

Date: February 4, 2016

To: Pamela.Monroe@sec.nh.gov

Subject: Petition to Intervene, SEC Docket No. 2015-06

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (“SEC”) Docket No. 2015-06
Northern Pass Petition to Intervene

Dear Ms. Monroe,

On behalf of BEAR ROCK residents, we respectfully request to intervene in the SEC’s proceedings under Docket No. 2015-06 relating to the proposed Northern Pass transmission line. Per the SEC’s regulations, we are sending this request to you, with copies to the SEC’s distribution list for this proceeding as noted in the “cc” below.

Our particular rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests that may be affected by the SEC’s Northern Pass proceedings include the following:

1. Threat to our water source

We are abutters to Northern Pass in Stewartstown, New Hampshire and have an easement on Northern Pass owned Holden Hill. The Northern Pass current plan is to construct a Transition Area (underground to overhead towers) very close to our easement with the second tower virtually next to or on top of our water line and easement. The easement is for a spring and aqueduct that delivers gravity fed water to multiple buildings and locations on a 350-acre farm. The aqueduct is > 1.5 miles extending from approximately 2/3 of the way up Holden Hill in Stewartstown to our hay field about three miles away in Colebrook, New Hampshire. The aqueduct brings water to our home, horse barn, pool house, guesthouses, gardens, pastures, two neighbors’ vacation homes, and more. The placement of all these structures was planned based on the fact that the water was more than ample and was gravity fed, requiring no electricity to provide water to buildings that are sited far from one another. The spring and aqueduct were built for a much larger farm around 1902, was last upgraded about 35 years ago and is due to be upgraded again in the next approximately 48 months to accommodate our current and future needs. The proposed Transition Area poses particular risks to our water source. As stated, in Counsel for the Public, Peter Roth’s December 2, 2015 letter to the SEC page 5 “The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Kayser indicates that Laydown areas can be up to fifty acres. It also may require extending existing access roads in order to accommodate construction vehicles and delivery of construction materials, particularly at overhead/underground transition stations.”

Upgrading my aqueduct 35 years ago required digging a trench 4’ deep, one mile in length using excavators, bulldozers and other equipment. Routine maintenance often requires such machines. There is a real possibility of Northern Pass construction destroying my spring and aqueduct. If it is not destroyed, carrying on my easement upgrade and maintenance needs in the midst of their

HVDC construction activity is daunting and unreasonable. The most questionable and fair solution is to at least locate the Transition Area to a more suitable area such as the Wagner Woodlot.

2. View Impact

Forty-five years ago my wife and I bought this farm and sited our home and buildings to look out at Holden Hill, Paul Hill to the east, and the Balsams Resort and ski area in Dixville Notch to the south. Northern Pass plans are to construct towers across those hills marching across the landscape and visible from practically every home in the Dixville Notch / Harvey Swell location and from every spot on our farm. There will be a negative impact on our property value and the peace of mind and tranquility that drew us to this farming community. Ironically even the value of Northern Pass owned land would decrease in value about the same amount, as it would cost them to bury their HVDC line another 1.3 miles. For this multibillion-dollar behemoth to claim financial concerns to bury their line another few miles lacks any sense of fairness or empathy and is entirely foreign to the sense of mutual concern that this once farming community has nurtured for generations. We ask that Northern Pass bury their line to the Wagner woodlot and thereby preserve the natural beauty of this neighborhood.

3. Negative Impact on the Orderly Development of Our Neighborhood

Our neighbors and we constitute a community that is transitioning from a farming community to tourism, hospitality industry. The neighborhood extends from Dixville Notch to the Harvey Swell / Holden Hill location and prays for the revival of the much needed Balsams Resort and ski area – with the development of multiple tourist attractions on the hills and hay fields. Across this landscape Northern Pass intends to build towers on land that looks out across the valley and fields that should be populated by homes and families, with children for our schools and hospitality work force to support our vision for the future. At the very least those towers should not be built and the HVDC lines buried to the Wagner woodlot. Towers are not tourist attractions. We ask the SEC to hear our request and support our efforts at this most vulnerable time.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,

E Martin Kaufman, M.D.

Janice Kaufman

Herman Lerner, M.D.

Arthur Weinstein

cc: Martin.honigberg@puc.nh.gov; Craig.Wright@des.nh.gov; kate.bailey@puc.nh.gov; christopher.way@dred.state.nh.us; woldenburg@dot.state.nh.us; weathersbylawpllc@gmail.com; rwhitaker@ccsnh.edu; Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov; miacopino@brennanlenehan.com; jody.carmody@puc.nh.gov; Idore@brennanlenehan.com; cmunroe@brennanlenehan.com; Brian.buonanno@doj.nh.gov; Jeremy.walker@mclane.com; Barry.needleman@mclane.com; Adam.dumville@mclane.com; Rebecca.walkley@mclane.com; Thomas.getz@mclane.com; dbisbee@devinemillimet.com; marvin.bellis@eversource.com; Christopher.allwarden@eversource.com; Elizabeth.maldonado@eversource.com; Robert.clarke@eversource.com; Laura.maynard@doj.nh.gov; Peter.roth@doj.nh.gov; dawn.gagnon@mclane.com; denise.frazier@mclane.com; tpappas@primmer.com; eemerson@primmer.com; Viggo.fish@mclane.com; russ.kelly@eversource.com; Sevans-brown@nhpr.org; Collis.adams@des.nh.gov; cindykudlik@hotmail.com; elaineplanchet@nhacc.org; drwarner@ncia.net; tbamford@nccouncil.org; Susan.schibanoff@unh.edu; Eric.feldbaum@dred.nh.gov; tmasland@ranspell.com; Caroline.bone@db.com; manzelli@nhlandlaw.com; bill.gegas@dred.nh.gov; dpacik@concordnh.gov; reimers@nhlandlaw.com; amorris@cmonitor.com; higherground@wildblue.net; Gregory.Reiss@mfp.com; saholz@myfairpoint.net; steverselectperson@gmail.com; connorsmargo@gmail.com; cfillmore@townandcitylaw.com; Meredith.hatfield@nh.gov; Tracey.boisvert@nh.gov; cjensen@nhpr.org; edithtucker@ne.rr.com; dhartford@clf.org; mbirchard@clf.org; william.carpenter@dred.nh.gov; Caroline.bone@db.com; spenney@ply

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