

CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – AGENDA

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council Conference Room - 288 Central Avenue Dover NH
Meeting Date: Monday, July 11, 2022
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **CITIZEN'S FORUM**
3. **APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – June 13, 2022**
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Agent: VHB, Inc.), Assessor's Maps K-1 and M-1, covering various lots within the utility right of way, zoned R-12 and R-40. Proposal is to replace five deficient utility structures/poles along the R169 Electric Transmission Line creating 8,778 square feet of temporary wetland impact and 32,838 square feet of combined temporary buffer impact to the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts.
6. **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**
 - A. Review of Correspondence Received From NH Department of Environmental Services
7. **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - A. Update From Committee on Amendments to Wetland Protection District Ordinance
8. **ADJOURNMENT**



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 1st Floor Conference Room - 288 Central Avenue Dover NH
Meeting Date: Monday, June 13, 2022
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Jason Aube, Amy Kramer-Perry, Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Abigail Lyon

Absent (Excused): Robert Atwood (Secretary), Kristen Murphy (Alternate)

Absent (Un-excused): Richard Erickson, Bruce Batchelder (Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Jackson Kaspari – Resilience Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Lindsey Williams (City Council), Steve Riker, Steve Herzog

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.
Hunt opened the meeting and did a roll call.

2. CITIZENS' FORUM: None

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – May 9, 2022

J. Aube moved to approve the May 9, 2022 minutes, S. Fellows seconded. Vote: 3 yes, 2 abstentions.

4. OLD BUSINESS: None

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Unifit Granite State Gas Transmission (Agent: Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.) Assessor's Map M, Lot 47C, zoned R-12, located east of Polly Ann Park. Proposal is to construct an above ground station comprising of a pipeline internal inspection tool launcher and receiver, creating approximately 3,175 square feet of permanent wetland impact and 500 square feet of temporary wetland impact.

Steve Herzog from Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. was present to explain the application.

Per the request of the Chair, J. Kaspari noted that the NHDES application for this project was previously heard by the Commission. Being new to the process in Dover the Applicant wanted to ensure sufficient time for NHDES review before navigating the local regulations. The project appeared before TRC and now is back before the Commission seeking a CUP. There have been no substantial changes to the plans.

A. Lyon motioned to approve referencing the prior in-depth review. J. Aube seconded.

Vote: 5 yes



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- B.** NHDES Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application for Peter T. Paul Living Trust (Agent: Ambit Engineering, Inc.) Assessor's Map N, Lot 8-1-4, zoned R-40, located at 56 Saddle Trail Drive. Proposal is to construct a tidal docking structure consisting of a 4' x 95' accessway, a 4' x 20' fixed wood pier, a 3' x 30' gangway and a 10' x 40' float, totaling 380 square feet of permanent impact to the previously developed Tidal Buffer Zone and 570 square feet of permanent impact to tidal wetlands.

Steve Riker from Ambit Engineering, Inc. was present to explain the application.

J. Aube: What NOAA tidal station was used?

S. Riker: NOAA Station 8420411 Dover, Cocheco River, New Hampshire.

B. Hunt: Can you explain the high tide line on sheet D1?

S. Riker pointed to the various mean high-water lines and projected sea level rise line out to 2100.

B. Hunt: Is any tree removal necessary?

S. Riker: While not obvious from the depictions of the tree canopies on the plans, we were very careful to avoid any tree removal.

J. Aube: Does this docking structure meet the appropriate size limitations?

S. Riker: Yes, it meets the criteria.

J. Aube: Are there any other sensitive resources in the area?

S. Riker: NHB was contacted as part of the application process but no sensitive resources were identified.

J. Aube motioned to endorse the NHDES application citing that there is no proposed tree removal and that the application purposely limits impacts to the salt marsh. S. Fellows seconded. Vote: 5 yes.



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- C. Vote on authorization of an additional \$2,500 from Conservation Fund for an updated survey of River Run Wildlife Management Area.

J. Kaspari explained that due to the size of the parcel and anticipated complexity of the survey that the RFQ bid responses came in higher than the previously authorized amount. The folks who monitor this property have been requesting an updated survey for the past few years and the benefit would be solving a long-standing boundary dispute with an abutting owner.

S. Fellows: How close were the bids in terms of monetary amount?

J. Kaspari: Once was significantly closer to the initial budget than the other.

A. Lyon moved to approve. A Kramer-Perry seconded. Vote: 5 yes.

D. Update on City of Dover Stormwater Utility Planning

J. Kaspari noted that he is not the lead on this effort and that technical questions should be directed to Environmental Projects Manager Gretchen Young who has been involved since the beginning. He also pointed out that the FAQ sheets available through the City Website are very helpful for answering general questions regarding the proposal.

https://www.dover.nh.gov/Assets/government/boards-commissions/city-council/stormwater/documents/FAQs_Stormwater%20and%20Flood%20Resilience%20Utility_January%202022.pdf

He stated some of the key information:

- \$5 M in differed projects that are needed to reduce the City's impacts.
- 1,700 stormwater utilities have been implemented in 41 states.
- Proposal is to for utility to be equitable and scale with the amount of impervious surface by using a dollar amount per equivalent residential unit (ERU) which is determined by dividing the amount of impervious area by the average amount for a single-family home in Dover (3,430 sq. feet).

A. Lyon helped explain further noting that what the Committee that worked on this developed is a set of recommendations and that nothing has been authorized. There will be continual work done through public meeting such as the one occurring tonight which is a joint meeting between the Ordinance Committee and Utilities Commission.



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B. Hunt voiced concerns that were raised to him regarding the potential impact to local farmers.

A. Lyon: There will likely be opportunities for relief whether through on-site improvements or other mechanisms that farmers could take advantage of. Public outreach will be key to this whole process.

J. Aube: Not to target farmers but the nitrogen impacts from farms can be really substantial, so it's important that the runoff is managed well.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

A. Review of Correspondence Received from NH Department of Environmental Services

NHDES issued a request for more information (RFMI) for 3 Wentworth Terrace.

NHDES approved the Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application for Quantum Real Estate Group LLC for the installation of a municipal water main off Littleworth Road.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Update from Committee on Amendments to Wetland Protection District Ordinance

J. Kaspari: Committee is meeting on Thursday to address feedback from Staff regarding the proposed amendments. A more detailed update will be provided at the next meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned unanimously.



