## In Re:

## SEC 2015-06 Northern Pass Public Information Meeting Laconia, New Hampshire

## PUBLIC COMMENTS <br> September 10, 2015

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| 1 | proposes to frame that vista with three steel | 1 | borne in its entirety by the applicant. |
| 2 | lattice towers approximately 100 feet tall. | 2 | Thank you very much, your |
| 3 | At mile marker 71, where the line again | 3 | Honor. |
| 4 | crosses the highway, Northern Pass proposes | 4 | THE MODERATOR: Thank you. |
| 5 | to replace the existing 55-foot wooden pole | 5 | We're going to just switch, while there's a |
| 6 | structures with a series of steel monopoles | 6 | lull in the action, while we switch court |
| 7 | up to 115 feet in height, collocated with | 7 | reporters. The Chair of the Board of |
| 8 | three steel lattice structures each in excess | 8 | Selectmen kind of wore Steve out. |
| 9 | of 100 feet tall, the tallest measuring 125 | 9 | [Court reporter switchover.] |
| 10 | feet. | 10 | THE MODERATOR: Mr. Draper gave |
| 11 | Visitors traveling west to | 11 | up his speaking spot. |
| 12 | Newfound Lake on Route 104 will be exposed to | 12 | Bob Joseph. Do you need that |
| 13 | a similar treatment of the existing | 13 | brought down? |
| 14 | right-of-way as it crosses both the highway | 14 | MR. JOSEPH: I think that |
| 15 | and the Pemigewasset River into New Hampton, | 15 | worked. Can you hear? |
| 16 | with 120-foot monopoles replacing the | 16 | THE MODERATOR: Yes, sir. |
| 17 | existing wooden structures and steel lattice | 17 | MR. JOSEPH: I don't think I'll |
| 18 | towers of 100 and 125 feet on either side of | 18 | be going over, but just in case, because of my |
| 19 | the Pemigewasset River. The | 19 | ears, and I like to make sure everything is |
| 20 | industrialization of the rural character of | 20 | understood. Okay. |
| 21 | our town and state is again a willful | 21 | Name is Bob Joseph. I'm from |
| 22 | dismissal of the voice of the people of New | 22 | New Hampton. The views here are my own, |
| 23 | Hampton and the State of New Hampshire. | 23 | coming from my research, wherein the |
| 24 | Fact: Northern Pass | 24 | electrical grid for too long has been abusive |
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| 1 | Transmission, LLC, does not answer to the | 1 | to the citizens, using our land -- their |
| 2 | people of New Hampshire. It answers to the | 2 | land, with no financial rewards. They also |
| 3 | stakeholders of the project and to the | 3 | have the highest rates in the country and |
| 4 | shareholders of the parent companies. | 4 | muscling in to degrade the properties where |
| 5 | Voluntarily, it will seek to do the absolute | 5 | the power lines lie. Your power line uses |
| 6 | minimum to mitigate the impacts and costs of | 6 | over an acre of my land rent-free. Many |
| 7 | the project, while maximizing its earnings. | 7 | states' power companies reimburse landowners |
| 8 | If the Northern Pass Transmission line is to | 8 | for the use of their properties and offer |
| 9 | be located within New Hampshire, then it is | 9 | much lower rates. We should be reimbursed |
| 10 | incumbent upon us as custodians of our | 10 | for this land usage like any other business |
| 11 | communities and of the state to impose upon | 11 | or corporation. |
| 12 | you, Northern Pass, the measures which will | 12 | I moved from Pennsylvania to |
| 13 | bring about the maximum protections of our | 13 | New Hampshire to enjoy its beauty, not to |
| 14 | environment and economies, while securing for | 14 | look at power lines and windmills, just like |
| 15 | our communities the best possible outcomes in | 15 | many residents and tourists like to see. |
| 16 | jobs and tax revenues. | 16 | Power lines and windmills obstruct and |
| 17 | Therefore, Alternative 4a, | 17 | desecrate the beauty of our lands, impacting |
| 18 | which calls for the burial of the | 18 | negatively on our livelihood and the tourist |
| 19 | transmission line in its entirety, while | 19 | trade. They also impact negatively on our |
| 20 | being disadvantageous to the applicant, | 20 | health. |
| 21 | results in the maximum benefit to the | 21 | An electric company in |
| 22 | affected communities and is consistent with | 22 | Pennsylvania -- |
| 23 | the position taken by the Town of New Hampton | 23 | THE MODERATOR: Mr. Joseph, the |
| 24 | that any inconvenience or financial impact be | 24 | only thing, when you move away like this-- |

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. JOSEPH: Oh, okay. | 1 | buried. |
| 2 | THE MODERATOR: You have to | 2 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Sir -- |
| 3 | stay in front of the microphone. A little | 3 | MR. JOSEPH: I'm just about |
| 4 | closer, even, if you could. | 4 | done |
| 5 | MR. JOSEPH: An electric | 5 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. |
| 6 | company in Pennsylvania settled a lawsuit that | 6 | MR. JOSEPH: All of us are part |
| 7 | offered that its overhead lines caused cancer. | 7 | of this thing called life. Working together, |
| 8 | We do not need the Northern, | 8 | all of us, and the Northern Pass people, we |
| 9 | Pass, even though there wasn't a... | 9 | could all make New Hampshire a better place to |
| 10 | [inaudible] demonstration here. Eminent | 10 | live again. Thank you. |
| 11 | domain does not and should not apply to | 11 | THE MODERATOR: Thank you. |
| 12 | privately owned properties. You're a | 12 | Gretchen Draper. |
| 13 | profit-making company that serves the owners | 13 | MS. DRAPER: Well, my name is |
| 14 | and the stockholders, and not us. There is | 14 | Gretchen Draper. I'm also from New Hampton. |
| 15 | no benefit to the citizens of this state. We | 15 | You're going to hear a lot from New Hampton |
| 16 | have determined that you need to comply with | 16 | tonight, I guess. |
| 17 | our wishes. Compromise, while an ugly word, | 17 | I live along that same stretch |
| 18 | if the lines are buried in their entirety | 18 | of the Pemigewasset River that is very |
| 19 | while in this state, maybe some of us could | 19 | important to tourism, to our wildlife, to our |
| 20 | better respect your efforts. Scenery in New | 20 | way of life in this small town. And tonight, |
| 21 | Hampshire is what makes and defines this | 21 | in looking at some of the material and the |
| 22 | state. The financial costs pale in | 22 | displays in the other room, I found that I'm |
| 23 | comparison to following the will and need of | 23 | going to be looking at a 95-foot steel tower |
| 24 | the people. Burying the line will also | 24 | right out my front window. So, beyond |
|  | Page 18 |  | Page 20 |
| 1 | improve your relation with our people, | 1 | everything else about Northern Pass, I have |
| 2 | providing excellent public relations. This | 2 | sort of a personal vendetta here -- personal |
| 3 | would indicate your willingness to listen -- | 3 | investment. But actually, I'm more |
| 4 | give me a minute -- listen and pay attention | 4 | concerned. I have sort of a bottom line that |
| 5 | to our needs. It's highly imperative that | 5 | really concerns me, and this is because of |
| 6 | the entire Northern Pass line be buried the | 6 | Northeast Utilities and Eversource and the |
| 7 | entire state and to be made along the | 7 | way these companies have brought together all |
| 8 | interstate highways, preferably in the median | 8 | the smaller franchises in New England, and |
| 9 | areas where it would be less expensive to | 9 | now we're facing Eversource, which is the |
| 10 | bury those lines. All electrical lines | 10 | largest utility company in our area. It is |
| 11 | should be buried, not just the Northern Pass. | 11 | also for profit. It's a private company. |
| 12 | The costly need to defoliate the land under | 12 | And that puts it in a very different light |
| 13 | existing lines is reduced and will enhance | 13 | for me. Right now in our entire country |
| 14 | our property values as well. It's a win-win | 14 | we're talking about big corporations and how |
| 15 | situation that benefits all of us. | 15 | they work with regulatory organizations, how |
| 16 | And lastly, the people of the | 16 | they put their money in political realms |
| 17 | Northern New Hampshire have spoken. They | 17 | where we don't get to see even who they |
| 18 | have said, "No. No Northern Pass." It's | 18 | donate to. So I'm going to need a great deal |
| 19 | obvious you have not been really listening to | 19 | of reassurance and transparency from |
| 20 | us. It's up to the citizens of the state to | 20 | Eversource if I'm ever going to support this |
| 21 | determine what is best for us, not you or any | 21 | project, which I doubt, actually. |
| 22 | other corporate entity. New Hampshire's | 22 | And I want to borrow one of |
| $23$ | beauty can once again be restored and be | $23$ | Neil Irvine's sayings about the "lipstick on |
| 24 | maintained that way if these lines are | 24 | a pig." Well, that's what we've seen |


