

ATTACHMENT 7: SCENIC RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION & ASSESSMENT [SITE 301.05(b)(5) + SITE 301.05(b)(6)]

SCENIC RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

All scenic resources located within 3 miles of the transmission corridor located both inside and outside of the area of potential visual impact were identified in the October 14, 2015 VIA. In this Attachment, the scenic resources within the area of potential effect located 3-10 miles from the transmission corridor are identified. These are located on the Viewshed Maps (Attachment 6) and in the Scenic Resource Table. The identification of resources satisfies Site 301.05(b)(5).

IDENTIFICATION METHODOLOGY

Using ESRI ArcMap, we identified scenic resources that overlapped with or were located within 50 feet of the viewshed area (the area of potential visual effect). The following state-wide datasets were used to identify the scenic resources:

- Conservation Lands
- Ponds/Lake/Streams from National Hydrography database
- Scenic Byways
- Geographic Names
- Snowmobile Routes
- National Historic Register
- State Historic Register
- Recreational Trails

SCENIC RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

There are two types of assessments provided in this Attachment, 1) a General Assessment of scenic resources between 5 and 10 miles from the Northern Pass Transmission Project (“Northern Pass” or “Project”) corridor, and 2) Individual Assessments of Scenic Resources between 3 and 5 miles from the corridor. Scenic resources located within 3 miles of the corridor were evaluated in the October 14, 2015 VIA.

1. General Assessment (5-10 miles). Scenic resources located 5-10 miles from the Project corridor received a general assessment based on Site 301.05(b)(6) of the SEC criteria (described below).

While the SEC rules require an identification and analysis for an area of potential effect of ten miles from the corridor, in reality there are very few instances where the transmission structures and cleared corridor would be able to be detected at distances greater than five miles. Even if observers were able to see the transmission line, it would be perceived as a very small object and would not appear as a dominant or even prominent feature in the overall landscape. These observations are based upon our field work in New Hampshire (as illustrated in the photosimulations) and is consistent with the observations contained in the DEIS Technical Report (*T.J. Boyle Associates. Visual Impact Assessment. A Technical Report for the Northern Pass Transmission Line Project. Draft Environmental Impact Statement. July 10, 2015. Burlington, VT.* TJD&A’s field observations are in agreement with the Technical Report’s (p. 29) description of the relationship between distance zones and transmission line visibility: ***Far Background: 5.0—10.0 miles. Even on the clearest days, humidity reduces the visual contrast to such an extent that structures and the cleared corridor are difficult to distinguish as other than vague smudges in the landscape.***

2. Individual Assessment (3-5 miles). Scenic resources with at least a medium cultural value rating located 3-5 miles from the transmission corridor are individually evaluated based on Site 301.05(b)(6). There are 10 resources that meet this criteria for individual evaluation.

Consistent with the Methodology used in the October 14, 2015 VIA, scenic resources with low cultural value were not evaluated. These are resources that are designated, protected, or noted primarily for values other than scenic or are areas that primarily attract local users (e.g., State Forests without trails, town forests, municipal parks, snowmobile trails, and lakes with limited public access).

