Date Filed: October 09, 2026

Witness: David L. Gladey and Jeffrey Richard
Request from: New England Connectivity and Telecommunications Association

Question:

Please discuss whether the pole custodian is still responsible for guying as provided in the Make Ready Decision in Docket 07-02-13 dated April 30, 2008, at p. 13.

Response:

Yes. In the April 30, 2008, Make Ready Decision in Docket No. 07-02-13, PURA concluded that, with the exception of Verizon's service territory, utility pole guying should continue to be performed by the pole custodian. PURA found that guying involves engineering and structural considerations affecting the integrity of individual poles and pole lines and determined that it was more efficient and appropriate for the pole custodian to retain responsibility for maintaining the pole structure and associated load data. PURA denied requests to allow third party attachers to perform guying and stated that utility pole guying should continue to be performed only by the pole custodian.

Consistent with that framework, in Connecticut's jointly owned pole environment, guying responsibilities are generally divided by space ownership and administration responsibilities. Eversource is responsible for guying associated with facilities in the electric supply space, while Frontier/Verizon, as the incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) and maintainer of the communications space in Eversource territory, is responsible for guying associated with the communications space. These responsibilities are carried out in accordance with applicable pole attachment agreements and pole administration practices.