July 1, 2022

Ref: 52882.00

Ms. Gina Cruikshank
Dover Planning Board Chair
City Hall
288 Central Avenue
Dover, NH 03820

Re: City of Dover Conditional Use Permit Application
PSNH R169 Electric Transmission Line Utility Pole Replacements, Dover, NH

Dear Ms. Cruikshank:

On behalf of the Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) d/b/a Eversource Energy, VHB is submitting this Conditional Use Permit Application to the City of Dover Planning Board for the proposed replacement of 5 utility structures/poles along the R169 Electric Transmission Line in Dover that have been identified as deficient during recent line inspections. This project qualifies for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) approval as a power line project within a utility right-of-way (ROW) within the Conservation and Wetland Protection Overriding Districts in accordance with *Article VIII Sections 170-27(C)(1)* and *170-27.1(F)(1)*, respectively, of the City's Zoning Ordinance (as amended 10/13/2021). This CUP Application is being submitted in accordance with *Sections 170-27* and *170-27.1* of the zoning ordinance and is required for the proposed work to allow temporary impacts to wetlands and streams (and their associated buffers) protected under the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts.

In accordance with NH RSA 482-A:3, XV, routine utility maintenance work is exempt from the standard wetland permitting process at the state level. However, PSNH is required to submit a Utility Maintenance Activity Statutory Permit-by-Notification (SPN), Shoreland Permit-by-Notification (PBN), and Alteration of Terrain (AoT) permit application to New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to cover the temporary wetland impact associated with use of timber matting within wetlands required to complete the proposed pole replacement work, impacts within the Protected Shoreland of the Cocheco River, and proposed upland ground disturbance, respectively. VHB is currently assisting PSNH with these filings. As part of the permitting process, The City of Dover will receive a copy of these filings.

Existing Conditions

The project involves an approximately 120-foot-wide maintained electric transmission line corridor that contains one transmission line (the R169 Line) in Dover. The project ROW is comprised of Eversource owned-property or Eversource-controlled easements. The project ROW is intersected by Back Road near Pole 11. The project ROW contains dense emergent and scrub-shrub wetland and upland vegetation that is maintained (cut) on a three to five-year cycle to achieve vertical clearance requirements between ground vegetation and overhead transmission lines. The surrounding land use is largely forested with few residential properties.

2 Bedford Farms Drive
Suite 200
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Engineers | Scientists | Planners | Designers



Project Description

PSNH intends to replace 5 utility poles along the R169 Electric Transmission Line in Dover. Poles to be replaced are laminated wood and comprised of either a three-pole configuration (i.e., Pole 27 adjacent to the Cocheco River) or single poles that will be replaced with weathered steel in the same configuration (either in the same location or within 10 feet of the existing poles) in accordance with current utility standards. Weathered steel poles are more resilient to insect and woodpecker damage and pole rot and can further withstand typical New Hampshire storms and severe weather events. Additionally, associated guy support wires and anchors will be replaced. The most common reasons wooden poles are replaced include internal rot and/or woodpecker damage. On average, the height of the new poles will be increased by 5 to 10 feet. The purpose of the height increase is to gain compliance with current regulatory standards, meet safety clearance requirements, accommodate the site topography, and minimize environmental impacts. Refer to the attached **Project Plans** for more information.

Since the proposed pole replacement work will occur within the limits of an existing cleared and maintained overhead electric utility ROW, no tree clearing or widening of the ROW is proposed. Work crews will access poles targeted for replacement or removal from existing public roadways that intersect the transmission line ROW, traveling within the limits of the existing cleared ROW corridor to reach the poles. Crews will establish access trails within the ROW in areas that minimize natural resource crossings and have suitable topography during the proposed maintenance work. Some grading may be necessary along the proposed upland access trails to provide a safe and stable surface for construction equipment travel. One off-ROW access is proposed off Henry Law Avenue along an existing gated access road that is part of the Cocheco River Wildlife Management Area managed by the NH Fish and Game Department. No improvements (other than potential minimal herbaceous vegetation clearing/mowing) will be needed along this existing access road. Portions of this access road are wet and may need to be timber matted between the M183 and R169 ROWs.

The bulk of construction is tentatively scheduled to commence in the fall of 2022. Timber matting will be utilized to gain access across wetlands and streams to reach the existing poles targeted for maintenance to minimize soil disturbance and avoid rutting, as applicable. Additionally, timber mats may be set up around the base of poles located in wetlands to provide a stable work area to stage crews/equipment. Upland matting is also proposed along the access to and work pad around Pole 11 to minimize ground disturbance within the maintained field. Any construction laydown areas required for equipment and material staging during pole replacement will be situated in upland areas along the existing ROW corridor. Ground disturbance and grading will be kept to a minimum and will be generally limited to an approximate 100-foot by 100-foot construction work pad around each replacement pole located in uplands. Generally, the work pads are positioned 70/30 as opposed to centered on the poles to provide more space in front of the new pole location to facilitate installation. However, the work pads may be shifted or reduced in size to avoid and minimize natural resource impacts, to the extent practical, as depicted on the **Project Plans**. All access and work pads will be restored following construction as described in more detail below.

Erosion Controls

Erosion controls will be inspected daily by the crews and weekly by an environmental monitor hired by PSNH/Eversource to ensure they are maintained throughout the duration of the project. Stabilization and restoration of disturbed areas/exposed soils will be initiated as timber mats are pulled and utility work is



completed. Erosion controls will not be removed until project work is complete, and the project area is stabilized in accordance with NHDES guidance. Due to the use of timber mats, 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. 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. All construction activities will follow the *Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual for Utility Maintenance in and Adjacent to Wetlands and Waterbodies in New Hampshire* (March 2019), published by the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Invasive Species Management

Several invasive plant species, varying in density, are present within the project ROW based on field observations made by VHB. Species include multi-flora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.), and oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*). Invasive plant species readily colonize disturbed areas and habitat edges, such as ROW corridors. Invasive species management during project construction will adhere to guidance provided in the Utility BMP Manual. Prior to the commencement of work, clearing and pole/line construction crews will be briefed on the invasive plant species present within the ROW and the modes of dispersal and spread of these species.

All equipment, including timber mats, arriving to the site will be visually inspected to ensure that it is clean prior to off-loading. "Clean" is defined as being free of plant matter (stems, flowers, roots, etc.), soil, or other deleterious materials. Additionally, any equipment that has been placed or used within areas containing invasive species within the ROW will be cleaned of plant matter (stems, flowers, roots, etc.), soil, or other deleterious materials at the site of the invasive species prior to being moved to other areas on the ROW to minimize the spread of invasive species from one area to another. Equipment will be cleaned prior to being removed at the completion of the project. Cleaning will be accomplished by utilizing hand tools, shaking/dropping mats to dislodge any attached material, and/or compressed air.

