

July 28, 2020

Richard Reine, Director Department of Public Works 100 Stone Quarry Road Durham, NH 03824

Dear Mr. Reine,

On Monday, July 20, 2020, Eversource provided notification to property owners in the Sandy Brook Drive neighborhood of an upcoming corrective action needed on an existing structure on the Sandy Brook Drive Common Land property that was recently installed for the Seacoast Reliability Project.

During a routine final site walk-down, Eversource discovered that a structure foundation was not constructed per Eversource design standards and project specifications. On Wednesday, July 22, 2020, Eversource's Engineering and Construction Representatives directed an Eversource contractor to reinforce the foundation and brought it into compliance with Eversource's design standards. The site was restored on Friday, July 24, 2020. The structure has been designed, constructed and will be maintained in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code.

We understand that a property owner reached out to you with some questions and concerns about the structure. These questions were as follows:

- 1. Is this structure's failure due to a design or construction error(s)? Was it under-designed given how wet the site is? Please recall that this has been a very dry year, and predictably, there will be greater precipitation in other years. Also, Hamel Brook is immediately next to this footing.
- 2. They have stated that they intend to use concrete in the footing during the repair. Are they truly using concrete or a slurry or some other material? From an engineering design point of view, this is a significant point. Also, this area is considered a wetland. Does Eversource have the appropriate permits to use concrete, etc.?
- 3. Furthermore, if the structures were under-designed given the wet ground conditions (or any other reason), there may be other nearby poles that require repair with time, especially to the west.

In response to these concerns, there was no structural failure or design issue. As mentioned above, during a routine final site walk down, Eversource discovered a location where a structure foundation was not constructed per Eversource design standards and the project specifications. The foundation has been corrected. The corrective action did not take place in a wetland. The existing backfill, around the structure was removed, and replaced with concrete and gravel backfill.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue working with you as we complete this important reliability project.

Sincerely,

Joseph Sperry, P.E.

Eversource Senior Engineer

Cc: Pamela Monroe, NH Site Evaluation Committee