

Bill as Introduced

HB 1346 - AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

12-2106

06/05

HOUSE BILL **1346**

AN ACT relative to the construction of power line extensions.

SPONSORS: Rep. Baroody, Hills 13; Rep. Chandler, Carr 1; Rep. Merrick, Coos 2

COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

This bill permits Public Service of New Hampshire customers to hire licensed contractors to install power line extensions.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~(in brackets and struckthrough.)~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT relative to the construction of power line extensions.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Installation of Power Line Extensions. Amend RSA 370 by inserting after
2 section 11 the following new section:

3 370:12 Installation of Power Line Extensions. Any New Hampshire utility customer that
4 requires a power line extension may hire a contractor who is licensed in the state of New Hampshire
5 and is approved by the utility. Such contractor shall supply and install materials specified by the
6 local utility for underground and overhead line extensions.

7 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Speakers

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1346

BILL TITLE: relative to the construction of power line extensions.
DATE: February 7, 2012
LOB ROOM: 304 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1100
Time Adjourned: 1125

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Garrity, Holden, Introne, Cataldo, Devine, Remick, Bappaport, MacMahon, O'Connor, Panek, Parison, Summers, Kaen, Cali-Pitts, Read, Levasseur and Pastor.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Baroody, Hills 13; Rep. Chandler, Carr 1; Rep. Merrick, Coos 2

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Ben Baroody, prime sponsor – Background: friend asked questions in new law and he asked if I could look into the matter. PUC said no law and no regulation came to our office. He is one of five approved contractors to do work in New Hampshire. Utility will give 1st pole after the 5th one needs to have a contractor to install. Time seems to be a factor as to when it will be done on time. Budget is a factor to save money and approved by the utility.

Q: Rep. Jacqueline Cali-Pitts – What extent is completed?

A: Contractor does it all.

Q: Rep. Nickolas Levasseur – Rules and regulations, who has authority.

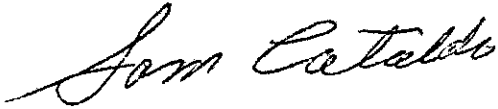
A: Standards are national.

Rep. Frank Holden –Cost; see handout #1.

Donna Gamache, PSNH – Oppose the bill. PSNH has always installed the poles and wires and some customers are allowed; However in 2011 a new tariff was imposed. PSNH does not have protection from independent contractors. All poles and wires are and belong to PSNH. Not all utilities own their lines etc. to the metric. PSNH, regardless who in stalls the poles and wire, PSNH is responsible. PSNH does not have that many customers that are private contractors.

***Bob Winmill, WINMILL Equipment Co.** – Supports the bill. Believes the rates are too high and cost has gone up 2 1/2 times. Handout 2b.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Cataldo". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a prominent initial 'S'.

Sam Cataldo, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

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Bill Sponsors: Rep. Baroody, Hills 13; Rep. Chandler, Carr 1; Rep. Merrick, Coos 2

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

① Rep Baroody - Background - friend asked questions on new law & he asked if I could look into the matter. PUC said no law & no regulations come to our office. He is one of few approved contractors to do work in NH. Utility will give 1st pole after the 5th one needs to have a contractor to install. Time seems to be a factor as to when it will be done on time. Budget is a factor to save money and approval by the utility

Cali-Pitts Q) What extent is completed - c
A) Contractor does it all

Rep Lavasseur Q) Is it built to specification?
A) YES; as required by the utility to all contractors. Utility owns the lines

Rep Pappasent Q) rules and regulations who has authority
A) standards are national

② Rep Holden - "Cost" Rep Hardant ①

③ Donna Gamache - "oppose" - PSNH has always installed the poles + wires + some customers are allowed; however in 2011 a new tariff was imposed. PSNH has an approved - list + PSNH does not have protection from independent contractors, all poles + wires are and belong to PSNH. NOT all utilities own the lines etc to the meter PSNH, regardless who installs the poles + wires; PSNH is responsible
- PSNH does not have that many customers that use private contractors

Testimony

Fwd: HB 1346

frholden@tds.net [frholden@tds.net]

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 10:48 AM

To: Holden, Frank

Hadout ①

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tom & Ginny** <roads@tds.net>

Date: Mon, Feb 6, 2012 at 9:34 PM

Subject: HB 1346

To: Representative Frank Holden <frholden@tds.net>

Dear Representative Holden,

I am writing you regarding HB1346. I support the intention of this bill.

Last year I wanted to extend power for a future agricultural structure and contacted PSNH. When they arrived to look the project over I asked if anyone other than PSNH could do the work. I was told yes, provided the work met their standards and specification.