Rabbit Habitat BMPs

PSNH coordinated with the NH Fish and Game Department (NHF&G) to develop various additional BMPs pertinent to New England cottontail habitat within the Cochecho River Wildlife Management Area. The results of the NHF&G coordination are detailed below:

- › Eversource will hire a brontosaurus mower to mow along the roadway on either side. While the mower is onsite, Eversource has agreed to pay for up to one full day of habitat work not related to roadway or electric line improvements, to be specified by NHF&G.
- › Eversource can improve the gravel road base from the gate off Henry Law Avenue to the powerline. It is NHF&G's understanding that this would entail scraping back and reserving the topsoil, laying down a layer of larger gravel (~ 3-inch) ~8 inches thick and top dressed with ¾ or 1.5 inch gravel.
- › At time of closeout, the reserved topsoil would be used to top dress the road and work pads, and seed with a seed mix to be specified by NHF&G to restore the habitat to a vegetated state.
- › The pads where the poles will be installed will be restored in a similar manner as the roads.
- › Wetlands will be traversed with timber matting and not require grading.
- › The area just in front of the gate will also have a layer of gravel applied to improve parking. No additional vegetation clearing will be necessary. The gravel pad will fit about 3 cars parked head in.



- › No road or parking improvements should be made between our marked boundary line and Henry Law Avenue without first obtaining concurrence from the abutters on either side of the access road.

Delineated Natural Resources

Portions of the proposed project fall within the City of Dover's Conservation District as defined in *Article VIII Section 170-27(B)* of the zoning ordinance to include (1) areas within 100 feet of the tidal Cocheco River, (2) areas within 50 feet of nontidal streams, and (4) in areas with slopes greater than 20% and totaling greater than 2,000 square feet of contiguous area. Only 1 and 2 are applicable to this project, and most of the nontidal stream buffers are located within wetland buffers (in which case only the buffer that extends out the farthest is shown on the plans).

Additionally, portions of the proposed project fall within the City of Dover's Wetland Protection District as defined in *Article VIII Section 170-27.1(C)* of the zoning ordinance to include all wetlands that were delineated within the project area by a NH Certified Wetland Scientist in accordance with the applicable regulations. Jurisdictional wetlands and surface waters within the project ROW were delineated by VHB Wetland Scientists in April 2022. The wetland delineation was conducted in accordance with the procedures and standards outlined in the *1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region*, Version 2.0 (January 2012) using alpha-numerically coded pink flagging tape. Wetland delineation also relied upon the *Field Indicators for Identifying Hydric Soils in the United States*, Version 8.2, published by the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the *Field Indicators for Identifying Hydric Soils in New England*, Version 4.0, published by the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in April 2019. Dominant wetland vegetation was assessed using the *2018 National Wetland Plant List* published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Wetlands were classified using the USFWS methodology *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States* (Cowardin et al. 1979, revised 1985). No vernal pools were identified within the ROW during this field work.

Several palustrine emergent (PEM) or palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetlands intersect the existing R169 Line ROW, along with 4 intermittent streams and 1 perennial stream (not counting the Cocheco River) that intersect the Site. Delineated resources are depicted on the attached **Project Plans** and are generally described below. **Representative Site Photographs** are also attached.

Wetland Vegetation

Emergent and scrub-shrub palustrine wetlands are present within the existing utility ROW. Wetland and upland vegetation along the ROW is periodically mechanically cut to maintain safe vertical and horizontal clearance distances from the existing overhead distribution lines, thus maintaining a dense shrub-type habitat. Species typically found within these wetlands include tree species, which are not permitted to grow beyond a sapling growth stage, including red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and species of birch (*Betula* spp.). Common dominant shrub species found within these wetlands include white meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*), steeplebush (*Spiraea tomentosa*), maleberry (*Lyonia ligustrina*), arrowwood (*Viburnum recognitum*), and speckled alder (*Alnus incana*).

Palustrine emergent portions of these wetlands are typically dominated by cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), various species of sedge (*Carex* spp.), rough-stemmed goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), narrowleaf cattail



(*Typha angustifolia*), arrow-leaved tearthumb (*Persicaria sagittata*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), white meadowsweet, and peat moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

Wetland Hydrology and Hydric Soils

Typical indicators of wetland hydrology observed throughout the project ROW wetlands include surface water (A1), saturation (A3), water-stained leaves (B9), drainage patterns (B10), and geomorphic position (D2). Typical indicators of hydric soils observed throughout the project ROW wetlands include Hydric Soil Indicators F3: Depleted Matrix and F6: Redox Dark Surface.

Streams

The Cocheco River is a tidally influenced perennial river that is classified as Estuarine, Subtidal, Unconsolidated Bottom, Sand, Subtidal (E1UB2L) and abuts the project ROW to the west (west of Pole 27). No impacts to this river are expected to result from the proposed utility maintenance work. A smaller perennial stream classified as Riverine, Unknown Perennial, Unconsolidated Bottom, Cobble-Gravel/Mud (R5UB1/3) flows south to north through the project ROW with bordering wetlands R-7 and R-8. The bank height of this stream ranges from two to four feet high and the channel width ranges from five to eight feet wide. Approximately four to eight inches of flowing water was present at the time of delineation.

The intermittent streams are all classified as Riverine, Intermittent, Streambed, Mud (R4SB3) with average channel widths of two to three feet wide and average bank heights of zero to one foot high. Approximately two to four inches of flowing water was present within these streams at the time of delineation.

Temporary impacts to streams have been avoided by using timber mats that will span the streams from beyond their jurisdictional banks.

Functions and Values

Most of the wetlands within the ROW are currently maintained as either scrub-shrub or emergent habitat (or a mix thereof). Scrub-shrub wetlands, when associated with a stream, often receive over bank flooding and are significant in flood alteration and often protect stream banks from erosion. Scrub-shrub wetlands are productive in terms of food resources where they support berried varieties of shrubs. These wetlands tend to be more structurally diverse and can support diverse wildlife species. This is especially true when they are associated with streams that can act as wildlife corridors or that offer a wider range of local habitat conditions. However, when not associated with a stream, hydrologically isolated, and small, these wetlands tend to exhibit limited functions and values.

None of the proposed impacts associated with this project are expected to permanently alter the hydrology of wetlands (i.e., no inflow/outflow restrictions) along the existing or proposed ROW resulting from the timber mats (which will be in place for less than one growing season) as they minimize soil compaction and water can pass beneath and through the timber matting while it is in place. Therefore, the proposed project will not permanently impact water quality and hydrologic functions. These functions include groundwater recharge/discharge, floodflow alteration, sediment and nutrient trapping, production export, or shoreline stabilization which are performed by wetlands within the project ROW. Some temporary, short-term impacts to the wildlife habitat wetland function are anticipated during the construction period due to temporary construction-related noise and the presence of work crews and equipment.

Proposed Overriding District Impacts



Impacts to wetlands were minimized to the maximum extent practical during project planning. This included modifications to ROW access, the positioning of the proposed utility poles, the utilization of timber matting and/or tracked equipment, and the location/orientation of work pads. It should also be noted that direct stream impacts were avoided by using timber mats that will span the jurisdictional streambanks. Given the overlapping overriding districts and associated buffers, we quantified the impacts in **Table 1** below by direct wetland impact and municipal buffer impact. The municipal buffers were established by taking the farthest buffer (such as when a stream is located within a wetland, the larger wetland buffer was used).