SCENIC RESOURCE TABLE

ID	SCENIC RESOURCE	MUNICIPALITY	RESOURCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO CORRIDOR	CULTURAL VALUE
1	Connecticut Lakes Headwaters	Pittsburg	Conservation Area	Publicly accessible conservation easement on 171,000 acres. Some of property is state-owned and managed as a natural area, while the remainder is conserved as a sustainable, working forest managed by a local timber company.	5.20	Medium
2	Pittsburgh Town Farm	Pittsburg	Conservation	Forested town-owned park.	4.11	Low
3	Moose Path Trail Scenic Byway	Pittsburg	Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	5.14	Medium
4	Snowmobile Trail 142	Pittsburg	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.23	Low
5	Connecticut Lakes WMA South	Pittsburg	Conservation Area	Wildlife Management Area. Primary purpose is to preserve wildlife. Hunting, Trapping, Fishing are permitted.	7.30	Low
6	Connecticut Lake Headwaters	Clarksville	Conservation Area	See description for ID 1 above. <i>*The area of possible visibility is located in a clearing within the conservation area. No public trail is located near the clearing.</i>	4.68	Medium
11	Tillotson Corp/Balsams Conservation Restriction	Dixville	Conservation Area	Conservation area. Land shared with the Balsams Resort. <i>*The area of possible visibility is located in a clearing within the conservation area. No public trail is located near the clearing.</i>	4.74	Medium
12	Moosepath Trail Scenic Byway	Colebrook	Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	3.93	Medium
13	Snowmobile Trail	Colebrook	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	4.77	Low
14	Snowmobile Trail 7A	Colebrook	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.36	Low
15	Mohawk Div. of Silvio O Conte NWR	Columbia	Conservation Area	National Wildlife Refuge. Open to the public year-round.	7.29	High
16	Bunnell Working Forest	Columbia	Conservation Area	Easement Holder is New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. Not publicly accessible.	9.36	Low
17	Snowmobile Trail 5	Columbia	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	9.11	Low
18	Vickie Bunnell Preserve	Columbia	Conservation Area	Nature preserve is part of a larger 18,680-acre Bunnell Tract protection area. Easement is held by The Nature Conservancy.	9.12	Medium
19	Akers Pond	Errol	Lake	Publicly accessible waterbody.	4.28	Medium
20	Clear Stream	Errol	Stream	Public river. No managed public access.	5.02	Low
21	Androscoggin River	Errol	River	River designated in NH River Management Program.	5.17	Medium
22	13 Mile Woods Community Forest	Errol	Conservation Area	Working forest.	5.20	Medium
23	Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge	Errol	Conservation Area	National Wildlife Refuge.	8.67	High
24	Umbagog Lake	Errol	Accessible Lake	Publicly accessible waterbody.	9.44	Medium
25	Umbagog State Park	Errol	Conservation Area	State Park.	8.99	High
26	Moose Path Trail Scenic Byway	Errol	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	6.75	Medium
27	Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge	Errol	Conservation Area	National Wildlife Refuge.	5.64	High
34	Nash Stream Forest	Odell	Conservation Area	Sate conservation land. Managed by NH Dept of Recreation & Economic Development. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	3.12	High
35	Moose Path Trail	Dummer	Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	3.62	Medium
36	Snowmobile Trail 114	Cambridge	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	6.19	Low
37	Snowmobile Trail 18	Cambridge	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	7.56	Low
38	White Mountain National Forest	Milan	Conservation Area	National Forest.	6.46	High
39	Snowmobile Trail 114A	Milan	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.05	Low
40	Woodland Heritage Trail Scenic Byway	Milan	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	4.37	Medium
41	Milan Town Forest	Milan	Conservation Area	Town Forest	6.63	Low
42	Jericho Mountain State Park	Berlin	Conservation Area	State Park.	8.60	High
43	Mount Cabot Trail	Lancaster	Trail	Recreation trail leading to Mount Cabot. Area of possible visibility is located at a lower elevation outside of the WMNF.	4.97	Medium
44	Cohos Trail	Jefferson	Trail	162-mile in Cohos County, managed by Cohos Trail Association. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	3.90	Medium
45	Waumbek Golf Club	Jefferson	Golf Course	Private Golf Club.	3.85	Low
46	Randolph Community Forest	Jefferson	Conservation Area	Town Forest.	6.76	Low
47	Unknown Stream	Jefferson	Stream	Public River. No managed public access.	5.66	Low

NOTES:

The ID number is associated with points on the viewshed maps included in Attachment 6.

Scenic resources highlighted in yellow are represent scenic resources with views of the corridor at a distance less than 5 miles. See the following pages for individual visual assessments.