|  | tonight. That's what we've heard tonight, |  | Blake Hill Road. And personally I am |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | that the lipstick's on the pig, but it's |  | affected, and our household is affected |
|  | still a pig. And if Eversource is the | 3 | because we will look across the Pemigewasset |
| 4 | largest for-profit utility in New England, | 4 | Valley into the town of Hill, where in our |
| 5 | then you can afford to bury the entire line. | 5 | view sight will be up to 10 towers in the |
| 6 | Thank you. | 6 | valley that we look into. |
| 7 | THE MODERATOR: Philip Preston, | 7 | I have a number of brief |
| 8 | Eli Gray. I think that says Felgate, Rod, | 8 | comments. It's been mentioned before that it |
| 9 | M.D. Dr. Felgate. | 9 | appears that the Project has heard some -- |
| 10 | Philip Preston, you want to | 10 | has listened to some objectives, but has not |
| 11 | come on up to the mic? Barbara Lucas. | 11 | heard those of us in the middle of the state. |
| 12 | You're going to have to pull | 12 | And I wonder why you proposed to bury lines |
| 13 | the mic up, sir. | 13 | in the north, but not take into account view |
| 14 | MR. PRESTON: My name is Phil | 14 | impacts in the middle. You mentioned that |
| 15 | Preston. I'm a landowner on Winona Road. I'm | 15 | it's a balance. But it seems to me that it's |
| 16 | also a selectmen in the town of Ashland. | 16 | a teeter-totter, where one side is up and one |
| 17 | Before you come agents of | 17 | side is down. |
| 18 | Northern Pass, full of promises and lots of | 18 | My second comment is I'd like |
| 19 | hot gas. They bought plenty of land at a | 19 | know by a show of hands here how many |
| 20 | high price in places we think are still very | 20 | people want the lines buried or not built at |
| 21 | nice. We in New Hampshire do not need to | 21 | all. |
| 22 | choose. Instead of towers, we'd rather have | 22 | [Audience interruption.] |
| 23 | moose. Costs of burial they claim are too | 23 | I wonder whether it would be |
| 24 | high, but they'll leave us with land that few | 24 | possible to record that. |
|  | Page 22 |  | Page 24 |
|  | will buy. It's the landowners who will bear |  | THE MODERATOR: We'll just say |
| 2 3 | being lost. They have not shown they have a | 2 3 | MR. GRAY: Overwhelming |
| 4 | clear route, so I don't see how their plan | 4 | majority? May we -- |
| 5 | will bear fruit. They've been listening, but | 5 | THE MODERATOR: You can |
| 6 | they're not hearing. Replies to our voices | 6 | characterize it as you want. Go ahead, sir, |
| 7 | aren't endearing. Now I want you to listen | 7 | please make your comments. |
| 8 | and take note. In 2012, Ashland cast its | 8 | MR. GRAY: All right. Thank |
| 9 | vote on Northern Pass. And what it had to | 9 | you. |
| 10 | say, by a very large margin, was "No way." | 10 | I think the response with |
| 11 | The selectmen for whom I am speaking think | 11 | regard to the costs and the return of the |
| 12 | the proposal still needs some tweaking. | 12 | Project was a little disingenuous when you |
| 13 | Northern Pass wants to take shovel in hand | 13 | cited I think 8 percent debt and equity. Am |
| 14 | and dig a trench through a part of our land. | 14 | I understanding -- |
| 15 | There's only one way to settle us down, and | 15 | THE MODERATOR: Sir, you just |
| 16 | that's to keep digging in every town. Thank | 16 | need to comment, okay. |
| 17 | you. | 17 | MR. GRAY: Yeah. It seems to |
| 18 | THE MODERATOR: Eli Gray. | 18 | me that it was disingenuous, because the debt |
| 19 | MR. GRAY: Hi, I'm Eli Gray, | 19 | is a lot cheaper than the equity that will be |
| 20 | 809 Blake Hill Road. | 20 | earned. |
| 21 | THE MODERATOR: That's G-R-A-Y. | 21 | I would like to ask that the |
| 22 | MR. GRAY: G-R-A-Y | 22 | ite Evaluation Committee Application show |
| 23 | THE MODERATOR: Yes. | 23 | the effect of property values of those |
| 24 | MR. GRAY: That's at the end of | 24 | properties that have views onto the towers, |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | the impact that those towers will have on | 1 | Northern Pass" sticker. |
| 2 | property values. Those are my comments. | 2 | MODERATOR: Okay. Thank |
| 3 | Thank you. |  | arbara Lucas. Then we're going to have |
| 4 | THE MODERATOR: Thank you | 4 | no -- Martha Chandler, Sam Conkling and |
| 5 | gat |  | wn Scribner, Scott Powell, Garret -- anyway, |
| 6 | DR. FELGATE: Your Honor, my | 6 | who I mea |
| 7 | Rodney Felgate. I am a physician in | 7 | Go ahead. Go ahead, Ms |
| 8 | n New Hampshire | 8 | Lucas. |
| 9 | HE MODERATOR: Sir, would | 9 | MS. LUCAS: My name is Barbara |
| 10 | ur last name | 10 | as. I'm a Bridgewater resident, but I'm |
| 11 | R. FELGATE: F-E-L-G-A-T | 11 | he town administrator in the town of New |
| 12 | E MODERATOR: | 12 | Hampton. |
| 13 | DR. FELGATE: I'm a physici | 13 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. And |
| 14 | lived in northern New Hampshire for over | 14 | at's L-U-C -- |
| 15 | years now. I own property in the towns of | 15 | MS. LUCAS: C-A-S. My husband |
| 16 | North Woodstock in Grafton County. I practice | 16 | are Bridgewater residents, as I said, |
| 17 | in Lincoln in Grafton County, and | 17 | I have family with property in Lancaster |
| 18 | property in the town of New Hampton in Belknap | 18 | Stark and Bristol. And we would unequivocably |
| 19 | County. | 19 | pport the Project under Alternative 3 or 4A, |
| 20 | I'm a Northern Pass opponent, | 20 | rying the lines in the entire route. |
| 21 | uarded opponent. I would like to b | 21 | We live on the river. We |
| 22 | won over. I thought the presentatio | 22 | the property, enjoy the river. Not |
| 23 | excellent. I would commend Bill Quinlan on | 23 | f a mile down river will be a 125 -foot |
| 24 | it. I differ from most other people here, in | 24 | tower. I look directly across the river at |
|  | e 26 |  | Page 28 |
| 1 | I own two properties that are impacte |  | New Hampton where the towers follow I-93. |
| 2 | by Northern Pass. My property in North |  | think it's unconscionable that there would b |
| 3 | Woodstock is about 500 foot from the existing | 3 | onsideration to bury to a certain point in |
| 4 | right-of-way, PSNH right-of-way. I | 4 | idgewater and disregard the Lakes Region |
| 5 | understand they're now going to bury Northern | 5 | d the scenic beauty we have in New Hampton. |
| 6 | Pass along Route 112, which is wonderful. I | 6 | e do not want to industrialize our |
| 7 | am delighted. My property in New Hampton is | 7 | lsides, our valleys, and along the |
| 8 | a very different proposition. I'm Eli Gray's | 8 | migewasset River. I ask you -- we don't |
| 9 | neighbor. I live above him. It's a | 9 | ant these lattice towers and monopoles up |
| 10 | beautiful property in extreme southwe | 10 | re. Please reconsider this. Put these |
| 11 | looking across the Pemi Valley to the town | 11 | wer lines underground. It's simple. Thank |
| 12 | Hill. By my estimation, if Northern Pass | 12 | you. |
| 13 | goes in as planned, I will see about a mile | 13 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Martha |
| 14 | of towers. It will denigrate my view, and I | 14 | andler. Sam Conkling will be called next, |
| 15 | find it very hard to believe it will not | 15 | dawn Scribner. Go ahead. |
| 16 | bring down my property value. I would like | 16 | MS. CHANDLER: My name is |
| 17 | to say that I believe in what -- I practice | 17 | rtha Chandler. I live at 60 Holman Street |
| 18 | what I believe -- or we practice what we | 18 | Laconia, and I -- but I consider myself a |
| 19 | believe. On our property, everything is | 19 | esident of all of New Hampshire. |
| 20 | underground. All utilities are buried. And | 20 | I urge burial of Northern |
| 21 | I would like to say to Northern Pass, if you | 21 | ss, all of it. Studies show it is feas |
| 22 | will bury the line in the town of New Hampton | 22 | bury and environmentally and aestheticall |
|  | and in the town of Hill, I personally will | 23 | more desirable and better overall for the |
| 24 | leave this meeting and tear off my "Stop | 24 | long-range New Hampshire economy, especially |


|  | $\text { Page } 29$ |  | Page 31 |
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|  | all-important tourism-wise. And job | 1 | story. And I know there's always at least |
| 2 | opportunities exist in similar numbers for | 2 | two sides to a story. But I think a lot of |
| 3 | th construction and operation, both | 3 | ur facts have been refuted and argued. I |
| 4 | underground and -- for underground an | 4 | really hope that the SEC and everybody else |
| 5 | erhea | 5 | involved with this will hear and listen to -- |
| 6 | position to the Proje | 6 | not just hear, but listen to and react to, in |
| 7 | instant. For too long, Northeas | 7 | positive way, our story, because I think |
| 8 | Utilities, Public Service of New Hampshire, | 8 | it's our story that matters the most, not |
|  | ersource has spent multi-millions on land | 9 | ur stakeholders. They're going to make |
| 10 | chases up north for rights-of-way which | 10 | ir money somehow. Maybe they'll invest in |
| 11 | they now cannot really utilize on huge | 11 | me other company. I don't know or really |
| 12 | publicity and lobbying campaigns, and now on | 12 | care. But I do care about New Hampshire. I |
| 13 | tributions to appease various | 13 | re about our way our life. I care about |
| 14 | organizations or agencies, all of which | 14 | all the people who have to make a living |
| 15 | indicate at least at some point Northea | 15 | here. Your temporary jobs -- but your |
| 16 | Utilities had the money or the extra billio | 16 | permanent scar will be a story if that |
| 17 | to bury. | 17 | happens that we would have to live with, my |
| 18 | w you propose | 18 | kids have to live with, their kids. And I |
| 19 | , a third or so, in the north. A ste | 19 | don't see how you people can continue. You |
| 20 | in the right perhaps, but further indicatio | 20 | say you're listening. But you're still |
| 21 | that burial is possible, which seems to | 21 | telling us this stuff. We said "No." The |
| 22 | separate New Hampshire in two. Do you really | 22 | people of New Hampton have said "No." The |
| 23 | mean that New Hampshire south of point X is | 23 | people of Ashland, up and down, down to |
| 24 | less deserving of environmental protection? | 24 | Deerfield have all said "No." Thirty towns |
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| 1 | all of New Hampshire, |  | mething, I forget, have said "No." Yet, |
| 2 | landscape, economy and liveability is |  | 're still fighting this because you need to |
| 3 | important and should not be marred by | 3 | ake your profit, you need to make those |
| 4 | unnecessary, outdated structures. Do a rea | 4 | people happy. And I just wish that if you're |
| 5 | public service to all of New Hampshire and | 5 | going to do this sort of project, bury it. |
| 6 | ry all of it. | 6 | Listen to the people, because that's what we, |
| 7 | MR. CONKLING: I'm Sam | 7 | the people that are here, as the vast |
| 8 | nkling. I live on Cross Road in Ne | 8 | majority raised our hands a minute ago, are |
| 9 | Hampton. It's off Blake Hill Road. | 9 | saying "Bury it or move on." The cost to |
| 10 | THE MODERATOR: Would you spell | 10 | this so far has been, I think, unruly, |
| 11 | st name, sir. | 11 | unjust, and it's unfair. |
| 12 | MR. CONKLING: C-O-N-K-L-I-N-G. | 12 | And to continue to hear these |
| 13 | I would like to thank you | 13 | ries and your side, as much as we all |
| 14 | folks for entertaining us tonight. Soun | 14 | disagree and laugh at it, it just seems like |
| 15 | lot like the same entertainment we heard a | 15 | it's like an insult. It's a serious insult |
| 16 | few years ago in New Hampton. Really like to | 16 | that we have to continue this. And if I want |
| 17 | thank all my neighbors, and especially Neil | 17 | to sell my land -- I grew up in New Hampton. |
| 18 | Irvine from New Hampton, to come and | 18 | My mother and father are here, my brother's |
| 19 | represent the people of New Hampton and the | 19 | here, great neighbors. It's hard for me to |
| 20 | people of Belknap County, and the people of | 20 | hear you say that your studies, your data |
| 21 | the state. | 21 | says that it won't affect our land views, our |
| 22 | I guess I'm really surprised | 22 | alues, our ways of life, et cetera, et |
| 23 | that I'm still hearing the same, I don't know | 23 | cetera. So, bury it, please, or move along. |
| 24 | what it is, story. And I know it's your | 24 | And please respect what the people have said |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | and continue to say. Towns have voted "No. | 1 | speak on behalf of all of the New Hampshire |
| 2 | Please respect that. Thank you | 2 | residents. |
| 3 | MS. SCRIBNER: Hi, my name's | 3 | You know, I would ask all the |
| 4 | wn Scribner. I'm here on behalf of my | 4 | people that have a say in this matter, the |
| 5 | family who -- | 5 | evaluation committee, our elected officials, |
| 6 | THE MODERATOR: Ma'am, would | 6 | oople of Eversource and Northern Pass, to |
| 7 | 11 your last na | 7 | take the long-term view of the Project. I |
| 8 | MS. SCRIBNER: S-C-R-I-B-N-E-R. | 8 | oppose it in its current state. I would be a |
| 9 | I am here on behalf of my | 9 | supporter of it if it were buried in its |
| 10 | family that owns a piece of property in | 10 | entirety. Once those towers are put up, they |
| 11 | Clarksville, New Hampshire. Back in 1987, my | 11 | will be here for decades, and they won't be |
| 12 | ents bought 25 acres to retire on at the | 12 | ing down. It's a decision we can't |
| 13 | top of a hill on Route 145 -- which, by the | 13 | erse. I think about some of the other |
| 14 | way, Route 145 is a scenic byway in | 14 | projects that have been done in this country, |
| 15 | Clarksville, New Hampshire. The view | 15 | protecting some of our most beautiful sites, |
| 16 | absolutely breathtaking. They can see into | 16 | $m$ the White Mountains out to Yosemite and |
| 17 | Vermont and Canada. Well, retirement has | 17 | dlowstone National Park, and think of |
| 18 | come for them, and they have been very | 18 | are generations that will be looking back |
| 19 | outspoken about this project, as have I. The | 19 | this project and the fact that the views |
| 20 | Project as proposed will impact their | 20 | at we have, the sights that we have, the |
| 21 | magnificent view extensively. By the way, | 21 | untry that we're so proud of, will lose |
| 22 | several people each year stop at the top of | 22 | ther one of our beautiful vistas if this |
| 23 | their driveway to take pictures. The view | 23 | roject is built. So, again, I ask |
| 24 | will be ruined by these ugly towers. In | 24 | take a long-term view. Think about future |
|  | 34 |  | 36 |
| 1 | order to protect themselves a | 1 | nerations. Protect more of our beautiful |
| 2 | view that they have, they have given the | 2 | country for those that come after us. Thank |
| 3 | Society for the Protection of New Hampshire | 3 | you. |
| 4 | Forests a conservation easement. While other | 4 | MODERATOR: Garr |
| 5 | people around them have been bought by | 5 | Graaskamp, Mark Templeton. |
| 6 | Eversource, not my parents. I am very proud | 6 | MR. GRAASKAMP: Garret |
| 7 | of them. | 7 | aaskamp, Gilmanton, New Hampshire. |
| 8 | rsource says it i | 8 | THE MODERATOR: Could you spell |
| 9 | listening to New Hampshire citizens regarding | 9 | your last name, please, and your first name |
| 10 | protecting the views. I am pleased that they | 10 |  |
| 11 | are burying through the White Mountain | 11 | MR. GRAASKAMP: Oh, it's really |
| 12 | National Forest. However, if they can bury | 12 | that hard. G-A-R-R-E-T, G-R-A-A-S-K-A-M-P. |
| 3 | it there, they can bury it the whole way | 13 | I come up here to comment on |
| 14 | along private -- public roadways. Burying it | 14 | cost of the Project and that this is a |
| 5 | all the way will benefit New Hampshire | 15 | compromise and that it would be uneconomic if |
| 16 | financially and environmentally. Let's keep | 16 | it was more expensive to -- you know, another |
| 17 | New Hampshire beautiful for future | 17 | billion. I also -- you're a regulated |
| 18 | generations. Listen to the North Country | 18 | utility, so you have to negotiate with the |
| 19 | residents: Bury it the entire way. Other | 19 | PUC and FERC and so forth for all your rates. |
| 20 | projects have, and Eversource can, too. | 20 | entioned that you're a transmission |
| 21 | THE MODERATOR: Scott Powell. | 21 | mpany, so you only get your money on the |
| 22 | . POWELL: My name is Scott | 22 | return on investment on the |
| 23 | Powell. I'm a resident of Meredith. I don't | 23 | But you do have a relationship with the power |
| 24 | have a personal view of the Project, so I | 24 | producer, because you mentioned that if it |


