Date Filed: August 13, 2026

Witness: David L. Gladey and Jeffrey Richard
Request from: Office of Consumer Counsel

Question:

(Poles) Please summarize the relationship between Eversource and Verizon/Frontier/SNET with respect to Eversource's role as SPA and that of Verizon/Frontier/SNET as steward of the communications gain. Could that relationship be improved and, if so, how?

Response:

Eversource, in its role as the Single Pole Administrator ("SPA"), and Frontier/Verizon, in its role as custodian of the communication space, work collaboratively to administer the third-party pole attachment process for jointly owned utility poles. While each entity has distinct responsibilities under the applicable regulatory framework, the overall process depends on coordination and the timely completion of each party's respective responsibilities.

The relationship includes coordination associated with engineering reviews, make-ready activities, facility transfers, double pole removal efforts, and other activities related to the administration of jointly owned poles. These activities are performed in accordance with applicable joint ownership agreements, PURA requirements, and established business processes.

As with any process involving multiple entities, there are opportunities for continued process improvements. Eversource believes the most efficient improvements are achieved through ongoing collaboration, communication, and the refinement of established processes to promote the efficient administration of the pole attachment process while maintaining compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.