SCENIC RESOURCE TABLE

ID	SCENIC RESOURCE	MUNICIPALITY	RESOURCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO CORRIDOR	CULTURAL VALUE
48	Presidential Range/Woodland Heritage Trail	Jefferson	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	7.26	Medium
49	Presidential Recreational Trail	Jefferson	Rail Trail	18-mile Rails-to-Trails. Runs between Cherry Pond and Gorham.	5.49	Medium
50	Snowmobile Trail 5	Jefferson	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.01	Low
51	Red Brook	Jefferson	Stream	Public River. No managed public access.	5.23	Low
52	Agnew State Forest	Jefferson	Conservation Area	State-owned working forest.	5.44	Low
53	White Mountain National Forest	Low & Burbanks	Conservation Area	National Forest.	8.30	High
54	Snowmobile Trail 5	Low & Burbanks	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	8.40	Low
55	Interstate 93 local scenic viewshed	Littleton	Road	Local scenic viewshed from southbound lane of Interstate 93.	3.10	Medium
56	Slate Ledge	Littleton	Conservation Area	Slate Ledge is a hill reaching 1,667 ft elevation. Public access is unknown.	4.37	Low
57	Profile Recreational Trail	Bethlehem	Trail	2-mile recreational trail on a former railbed (rails-to-trails). Managed by DRED. Trail is shared with snowmobile trail 104.	4.29	Medium
58	White Mountain National Forest	Bethlehem	Conservation Area	National Forest	8.90	High
59	South Sugarloaf	Bethlehem	Mountain Summit	Summit located in the WMNF. No Managed trail to summit of South Sugarloaf.	9.90	High
60	Webster Ridge Conservation Area	Holderness	Conservation Area	Conservation area managed by various conservation organizations. <i>*The area of possible visibility is located in a clearing within the conservation area. No public trail is located near the clearing. The 3D model analysis confirms view of the corridor is 7.2 miles to the southwest.</i>	4.43	Medium
61	Snowmobile Trail 24	Hebron	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.82	Low
62	McLane Cockermouth River	Hebron	Conservation Area	4.82 acre conservation easement owned by Lakes Region Conservation Trust at the north end of Newfound Lake.	6.22	Medium
63	NHAS Paradise Point Nature Center	Hebron	Conservation Area	43 acre conservation easement owned by NH Audobon Society at the north end of Newfound Lake.	5.81	Medium
64	Charles L. Bean Sanctuary	Hebron	Conservation Area	25 acre conservation easement.	6.28	Medium
65	Snowmobile Trail 151	Alexandria	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	9.06	Low
66	Forest Legacy Tract	Alexandria	Conservation Area	780 acre tract in the Forest Legacy Program. Easement held by NH Dept of Resources & Econonmic Development.	6.74	Low
67	Snowmobile Trail	Alexandria	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	3.65	Low
68	Victor's Woods	Alexandria	Conservation Area	Conservation easemet held by SPNHF. No known public access.	5.43	Low
69	Newfound Lake	Hebron	Lake	Publicly accessible waterbody.	3.11	Medium
70	Pemigewasset Lake	Meredith	Lake	Publicly accessible waterbody.	3.42	Medium
71	Witte Forest Management Area	Hill	Conservation Area	Conservation land with a transmission line corridor running through the center. Ownership and public access unknown.	3.40	Low
72	Snowmobile Trail 302	Belmont	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	8.81	Low
75	Bachelder Easement	Loudon	Conservation Area	Town-owned easement. No identified public access.	8.22	Low
76	Catamount Mountain	Pittfield	Mountain Summit	Pittsfield Aqueduct Company Land held for conservation. No maintained trail or known public access.	8.31	Low
77	Penacook Lake	Concord	Lake	Reservoir holds Concord's water supply. No public access.	3.67	Low
77	Comte Easement	Nottingham	Conservation Area	Easement held by Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. No maintained trail or known public access.	4.52	Low
78	Dimond Hill Farm	Concord	Conservation Area	Working farm held in conservation. Trail open to the public.	6.36	Low
79	St. Paul's School Land	Concord	Conservation Area	Conservation land owned by St. Pauls School. No known public trail access.	5.94	Low
80	Russell-Shea State Forest	Concord	Conservation Area	State forest managed by the NH Dept of Resources & Econonmic Development. The land is used primarily as a forestland.	3.81	Low
81	Maplewood Farm	Concord	Conservation Area	Working farm held in conservation. There are no trails on the property.	5.71	Low
82	Kimball, F. & D. Conservation Easement	Hopkinton	Conservation Area	27 acre conservation easement helof by the NH Dept. of Aggriculture. There is no known public access.	6.85	Low
83	Snowmobile Trail 11	Hopkinton	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	6.56	Low
84	Currier and Ives Trail	Hopkinton	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway.	8.61	Medium

