



Mark Avery <madplanboard@gmail.com>

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**RE: [External] RE: Eversource work off Madbury Rd**

1 message

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**Wilkes, Kristopher** <KWilkes@vhb.com>

Tue, Mar 3, 2020 at 11:13 AM

To: Madbury Admin Asst <adminmadbury@comcast.net>, "Menendez, Jeni"

<jennifer.menendez@eversource.com>, Mark Avery <madplanboard@gmail.com>, "Trefry, Sherrie"

<STrefry@vhb.com>

Cc: Marcia Goodnow <marciagoodnow@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Durfee <efd.planning@gmail.com>

Good Morning Mr. Fiegenbaum,

Here is some information regarding the upcoming scheduled routine utility maintenance in Madbury to pass on to the CC and WRB.

Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) d/b/a Eversource Energy intends to replace five (5) structures along the G128 Transmission Line and three (3) structures along the 307 Transmission Line in the Town of Madbury. The G128 and 307 Transmission Lines share the same cleared and maintained right-of-way (ROW) corridor that will be accessed from directly off Madbury Road. The eight structures to be replaced consist of a two-pole or three-pole wood structures that will be replaced with weathered steel to meet current industry standards. The existing structures have been identified a deficient during periodic inspections conducted by Eversource. The most common reason wooden structures need replacement is woodpecker damage and internal rot. These structures are also likely over 50 years old and have been subjected to the seasonal elements associated with New England. The proposed replacement work is part of PSNH's on-going maintenance program conducted to ensure reliable electric service for their customers. The PSNH transmission system is an integral part of the regional power system delivering electricity to customers throughout New England. It is critical that the system remain operational without interruption from preventable outages. The proposed work is schedule to commence this spring.

Construction crews will utilize existing established access (where present) as they traverse within the limits of the ROW corridor off Madbury Road to reach the structures targeted for replacement. However, there are a number of wetlands and streams that intersect the existing G128/307 Line ROW within the vicinity of the proposed replacement work. These resources have been previously delineated by environmental consultants working for Eversource and their boundaries have been recently verified by VHB in the field. In order to minimize impacts to these resources, construction crews will utilize timber matting to gain access across wetlands and streams in order to reach the existing structures targeted for maintenance. Timber mats will also be set up around the base of the structures if the structures' work pads intersect wetlands in order to provide a stable work area to stage crews/equipment. The use of timber mats is a routine practice that reduces the impact of staging/driving heavy equipment through saturated wetland soils by dispersing the equipment weight, preventing the formation of ruts, and preventing conditions that are conducive to soil erosion. Stream crossings encountered will be bridged by timber mats

(from bank to bank) in order to avoid direct stream impacts and to not obstruct stream flow.

Additionally, prior to accessing the ROW, crews will install erosion control and sediment control barriers in accordance with the NHDES Utility BMP manual, and as dictated by site conditions. Selected BMPs may include silt sock, silt fence, wood chip/compost berms/tubes and/or other approved BMPs. Erosion controls will be inspected daily and maintained throughout the duration of the project and will not be removed until project work is complete, and the project area is stabilized in accordance with NHDES guidance. Due to the measures being taken to minimize impacts, it is anticipated that minimal restoration within the ROW will be needed and that natural vegetative re-colonization of impacted areas will occur during summer vegetative growth periods. VHB will revisit the ROW during this time period to confirm vegetative regrowth. If necessary, an approved upland and/or wetland seed mix outlined in NHDES guidance manuals, will be applied to any areas where cover is slow to develop. Additionally, straw or weed-free hay will be applied in conjunction with seed.

In accordance with RSA 482-A:3, XV, routine utility maintenance work is exempt from the standard wetland permitting process at the state level. However, Eversource is required to submit a Utility Maintenance Statutory Permit By Notification (SPN) to NHDES to cover approximately 27,471 square feet of temporary wetland impact associated with use of timber matting within wetlands required to complete the replacement work. VHB is currently assisting Eversource with this filing. As part of the NHDES SPN process, The Town of Madbury will receive a copy of this filing.

Attached above is the current copy of the Project Plans which depict the existing ROW, delineated natural resources, the proposed access, structures to be replaced and associated temporary wetland impacts. Just a note - the plans depict some work further down the ROW in Durham as well. Please let me know if you have any questions, and more specifically if attendance at the CC and/or WRB monthly meetings will be necessary. VHB and Eversource are planning to attend the monthly meeting with the Planning Board tomorrow night and can address any questions/concerns at that time as well.

Sincerely,

**Kristopher P. Wilkes, CWS, CPESC**

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**From:** Madbury Admin Asst <[adminmadbury@comcast.net](mailto:adminmadbury@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 27, 2020 11:07 AM

**To:** 'Menendez, Jeni' <[jennifer.menendez@eversource.com](mailto:jennifer.menendez@eversource.com)>; 'Mark Avery' <[madplanboard@gmail.com](mailto:madplanboard@gmail.com)>; Trefry, Sherrie <[STrefry@VHB.com](mailto:STrefry@VHB.com)>; Wilkes, Kristopher <[KWilkes@VHB.com](mailto:KWilkes@VHB.com)>

**Cc:** 'Marcia Goodnow' <[marciagoodnow@gmail.com](mailto:marciagoodnow@gmail.com)>; 'Elizabeth Durfee' <[efd.planning@gmail.com](mailto:efd.planning@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** [External] RE: Eversource work off Madbury Rd

I will offer that the Cons. Com. and Water Resources Board both meet monthly, with CC meeting on the first Thursday (March 5) and WRB meeting on the last Tuesday (March 31).

Providing those entities with some basic information about the project as soon as you can could help speed things along. It would likely give the chairs enough information to help decide if your attendance at a meeting is needed and possibly enough for a recommendation if needed.

Eric

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Eric Fiegenbaum, Administrator  
Town of Madbury  
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