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| was more expensive, there was some relationship where the power producers would not go along with you. Only 10 percent of the Project is contracted at the moment and guaranteed to New Hampshire. The remaining 90 percent is open, and I would presume negotiable on the free market for what you're going to get on a return on that. And that could be shared back to the power producer. You may be locked in at 8 percent or whatever it is, but I think there's some room for you to go back and to negotiate with your power producer and to the people who will be selling your product into the market, and come up with a way to finance that extra billion dollars. You mentioned that there was $\$ 80$ million per year that you were going to be saving -- or that the regional market would save because of this project going in. So, just on a nominal basis, you pay that billion dollars back in only 12 years on a 40-year-long project, which is, you know, a small portion. If you put a net present value on that $\$ 80$ million, yes, it's going to | I want to thank the Northern Pass for spreading fear in the real estate market, because without you reducing the values of land, I would not have been able to purchase land on 132 in New Hampton. Regardless of Northern Pass coming through, I have a desire to live in New Hampton because I have family that lives there, and I find it a really -- a place I find I'm really happy. <br> I'd like to thank, you know, Eversource and Northern Pass and Hydro-Quebec for really helping make my decision that I am going to build off the grid. I do not need your power. New Hampshire doesn't need your power. If the cost effect of the investment of burying the whole project is too expensive -- people in Massachusetts and southern New England need that power. Why don't they build a power station? Is that more feasible than burying the whole project? We don't need your power. Please send it back to Canada. Thank you. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. We're going to non-county commentators now. Max |
| 1 extend it out beyond 12 years. But I bet you pay it back within 20 or 25 years. So there's got to be a way that you can go back and look at the financing. <br> And also, maybe from a moral point of view, think about the fact: Do you really need to make 8 percent? Maybe four? Maybe three? You're still making money. Yet, all these people who have a view on this, their property value's going to be worth -- you know, what they will lose on that is going to be worth way more than that in value. So I think in terms of compromising, it would behoove you, from a PR point of view, and just for the longevity of this project going beyond 40 years, to revisit how you're going to finance this so that there really is a compromise, that New Hampshire isn't the only one paying for this, and perhaps you spread the costs to the other states that are going to benefit from this power. Thank you. <br> MR.TEMPLETON: Good evening. <br> My name is Mark Templeton, T-E-M-P-L-E-T-O-N. | Stamp, Bob Tuveson, Susan Arnold. Okay. You're up. <br> MR. STAMP: Max Stamp. I live <br> in Bristol, and I am a riparian landowner on the Pemi River. I'm going to read my statement so I don't get -- wander off into the weeds. <br> The fact that the majority of the power generated by this project is destined for markets to our south puts Eversource's ForwardNH Plan in a totally different box. It should be judged by very different criteria, with major emphasis on "do no harm." There are many, many scenic vistas south of Plymouth. <br> I'm involved with the Pemi <br> River Local Advisory Committee. We serve towns from Thornton to Franklin. We are very definitely considered a part of the Lakes Region. Looking at your plan maps, the following imposition in the river below Plymouth is evident. And I'm looking here at where towers and overhead cable are going to prevail. They're going to prevail where you |


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| cross over the river, and they're going to prevail where you abut the river in your travel south. I look at Ashland and Bridgewater; you cross over the river two times. I can envision the towers involved with that. You abut the river two times in the course. Bristol, New Hampton, you cross over once. New Hampton and Hill, you cross over the river one time, towers and overhead cable, and you abut the river one time. Franklin, towers and overhead cable cross over the river one time, and two times you abut the river. <br> So, water quality and quantity, visual aesthetics are tied to the economic future of our towns, businesses and tourism. This is a tourist area. We have active paddlers from the top to the bottom of the Pemi River. Visitors and locals do not want to be looking up at towers and cable on their various adventures. The damage you inflict on this region is permanent. What's proposed does not meet the criteria "do no harm." Our community, like most in this region, is tired | believe all of that was on one page. <br> MR. TUVESON: Well, I have <br> eight pages. Be careful. Bob Tuveson from Holderness, New Hampshire. Tuveson, T-U-V-E-S-O-N. <br> Last night in Whitefield, a question was asked whether Northern Pass as a reliability project needed to keep the lights on. No, it's not needed to keep the lights on, Mr. Quinlan admitted. But by the time he was done answering the question, he had said there were a number of days two winters ago when the lights almost went out because we didn't have Northern Pass. I remembered an article about this and want to share parts of it with you. This article was November 5th, 2014. <br> Last January, a very cold month, Hydro-Quebec chose to curtail its exports to New England 24 times. Often during times of the day when power needs spiking on both sides of the border, the New England natural gas plants had difficulty running at full capacity. But on these 24 |
| of being constantly put on the defensive to protect community and this region from exploitation by major corporations. I'm told there are competing proposals from the Canadian Maritimes to satisfy power needs of Connecticut and Massachusetts, apparently all buried. Why aren't we hearing more about them? Eversource has proposed $\$ 200$ million development money for various areas of New Hampshire. That's proposed. That's on the table. I'm saying bury that money. Bury that money. Then take a page out of the Market Basket book, which most of the people in this audience are quite familiar with that story a couple years back. Take a page out of that book and convince your investors to reduce the return they demand on this program. <br> THE MODERATOR: Mr. Stamp -MR. STAMP: If Eversource persists in going towers and overhead cable for 120 miles, their application should be denied. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. I can't | occasions identified, Hydro-Quebec exports dropped to levels that made clear that Hydro-Quebec chose to curtail the amount of energy it was sending south. There were, however, several times when Hydro-Quebec oddly stopped exporting power to Vermont over the Highgate tie, despite Vermont's long-term contract with Hydro-Quebec for continuous imports. Hydro-Quebec does not dispute these facts. The fact that Hydro-Quebec was to curtail its exports so many times in January of 2014, to leave so much money on the table, suggests very real supply constraints during the coldest days of winter. The key reasons for these constraints won't be readily fixed by Hydro-Quebec's ongoing development of massive new dams. It's because most Quebecers heat their homes and business with wildly inefficient baseboard electric heat. During the last winter's coldest weather, Hydro-Quebec was forced to call for emergency energy conservation by its customers on a number of occasions, something New England's grid operator didn't do once. Peak electric |


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| 1 | demands in Quebec means that new imports from | 1 | overhead lines, but also on the fact that |
| 2 | Hydro-Quebec through the Northern Pass | 2 | today's HVDC cable technologies make |
| 3 | Transmission Project or otherwise aren't | 3 | 100-percent burial a viable and economically |
| 4 | necessarily a cure for winter peak challenges | 4 | realistic option. While we're encouraged |
| 5 | that can affect the reliability of New | 5 | that Northern Pass has recently proposed |
| 6 | England's electric system. But you don't | 6 | burying an additional 52 miles of line in the |
| 7 | need to take the author's word for it. Grid | 7 | vicinity of the White Mountains, much more |
| 8 | operator, ISO-New England, has said much the | 8 | remains to be done. Two thirds of the |
| 9 | same thing. | 9 | Northern Pass Project remains above ground, |
| 10 | THE MODERATOR: You have 30 | 10 | and tens of thousands of New Hampshire |
| 11 | seconds left. | 11 | residents and visitors will continue to be |
| 12 | MR. TUVESON: Managing the | 12 | impacted by the proposed above-ground route. |
| 13 | reliability of the grid while the power | 13 | The preponderance of evidence shows that fu |
| 14 | industry undergoes rapid -- this is a | 14 | burial is doable. |
| 15 | PowerPoint presentation by ISO, Lessons and | 15 | For years, the Company has |
| 16 | Observations from Winter Operations. Imported | 16 | claimed that burial of the line was |
| 17 | Canadian hydropower is limited during very | 17 | technically impossible and prohibitively |
| 18 | cold weather because Quebec is a | 18 | costly. But other projects in New England |
| 19 | winter-peaking system. | 19 | and New York have determined that full buria |
| 20 | So we have reasons to | 20 | is both practical and economically feasible, |
| 21 | scrutinize this. And I'm running short. But | 21 | including for lengths of over 150 miles along |
| 22 | we also have to take a look -- and I'll just | 22 | terrestrial rights-of-way. Other |
| 23 | read you the last sentence. Like shifts in | 23 | northeastern states have demanded full burial |
| 24 | Hydro-Quebec's strategy and capabilities or | 24 | and got it. New Hampshire deserves the same. |
|  | Page 46 |  | Page 48 |
| 1 | in the political dynamics of a foreign | 1 | At stake here -- excuse me. |
| 2 | country are important considerations, too. | 2 | The DEIS provides clear evidence that full |
| 3 | THE MODERATOR: All right. | 3 | burial of the line would provide almost twice |
| 4 | Thank you, sir. | 4 | as many jobs, have a much smaller impact on |
| 5 | MS. ARNOLD: Susan Arnold, | 5 | property values, and create much more |
| 6 | A-R-N-O-L-D. I live in Strafford, New | 6 | long-lasting economic benefits to the region |
| 7 | Hampshire. And I'm here as the Vice-President | 7 | than overhead transmission lines or partial |
| 8 | for Conservation for the Appalachian Mountain | 8 | burial. Burying the full project is clearly |
| 9 | Club. | 9 | the most balanced and appropriate |
| 10 | The Appalachian Mountain Club | 10 | alternative. At stake here is the future of |
| 11 | is the oldest conservation and recreation | 11 | New Hampshire's forests, scenic vistas, |
| 12 | organization in the country, with more than | 12 | property values and cohesive communities. |
| 13 | 100,000 members, supporters and advocates | 13 | Make no mistake. This project |
| 14 | from Maine to D.C., including more than | 14 | is not about providing needed power for New |
| 15 | 12,000 here in New Hampshire. Our 139-year | 15 | Hampshire. New Hampshire is and has been for |
| 16 | history is punctuated by battles to protect | 16 | many years a net exporter of electric power. |
| 17 | the places people love. Open spaces, without | 17 | The independent system operator that |
| 18 | the permanent scars of industrial-scale | 18 | maintains the overall New England grid has |
| 19 | development are a diminishing and scarce | 19 | not deemed this project essential. |
| 20 | resource of high public value that AMC will | 20 | THE MODERATOR: Thirty seconds. |
| 21 | fight to protect. | 21 | MS. ARNOLD: In conclusion, |
| 22 | Our opposition to Northern | 22 | this isn't about the need for essential |
| 23 | Pass as originally proposed has been based | 23 | electricity. This project is about money, |
| 24 | not only on the serious negative impacts of | 24 | about private profit through the sacrifice of |


