



TOWN OF DURHAM
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Town Planner's Recommendation
Wednesday, December 11, 2019

VIII. **Eversource Energy – Replacing Poles in WCOD.** Permitted Use B. application to replace one utility pole and for one temporary crossing along the Eversource 307 transmission line right of way in the Wetland Conservation Overlay District. Sarah Barnum, Senior Wildlife Scientist, Normandeau Associates, Inc. Located north of Beech Hill Road

➤ I recommend approval as submitted.

Please note the following:

- See the detailed packets describing the proposal. The application is actually to replace one utility pole and for one temporary crossing within the Wetland Conservation Overlay District. Three poles are being replaced but only one of them is in the WCOD.
- Eversource is taking access from Madbury Road in Madbury and traveling along the utility's right of way through Madbury to Durham. Pole 103 lies within the WCOD. Poles 100 and 102 are being replaced but lie outside of the WCOD. There is one short section of wetland crossing in Durham. There are several impacts lots. The area is zoned Rural where the wetland buffer is 100 feet. See the maps at the end which illustrate the project. The last picture shows where the access road connects with Beech Hill Road.
- The board need review the application only for compliance with WCOD criteria a), b), and c) below. This application is not a conditional use but rather a "Permitted Use B." There is no hearing, fee, nor notice involved with a permitted use B and the Planning Board may take action at one meeting if all is in order.
- The Conservation Commission reviewed the application on November 25, 2019 and found that the criteria under the WCOD were met.

175-60. Permitted Uses in the WCOD.

...B. *The following uses or activities, including any necessary grading, shall be permitted in the WCOD if they are permitted in the underlying zoning district provided that the Zoning Administrator issues a permit for the activity after the Planning Board, with the advice of the Conservation Commission, determines that: a.) appropriate erosion control measures will be used, b.) any disturbed area will be restored, and c.) the activity will be conducted in a manner that minimizes any impact on the wetland.*