

8/16/2015

Gentlemen and Ladies:

I specifically object to the proposed rules for the Site Evaluation Committee. These rules reflect the position of the industry with either no or little regard for the citizens of our state. Specifically, I concur with the requests submitted jointly by the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests, the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Audubon Society submitted on July 23, 2015.

First, I believe that applicants must first have full legal control of any route they choose to utilize. This would save considerable legal expenses in any future proceedings and would eliminate unnecessary work.

In addition, since northern New Hampshire primarily earns tourist dollars, visual impact is extremely important economically to the region. Tourists don't travel to ugly places.

All projects should have sufficient setbacks to prevent visual blight and potential health effects.

There must be a distinction between projects needed for reliability and those which are elective. Perhaps there should be two sets of standards.

Projects have a significant negative effect upon property valuation. I believe this amounts to a substantial subsidy. Before imposing this on landowners, I believe there must be a significant benefit.

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Larry Rappaport
NH State Representative
Coos District One