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| 1 | precious resources that belong to all New | 1 | lines must be buried. The burden and harm |
| 2 | Hampshire citizens. Our state deserves | 2 | should not be forced upon the property owners |
| 3 | better. If this project is to go forward, | 3 | and businesses throughout New Hampshire. |
| 4 | every mile of it must be buried. Thank you. | 4 | Thank you again for the opportunity to |
| 5 | THE MODERATOR: Victor DiMetro, | 5 | com |
| 6 | Lori Lerner, Kerrin Rounds, Christiane Green. | 6 | THE MODERATOR: Thank you. |
| 7 | Mr. DiMetro still here? | 7 | MS. ROUNDS: Kerrin Rounds. |
| 8 | (No response) | 8 | First name, K-E-R-R-I-N. Last name, |
| 9 | THE MODERATOR: All right | 9 | R-O-U-N-D-S. I am a property owner in Bristol |
| 10 | Lori Lerner. | 10 | and Stark, with family that owns property also |
| 11 | MS. LERNER: Thank you, Your | 11 | in Bridgewater and Lancaster. |
| 12 | Honor. My name is Lori Lerner. I'm the | 12 | I wanted to further Neil |
| 13 | President of NHWindWatch, and I live in | 13 | Irvine's point about property tax abatements. |
| 14 | Bridgewater, New Hampshire. | 14 | I live in Bristol. That's also a town where |
| 15 | Has anyone heard the phrase, | 15 | we have seen abatements be filed from utility |
| 16 | "beggar thy neighbor"? According to | 16 | companies. And I am concerned that the |
| 17 | Wikipedia, "beggar they neighbor" is an | 17 | revenue estimates in the presentations won't |
| 18 | economic policy through which one country | 18 | be met. And coming from a background, |
| 19 | attempts to remedy its economic problems by | 19 | knowing a little bit of how arguments are |
| 20 | means that tend to worsen the economic | 20 | made, that presentation certainly is not |
| 21 | problems of other countries. What we have | 21 | binding. So I would question why the Company |
| 22 | going on here is "beggar thy neighbor" | 22 | wouldn't come forward with reasonable PILOT |
| $23$ | contracts, whereby the southern New England | $23$ | agreements to each of the towns to guarantee |
|  | states are looking to achieve their renewable |  |  |
|  | Page 50 |  | Page 52 |
| 1 | energy goals through the demise of our | 1 | I'm also a snowmobiler and |
| 2 | beautiful state. That's exactly what these | 2 | ATVer, and I do appreciate the funds that are |
| 3 | contracts will do. | 3 | being promised to that. But I'd say that |
| 4 | For those of you who have not | 4 | it's just as easy for me to drive those |
| 5 | seen Rhode Island's energy plan, it calls | 5 | things over buried lines as it is to drive |
| 6 | for, and I'll quote, a greater reliance on | 6 | them under overhead lines. |
| 7 | out-of-state wind and hydropower, and the | 7 | I am part of the millennial |
| 8 | purchase of renewable energy credits | 8 | generation. And from looking around, I am an |
| 9 | necessary to meet the higher standards. Let | 9 | under-represented group here, because quite |
| 10 | me highlight the words: "Out-of-state wind" | 10 | frankly, we're busy trying to make a living, |
| 11 | and "hydropower." Why should we tolerate | 11 | raise a family and pay off all those student |
| 12 | this? A similar theme can be heard in | 12 | loans that we hear about. While I cannot |
| 13 | Connecticut and Massachusetts. Connecticut | 13 | speak for my generation, as my opinions are |
| 14 | will permit the use of large-scale hydropower | 14 | my own, this is what I have observed: We are |
| 15 | if needed to meet their renewable energy | 15 | a generation of immediate gratification. I |
| 16 | goals. Massachusetts has legislation | 16 | can admit that. I'd like to have a cheap |
| 17 | currently going through the process to allow | 17 | electric bill and be able to charge all those |
| 18 | large-scale hydropower to meet their | 18 | electronic devices I have at home. However, |
| 19 | renewable energy goals. If the southern New | 19 | I'm not willing to do so at the cost of the |
| 20 | England states are determined to meet their | 20 | loss of a scenic state. I think it's |
| 21 | renewable energy goals by having the northern | 21 | relatable to the movement for organic and |
| 22 | New England states shouldering the burden, | 22 | non-GMO food. We want cheap, healthy food, |
| 23 | they should demand it follow their standards, | 23 | but we are willing to pay more for a better |
| 24 | such as Connecticut, whereby transmission | 24 | option. Buried lines are a better option. |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | GREEN: My name's | 1 | affected? It's beyond me. If we don't |
| 2 | Christiane Green. I actually should have been | 2 | start, you know, gathering together to rally |
| 3 | the section. I'm a resident of New | 3 | those who are small in number, who are |
| 4 | Hampton. | 4 | going to be consistently steamrolled by large |
| 5 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Would | 5 | companies like this, we're going to be |
| 6 | u spell your first name. | 6 | nowhere. We'll lose this battle every single |
| 7 | MS. GREEN: It's spelled | 7 | time unless we get together on this. |
| 8 | ristian, coincidentally, with an E on the | 8 | So, the decreased property |
| 9 |  | 9 | lue that you said was a net, basically you |
| 10 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Why | 10 | know, that's a non-issue. I know when I've |
| 11 | ou just spell it. It'll be easier. | 11 | looked for houses, when I see they're close |
| 12 | MS. GREEN: Okay. Christian | 12 | to a huge property -- I mean a huge power |
| 13 | an E on the end. Okay. | 13 | line, that isn't a selling point. That would |
| 14 | - $-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{E}$. | 14 | be a deal breaker. So I guess I'm not sure, |
| 15 | THE MODERATOR: Great. Green. | 15 | you know, where those numbers came from or |
| 16 | MS. GREEN: Yes. | 16 | what expert did that, you know, evaluation. |
| 17 | So I'm a resident of New | 17 | But it makes me skeptical. |
| 18 | Hampton. My parents are also there. They're | 18 | So I'm here not because I'm |
| 19 | going to be in closer proximity to the line | 19 | ying anything new this evening. But in the |
| 20 | than I would be. However, I think it's | 20 | interest of putting it on the record, I'm |
| 21 | important to all of us to stand together on | 21 | anding up for all those who will be |
| 22 | this issue. And I really want to thank Neil | 22 | directly affected. |
| 23 | for what he did, and the board of selectmen | 23 | THE MODERATOR: Thank you. |
| 24 | tonight, so excellently advocating for our | 24 | Donna Shanian? I don't know if that's a C. |
|  | Page 54 |  | Page 56 |
|  | town. You know it's a horrible plan when you | 1 | MS. OHANIAN: I'm Donna |
| 2 | ave so many staunch democrats and lifelong | 2 | Ohanian, O-H-A-N-I-A-N. I have a house here |
| 3 | onservatives here gathering together on an | 3 | in Laconia. I also have a house on Newfound |
| 4 | sue. So it's kind of boggling my mind why | 4 | Lake, and I also have a house in Hudson that's |
| 5 | 're all still here. | 5 | near some power lines. The last thing I would |
| 6 | udience interruption/applause] | 6 | want to look at in any of my houses are power |
| 7 | MS. GREEN: But anyways, it | 7 | lines that are about two and a half times |
| 8 | just something that I noticed. | 8 | taller than the existing power lines. I'm |
| 9 | This is by far the most | 9 | also a skier. I'm also a kayaker. I belong |
| 10 | important part of the evening, when we' | 10 | to kayak groups. I belong to ski groups. No |
| 11 | having comment that's going down for the | 11 | one I know of wants to be looking at towers |
| 12 | record, that somebody other than the person | 12 | when they're skiing, when they're kayaking, |
| 13 | that's profiting will be looking at this | 13 | when they're hiking. I have good friends that |
| 14 | thing. | 14 | are hiking all of the 4,000-footers in New |
| 15 | The first part of the evening | 15 | Hampshire. I'm also a school media |
| 16 | I didn't feel like we got that many direct | 16 | specialist. I put the poster up that I |
| 17 | answers. We've heard a lot about increased | 17 | received showing the difference in the size of |
| 18 | funds, you know, millions of dollars; yet | 18 | like a regular tree versus the size of the |
| 19 | when I think of people's property values and | 19 | regular power lines and the enormous size of |
| 20 | how that's going to be decreased, I'm | 20 | these power lines that you're proposing. And |
| 21 | wondering why we're taking from them and then | 21 | I just want to say, I'm just a citizen, I'm |
| 22 | giving to all. Why, if there's any kind of | 22 | just a mom, but what I would support is |
| 23 | profit, why wouldn't that be going directly | 23 | burying the lines. And that's the only thing |
| 24 | to those who have been so egregiously | 24 | I would support. And a lot of my friends |


would say the same thing. My son would be here, but he's across the street watching the Patriots game. He's a millennium, and that's, you know -- he's 25 , and that's where he is tonight.

THE MODERATOR: Well, that's where I'm going to be soon.

MS. OHANIAN: My suggestion, if anyone needs a suggestion, is, you know, take the CEO and lay him off for six months, and take his salary and use that to bury the lines. Thank you.
[Audience interruption/applause]
THE MODERATOR: Senator Jeanie Forrester.

SEN. FORRESTER: Good evening. Do you need me to spell my name?

THE MODERATOR: Yes.
SEN. FORRESTER: It's
F-O-R-R-E-S-T-E-R.
THE MODERATOR: And actually, your first name, too.

SEN. FORRESTER: Jeanie,
J-E-A-N-I-E.

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you.