NOTES:

The ID number is associated with points on the viewshed maps included in Attachment 6.

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SCENIC RESOURCE TABLE

ID	SCENIC RESOURCE	MUNICIPALITY	RESOURCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO CORRIDOR	CULTURAL VALUE
85	Hough Conservation Land	Dunbarton	Conservation Area	Owner and access unknown.	7.21	Low
86	General John Stark Byway	Dunbarton	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway.	7.68	Medium
87	Bow Town Forest - Turnpike Lots	Bow	Conservation Area	Accessible conservation land/ forestland owned by the Town with easement held by DRED.	4.04	Low
88	Second College Grant	Second College	Conservation Area	Dartmouth College owns and manages the 27,000 acres of woodland in the Northern Forest region of New Hampshire.	5.91	Medium
88	Nottingcook Forest	Bow	Conservation Area	Conservation area managed by Bow Open Spaces, Inc. Includes trails open to the public.	5.17	Medium
89	Bennett Brook	Second College	Stream	Public river. No managed public access.	5.22	Low
89	Parsons Way Open Space	Bow	Conservation Area	Conservation area. No identified public access.	5.32	Low
90	Swift Diamond River	Second College	River	Public river. No managed public access.	5.16	Low
90	Snowmobile Trail 11	Bow	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	5.56	Low
91	Snowmobile Trail	Stewart	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	3.10	Low
91	University Heights Easement 2	Hooksett	Conservation Area	9.52 acre conservation easement held by the Town. No public access.	5.69	Low
92	Marceau Easement	Stratford	Conservation Area	Conservation area. No identified public access.	8.77	Low
92	Hooksett	Hooksett	Conservation Area	Town-owned conservation area. No identified public access.	7.28	Low
93	Fort Hill WMA	Stratford	Conservation Area	Wildlife Management Area with access to Connecticut River. Managed by NH Fish and Game Dept.	6.26	Low
93	Rand Easement	Candia	Conservation Area	Easement is being held by the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire.	5.48	Low
94	Snowmobile Trail 3	Stratford	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	7.12	Low
94	Upper Lamprey River Scenic Byway	Candia	State Scenic Byway	State designated Scenic & Cultural Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	5.36	Medium
95	Connecticut River	Stratford	River	River designated in NH River Management Program.	5.24	Medium
95	Snowmobile Trail 17	Raymond	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	4.35	Low
96	Taylor Brook	Stratford	Stream	Public river.	6.30	Low
96	Snowmobile Trail 6	Raymond	Snowmobile Trail	State-wide snowmobile trail corridor.	6.92	Low
97	Connecticut River Scenic Byway	Stratford	National Scenic Byway	National Scenic Byway. Analysis included in 10/14/2015 VIA.	4.95	Medium
98	Memorial Arch of Tilton Park		National Register & Public Park	Public park with memorial arch overlooking the town of Northfield. Arch is on the National Register of Historic Places.	4.43	High
99	Mount Kearsarge State Forest	Warner	Conservation Area	State Forest with public hiking trails leading to Mount Kearsarge.	9.82	High

