Attn: Ms. Pamela G. Monroe
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street
Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Dean Smith 455 Unity Road Newport, NH 03773

Dear Committee Members:

New Hampshire has the opportunity to obtain a long term supply of American-sourced propane delivered safely and efficiently by rail, replacing expensive foreign-shipped propane. The Sea-3 project is ready to start construction, and it simply needs an exemption from another long and unnecessary study period that will only confirm what other exhaustive safety standards checks have already done: tell us that this project is safe and is good for New Hampshire. I ask you to vote yes so this project can get started.

77,000 homes in New Hampshire use propane for heating. We rely on it, and Sea-3 has long delivered it safely to us. They now have a plan to ensure we have a responsive supply chain using North American propane that can be shipped to us cheaper by rail. The plan for the facility is approved locally, and the rail lines have passed all the necessary safety inspections. There is no reason to stand in the way of Sea-3 buying U.S. propane and shipping it to a purpose-built facility for safe, cost-effective distribution in New Hampshire.

I know the opposition's rail argument; however, it is my understanding that even if this facility is not approved by the Selection Committee, rail deliveries of propane gas will still happen in New Hampshire, so withholding the exemption is preventing nothing. In fact, it is doing harm, as instead of regular shipments to a facility offering expert handling and state-of-the-art safety features, propane deliveries will instead be offloaded along the rail line onto dealer tankers with almost none of the facility standard safety features like water deluge, auto cut-off and fast fire suppression. That doesn't sound safe to me.

In addition, consumers in New Hampshire should not have to suffer an additional winter of paying a premium for propane secured through high-priced and unreliable supply chains from foreign markets, when abundant and inexpensive propane is available domestically. The SEC needs to do the right thing and grant the exemption that will allow consumers in New Hampshire to start saving money on propane!

The expansion of Sea-3's propane handling terminal in Newington is vital to the energy security of New Hampshire. This facility will ensure we have safe, dependable, and cheaper supplies of American-produced propane available to state consumers. The project has passed all safety and legal tests, in addition to the state's own safety inspection of the rail lines. I strongly encourage you to grant the requested exemption and allow this facility to start saving New Hampshire money on propane!

Best regards,

Dean Smith