SEN. FORRESTER: I am a resident of Belknap County. I live in Meredith, but I'm here tonight to represent my constituents. And I have to say, I've been standing in the back listening. I don't think I've heard anyone come up in support of this project. What I've heard makes me very proud of my constituents. This has been a project in the making for five years, and some of the people in this room -- a lot of the people in this room have fought this battle for five years. And I feel bad for them because they keep having to fight this battle because it doesn't seem like you've got the message. Now, I appreciate the fact that you've buried 52 more miles of line. I'm sad that it took five years to get there. And unfortunately, what you've done is pick winners and losers. I wasn't able to make most -this was the only one I was actually able to make, this meeting, because I've been meeting with my towns. Now, there are five towns in
my district that are still impacted by the overhead lines. And I've left the Bristol Town Select Board meeting to get here tonight. And you heard from Ashland. You heard from New Hampton, Bristol, Bridgewater and Hill. They're all still being impacted. And what you've said to them is they're not worth burial. And I have a problem with that. I don't believe that they should have to bear the burden of this. I think you can bury the lines. I think if you can bury 52 more miles at the same project cost, let's go all the way. Wouldn't you say? Wouldn't you say?

AUDIENCE: Yes.
SEN. FORRESTER: Thank you.
There's not a lot more I can add, because as you probably have gathered, my constituents, and those who are not my constituents, are very well educated on this issue. They're very passionate on this issue. There has never been an issue that I can recall that has so galvanized and unified, as the speaker -- okay, thank you --
before me said, democrats, republicans, independents, on an issue. They stand together. They continue to stand together.

And I would just end by saying this started five years ago, and the first elected official who came out and stood against this was Ray Burton. And he said, "No way." And I would also like to say that Senator Ayotte has said, "Bury the line. New Hampshire's worth it." And I would agree. So, please, bury the line. Thank you.
[Audience interruption/applause]
THE MODERATOR: So that was our last commentator. So we're going to close the session. And go Pats. Thank you all for coming.
(Whereupon the Public Comment Session concluded at 8:49 p.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS - September 10, 2015
SEC 2015-06 Northern Pass Public Information Meeting Laconia, New Hampshire


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|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { active (1) } \\ 41: 17 \\ \text { actually (5) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50: 17 \\ & \text { almost }(3) \\ & 29: 7 ; 43: 13 ; 48: 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12: 20 ; 34: 5 ; 52: 8 \\ & \text { article }(\mathbf{2}) \\ & 43: 15,16 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Basket (1) } \\ 42: 13 \\ \text { battle (3) } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| \$200 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & 20: 3,21 ; 53: 2 ; 57: 21 \\ & 58: 22 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { along (10) } \\ & 9: 6 ; 10: 19 ; 18: 7 ; \end{aligned}$ | Ashland (5) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 55:6;58:13,15 } \\ & \text { battles (1) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 42:8 |  |  | 21:16;22:8;31:23; |  |
| \$27,000 (1) | add (1) $59 \cdot 18$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19: 17 ; 26: 6 ; 28: 7 ; 32: 23 ; \\ & 34: 14 ; 37: 3 ; 47: 21 \end{aligned}$ | $41: 3 ; 59: 4$ | $\begin{gathered} 46: 16 \\ \text { BC (1) } \end{gathered}$ |
| 10:6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 59:18 } \\ & \text { additional (2) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| \$80 (2) |  | Alternative (3) | $10: 4$ | $\begin{gathered} 12: 9 \\ \text { bear (3) } \end{gathered}$ |
| 37:17,24 | $\begin{gathered} \text { 9:11;47:6 } \\ \text { Additionally (2) } \\ 9: 20 ; 12: 3 \\ \text { address (1) } \end{gathered}$ | 14:17;27:19;48:10 | $10: 4$ |  |
| [ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { alternatives (4) } \\ & \text { 9:5,10,13,17 } \\ & \text { always (1) } \end{aligned}$ |  | $22: 1,5 ; 59: 10$ |
|  |  |  | 9:23 | 26:10;34:1,17;35:15 |
| [Audience (4) | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 16 \\ & \text { administrator (1) } \end{aligned}$ |  | attempt (2) 8:19;11:1 |  |
| 23:22;54:6;57:13; |  | $\underset{8 \cdot 3}{\text { Ambassador (1) }}$ |  | beauty (4) $16 \cdot 13,17 \cdot 18 \cdot 23 \cdot 28 \cdot 5$ |
| 60:12 [Court | 27:11 | $8: 3$ AMC (1) | $\begin{gathered} \text { attempts } \\ 49: 19 \end{gathered}$ | 16:13,17;18:23;28:5 become (1) |
| [Court (1) | admit (1) | AMC (1) | attention (1) | become (1) 6:22 |
| [inaudible] (1) | admitted (1) | amount (2) | 18:4 | beggar (3) |
| 17:10 | 43:10 | 7:12;44:3 | ATVer (1) | 49:16,17,22 |
| [Public (1) | adopted (1) | annual (1) | 52:2 | begin (2) |
| 4:1 | $10: 16$ | $10: 12$ | audience (2) | 5:16;7:21 |
| A | $\begin{gathered} 41: 21 \\ \text { adversely (1) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { 6:6,8 } \\ \text { anyways (1) } \end{gathered}$ | author's (1)$45: 7$ | 33:4,9;35:1 |
|  |  |  |  | behoove (1) |
| abatement (1) | $11: 10$ | $54: 7$ | available (1) | Belknap (5) |
|  | Advisory (1) $40: 17$ | Appalachian (2)$46: 8,10$ | $6: 14$ |  |
| abatements (2) | $\begin{gathered} 40: 17 \\ \text { advocates (1) } \end{gathered}$ |  | $\underset{5.5}{\operatorname{avoid}}$ (1) | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 8 ; 5: 15 ; 25: 18 \\ & 30: 20 ; 58: 4 \end{aligned}$ |
| 51:13,15 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 46:8,10 } \\ \text { apparently (1) } \end{gathered}$ | away (1) | belong (3) |
| $39: 4 ; 52: 17 ; 58: 21,22$ |  | 42:6 appears (1) | $16: 24$ <br> Ayotte (1) | 49:1;56:9,10 |
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| Maybe we'll wait a couple -- a few <br> seconds here, while more people get their seats. <br> Okay. Tonight's public information <br> session is the first step in a state administrative <br> process required by statute -- if you could try not to speak among yourselves, because we're trying to get a record. Okay? <br> This is the first step in a state administrative process required by statute, RSA Chapter 162-H. Before new energy facilities of a certain size can be built, the Company proposing the project must receive a certificate of site and facility from the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee, the SEC, an entity formed by the Legislature for the purpose of reviewing proposed energy facilities. RSA Chapter 162-H was recently amended, to require that at least 30 days before submitting an application to the SEC, the Company, here Northern Pass, must hold a public information session in each county in which the project is to be built. The Northern Pass Project is proposed to pass through five counties: Coos, Grafton, Belknap, Merrimack, and Rockingham. This meeting is the fifth of the five pre-application information sessions. <br> The statute further requires that the <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | for you to write your questions on. Because you may want to ask questions on different topics, I ask that you use one index card for each question or each topic. This will help us group the questions by category. I then may consolidate some questions or summarize some questions within a category to cover as much ground as possible. <br> For example, in the previous four <br> sessions, many people asked the question "why doesn't Northern Pass bury the entire line?" You'll be happy to know I'm not going to ask that question $\mathbf{1 5}$ or $\mathbf{2 0}$ times, but I will ask questions related to that, that are different and need a more specific answer. Like, "why isn't it buried in a particular location?", or "how much does it cost to bury a line?", something like that. I hope, that by minimizing repetition in this way, we can make the most productive use of how -- of your questions. Sometimes people ask multiple questions, so they might have five, six, seven cards. I'm going to ask the first question in that set, or the second and third, depending if the first and second have already been asked and answered, so that we get -- try to get to everybody's -- at least one question from everybody. And, then, time permitting, we'll cycle through the questions again. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
| public information session be recorded, which is why we have two court reporters, Steve Patnaude and Susan Robidas, taking down everything that is said tonight. They will then prepare a transcript from that record, which will be made part of the application to the SEC. <br> The purpose of these sessions is for Northern Pass to present information to the public, and to provide the public with the opportunity to ask questions and to make comments about the proposed project. As part of the effort to provide information, an open house began in the adjoining room at 5:00 and will continue throughout the rest of the evening. <br> Tonight's meeting has three parts. First, after I complete my introduction, Bill Quinlan, President of Eversource New Hampshire, will make opening remarks on behalf of Northern Pass, and present a short video that gives an overview of the project. After that, he will make a brief presentation specific to Belknap County. <br> Second, Mr. Quinlan, aided by some of the Project Team, will address questions for about an hour. To make the most efficient use of the limited time available, questions will be taken in written form. Index cards are available at the table at the back of the room \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | During the third portion of the program, you'll have the opportunity to comment on the project. To do so, you will need to right your names and addresses -your name and address on a form, also available there in the back of the room. In receiving your comments, preference will be given to residents and property owners and business owners of Belknap County. Non-county residents will follow. I will call your name in the order that you signed up to comment. The times have been written on them, and that's how I get them. <br> You may also comment in writing about the project any time throughout the evening, again, at the back of the room. Your written comments will also be made part of the application that's submitted to the SEC. <br> These public information sessions are the first step in a lengthy administrative process. The next step will be for Northern Pass to file its application with the SEC. Pursuant to RSA Chapter 162-H, this may occur no sooner than 30 days after completing the five public information sessions. The application, including all public comments, will be available online at the SEC website, and hard copies will be delivered to each town affected by the project. <br> Once the application is filed, the SEC <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| has 60 days to determine whether to accept the project. Within 45 days after acceptance, the SEC will conduct another set of public information sessions in each county. Additionally, within 90 days after the application is accepted, the SEC and other state agencies are required to hold joint public hearings. In the past, those hearings involved, like tonight's session, the applicant presenting information about the proposed project, the public making comments, and the SEC moderating a written public question-and-answer session. Additionally, at those sessions, the SEC and the state agencies ask the applicants questions. <br> The last part of the state <br> administrative process occurs when the SEC holds public adjudicative hearings, at which it will consider evidence from Northern Pass and other parties, and decide whether or not to issue a certificate authorizing Northern Pass to proceed with the proposed project. These hearings typically occur eight months or more after an application is accepted. <br> Again, thank you all very much for coming tonight and participating in this initial step in the SEC siting process. I now want to introduce Bill Quinlan, President of Eversource New Hampshire. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | the last year or so was really two issues, you boil it all down to two issues. The first of which is associated with the view or scenic impacts associated with an overhead transmission line. Now, you know, New Hampshire and New England have many overhead transmission lines that exist today. But, you know, associated with this project, in particular, we've heard pretty clearly that the Company needed to take seriously New Hampshire's concern about view impacts and do what it could to address those. That's one of the topics I'll cover today. <br> And, then, the second issue that we heard pretty consistently across the state is, you know, "this project has to deliver benefits to New Hampshire. You know, and you need to prove to us, before we allow you to move forward with this project, that there are significant and direct benefits to New Hampshire, if we're going to host this project." <br> So, those are the two fundamental questions that came out of a lot of the listening we've done over the last year or so. I'm going to talk to you about the changes we've made to the project to address those issues. And, then, we'll drill down in more detail around Belknap County, and New Hampton, in particular. So, as to those two fundamental issues, \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
| MR. QUINLAN: Okay. Thank you, Judge <br> McGuire. And, I do want to thank you all for being here this evening and taking time out of your busy schedule to listen to our presentation, give us an opportunity to get feedback from you, and answer questions you might have about the project. So, I do want to thank you at the outset. <br> As Judge McGuire indicated, this is the next step in a fairly lengthy process that we've been going through around this project over the last year so, in trying to listen to New Hampshire, understand the concerns associated with the project, and, to the extent we can, address those concerns in a balanced way. And, you know, this is a part of a process. We're going to continue to value the input that we receive in sessions just like this and right through the siting process, and continue to have an open mind about the project. <br> Now, I will say, for the last year or so, we've been getting input from stakeholders across the State of New Hampshire, in an effort to understand where are the real issues associated with what was previously proposed, and to factor that into any changes that we could make to address those concerns. | you know, the first is the view impact, and that's the one I think you hear the most consistently across this state from various stakeholders, which is, you know, "you need to address what you can around the route." <br> So, this is the overall Northern Pass route. You know, the prior proposal was for a 1,200 megawatt line, with 8 miles of underground construction. The underground construction was limited, in the prior proposal, to that 8 miles in the far North Country. And, it was a 1,200 megawatt line. That's the amount of energy the project would carry into New Hampshire. <br> So, the question is, how do you address view impacts, the ones that you hear about the most in New Hampshire, and still have a project that essentially does what it needs to do, which is to bring a large quantity of clean energy, affordable energy into New Hampshire, it will work technically, and it will protect the important views of the state? And, that's what we attempted to address through the changes that we announced a couple of weeks ago. <br> So, one big change is we've reduced the size of this project. So, it's no longer a 1,200 megawatt line, it's now a 1,000 megawatt line. So, it's been reduced by 200 megawatts in size, which means, you know, \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| there is $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ megawatts less of energy flowing into New England, at a time where we really could use new sources of electricity to keep rates low, particularly clean energy. So, that's one of the steps we've taken really to address concerns we've heard across New Hampshire, reduce the size of the project. <br> What does that allow us to do? It basically allows us to increase the amount of underground construction. So, whereas previously we were planning 8 miles of underground construction, we're now planning for $\mathbf{6 0}$ miles of underground construction. So, 52 miles of new construction that's underground. We had to reduce the size of the project to do that in a way that the project still made sense economically and technically. So, that's why we scaled down the project, which was to allow us to underground this 52 miles in and around the White Mountain National Forest. <br> Now, l've heard, since our announcement, you know, "How did you select the White Mountain National Forest area? You know, there are important views across the State of New Hampshire." And, I agree with that. There are certainly important views that need to be addressed up and down this route. The reason we selected and landed on that 52 miles is really based upon what \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | done in that regard. You know, we are now at the point where we're looking at this route, in the overhead areas, on a structure-by-structure, town-by-town basis, to take other steps to address view impacts. And, we're really working locally to get input on that, and to design and engineer the overhead portion of the line in a way that reduces the view or scenic impact in other important areas of the state. Okay? <br> So, that's where we are on a project design and engineering perspective. The second big issue, as I said, was "what are the benefits in this to New Hampshire?" "If this project is going to be allowed to proceed, what's in it for New Hampshire?" You know, "Is New Hampshire going to receive any economic benefits?" And, "What are the environmental benefits from hosting a project like this?" <br> This is a high-level summary. You know, there are materials available, I know, in the open house that provide a lot more detail around this. But it's the top line around the benefits to New Hampshire for hosting the project. <br> One of the other issues you hear, when you listen to many across the state, whether it's a business owner or a residential customer, is that "energy |
| we've heard consistently across New Hampshire, irrespective of who you're talking to and from which part of New Hampshire they're coming from. And, consistently -- or, I consistently heard, you know, "the White Mountain National Forest, Franconia Notch, Appalachian Trail, you know, you need to make that a very high priority." So, that input is what led to that decision. It wasn't an area that the company selected in isolation. It was really driven by what we've heard across New Hampshire, and also happened to be something that, when the Department of Energy studied this route and looked at the environmental impact of it, they highlighted this area in particular. And, really, that kind of confirmed what we had been hearing across New Hampshire. But it was really driven by the voices of New Hampshire. Okay? <br> So, those are significant project changes. Obviously, you know, that is going to add costs to the project. You know, underground construction is significantly more expensive than overhead construction. Project's been reduced in size. These are steps we've taken associated with the project to make it a project that's more acceptable to New Hampshire. | costs are too high and too volatile, and they're going in the wrong direction." We now have among the highest rates in the country, and they're on an upward trend. So, unless and until we have new sources of energy into this region, you know, we're going to become less and less competitive, and the cost to residential customers is going to continue to increase. We fundamentally are at a point where that's not going to change until we bring new low-cost energy supplies into the region. <br> The single best option for New England and New Hampshire in this regard is importing more hydroelectric power from Canada. You know, if you think about the other opportunities, you know, a nuclear plant, probably not going to happen, right? What are the other baseload generation options? A gas plant, a coal plant, an oil plant, you know, then you start having environmental questions around them. So, what is a baseload, meaning very reliable, 24/7 source of electricity? It really reduces itself to hydroelectric. <br> And, it's a highly reliable source of electricity. It's affordable. You know, when we look at what does it do to energy rates just in New Hampshire? It's about an $\$ 80$ million a year energy cost savings for New Hampshire customers, both residential and business \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |

customers. So, that's part of the benefit package that New Hampshire receives.

We also announced the establishment of a
ForwardNH Fund. These are funds that we intend to invest locally in the communities that would be hosting the line, particularly the overhead portions of the line. And, we recognize there's a trade-off taking place. You know, that, when you build infrastructure, there is going to be a local impact. You know, it's inevitable with a project of this size. You know, this fund is an effort to provide direct benefits to those local communities. It's a $\mathbf{\$ 2 0 0}$ million fund. And, you know, we've already heard a lot about initiatives at a community and a local level that can really be game-changers in towns up and down the route.

Beyond that, what else is in it for New Hampshire? You know, we look at the property tax impacts. You know, it's a $\$ 1.4$ or $\$ 1.5$ billion project; obviously, that's taxed. Our estimate of "what does that generate in annual tax revenues to states, municipalities, counties here in New Hampshire? It's about $\$ 30$ million a year. So, a sizable increase in tax revenue across the state.

You know, obviously, a project of this
size, there's a heavy need for labor and other associated
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jobs to execute the project. You know, we are taking a "New Hampshire first" approach to that, which means that, where possible, all of this work is going to be done by folks living here in the Granite State. Whether it's the electrical workers who are actually installing the line, whether it's the logging companies that are clearing a right-of-way, whether it's a truck driver who's delivering gravel, whether it's a restaurant or a hotel who's supporting folks working on the project. And, our intention and our commitment is to source that locally, and only go outside the state where there are no additional resources here in-state to satisfy that.

This is a big deal for many. You know, when we talk to stakeholders across the state, they're really excited about the prospects for working on this project or supporting this project, because it's creating great job opportunities. And, we've got a training program that we've announced as part of this, which is going to bring along the next class of utility workers. We were refer to it as an "Apprentice Training Program". But, in essence, we're going to use this as a training ground to teach young New Hampshire residents a very high-demand, valuable trade, which is that of an electrical worker. It's a multiyear qualification
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program.
But, when they complete that program,
they're going to have career opportunities, whether they're here in New Hampshire, elsewhere in New England, or across the U.S, they're in very, very high demand. So, that aspect of this project has gotten a lot of positive attention. And, it's just another benefit that we've added to make this positive for New Hampshire.

When you total all that, the jobs and the tax impact, it's over a \$2 billion economic stimulus to New Hampshire. That's what our expert analysis shows. It's based upon similar projects in other states, some of which we've performed. So, it's well-grounded in experience. These are not, you know, numbers that are just estimates. They're actually well-founded.

I mentioned the environmental benefits
of this project. You know, it is hypothetical, it's non-carbon-emitting, it doesn't rely on fossil fuels to generate the electricity. It, in essence, will offset or displace carbon-emitting generation, whether it's coal power plants, oil plants, or natural gas. When you look at "what is the effect of taking a thousand megawatts of clean power and delivering it to New Hampshire?" It's about 3 million tons a year in reduced carbon dioxide \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
emissions. So, the environmental benefits associated with this project are unparalleled. There's no other source of electricity that's going to allow us to, in essence, remove 600,000 cars from New Hampshire's roads. It's a very significant benefit from this project, and it's not in any of the financial numbers I'm showing you. It's purely environmental benefits.

We also have announced the use of acreage that we own up in the North Country. And, really, the goal there is to put that land to use for important community-level purposes. Whether it's a recreational purpose, a economic development purpose, a natural preservation purpose, or a mixed use. You know, a lot of interest up in the North Country to put this land to work for the benefit of the local community, and that's our commitment there.

So, this is the top line of our answer to the question of "what's in it for New Hampshire?" You know, our view is these are very significant economic and environmental benefits. They exist only if this project moves forward here in the State of New Hampshire.