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I. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES (5-10 MILES)

The SEC rules in Site 301.05(b)(6) requires a characterization of the potential visual impacts of the proposed facility on identified scenic resources as high, medium, or low, based on consideration of eight factors. Based upon our fieldwork, the DEIS Technical Report, and other professional studies, there are very few instances where the transmission structures and cleared corridor would be able to be detected at distances greater than five miles. Beyond five miles, the Project would be perceived as a very small object in the larger landscape and would not appear as a dominant or prominent feature. Evidence of this is provided in the photosimulations, where Project structures are very difficult to even detect at distances greater than three miles.

Scenic resources located greater than five miles from the Project would not be affected by its presence. The potential visual impact on scenic resources greater than five miles from the Project is characterized as low to none. The following section evaluates the effect of the Project on scenic resources within five to ten miles of the transmission corridor.

a. The expectations of the typical viewer. Viewer expectation is a factor to be considered where a Project will produce a noticeable change in the landscape. At distances of 5 to 10 miles the Project will not be readily visible, nor would it be a dominant or prominent feature in the landscape seen from a scenic resource. The presence of the transmission line will have no effect on the expectations of visitors to scenic resources since it will not change the scenic quality of the landscape they are viewing.

b. The effect on future use and enjoyment of the scenic resource. At distances of 5 to 10 miles, the Project will not be readily visible, nor would it be a dominant or prominent feature in the landscape seen from a scenic resource. Since there will be no apparent change in the view, the Project will not have any effect on the future use and enjoyment of the scenic resource.

c. The extent of the proposed facility, including all structures and disturbed areas, visible from the scenic resource. Beyond a distance of five miles, if the Project were visible at all it would be perceived as a very small object in the larger landscape and would not appear as a dominant or prominent feature.

d. The distance of the proposed facility from the scenic resource. Distances from the scenic resource to the Project are provided in the Scenic Resource Table. As determined by fieldwork conducted by TJD&A and described in the DEIS Technical Report, five miles is the threshold for visibility in the wooded landscapes that are typical of this part of New Hampshire.

e. The horizontal breadth or visual arc of the visible elements of the proposed facility. At distances greater than five miles, transmission structures cease to be seen as individual elements in the landscape. Cleared corridors may be slightly visible from elevated viewpoints at distances greater than five miles, but will not be seen as dominant or prominent features in the landscape. This would apply to both existing corridors as well as the new corridor being proposed in the northern portion of the Project in Coos County. Throughout most of the above-ground portion of the Project, the transmission line is located in existing corridors, where any increase in width will be seen as a relatively minor change to an existing man-made element in the landscape.

f. The scale, elevation, and nature of the proposed facility relative to surrounding topography and existing structures. At distances greater than five miles the Project would not be readily visible and therefore an observer would not be able to compare its scale and nature to the surrounding topography or existing structures.

g. The duration and direction of the typical view of elements of the proposed facility. At distances greater than five miles the Project would not be readily visible and therefore not be perceived as a dominant or prominent element in the landscape. The direction and duration of view would not be influenced by the presence of the transmission corridor.

h. The presence of intervening topography between the scenic resource and elements of the proposed facility. The Viewshed Maps show which scenic resources may have visibility of the Project, based upon topography and vegetation. Intervening topography is a major factor in determining possible Project visibility.

2. INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS OF RESOURCES (3-5 MILES)

AKERS POND

Akers Pond is a 276-acre publicly accessible, highly developed waterbody with medium cultural value, just north of Route 26 in Errol.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is moderate and influenced by the amount of visible development on both the east and west shorelines of the pond and the presence of the Granite Reliable wind turbines to the west.

