not include land surveying, optioning or acquiring land or rights in land, changes desirable for temporary use of the land for public recreational uses, or necessary borings to determine foundation conditions, or other preconstruction monitoring to establish background information related to the suitability of the site or to the protection of environmental use and values.

RSA-16-H:2, III. Here, the Applicants will not engage in any clearing of land, excavation or any other substantial action that would affect the natural environment of the proposed facility.

According to the NHDES, the site is a “grandfathered” gravel pit, which will not require any additional Alteration of Terrain permit for the proposed marshalling yard, as long as Eversource does not either add impervious surfaces to the site or remove any trees on the Site.<sup>2</sup> Based on the fact that past and on-going storage activities have occurred at this Site (and have already been fully permitted) and are currently in compliance with those permits, it is the Applicant’s position that no additional state or federal permits or approvals are required to use the Site as proposed.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, the Applicant has coordinated with officials from the Town of Lee, who have confirmed that the current site is in compliance with local regulations and that the continued use of the site as a marshaling yard going forward is acceptable. The Town of Lee has further confirmed that no additional permits or approvals are necessary to use the Site as proposed.

Finally, the Applicant anticipates that additional traffic associated with the use of this area will only increase traffic by approximately ten to twelve trucks per day over the next several months while material is received at the site.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, no additional permits or traffic control measures are required by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

Based on the foregoing, it is the Applicant’s position that the use of this Site does not require any additional approvals from the Committee. The Applicant anticipates using the Site as described herein as early as the middle of November 2017.

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<sup>2</sup> NHDES has also requested confirmation that stormwater drainage does not leave the site and has indicated that if the Applicants will use the lot to park any vehicles, the Applicants need to prepare a Source Control Plan for the Site. The Applicants will comply with the request from NHDES.

<sup>3</sup> The use of the site will not impact any wetlands resources, therefore, the Applicant would not be required to obtain a wetland permit under RSA 482-A.

<sup>4</sup> “The average daily volume on Route 125 was 14,021 vehicles in 2015.” See NH DOT Bureau of Traffic, Traffic Reports, available at <https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/operations/traffic/tvr/locations/documents/lee.pdf>.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

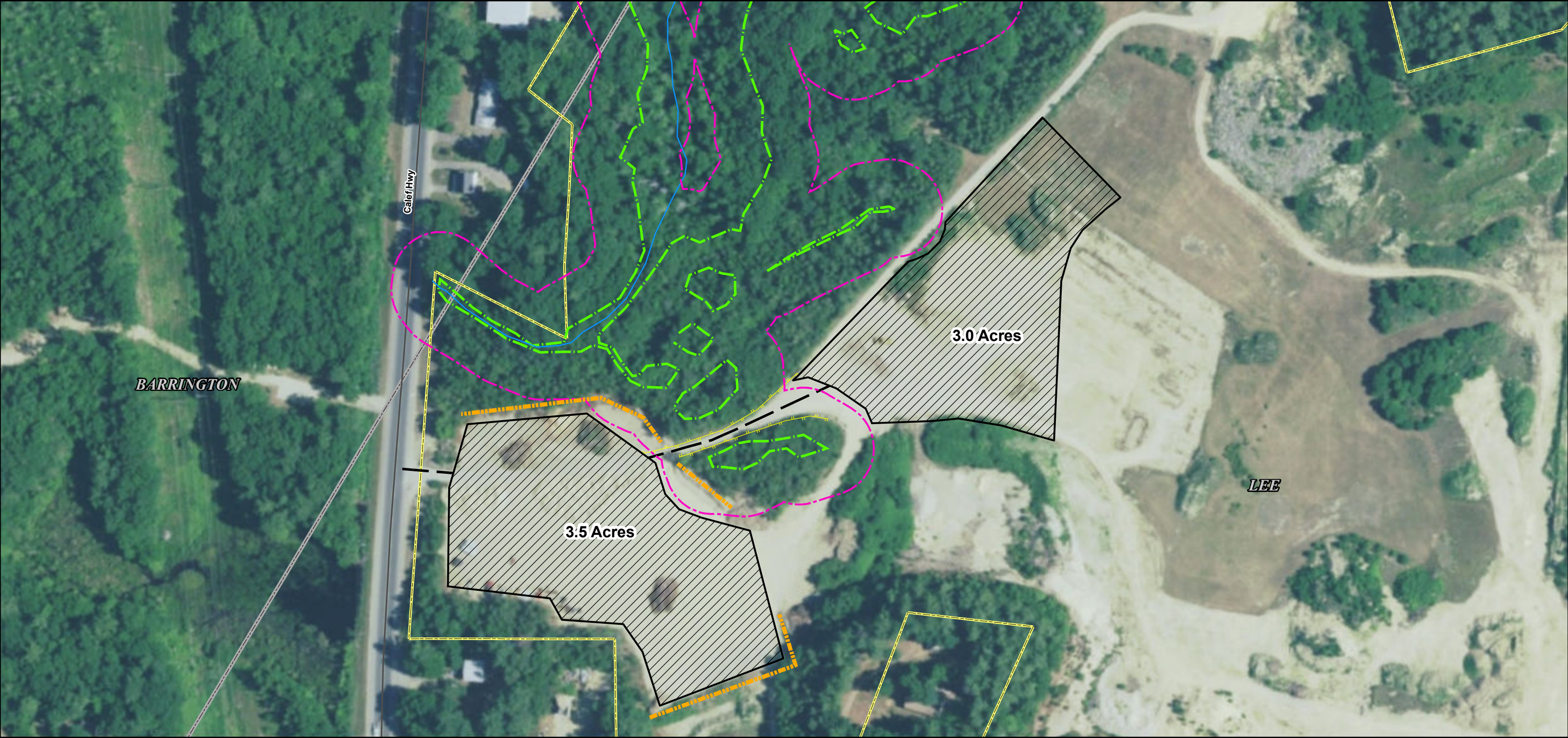
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Dumville". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" and last name "Dumville" clearly distinguishable.

Adam M. Dumville

AMD:  
Enclosure (Attachment A)

Cc: SEC Distribution List





<div>Drawn By: wmcclroy</div> <div>Date : 9/26/2017</div> <div>Project No: 22860.003</div>	<div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Marshalling Yards</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>75 Foot Wetland Buffer</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Stream (Approx.)</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Marshalling Yards Parcel</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Wetlands - 2013, Joseph W. Noel</div></div></div><div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Erosion Control (Typ)</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Existing Access</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Town Border</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Existing Earthen Berm (Approx.)</div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div></div><div>N</div><div></div><div></div><div>S</div></div><div><div>W</div><div>E</div></div></div></div><div><div><div>0</div><div>75</div><div>150</div><div>300</div></div><div>Feet</div><div>1 inch = 150 feet</div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div>EVERSOURCE</div><div>ENERGY</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>NORMANDEAU</div><div>ASSOCIATES</div><div>Environmental Consultants</div></div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Seacoast Reliability Project</div><div>Marshalling Yards</div><div>Rt. 125</div><div>Lee, NH</div></div></div>
	<div><div><div>Roads, Streams and Town Boundaries from NH GRANIT.</div><div>Aerial photo and insert map from ESRI</div></div><div><div><div><div>BARRINGTON</div><div>DOVER</div><div>MADBURY</div><div>NOTTINGHAM</div><div>LEE</div><div>Durham</div><div>SRP</div></div></div></div></div>			