Table 1: Proposed Temporary Impacts

Impact Type	Impact Area (Square Feet)
Direct Wetland Impact	8,778
Municipal Buffer Impact	32,838
Total	41,616

Conditional Use Permit Procedures and Requirements

The Dover Zoning Ordinance provides that CUP applications can be approved for limited and regulated uses by the Planning Board if it is found that the use is consistent with the ordinance and does not have an adverse impact on the natural resources and jurisdictional areas within the overriding districts.

Conservation District

A CUP may be issued in accordance with the criteria detailed in *Article VIII Section 170-27(C)(2)* for the Conservation District:

- (a) *The applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed use is essential to the productive use of land not in the district; is located and constructed to minimize any detrimental impact of such use upon the surface waters or other environmentally sensitive areas, where it is physically impossible to locate such use on land not in the district; and economic advantage alone shall not be deemed a sufficient reason for such proposed use.*

The proposed maintenance work is required to maintain the reliability of the existing infrastructure that provides electricity to the regional grid. Maintaining the flow of electricity to developed regions of the state is essential to the safety and productivity of those communities. All work has been designed to avoid and minimize impacts to the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts to the extent practical while accomplishing the project objectives of replacing the target poles.

- (b) *A soil erosion and sedimentation control plan is submitted and followed to verify the planned avoidance of sediment pollutant runoff to bodies of water. This plan will address the following (if applicable), but should not be limited to:*
- (i) *stabilization of exposed soils and soil stockpiles; **Exposed upland soils will be seeded and stabilized with straw mulch to prevent erosion while vegetation is establishing. Following removal of timber mats from wetland areas, any exposed soils will be stabilized with weed-free straw and allowed to reestablish within the next growing season. If some areas are slow to establish, NHDES-approved wetland seed mixes may***



- be applied. Temporary soil stockpiles, if applicable, will be temporarily stabilized and surrounded by erosion controls (i.e., silt sock), as necessary, to contain the sediment.**
- (ii) *protection of steep SLOPES from erosion; The steep slope associated with the bank of the Cocheco River will not be impacted by this project. Site work will be limited to areas above the delineated top of bank.*
 - (iii) *construction site waste management; Old poles and equipment and any construction debris will be removed from the site and properly disposed.*
 - (iv) *inspection and maintenance of runoff control measures (BMPs); An environmental monitor hired by PSNH will be responsible for conducting weekly monitoring of the project to ensure the work is occurring in accordance with the approved plans and that erosion controls are functioning as intended (and recommend corrective actions if/as applicable). Furthermore, the selected contractor will be responsible for daily monitoring of the erosion controls.*
 - (v) *minimization of land clearing; No tree clearing is proposed as part of this project; however, brush removal along the existing roadway will be required.*
 - (vi) *stabilization of drainage ways; Not applicable to this project.*
 - (vii) *installation of perimeter controls; Various erosion control lines are shown on the plans where silt fence and/or silt sock are proposed to protect the adjacent natural resources.*
 - (viii) *installation of sediment trapping devices; and Not applicable to this project.*
 - (ix) *storm drain inlet protection. Not applicable to this project.*
- (c) *Necessary state and federal approvals have been applied for. Said permits shall be received prior to the issuance of the Conditional Use Permit by the Planning and Community Development Department.*
A Utility Maintenance Activity SPN, Shoreland PBN, and AoT permit application for the proposed project will be submitted to NHDES to cover environmental permitting at the state level.
- (d) *A written review by the Conservation Commission of the environmental effects of the proposed use upon the area in question has been submitted. The Commission's review shall address the following, but is not limited to:*
- (i) *attempted avoidance of the impact;*
 - (ii) *minimization of the impact;*
 - (iii) *planned mitigation of the effects of the impact; and*
 - (iv) *efficacy of the soil erosion and sedimentation control plan.*
- We request that the Conservation Commission compose a letter to the Planning Board addressing these items and stating any recommendations and concurrence for the project. These items are addressed elsewhere in this application.**

Wetland Protection District

A CUP may be issued in accordance with the criteria detailed in *Article VIII Section 170-27.1(F)(1)* of the Wetland Protection District:



- (a) *Practicable Alternative: There is no practicable alternative that would have a less adverse impact on the area.*

Avoidance and minimization of natural resource impacts was a main consideration throughout the project design and implementation, coupled with construction feasibility and safety. All access routes were selected through site walks with PSNH, and work pads were positioned to avoid natural resource impacts to the extent practical while still accomplishing the project objectives (such as the work pad around Pole 27 which avoids impacts to Cocheco River and Wetland R-2). Given the avoidance and minimization efforts employed throughout the plan development, it is our opinion that there is no practicable alternative that would have less impact. It should also be noted that impacts associated with this work are temporary and will be restored.

- (b) *Avoidance: The potential impacts have been avoided to the maximum extent practicable. The APPLICANT will demonstrate by plan and example that the proposed construction represents the least impacting alternative.*

Refer to the response for (a) above. Impacts to natural resources and buffers comprising the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts have been avoided to the extent practical while still accomplishing the project objectives of replacing the target poles. Where stream crossings are proposed, they will be spanned from beyond their jurisdictional banks with timber mats to avoid stream impacts.

- (c) *Minimization: Any unavoidable impacts have been minimized. No reasonable Alternative to the proposed construction exists which does not impact a wetland or which has less detrimental impact on a wetland. Design, construction, and maintenance methods will be prepared by a registered engineer to minimize detrimental impacts to the wetlands and will include restoration of the site as nearly as possible to its original grade.*

Refer to the response for (a) above. Impacts to natural resources and buffers comprising the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts have been minimized to the extent practical while still accomplishing the project objectives of replacing the target poles. The use of timber matting further minimizes impacts by reducing ground pressure and preventing rutting within wetlands and the agricultural field near Pole 11. Where feasible, wetlands that span the ROW width will be crossed at their narrowest areas to minimize impacts.

- (d) *Mitigation: If the APPLICANT is required by State rules to prepare a compensatory mitigation plan, the APPLICANT shall provide the Conservation Commission and PLANNING BOARD with one copy each of said plan for their review.*

Not applicable.

- (e) *Approval for the wetlands impact has been received from the NHDES Wetlands Bureau pursuant to Section G (3), below.*

A Utility Maintenance Activity SPN for the proposed project will be submitted to the NHDES Wetlands Bureau to cover environmental permitting at the state level for the proposed temporary wetland impacts.



Property Ownership and Abutters

It is our understanding that the City of Dover will prepare the abutting property list and invoice the applicant for the applicable fee (which must be paid at least 28 hours in advance of the Planning Board meeting).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at (603) 391-3951 or strefry@vhb.com.