The Project will be located in a new transmission corridor, 120 feet in width, located over 4 miles from the pond. According to the viewshed maps, the closest point where the structures may be visible is in the midpoint of the waterbody, 4.3 miles from the corridor. As illustrated in the photosimulation from Akers Pond Road (see Attachment 8, page 8-12 to 8-14), two transmission structures and the line of the transmission corridor will be seen at a distance of 4.5 miles. The line of the corridor parallels the lines of the hills in the background; the structures will be scarcely visible. The visible structures will appear over a visual arc of approximately 3 degrees. The Project will be visible in the same direction as the wind turbines that are highly visible atop a pronounced ridgeline. The Project will not be a prominent or dominant feature in the landscape and will not have an effect on the continued use and enjoyment of the pond.

Overall Visual Impact: Low

MOUNT CABOT TRAIL

The Mount Cabot Trail is a recreational trail with high cultural value leading to Mount Cabot in White Mountain National Forest. The viewshed map indicates that there may be views of the Project in Lancaster outside of WMNF, but not within the WMNF.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is moderate to high, since the trail leads to the summit of Mount Cabot in WMNF. Hikers look out over a landscape characterized by patches of forestland, agricultural fields, and rural residential development. Intervening topography, primarily the foothills of Mount Cabot, further limit the view to the west.

The Cabot Trail is a forested trail in the area of visibility. The viewpoint that the viewshed map identified for possible visibility is located at a clearing in the forest that has opened up views to the west. From this point, the Project may be visible in an existing transmission corridor, 5.0 to 7.0 miles west of the trail, over a visual arc of approximately 32 degrees. At these distances, the Project will not be readily visible, nor would it be a dominant or prominent feature in the landscape seen from a scenic resource. The minimal clearing that will occur within the corridor will not be visible from this distance. Since there will be no apparent change in the view, the Project will not have any effect on the future use and enjoyment of the trail leading to Mount Cabot. Observers would not be able to compare its scale and nature to the surrounding topography or existing structures.

Overall Visual Impact: Low to none

I-93 LOCAL SCENIC VIEWSHED

This is a local view from the southbound lane of Interstate 93 identified by the town of Littleton. The cultural value of the I-93 viewshed on Interstate 93 is Medium because it is located on a highway with state significance.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is low to medium for travelers on Interstate 93 in this section of New Hampshire, and influenced by the type and amount of commercial and other development visible from the highway. The Project will be seen over a relatively short section of the interstate at a distance of approximately 3.1 to 4.7 miles. The existing transmission corridor will not undergo additional clearing within the right-of-way. The tops of approximately 11 structures may be visible over the treeline, over a visual arc of approximately 5 degrees. The Project will not be a prominent or dominant feature in the landscape and will not have an effect on the continued use and enjoyment of Interstate 93.

Overall Visual Impact: Low

PROFILE RECREATIONAL TRAIL

This is a 2-mile recreational trail developed on a former rail bed located in the Town of Bethlehem and managed by the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development. The trail is also the location of snowmobile trail 104. The cultural value is low.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is moderate and influenced by the shared use nature of the trail and the evidence of industrial uses along the route. Land use in the immediate vicinity is rural residential, forestry, and mining. Heavy tree cover on either side of the trail will block most views beyond the immediate foreground.

The viewshed mapping indicates the Project may be visible at the point where the trail crosses Trudeau Road. From this road crossing, the nearest structure identified in the viewshed analysis is 4.5 miles northwest of the trail, over a visual arc of approximately 1 degree. While the computer analysis identifies the structures as possibly visible, the area of visibility is located at a road crossing with forested conditions on both sides. The trees in the immediate foreground should screen views of the transmission corridor. At this distance, the transmission structures will be very difficult to recognize as individual objects in a landscape that has considerable development activity. The Project will not be a prominent or dominant feature in the landscape and will not have an effect on the continued use and enjoyment of the trail.

Overall Visual Impact: Low to none



View of existing conditions on Akers Pond eastern shoreline facing west.