I received a quote from USA utilities which was less than PSNH and they could do the work immediately so I contracted it out them. Before USA could start work I was informed of a new policy of PSNH that only PSNH could do the work.

After much difficulty, PSNH relented and said that USA could do the work because the Milford office of PSNH had previously said that I could hire anyone so long as the work met PSNH specs.

I feel that anyone in the state should be able to hire whoever they want provided the work meets the utilities specs. and I feel that this bill does that with the following exception:

I New Section; Installation of Power Line Extensions. Amend RSA 370 by inserting after section 11 the following new section:

370:12 Installation of Power Line Extensions. Any New Hampshire utility customer that requires a power line extension may hire a contractor who is licensed in the state of New Hampshire **and is approved by the utility**. Such contractor shall supply and install materials specified by the local utility for underground and overhead line extensions.

The **bold underlined**, above, should be deleted because if passed as written, a utility could approve as few contractors or as expensive contractors as the utility wants. It would take true competition out of the equation.

So I would change the wording to this:

370:12 Installation of Power Line Extensions. Any New Hampshire utility customer that requires a power line extension may hire a contractor who is licensed in the state of New Hampshire **and the installation meets the standards and specifications of the utility**. Such contractor shall supply and install materials specified by the local utility for underground and overhead line extensions.

Sincerely,

Tom Christenon

Lyndeborough

13

March 22, 2011

PSNH

Call from Craig Trottier, 669-4000

Person to talk to about the quote is Eric Sutton, Field Supervisor, Lines
Derry NH

Direct line: 555-3019

General Number: 669-4000

Writer of the quote was Chris Nacos, Eric is her boss and worked up the quote

Craig Trottier said current quote is 2 ½ times original quote of \$ 14,400.

Eric told him the above quote had not included the cable.

General breakdown of quote: (get better breakdown from Eric)

For 1300 ft of 3 phase underground

19,100 All materials including cable

5,020 Labor

1,514 Equipment

473 Overhead

26,107

6,123 Underground transformer Pad

32,230 Subtotal

There are additional items that Eric should be able to specify

Craig indicated PSNH should be able to lock in the quoted price if we decide to go forward.

Craig said his estimate of our monthly cost is \$ 3,169.

There will **NOT** be any line extension fee of 149./ mo for 60 months.



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

The Northeast Utilities System

Handout

Public Service of New Hampshire
60 West Pennacook St.
PO Box 330
Manchester, NH 03105-9989
1-800-362-7764
The Northeast Utilities System

March 11, 2011

Winmill Equipment Inc.
P.O. Box 4010
Windham, NH 03087

Dear Rob

Public Service of New Hampshire has reviewed your proposed project as described below and has determined that the necessary prepayment amount is \$ 36,764.21.

Project Description and Location: PSNH will construct a three phase line extension as requested at 3 international Dr in Windham, NH. This will include the installation of 1,315 feet of wire and 1 transformer.

By signing below, you hereby request and authorize PSNH to provide service at the above location and acknowledge your agreement with the terms and conditions stated in this letter. Please note that this prepayment amount is only valid for 90 days.

In order for the Company to schedule the work, please sign and date this letter and return it in the enclosed envelope with your payment in the above amount. A second copy of this letter is enclosed for your records. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kristin Nacos

603 432-0166
ext 2013

Charges per our contracts are only for those associated with Public Service of NH facilities and additional charges may be rendered by other utilities. PUC 303.03(h)

Customer Signature _____ Date _____

<u>Work Request</u>	<u>CAU</u>	<u>CCC</u>	<u>Work Order</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1649779	6D	7BK		NREF		AD	36,764.21

Linda Winmill

From: trottcx@nu.com
 Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 4:19 PM
 To: linda@winmillequipment.com
 Subject: Power Cost Breakdown

La

Linda:

See the breakdown of \$36,764 cost to install a 1200 foot underground service to your facility. This cost includes labor, overheads, cable, a sector cabinet, and other incremental costs of installing an underground service. NH regulation calls for overhead service with responsible for defraying the excess cost of underground service.

The cost of your equipment, including the concrete pad and conduit is not included. Also, the capital cost of the transformer is not included.

Based on the load monitoring we completed in May 2010, we estimate your electric bill in the \$3200/month neighborhood - obviously based on your level of operation.

You know your generator's fuel and maintenance costs, so the analysis of street power vs generator should be straight forward. If you need a new generator then the power line option may be attractive.

Please let me know if you have any questions of if I can help further.