Sincerely,

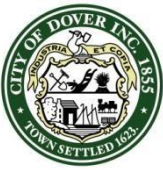
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherrie Trefry".

Sherrie Trefry, CSS
Energy Market Lead

cc: Jeremy Fennell, PSNH

Attachments:

- City of Dover Conditional Use Permit Application Form
- Tax Maps
- Representative Site Photos
- Project Plans



City of Dover, New Hampshire CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

[Revision Date: October 19, 2020]

Office Use Only	Project #:	_____	Date Received:	_____
	Amount Paid:	_____	Time Received:	_____

APPLICANT AND OWNER INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: Public Service Company of NH c/o Jeremy Fennell Telephone # 603-634-3396

Address of Applicant: 13 Legends Drive, Hooksett NH 03106

E-Mail Address: jeremy.fennell@eversource.com

Name of Property Owner (if different from applicant): SAME Telephone # SAME

Address of Property Owner: SAME AS APPLICANT

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Assessor's Map # K-1 and M-1 Lot(s) # Various - existing and actively maintained utility right-of-way (ROW)

Address of Property: Existing utility ROW southeast of the Cocheco River (Structures 24-27) and northwest of Back Road (Structure 11).

Zoning District(s) Poles 26 and 27 are in **R-12** (Medium-Density Residential)
Poles 25, 24, and 11 are in **R-40** (Rural Residential) Overlay District(s) Conservation District (CD) and Wetlands Protection District (WPD)

Existing Use of Property: Existing and actively maintained PSNH utility ROW.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT INFORMATION

Type of Conditional Use Permit (Check All That Apply):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ☒ Conservation District | ☐ RCM Use Overlay District | ☐ Gateway District |
| ☐ Groundwater Protection | ☐ Off-Street Parking and Loading | ☐ Alternative Treatment Center |
| ☒ Wetland Protection District | ☐ Central Business District | ☐ Heritage Residential District |

Describe Proposed Use or Activity That Requires Conditional Use Permit and Describe Any Impacts:

The proposed project involves the replacement of 5 utility poles along the R169 Electric Transmission Line in Dover that have been identified as deficient during recent line inspections. The existing laminated wood poles will be replaced with weathered steel either in the same location or within 10 feet of the existing poles in accordance with current utility standards. The proposed project is part of Eversource's on going maintenance conducted to ensure reliable electric service for their customers without interruption from preventable outages. This work will require temporary impacts to wetlands and streams through the use of timber matting at unavoidable access road and work pad crossings. No permanent natural resource impacts are proposed. All temporary impacts will be stabilized and restored post-construction, as dictated by site conditions. The use of timber mats often allows for natural vegetation to reestablish during the next growing season.

List Any Associated State or Federal Permits That Have Been or Will Be Applied For and Indicate Their Status: **NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Utility Maintenance Activity Statutory Permit By Notification (SPN), NHDES Shoreland Permit-by-Notification (PBN), and NHDES Alteration of Terrain (AoT) Permits which are currently being drafted.**

Name of Professional That Prepared Plans: Kristopher Wilkes, CWS

Address 2 Bedford Farms Drive, Suite 200, Bedford, NH 03110 Telephone #: 603-391-3944

Professional License #: CWS 288 E-mail address: kwilkes@vhb.com

SIGNATURES

I/We hereby submit this application to the City of Dover Planning Board and attest that to the best of my knowledge all of the information on this application form and in the accompanying application materials and documentation is true and accurate. As applicant or as agent, I attest that I am duly authorized to act in this capacity.

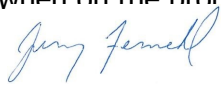
Signature of Property Owner:  Date: 6/29/22

Signature of Applicant (if different from owner): SAME Date:

Signature of Agent:  Date: 6/29/22

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER SUBJECT PROPERTY

I, and my successors, hereby authorize members of the Dover Planning Board, Planning Department and other pertinent City Departments and boards to enter my property for the purpose of evaluating this application, including performing inspections during the application phase, post-approval phase, construction phase and occupancy phase. It is understood that these individuals must use all reasonable care, courtesy, and diligence when on the property.

Signature of Property Owner:  Date: 6/29/22

CITY OF DOVER CONDITIONAL USE LIST OF ABUTTERS

Pursuant to RSA 676:4, the State Law of New Hampshire, the City of Dover is required to notify the applicant, abutters (including holders of conservation easements), and any professional whose seal is on the plan, of the public hearing by certified mail, return receipt requested. Staff will provide the abutter information, while the applicant must provide accurate contact information for the owner, applicant and professional agents representing the project.

Owner:

TAX MAP	LOT #	PROPERTY OWNER	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>
Existing Utility ROW (Easement Rights)		PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy	13 Legends Drive, Hooksett, NH 03106

Applicant (if different from owner):

APPLICANT NAME	APPLICANT COMPANY	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>
Jeremy Fennell	PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy	13 Legends Drive, Hooksett, NH 03106

Surveyor and/or Engineer/Professional Agent:

NAME	COMPANY	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>
Sherrie Trefry	VHB	2 Bedford Farms Drive (Suite 200), Bedford, NH 03110

Conservation Easement Holder:

TAX MAP	LOT #	NAME OF EASEMENT HOLDER	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>

PLANNING BOARD FEE SCHEDULE/INVOICE

(Revised July 1, 2021)

Below are the fees associated with plan review and are subject to a nonrefundable application fee to cover administrative expenses. Please complete the information below and provide payment with your application submittal. **Plan Review Fees shall be paid prior to technical review committee (TRC) being scheduled.** For plans not requiring TRC review, **fees are due 21 days prior** to the Planning Board meeting. Staff will coordinate abutter/notice fees, which will be invoiced and must be paid 28 hours before the Planning Board meeting for an application to be heard. Fees shall be paid by cash or check made payable to "City of Dover".

A. Plan Review Fees

1. Application fee for the following (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY):

- ☐ SUBDIVISION Application fee \$200.00 + \$150.00 x # _____ new lots created = \$ N/A
- ☐ LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT Application fee \$200.00 + \$100.00 X # _____ of lots involved = \$ N/A
- ☐ TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS Application fee \$200.00 = \$ N/A
- ☐ SITE REVIEW – RESIDENTIAL Application fee \$200.00+ \$100.00 x # _____ per dwelling unit = \$ N/A
- ☐ SITE REVIEW – NON-RESIDENTIAL Application fee \$200.00 + (not to exceed \$10,000)
 - ☐ New construction \$.15 sq. ft. x # _____ sq. ft.= \$ N/A
 - ☐ Additions (new floor space) \$.10 per sq. ft. x # _____ sq. ft.= \$ N/A
- ☐ MOTEL/HOTEL \$35.00 x # _____ per lodging unit= \$ N/A
- ☐ CHANGE OF USE Application fee \$200.00 + (not to exceed \$5,000)
 - ☐ Existing floor spaces \$.10 per sq. ft. x # _____ sq. ft. = \$ N/A
- ☒ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT Application fee \$200.00 x # 1 per Application = \$ 200.00
- ☐ GRAVEL PIT/ EXCAVATIONS
 - ☐ Application fee \$50.00= \$ N/A
 - ☐ Permit fee \$75.00= \$ N/A
- ☐ EXTENSIONS/AMENDMENTS/WAIVERS FOR AN APPROVED PLAN Application fee \$200.00 = \$ N/A
- ☐ REQUEST FOR REZONING Application fee \$200.00 = \$ N/A
- ☐ DRIVEWAY WAIVER Application fee \$200.00 = \$ N/A

