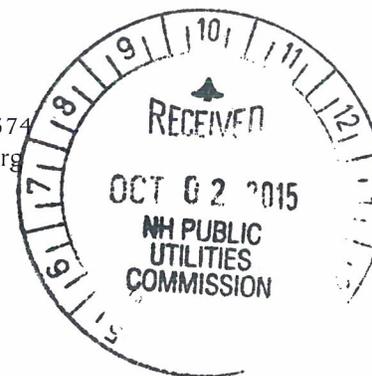


TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



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Chairman Martin Honigberg
 Site Evaluation Committee
 c/o Public Utilities Commission
 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
 Concord, NH 03301

September 30, 2015

Dear Chairman Honigberg,

After reviewing the Site Evaluation Committee's comments on the review of their administrative rules we would like to submit this letter as our official protest to the interpretation that the law's intent is for this committee to become the State's Planning and Zoning authority.

We as the Planning Board for the Town of Bethlehem, NH strongly object to any attempt to make the unelected Site Evaluation Committee the preemptive planning and zoning board for the State of New Hampshire.

Under RSA 673.1 the Legislative of NH gave the right to every town in this State to elect a planning board to oversee the planning and zoning for the Town's legislative body. Within that intent was 674.2 whereby one duty is to prepare and amend as necessary a master plan to guide the development of a municipality. This allows for local control to meet the needs of individual areas that help to preserve our heritage as an independent people.

The government must allow the people to prepare and determine as much of their municipal future as society allows. The State Site Evaluation Committee should not have the power to disregard local control over projects that will have enormous impacts within the Towns and Cities of New Hampshire.

We ask that you oversee the Site Committee's recommendation of Administrative Rules to ensure that all planning and zoning for our Towns does not become centralized

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Bruno
 Town of Bethlehem Planning Board Chair

cc Governor Maggie Hassen
 Representative Carol McGuire
 Executive Councilor Joseph Kenny
 Attorney David Wiesner
 Jane Murray