Now, we're going to show you a short video that's going to illustrate this in a little more detail, and then we'll drill down into Belknap County.
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|  | 21 |  | 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Thank you. | 1 | about to enter the formal siting process here in New |
| 2 | (Whereupon a video presentation was | 2 | Hampshire. Which means, once we've concluded these public |
| 3 | shown to the members of the public.) | 3 | information sessions, we'll file our application with the |
| 4 | MR. QUINLAN: Okay. So, we'll just | 4 | Site Evaluation Committee, and that will commence a |
| 5 | spend a minute on Belknap County, and then we'll be happy | 5 | lengthy process here in New Hampshire to evaluate the |
| 6 | to take on questions and answers. So, this is a | 6 | merits of that application, make adjustments, perhaps, |
| 7 | drill-down map into the Belknap County. As the video | 7 | that the Site Evaluation Committee finds necessary or |
| 8 | indicated, really, the existing line and the new line, in | 8 | appropriate. And, you know, those are plenty of |
| 9 | essence, run only through the Town of New Hampton. So, | 9 | opportunities for additional public input. You know, |
| 10 | it's about seven miles of construction. It's highlighted | 10 | there's a whole nother series of public information |
| 11 | here in the blue. In this part of the route, we're | 11 | sessions that are required to be held, that we look |
| 12 | basically in an existing right-of-way, meaning it's been | 12 | forward to, after we file that application. My point is, |
| 13 | cleared and there's an existing transmission line. The | 13 | we're going to continue to listen to New Hampshire as we |
| 14 | new line would run parallel to the existing line, okay? | 14 | move forward through the siting process, and, hopefully, |
| 15 | Some statistics here, for the new line, | 15 | ultimately, right through the construction phase. |
| 16 | when you look at that portion of the route, the most | 16 | So, with that, again, thank you for |
| 17 | common structure height is about 80 feet. As a result of | 17 | being here tonight. Thank you for your time and |
| 18 | our decision to reduce the size of the project from 1,200 | 18 | attention. And, I look forward to answering your |
| 19 | to 1,000 megawatts, we've been able to engineer a | 19 | questions. |
| 20 | reduction in the height of the structures here, okay? So, | 20 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Thank you. Okay. |
| 21 | it's about a 7 -- 6 feet, 6 -foot, on average, reduction in | 21 | So, I'm going to begin reading questions. You ready, |
| 22 | the structure height. | 22 | Bill? |
| 23 | And, as I said earlier, we're going to | 23 | MR. QUINLAN: Sure. |
| 24 | continue to work structure-by-structure, town-by-town, to \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Has a study been \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
|  | 22 |  | 24 |
| 1 | do everything we can to continue to address view impacts. | 1 | done to consider just burying the whole line? Thereby, |
| 2 | Whether there are other things we could do to reduce a | 2 | eliminating all the opposition, legal fees, manhours to |
| 3 | structure height on a case-by-case basis, move a structure | 3 | attempting to convince people it is a good plan, all the |
| 4 | location, so it's less visible, provide shielding, you | 4 | lobbying studies, etcetera, and just start the project and |
| 5 | know, in some instances, you know, buffers that make the | 5 | begin making the profits you seek, as well as making the |
| 6 | line invisible, are possible. So, you know, these are | 6 | state's public content. |
| 7 | things that we're going to continue to do locally on a | 7 | MR. QUINLAN: So, as I indicated |
| 8 | case-by-case basis. So, view impacts are going to remain | 8 | earlier, we have looked at a wide range of options for |
| 9 | a very priority for us as we move forward. Okay? | 9 | addressing the issues we've heard from New Hampshire. As |
| 10 | You know, as to the tax benefits, the -- | 10 | I said at the outset, you know, view impacts are the top |
| 11 | as I said earlier, and the video indicated, there's about | 11 | of mind, and very clearly, and we've heard that very |
| 12 | \$30 million a year in incremental tax benefits that we | 12 | directly. And, what we tried to do is strike a balance |
| 13 | estimate. Here, in New Hampton, the number is in the | 13 | here. For a project that, you know, continues to do what |
| 14 | range of $\$ 300,000$ to $\$ 500,000$ a year. That's based upon | 14 | it needs to, which is to deliver a large amount of |
| 15 | our current expected range of the cost of the | 15 | electricity into the region in a reliable way, addresses |
| 16 | infrastructure in this town. That's what leads to the | 16 | those view impacts, and is also affordable, it's an |
| 17 | range, is we haven't defined with specificity, you know, | 17 | economic project, it makes economic sense. |
| 18 | how much infrastructure is going in the town and how much | 18 | When we look at an all-underground |
| 19 | is it going to cost. Once we have that all firmed up, | 19 | option, you know, we really have a situation where the |
| 20 | we'll be able to narrow this range. But it's a sizable, | 20 | project becomes uneconomic. And, just l'll share with you |
| 21 | you know, increase in the local property tax revenue, | 21 | what I mean by that. So, right now, our current project |
| 22 | okay? | 22 | cost estimate is about $\$ 1.5$ billion. We're in the process |
| 23 | And, then, finally, as Judge McGuire | 23 | of firming up our reevaluation of that cost. We know we |
| 24 | indicated, and as the video indicated, you know, we are \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | added costs by adding 52 miles of underground \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| construction. So, let's assume it's 1.5 billion. To <br> fully underground this project would add another <br> $\$ 100$ million worth of project costs. That's our current <br> estimate as to that would do entail. <br> MR. MUNTZ: Bill. <br> MR. QUINLAN: Did I say "a billion"? <br> What did I say? <br> MR. MUNTZ: You said "100 million". <br> MR. QUINLAN: "100 million". A billion. <br> I'm sorry, I misspoke. So, an additional billion dollars <br> of project costs. So, just to be clear, it takes a <br> $\$ 1.5$ billion project and makes it a $\$ 2.5$ billion project. <br> And, doesn't increase the amount of energy that flows in, doesn't increase the other benefits that we're talking about. It really is additional project costs. Our view is that that then becomes a project that is challenged economically. <br> So, we've tried to strike the balance. <br> We've tried to have a project that still works economically, and addresses the view impacts to the maximum extent possible. <br> THE MODERATOR: All right. We live along the publicly proposed route through Bear Rock Road, in Stewartstown. How is it possible that Northern Pass \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | Bear Rock Road, you see utility poles outside those areas existing today. The plan is, actually, the burial will be in the roadway itself, not even outside on the edge of the right-of-way. So, the plan is to stay within the existing right-of-way, publicly owned, as utilities have been doing and New Hampshire law has recognized as an appropriate use for over 150 years in that area. <br> And, there's no intention to take private property rights by eminent domain. In fact, the project doesn't have that power. <br> MR. QUINLAN: Okay. Thank you. <br> THE MODERATOR: Who are your business <br> competitors, now that Eversource is the largest utility company in New England? <br> MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, Eversource, in essence, is the parent company of a whole series of affiliated utility companies. These are franchised utility companies, which means they operate within a specific geography. And, they have, in essence, a -- that franchise service territory is, in essence, a monopoly. So, as a Public Service Company, we have a designated area, where our ability to transmit and distribute electricity is not subject to competition. You know, we do it under a fully regulated structure, where our rates |
| proposes to bury the line through our private property, without our permission and without eminent domain? <br> MR. QUINLAN: Okay. So, I'm going to refer that question to Mark Hodgdon. He's a member of our Project Team. So, in this portion of the route, we're talking about now underground construction through a public roadway. Okay? That's what this question is based upon. <br> MR. HODGDON: Yes. And, Bear Rock Road is located up north, in the 8-mile section. By the way, my name is Mark Hodgdon. I'm a private attorney, working with Northern Pass. Prior to opening my own practice four years ago, I was in the Attorney General's Office for 24 years where I represented DOT, and I was Bureau Chief for 14 years. <br> Bear Rock Road is a public highway easement area. The intention is to stay fully within the existing highway easement and utilize the public rights that are owned there. There is no intention to use any private land that isn't secured and owned or leased by Eversource or Northern Pass. On Bear Rock Road, in particular, the present plan is to actually stay within, even though the right-of-way extends beyond the roadway itself, in the ditch line. And, in fact, if you go on \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | are subject to a setting and regulation by the PUC. And, that's part of what's referred to as the "utility compact". In exchange for that monopoly right to that geography, all of our ratemaking, our return on the investments we make are subject to regulation and adjustment by the Public Utility Commission. <br> That's the regulated utility model across the United States. We happen to operate in three different states. Here, in New Hampshire. So, Public Service New Hampshire is our regulated utility in the State of New Hampshire. We have similar utilities in Massachusetts and Connecticut. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. How do you intend to cross the waterways? <br> MR. QUINLAN: So, I'm going to turn to our Project Team as well. Sam Johnson is one of our project engineers. <br> MR. JOHNSON: So, from a waterway perspective, I'm going to give you two answers, one for aerial. So, if it's an overhead structure, we will build a structure on one side of the water, build a structure on the other side of the water, and then hang the wires most likely with helicopters, to string across a water facility. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |

For the underground parts of the project, we will do what's called a "directional drill". It's a specialized machine that will basically drill underneath, to quite a deep depth, and then come back on the other side. So, for the most part, we will not be impacting any waterways or wetlands.

THE MODERATOR: Okay. What part of the
hydropower coming into -- coming from -- coming through New Hampshire will be used in New Hampshire?

MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, all of the power
flowing across this line will be delivered to Deerfield, New Hampshire. So, it's all -- its delivery point is, for 100 percent of the power, is Deerfield. As you probably know, New Hampshire is part of a regional electric grid. So, all of New England has one grid. So, when the power arrives at that point, it then feeds the rest of New England, just like any other generator in any other state feeds into one grid. So, technically, the power is all commingled, if you will.

From a contractual perspective, one of the things we have negotiated now with Hydro-Quebec is an agreement whereby 10 percent of the power flowing over this line is contractually or commercially reserved for New Hampshire. So, why 10 percent? New Hampshire is \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
about 9 percent of New England's total load. Meaning, if you add up all the customer consumption across the six-state region, New Hampshire represents about 9 percent of that. One of the things we wanted to ensure was that New Hampshire receive its fair share of the power flowing over the line commercially and contractually. So, we've been able to reach that agreement now with Hydro-Quebec, on a very cost-effective or economic basis.

So, you know, two ways to view this. One, technically, where's the power flow? And, then, commercially or contractually, who gets the benefit of the power, if you will?

THE MODERATOR: Okay. Please explain
why you claim to have "listened to public comments", but have not heard overwhelming opposition from $\mathbf{2 4}$ communities where you do not propose to bury the power lines.

MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, community input
has been critically important, as has other input from across the state. So, when I indicate we've talked and received input from a wide range of stakeholders, it's certainly communities, it's certainly landowners along the route. It also includes a wide range of business customers, small and large across the state, who are struggling with, you know, high and volatile energy costs.
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It's small businesses in the North Country who are looking for opportunities. It's individuals in the North Country and elsewhere who are looking for job opportunities and career opportunities. So, we are getting a wide range of input. When I say "we've been listening", it's not just to the communities.

So, at a community level, we've certainly heard, as I said at the outset, the concern over visual impacts. And, you know, we have taken that very heavily into account in the announcement that we made. You know, reducing the size of the project, committing to a substantial amount of additional undergrounding, even though it's going to drive the project costs significantly upward. You know, some of the things we're doing at a local level to address visual impact. That's all been based on that input, including, in particular, input we've received from communities.

Now, l'll say, at a community level, you
know, there are many communities that are very excited about the project. They look at it from a tax perspective. You know, if you -- if you look at some of these towns, the additional tax revenue generated by a project of this size is very material. It's not insignificant. And, in some instances, these are towns \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
that would benefit greatly from that. You know, they look at it from what it could do to their local economies, in creating jobs and helping to stimulate economic development.

So, I will say the community input, clearly, you've heard the scenic issue, the visual impact issue, it's factored heavily into our plan. But we're also hearing, even at a municipal and community level, you know, multiple different perspectives. And, you know, I think that's consistent. You know, you hear that up and down the route. And, you know, that's the dialogue we're going to continue. When I said earlier, we're going to turn our attention to the local level, we're going to be working in each one of the communities that would be hosting this project around "what are the additional things we could do around this project to make it more acceptable to that and more beneficial to that community?"

THE MODERATOR: This is a very general
question. I'm not -- I don't know the specific concern. But what happens if this project does not go through?

MR. QUINLAN: So, I think the simple
answer is, you know, the benefits that I highlighted earlier, those aren't realized. You know, they are basically a result of the project being sited and
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constructed here in New Hampshire. That's, in essence, what happens.

What happens at a more global level? I
think New Hampshire and New England continue to struggle with the power supply. You know, we're retiring a lot of power plants in our region, and, likely in our state. Whether it's nuclear plants, like Vermont Yankee, coal plants across the entire region. You know, you get to a point where you've retired so much generation that, you know, those price swings become very significant, and you start to worry about "do we have enough power to meet the needs of our customers?"

You know, if this project doesn't go forward, you know, we likely continue to increase our dependence on coal-fired power plants, oil-fired power plants, heavier reliance on natural gas, at a point where we're already 50 -- over 50 percent dependent on one fuel source for generation in this region. So, we're putting all of our eggs in one basket.

And, I think, you know, think about what happens environmentally. You know, one of the big things that the country, New England, and New Hampshire can do to reduce our carbon footprint is a project like this. And, you know, look at the Obama administration's Clean Power \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
about earlier. And, that's going to continue. It's terrible that we address those issues to the extent possible.

## Now, Bob.

MR. CLARKE: Thanks, Bill. Yes. We
have -- we have contracted with a renowned expert, Dr. James Chalmers, who has done some key studies in the New Hampshire area. And, he's also reviewed all the national studies. And, the visceral impact or the typical reaction is that a high voltage transmission line will have an impact on property value. The data that Dr. Chalmers has looked at does not support that. As he looks at -- he looked at case studies in New Hampshire, he looked at real estate market activity, and also at subdivision sales. And, in all cases, there is little or no discernable impact.

Now, that may not -- it may not be the way folks react to, you know, a high voltage transmission line, but the sales price to list price data and days-on-the-market data are similar for properties that are located near transmission lines, as they are to properties that are not.

