



January 30, 2016

Planning Board
Town of New London
375 Main Street
New London, NH 03257

Dear Planning Board Members:

This letter is to inform the Town of New London that Eversource is planning to trim and remove trees and brush adjacent to and beneath all of its distribution power lines within the town. This work is necessary to insure the safe distribution of power and to improve reliability of electric service for our customers.

According to Eversource records, Camp Sunapee, County, Davis Hill, Forty Acres, Pingree, Soo Nipi, and Whitney Brook Roads and Shaker Street have been designated as scenic roads by the Town. Please consider this letter to be a request from Eversource for a public hearing for the trimming and removal of trees on these and any other scenic roads within the proposed work area pursuant to RSA 231:158. In addition, at the same hearing, Eversource would like to have the Board consider approval of its work plan for those areas where the work falls under the guidelines set forth in Article XVI of the Shore Land Overlay District. Please inform this office of the time and place of said meeting so that we may have a representative present.

Eversource specifications call for removal of brush and limbs less than four inches in diameter which are located within eight feet to the side of, ten feet below or fifteen feet above conductors. Larger trees or limbs which present a threat to Eversource lines or other equipment because of decay or other defect will be removed on a case by case basis. All work will be performed in accordance with accepted arboricultural standards. A list of trees which Eversource considers hazardous and would like to take down is attached. All trees have been marked in the field with red flagging.

Eversource has contracted with Asplundh Tree Expert Company to perform the actual trimming of trees. Eversource requires that our trimming contractors contact each landowner where trees are to be trimmed prior to commencement of work on that property. Individual concerns will be addressed at this time.

All brush and limbs cut on roadside locations will be chipped. In wooded, undeveloped locations, these chips may be dispersed into the woods, taking care not to allow chips to accumulate in piles or in ditches. Near developed land, the chips will be

blown into a truck and disposed of off-site. The chips make a good mulch and are often given to nearby property owners for landscaping purposes. If a central dumping location could be arranged, Eversource would be happy to make any unclaimed chips available to the Town at no cost. Brush and limbs cut on inaccessible lines will be stacked to the side of the right-of-way and cut low to the ground. All wood will be left on site unless otherwise directed by the landowner.

Work on those roads not designated as scenic is scheduled to begin in January. The work will continue throughout 2017.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by U.S. mail at the above address, e-mail at David.Crane@eversource.com, or telephone at 634-3867 or 1-800-286-5000 extension 634-3867.

Thank you for your concern and assistance.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Crane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David R. Crane
Regional Arborist
Eversource Energy

Hazard Tree Assessment for New London Scenic Roads

Street	Pole #	Description
Camp Sunapee Rd.	686/6	15" dead poplar (has wildlife refuge sign); 8" dead spruce.
County Rd.	60H/3 to 4	12.3" dead birch.
County Rd.	60H/14	11.5" dead pine.
County Rd.	72A3/1 to 2	16" rotten poplar.
County Rd.	72A3/2 to 3	23" rotten red maple.
County Rd.	72A3/3	17" dead sugar maple.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/3 to 4	16" yellow birch leader with rot on back side across rd.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/4	9" dead hemlock.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/7 to 8	13" oak close to phase.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/8	11.8" ash with woodpecker holes across rd.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/9S	10" dead elm.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/12	13" red maple with trunk rot.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/21	11" red maple with cavity on trunk.
Davis Hill Rd.	55B/26	11.8" rotten pine across rd.
Pingree Rd.	64/74	30.5" and 23" dying and rotten sugar maples.
ShakerSt.	603/1	10" dying ash.
Shaker St.	603/11	18.0" dead sugar maple.
Shaker St.	603/29 to 30	14" rotten red maple.
Shaker St.	603/31	12.4" poplar with fruiting bodies.
Soo Nipi Rd.	7-1/1 to 2	5.9" and 9" dead ashes.
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B/9Y	13" rotten sugar maple and 11" ash with woodpecker holes (across rd.)
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B/10 to 11	6.1" and 8" dead red maples.
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B/12 to 12Y	11.5" dying ash; 21" & 22" rotten poplars; 7", 10", & 20" dead and dying red maples in clump.
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B1/1	19" ash with woodpecker holes
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B/1 to 2	Top 22" rotten sugar maple (has mirror).
Whitney Brook Rd.	631B1/3.5 to 4	21" rotten sugar maple.



