

BERRY SURVEYING & ENGINEERING

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October 2, 2019

Barrington Planning Board
Attention: Marcia Gasses Town Planner
PO Box 660
333 Calef Highway
Barrington, NH 03825

RE: Underground Utility Waiver (Meetinghouse Road)
Mike and Lisa McMahon
Tax Map 234, Lots 31 & 31-4

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Barrington Planning Board,

Since the approval of the 13 lot Open Space Subdivision that applicants have met the conditions of approval, have a signed recorded plan, have had a preconstruction meeting with the Town and DB&K, and have commenced work on the road. If the board will remember, during the design process, we reached out to Eversource on a number of issues which included an electrical design for Meetinghouse Road. Eversource does not typically review projects for availability or project design until the subdivision is approved so they are assured they are not wasting the coordination time. Since the approval we have worked with Eversource and they have now asked that we request the Planning Boards permission to go overhead down Meetinghouse Road. There are a few different reasons for this:

- Due to the fact that the project was required to go from Oak Hill Road to Smoke Street to create a public betterment for traffic and life safety, Eversource requires the same type of redundancy. To provide more reliable power to residents in the area of the project as well as the project itself, Eversource requires what is known as "Looping" This loop is a redundancy in the system so that in the event of a problem in the system there is less chance of an outage for the surrounding residents. Due to the proximity to the transmission lines, this looping is best done overhead. This looping also provides a better balance of electrical power within the area over all.
- When it comes to network systems, Eversource likes to see overhead utilities, this allows the line workers and transmission engineers to visually see the issues causing the problems. When transmission systems are buried there is a much higher likelihood of not being able to locate the problem quickly.

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- If the utility was to be buried Eversource would require the Town of Barrington to provide them with an easement for every crossing required from one side of Meetinghouse Road to the other.

In accordance with the Town of Barrington's Subdivision Regulations, the applicant requests the following waivers:

Identification of Waiver Request: Underground Utilities 14.1.1

The project is now being requested to provide Overhead Transmission Power down Meetinghouse Road. The lines to the houses are proposed to be underground. The subdivision regulations require underground utilities.

As described above this is a request of Eversource to allow for a Looping system between Oak Hill Road and Smoke Street to provide a better public betterment.

2. Waiver Justification:

a. Granting the waiver will properly carry out the purpose and intent of the regulations.

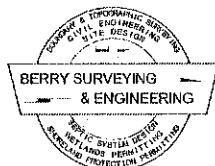
This subdivision is not substantially different than any other typical road frontage subdivision where the overhead utilities are existing. The provision of power to the lots is then underground to the structures. In this case, the Board wanted the road connected to provide better safety and reliability in the network. This request only furthers that idea and allows for Eversource to provide better infrastructure through the connectivity.

The distinction between this project and any other typical cul-de-sac project where underground utilities is required and welcomed by Eversource is the connection between two main roads that service a number of other residents and the requirement to better serve the network in the event it is required. In the event of an outage in a standard subdivision, there are far fewer people affected and it typically does not affect people outside the newly constructed street.

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b. Strict conformity to the regulations would pose an unnecessary hardship to the applicant.

Strict conformity would place the applicant in conflict with Eversource, the only utility provider. Conforming would be an obvious unnecessary hardship.

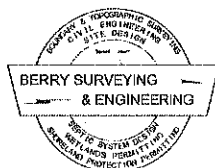
Respectfully submitted,
BERRY SURVEYING & ENGINEERING

Christopher R. Berry
Principal, President

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