Craig

Public Service of New Hampshire
 Cost Breakdown of Work Request #1649779
 03/28/2011

Labor	\$6,566.44
Equipment	\$2,059.82
Materials	\$19,131.01
Overheads	\$2,883.94
Sub Total	\$30,641.21
Incremental Cost to set a pad mounted transformer	\$6,123.00
	<u>\$36,764.21</u>

*Eric did pricing
 3/28/11
 11:40 AM*

Craig M. Trottier, CEM
 Account Executive
 Public Service of New Hampshire
 8 East Point Drive
 Hooksett, NH 03106
 Phone - (603) 634-3191
 Fax - (603) 668-0169

3/29/2011

HB 1346 - AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

(Handwritten initials)

*Printed
2-6-2012*

12-2106

06/05

*Room 304
Legislative Office Bldg.*

HOUSE BILL 1346

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COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in *bold italics*.

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2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

*Tom Christman wants "approved by the utility" ~~also removed~~
"built to spec" inserted.*

NH General Court - Bill Status System
Search Results

Bills Found : 1

HB1346 **Title:** relative to the construction of power line extensions.
Session Year 2012 *G-Status:* HOUSE
 House Status: IN COMMITTEE
 Senate Status:
 Next/Last Comm: HOUSE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY
 Next/Last 02/07/2012 at 10:45 AM LOB 304
 Hearing:

NH House

NH Senate

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1346

BILL TITLE: relative to the construction of power line extensions.

DATE: 2-21-12

LOB ROOM: 304

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Rappaport

Seconded by Rep. Holden

Vote: 11-2 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: Consent or Regular (Circle One)

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sam Cataldo, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

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BILL TITLE: relative to the construction of power line extensions.

DATE: 2-21-2012

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Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

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Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. KAPPAPORT

Seconded by Rep. HEIDEN

Vote: 11-2 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: ~~OTP~~, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: RC

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sam Cataldo, Clerk

OTP

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

Bill #: HB 1346 Title: _____

PH Date: 1/1/ Exec Session Date: 21 ~~21~~ 2012
21

Motion: OTP Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Garrity, James M, Chairman	YES	
Holden, Frank R, V Chairman	YES	
Introne, Robert E	ABS	
Cataldo, Sam A, Clerk	YES	
Devine, James E	YES	
Remick, William J	YES	
Rappaport, Laurence M	YES	
Bradley, Lester W	YES	
MacMahon, Bruce A	ABS	
O'Connor, William H	YES	
Panek, William D	ABS	
Parison, James A	ABS	
Summers, James D	ABS	
Kaen, Naida L	YES	
Cali-Pitts, Jacqueline A		NO
Read, Robin P	YES	
Levasseur, Nickolas J		NO
Pastor, Beatriz	YES	
TOTAL VOTE:	11	2

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

March 7, 2012

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY to which was referred HB1346,

AN ACT relative to the construction of power line extensions. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Laurence M Rappaport

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY
Bill Number:	HB1346
Title:	relative to the construction of power line extensions.
Date:	February 22, 2012
Consent Calendar:	NO
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill allows customers to contract directly with power-line utility sub-contractors approved by Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) for the construction of power line extensions. This has the potential of saving customers thousands of dollars in build-out costs compared to paying PSNH to do the work. In many cases, PSNH actually hires these same sub-contractors to perform their work. The sub-contractors must be qualified and approved by PSNH, perform the work according to PSNH specifications and be final inspected by PSNH. The committee is comfortable that the potential economic benefits and strict safety standards are well balanced in this bill.

Vote 11-2.

Rep. Laurence M Rappaport
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB1346, relative to the construction of power line extensions. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Laurence M Rappaport for SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY. This bill allows customers to contract directly with power-line utility sub-contractors approved by Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) for the construction of power line extensions. This has the potential of saving customers thousands of dollars in build-out costs compared to paying PSNH to do the work. In many cases, PSNH actually hires these same sub-contractors to perform their work. The sub-contractors must be qualified and approved by PSNH, perform the work according to PSNH specifications and be final inspected by PSNH. The committee is comfortable that the potential economic benefits and strict safety standards are well balanced in this bill. **Vote 11-2.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Stapler, Carol

From: Garrity, Jim
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 1:14 PM
To: Stapler, Carol
Subject: HB 1346 Majority Blurb
HB 1346 Majority Blurb

Rep. Laurence Rappaport for the Majority

Ought to Pass

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Approved.

James M. Garrity, Chair
House Science, Technology & Energy Committee
Phone: (603)362-9416
Email : Jim.Garrity@Leg.state.nh.us

2/22/2012