Scenic Roads

Section 231:157

231:157 Scenic Roads; Designation. – Any road in a town, other than a class I or class II highway, may be designated as a scenic road in the following manner. Upon petition of 10 persons who are either voters of the town or who own land which abuts a road mentioned in the petition (even though not voters of the town), the voters of such town at any annual or special meeting may designate such road as a scenic road. Such petitioners shall be responsible for providing the town clerk with a list of known property owners whose land abuts any of the roads mentioned in the petition. The town clerk shall notify by regular mail within 10 days of the filing all abutters along the road that lies within the town that a scenic road petition has been filed for and that an article to designate such road as a scenic road will appear in the warrant at the next town meeting. The voters at a regular town meeting may rescind in like manner their designation of a scenic road upon petition as provided above. Notice to the abutting landowners shall also be given as provided above. Each town shall maintain and make available to the public a list of all roads or highways or portions thereof within the town which have been designated as scenic roads. Such list shall be kept current by updating not less than annually and shall contain sufficient information to permit ready identification of the location and extent of each scenic road or portion thereof, by reference to a town map or otherwise.

Source. RSA 253:17. 1971, 455:1. 1973, 586:1. 1981, 87:1. 1992, 160:3, eff. July 5, 1992.

Section 231:158

231:158 Effect of Designation as Scenic Roads. –

I. As used in this subdivision, "tree" means any woody plant which has a circumference of 15 inches or more at a point 4 feet from the ground.

II. Upon a road being designated as a scenic road as provided in RSA 231:157, any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work done with respect thereto by the state or municipality, or any action taken by any utility or other person acting to erect, install or maintain poles, conduits, cables, wires, pipes or other structures pursuant to RSA 231:159-189 shall not involve the cutting, damage or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, except with the prior written consent of the planning board, or any other official municipal body designated by the meeting to implement the provisions of this subdivision, after a public hearing duly advertised as to time, date, place and purpose, 2 times in a newspaper of general circulation in the area, the last publication to occur at least 7 days prior to such hearing, provided, however, that a road agent or his designee may, without such hearing, but only with the written permission of the selectmen, remove trees or portions of trees which have been declared a public nuisance pursuant to RSA 231:145 and 231:146, when such trees or portions of such trees pose an imminent threat to safety or property, and provided, further, that a public utility when involved in the emergency restoration of service, may without such hearing or permission of the selectmen, perform such work as is necessary for the prompt restoration of utility service which has been interrupted by facility damage and when requested, shall thereafter inform the selectmen of the nature of the emergency and the work performed, in such manner as the selectmen may require.

III. Designation of a road as scenic shall not affect the eligibility of the town to receive construction, maintenance or reconstruction aid pursuant to the provisions of RSA 235 for such road.

IV. Designation of a road as a scenic road shall not affect the rights of any landowner with respect to work on his own property, except to the extent that trees have been acquired by the municipality as shade or ornamental trees pursuant to RSA 231:139-156, and except that RSA 472:6 limits the removal or alteration of boundary markers including stone walls.

V. A town may, as part of a scenic road designation under RSA 231:157 or as an amendment to such designation adopted in the same manner, impose provisions with respect to such road which are different from or in addition to those set forth in this section. Such provisions may include, but are not limited to, decisional criteria for the granting of consent by the planning board or other designated municipal body under paragraph II, or protections for trees smaller than those described in paragraph I, designated for the purpose of establishing regenerative growth along the scenic road.

VI. Any person who violates this section or any local provision adopted under this section shall be guilty of a violation and shall be liable for all damages resulting therefrom.

Source. RSA 253:18. 1971, 455:1. 1973, 586:2. 1981, 87:1. 1983, 122:2. 1991, 134:3, 4. 1992, 160:2, eff. July 5, 1992.