Akers Pond Photosimulation. The NPT corridor will be seen at a distance of 4.5 miles. See full size photosimulation in Attachment 8 page 8-14.



View facing north over downtown Littleton from 193 Local Scenic Viewshed. The NPT project will not be visible in this image.



View facing northwest on Trudeau Road at Profile Trail crossing. Trees in the foreground will block views of the NPT project (source: Google Street View).

2. INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS OF RESOURCES (3-5 MILES)

NEWFOUND LAKE

Newfound Lake is the third largest lake located entirely in New Hampshire. The 4,451-acre waterbody is located in Hebron, Bristol, Bridgewater, and Alexandria. The cultural value of the lake is medium.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is moderate and influenced by the amount of visible development throughout the moderately configured shoreline of the lake.

According to the viewshed maps, Project visibility from three areas on the lake, approximately 2.8 to 7.2 miles from the corridor. Views of the Project are limited by a pronounced north-south ridgeline east of the lake, as well as islands located in the middle of the lake. The tops of up to six structures on a hillsides at the Pemigewasset River crossing will be visible from various points on the lake at a distances ranging from 2.8 to 7.2 miles from the lake, over a visual arc of approximately 3 degrees. The largest area of visibility is over five miles from the corridor. The visible section of the corridor runs perpendicular to the lake, so viewers will not notice the 20 to 80 feet of corridor clearing over the tree line. The Project will not be a prominent or dominant feature in the landscape and will not have an effect on the continued use and enjoyment of the lake.

Overall Visual Impact: Low

PEMIGEWASSET LAKE

Pemigewasset Lake is a 249-acre accessible waterbody that straddles the line between New Hampton and Meredith. The northern and eastern shorelines are developed with seasonal and year-round homes. A cartop access point is located at the northern end of the lake. The cultural value of the lake is medium.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is moderate and influenced by the amount of visible development on the northern shorelines of the lake and the presence of Route 104 immediately adjacent the development.

According to the viewshed maps, Project visibility will be concentrated in a small area on the east side lake, approximately 3.4 miles from the Project corridor. Views of the Project are limited by low hills to the west and a large wooded island in the middle of the lake. From the nearest point of visibility on the lake, the tops of up to five structures may be visible at a distance of 4.5 to 4.8 miles away, over a visual arc of approximately 2 degrees. The Project will not be a prominent or dominant feature in the landscape and will not have an effect on the continued use and enjoyment of the lake.

Overall Visual Impact: Low

MEMORIAL ARCH OF TILTON

The Memorial Arch is a monument on the National Register of Historic Places located in a public park in the town of Tilton. The arch is 55 feet tall and modeled after the Arch of Titus in Rome, built by Charles Tilton in 1882. The cultural value is high.

Visibility Analysis

Viewer expectation is high because of its listing on the National Register of Historic Places and prominent location on a hill overlooking the community of Northfield. Residential development and forested hillsides are visible in the midground between the Arch and the Project corridor. Low hills approximately 1.5 miles from the arch block much of the corridor from view. Other structures are blocked by trees in the background.

The Project is located in an existing transmission corridor approximately 4.4 miles west of the arch. The tops of approximately 11 transmission structures may appear over a visual arc of approximately 7 degrees. However, at this distance, the transmission structures will be very difficult to recognize as individual objects in a landscape that has considerable development activity. The limited visibility will not impact the future use and enjoyment of the Tilton Arch or the surrounding park. The Project will require an additional 25’ of clearing within the existing corridor, which will not be visible from the arch.

Overall Visual Impact: Low



View facing southeast from the northern shore of Newfound Lake. The NPT corridor is located 7.2 miles from this viewpoint.



View facing west from the west of Pemigewasset Lake. The NPT corridor is located 4.8 miles from this viewpoint.



Memorial Arch of Tilton.



View facing west from the west of the Memorial Arch of Tilton. The NPT corridor is located 4.4 miles from this viewpoint.