2. TOTAL IMPERVIOUS PAVED AREA (for new development, roadways or additions to

existing parking lots, (not to exceed \$10,000)) Application fee of \$200.00 is N/A if it is part

of a Site Review or Subdivision Plan. \$200.00 + \$.07 per sq. ft. x # _____ sq. ft. = \$ N/A

SUBTOTAL PLAN REVIEW FEE (A) = \$ 200.00

AND

B. Abutter Notification/Mailing Labels - this office will create and print the abutter list and provide labels in triplicate for each abutter. The applicant/owner will review the list for accuracy and provide to us the engineer, architect, licensed land surveyor (LLS), licensed landscape architect (LLA) and/or soil scientist whose professional seal appears on the plan with names and addresses for notices.

- ☐ Applicant & Owner, engineer, architect, LLS, LLA and/or soil scientist
 - ☐ Certified letters fee # _____ of x \$8.00= \$ _____
- ☐ Certified letters fee: # of abutters _____ X \$8.00= \$ _____
- ☐ First Class Mail fee (for individual owner of units within a condominium or other collective form of ownership): # of abutters _____ X \$1.00= \$ _____
- ☐ Creating/Printing Abutter Labels in triplicate per sheet _____ x \$10.00= \$ _____

C. Foster's newspaper public notice fee \$100.00 x # _____ applications = \$ _____

SUBTOTAL NOTICE FEE (B & C) = \$ _____

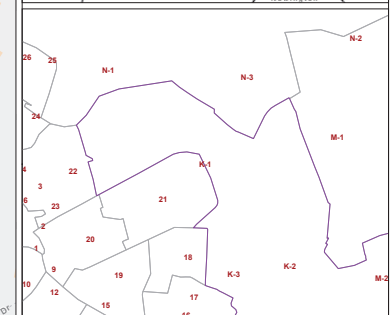
TOTAL INVOICE AMOUNT (A, B & C) = \$ _____

PLAN REVIEW FEE COLLECTED/PAID = \$ _____

BALANCE DUE = \$ _____

The balance due must be paid 28 hours prior to the Planning Board Meeting, to be heard.

-



1:2,400
1" = 200'

Map Generated: Wednesday, March 21, 2018



CITY OF DOVER
STAFFORD COUNTY NH
TAX ASSESSORS MAP

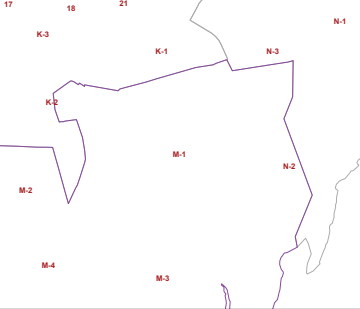
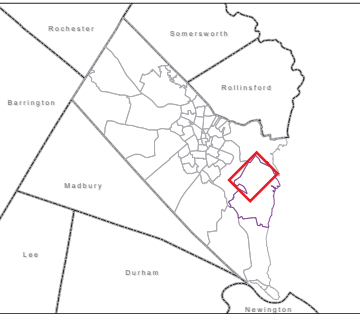


Map Page: M-1



- Parcels
- Parcel on Adjacent Maps
- Buildings
- Rail Road
- Water Body
- Swamp/Marsh
- Streams
- A-20-0-0 Parcel Number
- 0.24 AC Parcel Acreage
- 240 Address Number

Approximate Project Area
(not to scale) - Structure 11



400 200 0 400 Feet

1:2,400
1" = 200'

This map is for assessment and planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of any legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation associated with the data on which this map is based for information related to its accuracy, currentness and limitations.

Map Generated: Thursday, July 5, 2018



Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 1: View west of the Cocheco Riverbank near Structure 27.



Photo 2: View southeast of the utility right-of-way (ROW) with Structure 26 in the background.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 3: View north of Wetland R-2 with the Cocheco River in the background.



Photo 4: View north of intermittent stream 1 (SC-1) within Wetland R-3 at the proposed access crossing.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 5: View southeast of Wetland R-3.



Photo 6: View northwest of the proposed access route with Structure 27 in the background.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 7: View southwest of the wet upland off-ROW access road bordered by quaking aspen and white pine.



Photo 8: View southeast of the drainage gully that connects to Wetlands R-4A and R-4.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 9: View northeast of Wetland R-1 where it overlaps the off-ROW access road.



Photo 10: View north of the off-ROW access road near Henry Law Avenue.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 11: View north of Wetland R-4 with the proposed access crossing in the background.



Photo 12: View southeast of the utility ROW with Structure 25 in the background.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 13: View east of the proposed crossing of Wetland R-6.



Photo 14: View northeast of the perennial stream that flows through the utility ROW.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



Photo 15: View west of the proposed crossing of Wetland R-8.



Photo 16: View west of Structure 24 in the background, taken from within Wetland R-12.

Representative Site Photographs – April 2022
Eversource R169 Transmission Line Structure Replacements – Dover, NH



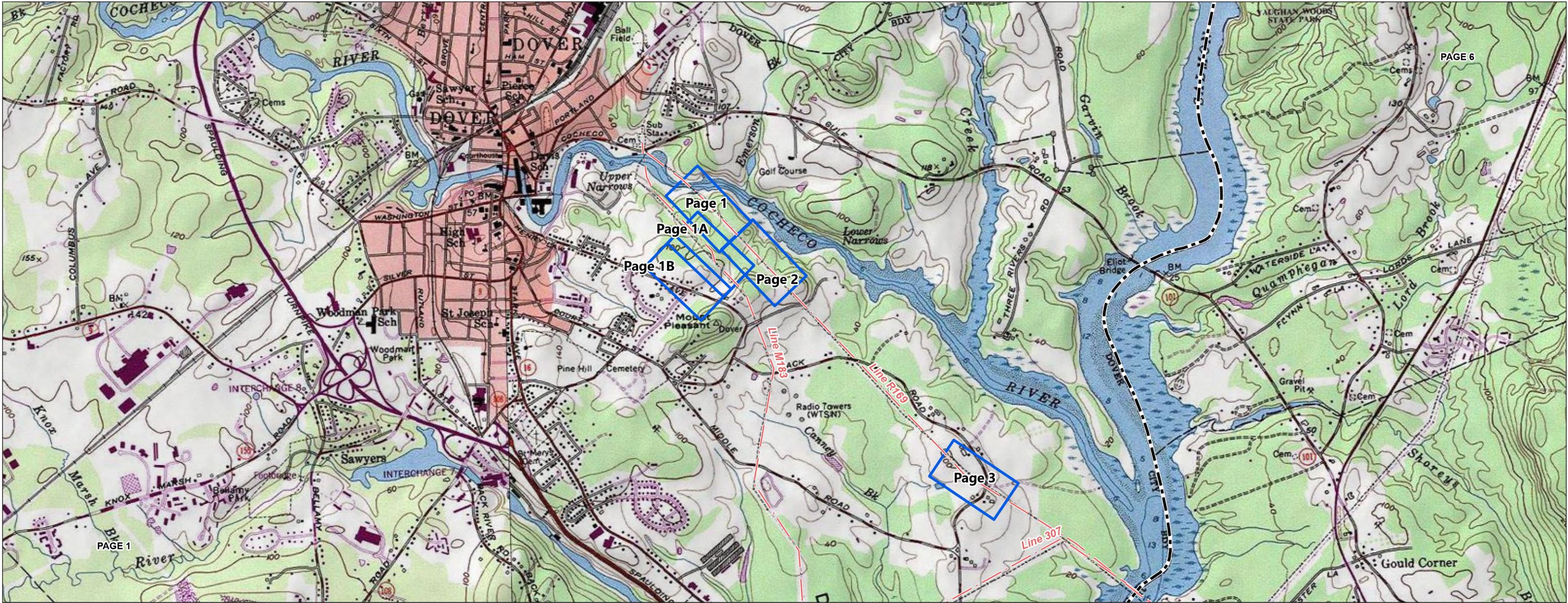
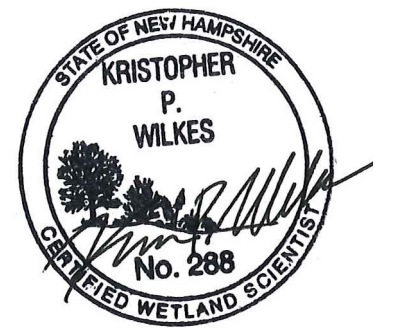
Photo 17: View northwest of Wetland R-24 in the foreground and Structure 11 in the background.



Photo 18: View northwest of Wetland R-24 in the foreground and Structure 11 in the background.

2022 - R169 - Structure Replacement Project
Dover, New Hampshire
Local Permitting Plans

Date: June 29, 2022



- Town Boundary
 - NH / ME Boundary
 - Page Index
 - Overhead Eversource Lines
- 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

INDEX OF FIGURES
Title Sheet / Index Map
Map Sheets 1-3

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS

PREPARED FOR:
EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

13 Legends Drive
Hooksett, NH 03106

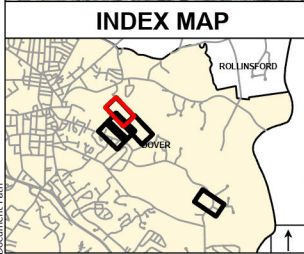
PREPARED BY:



2 Bedford Farms Drive Suite 200
Bedford, NH 03110



Temporary Wetland Impact (SF)	Temporary Municipal Buffer Impact (SF)
1,294	15,996



- Existing Structure

● Proposed Structure

● Existing Structure to be Removed

— Existing Right-of-Way

— Existing Access

— Off-ROW Access

— Proposed Access

— Overhead Eversource Lines

— Delineated Ditch

— Delineated Top of Bank Line

— Delineated Intermittent Watercourse

— Delineated Wetland Boundary Outline

— Field Delineated Wetlands

— Open Water

— FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone

— FEMA Floodway

— Shoreland Reference Line

— 50-Foot Stream Buffer

— 50-Foot Wetland Buffer

— 100-Foot Cocheco River Buffer

— Temporary Municipal Buffer Impact

— Temporary Upland Matting

— Sediment Control Barrier

— Work Pad

— Temporary Construction Matting

— 10' Index Contour

— 2' Contours

— Municipal Boundary

— Approximate Gas Line

— Map Sheet Matchline

— Eversource Owned Property

— Parcel Boundary

Note: Where municipal buffers overlap, only the buffer that extends out the farthest is shown.

EVERSOURCE

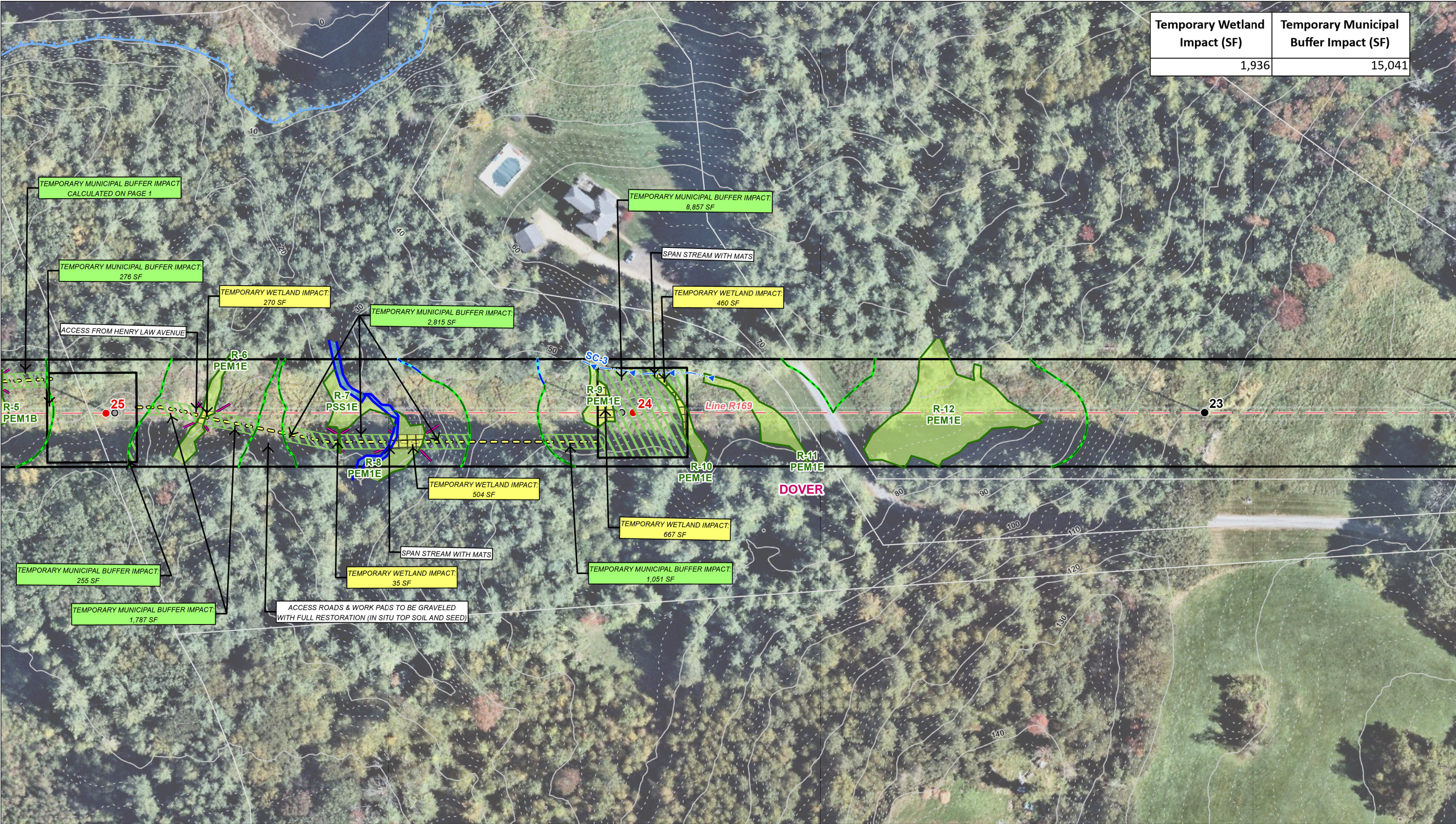
ENERGY

R169 Line Structure Replacement Project

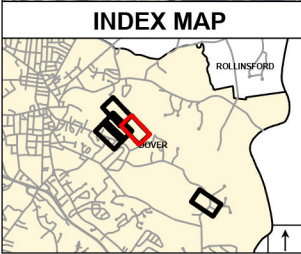
Dover, New Hampshire

Date: June 29, 2022

MAP SHEET 1 of 3



Temporary Wetland Impact (SF)	Temporary Municipal Buffer Impact (SF)
1,936	15,041



- Existing Structure

● Proposed Structure

● Existing Structure to be Removed

— Existing Right-of-Way

— Existing Access

— Off-ROW Access

— Proposed Access

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— Delineated Top of Bank Line

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EVERSOURCE
ENERGY

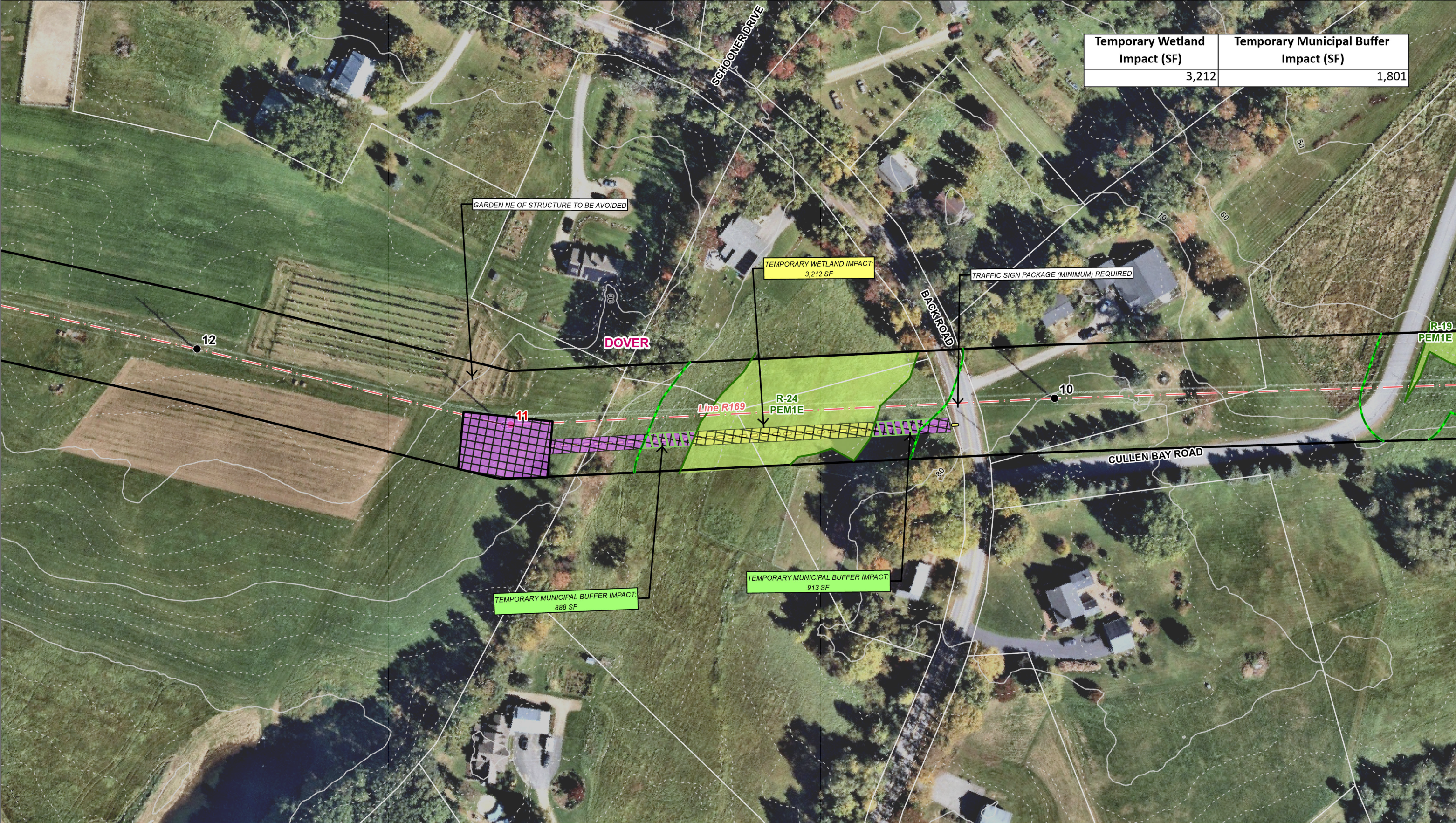
R169 Line Structure Replacement Project

Dover, New Hampshire

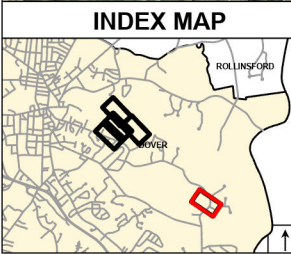
Date: June 29, 2022

MAP SHEET 2 of 3





Temporary Wetland Impact (SF)	Temporary Municipal Buffer Impact (SF)
3,212	1,801



- Existing Structure
- Proposed Structure
- Existing Structure to be Removed
- Existing Right-of-Way
- Existing Access
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