THE MODERATOR: Historic, natural, and scenic resources are very significant features of the \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}

Plan and the reliance they put on imported hydro from Canada to meet this nation's carbon reduction goals and you'll see what I'm talking about. Okay?

So, the short answer is, really, the benefits, both in economic and environmental, don't materialize, and we have to find some other way to meet our customers' needs for energy.

THE MODERATOR: Okay. Here are a couple 8 questions relating to the impact of the project on property values. How will this not depreciate our property, especially if our land is in sight of the -- I guess, the view -- is in site view? Okay. And, what is the economic impact on local land or homeowners on the value of their land or homes? And, what mitigation measures or dollar compensation is afforded them?

MR. QUINLAN: So, I'm going to turn this
over in a minute to Bob Clarke from our Project Team. But I will say one of the things we're doing, and we've been now at it for a year or so, is really doing outreach to adjoining property owners up and down this route. I think we've had over 3,000 interactions now with landowners across the state. In many instances, we've been able to answer questions, address concerns, and resolve issues. This is the case-by-case local steps that I was talking \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
character and economy of our state. Please give an example of an adverse impact on it and -- or, I guess, or an unreasonable adverse impact on a historic resource that is a significant building, district, or landscape from this project.

MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, I'm going to ask Lee Carbonneau, she's one of our environmental and historical resources scientists on the project. So, go ahead, Lee.

MS. CARBONNEAU: Thanks, Bill. There has been quite a lot of historical research on this project. So, there are two parallel projects going forward. The Department of Energy has their own experts who are looking at historical resources, the Northern Pass team also has experts looking at historical resources.

There's a federal process called
"Section 106" of the National Historic Preservation Act, and that is a process that outlines how you look for historical resources, evaluate project impacts, and then what you do to mitigate those.

So, so far, we have completed both
aboveground and belowground, some belowground resource surveys. We've got archeological surveys that have identified areas of sensitivity along the project area,
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that have also identified some existing archeological sites and some new archeological sites.

In some locations, we have been able to shift the project footprint of structures away from those locations. There are some where we may have some impacts to archeological resources. The process that we have to go through to identify what needs to be done, how important those resources are, that's all part of a big process that involves consultation with consulting groups, the Division of Historical Resources in New Hampshire, and the lead federal agency, which is the Department of Energy. And, that all happens through the Section 106 process.

On the aboveground resource side, we've
identified several historical properties that have the potential to have an adverse resource -- an adverse impact from the project. Out of -- we have information on almost 1,300 historical resources along the project route. Out of those, slightly less than $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ were found to have a potential view of the project or could be visible from the project area. And, of those, only about a dozen were found to have just a possibility of having an adverse impact. Whether or not that, you know, that is the opinion of the historical resource experts that are
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working on it from Northern Pass. That information will get provided to the Department of Energy, and their resource experts, as well as the Division of Historical Resources. And, through the consultation process, it will be determined how important those impacts could be, what kinds of mitigation can occur to reduce those impacts. And, that whole process gets worked through at the federal level in the Section 106 process, and has to be resolved before the project can move forward.

MR. QUINLAN: Thank you.
THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Here's a couple questions about jobs. What percentage of the jobs created will be filled by local folks, versus experts from outside? And, will any jobs last longer than it takes to complete the project?

MR. QUINLAN: Yes, on the second question, which is "are any jobs expected to last beyond the project?" So, I mentioned earlier our Apprentice Training Program, which, by the way, we've already launched and we've already brought in the first 15 apprentices. So, they're out in the field learning a skill and a trade. Our goal -- and that's just the first class. We're going to continue to add classes as we move forward with this project into the actual construction.
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Our intention is to, in many instances, offer full-time employment to these apprentices when they become fully qualified. Whether they're with the Company or with the contractor who's working on the Company's behalf.

So, for those folks, you know, what
they're going to learn as a result of their involvement in this project is a career. And, one, whether it's with Eversource, with one of our contractors, or otherwise, it's going to extend well beyond the construction period.

Now, for a two and a half year construction project, that's a long-duration construction project. There are not many projects that you would see of that duration. So, when you talk to folks who are in the construction industry, this is a unique opportunity to put folks to work for an extended period of time here in the State of New Hampshire. Okay?

And, as I said earlier, we're going to source these jobs, to the maximum extent possible, locally. One of the things we've done is had some of our major contractors begin to outreach to local contractors, to see what exactly can we source within the state. And, one of the things we're finding is, you know, there are some really good resources within this state that are going to be very valuable in this project. I can't give \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}
you an exact percentage at this point, because we're a year or more away from starting construction. But, thus far, you know, we're seeing a really good correlation between the types of skills and services and goods we need to execute this project and what's available in this state.

There is no doubt we're going to have to bring in some folks from out of state to actually fill every one of those 2,400 construction jobs. But I'm optimistic that a good percentage is going to come right here from New Hampshire residents. And, you know, I think, thus far, our early indication is that's going to be a reality. Thank you.

THE MODERATOR: If the Northern Pass
Project goes through, what percentage of your power generated will go to each individual New England state? And, please be specific.

MR. QUINLAN: Could you repeat that question?

THE MODERATOR: Yes. What percentage of the power generated by this project would go to each individual New England state?

MR. QUINLAN: Okay. So, I mentioned the 10 percent of the power that's being reserved for New \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\}

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| Hampshire. Right? That's, in essence, going to be a firm power purchase agreement, where that 10 percent is fully committed to our customers here in New Hampshire. The other 90 percent of the power flowing over the line has not been subscribed, meaning it has not been contracted for at this point. And, it's conceivable that that power would be sold into the open market, and not contracted for on a long-term basis. Which means, basically, Hydro-Quebec would deliver that power to Deerfield, New Hampshire. It would enter the grid, enter New England's one wholesale market for power, and lower that cost of power. And, then, whoever's buying power in New England on any particular day would essentially be buying a slice of this. <br> So, the short answer is, only the 10 percent for New Hampshire has been committed. The other 90 percent at this point has not been committed to to any other state in New England. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. The additional power from this project, how will that affect the cost of electricity in New Hampshire, in dollars and kilowatt-hours? <br> MR. QUINLAN: In dollars and <br> kilowatt-hours. Okay. So, in dollars, you know, there <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | into megawatt-hours. But it's $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ megawatts of, in essence, capacity when we need it, which is during the peak hours. And, we'll run the math as to what that looks like on an annual basis. We'll get you an answer before we break today. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. How is the $\$ 80$ million a year in lower energy costs calculated? And, are there any documents made available to the public apparently used to calculate that $\mathbf{8 0}$ million? <br> MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, that's based upon an analysis by an expert, one of Economics International. They essentially look at "what's the energy cost to New Hampshire customers without Northern Pass?" And, then, you take the Northern Pass Project and you plug it into the model, and you look at "what does it do to lower that?" So, it's a before and an after type of analysis. It is based upon a lot of different variables and assumptions. You know, what's the forward -projected forward price of energy in New England? What's the forward price of natural gas in New England? Which plants retire in New England? How many new plants are built, and of what kind and at what price? <br> So, there are a lot of inputs into that model. But it's basically a before and after analysis. |
| are two things that are going to result from this project to lower energy costs. The $\$ 80$ million a year is a result of lowering the wholesale market price for all of New England. Okay? So, that's one benefit that New Hampshire customers will see. <br> The power purchase agreement that I just mentioned for the remaining $\mathbf{1 0}$ percent, that's fully committed to New Hampshire, is going to add incremental economic benefit to customers here in New Hampshire. <br> So, right now, we're being very conservative in estimating what that annual financial benefit to New Hampshire is. And, we're saying it's $\$ 80$ million. My view is there's a lot of upside to that figure. <br> And, the second question is on -- <br> THE MODERATOR: Well, the -- <br> MR. QUINLAN: -- megawatt-hours? <br> THE MODERATOR: Well, it said <br> "kilowatt". <br> MR. QUINLAN: Kilowatt-hours, okay. So, we'll give you an answer to that later today. But it's 100 megawatts of firm capacity during peak periods, which means 40 hours a week, during the highest priced peaks of the week. So, we'll have to do the math to translate that \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | And, the driver of the savings is the suppression in the wholesale market clearing price for all of New England, a portion of which serves New Hampshire. <br> What was the second question? Was there a second question there? <br> THE MODERATOR: No. <br> MR. QUINLAN: Oh, the question was "will the report be available?" <br> THE MODERATOR: Oh, yes. Okay. <br> MR. QUINLAN: And, the short answer is <br> "yes". We will be making public that expert analysis. <br> But it uses a well-accepted approach to projecting future energy prices and savings or cost changes. But it will be in the public domain. <br> THE MODERATOR: And, then, as a related question, what about the $\mathbf{2}$ billion in GDP increase? <br> MR. QUINLAN: That's unrelated to the energy cost savings, okay? So, those are incremental benefits that are really driven by the jobs that are created, the opportunities at a local level for services that are being provided to support the project execution. So, that GDP effect is separate and apart or incremental to the energy benefit. Okay? That also is based upon an expert analysis that will be in the public domain, using a \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| very common and accepted industry process and method for evaluating GDP effects. But all of this will be available to the public, so that you can take a look at the assumptions and what drives the results that are mentioned. <br> THE MODERATOR: Two questions related to the CO2 emission reductions. How did you calculate the CO2 emission reductions? And, how did you determine the reductions would occur in New Hampshire? <br> MR. QUINLAN: Yes. So, you know, the simple way of looking at emissions reductions is you look at the existing generation fleet. You know, how do we generate power today? What's the generation units needed to meet customer demand? And, what's the carbon footprint of those? So, today, there's nuclear plants, oil plants, natural gas plants, coal plants. You then look at "what would it be after Northern Pass is in service?" And, you essentially take 1,000 megawatts of the existing fleet and you allow it to go away, because it's not needed to meet customer demand. <br> So, it's basically an elimination of the carbon footprint of the 1,000 megawatts of least economic generation in New England. So, it basically pushes it out. So, today, that would likely be coal plants and oil <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | range today from somewhere around 50 feet -- <br> FROM THE FLOOR: Thirty-five. <br> MR. QUINLAN: -- perhaps there are some <br> 35, but I -- I don't believe that's true. We can check <br> that. But let me give you the range. So, it's roughly <br> 50 feet. There are structures on that current <br> transmission right-of-way that are 95 feet, roughly. <br> That's the existing transmission line. As I said earlier, <br> the most common structure for the new line that would be <br> in that same right-of-way running parallel would be <br> 80 feet. Now, there are some structures that are staller <br> than the 80 feet, and some that are shorter, but, you know, that's the range we're talking about. And, again, we're in the same right-of-way running parallel to those existing lines. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. <br> MR. QUINLAN: I just want to double <br> check. Am I right on the -- <br> MR. JOHNSON: Forty-one (41) feel is the <br> low height, 97 feet is the tall height. <br> [Audience interruption.] <br> MR. QUINLAN: So, the existing <br> current -- the existing current structures range from <br> 41 feet to 97 feet. Okay? And, the most common new <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
| plants. Those are the least economic units that we run today to meet customer demand. So, those plants, as I said earlier, absent Northern Pass, continue to operate, because they're going to be needed to meet the needs of our customers. You put Northern Pass in, they go away, as do their emissions. That's the analysis. <br> THE MODERATOR: And, how did you determine the reductions that would occur in New Hampshire? <br> MR. QUINLAN: The figure I shared, the 3 million tons, is really -- it looks at New England's generation mix. You know, as we all know, carbon emissions don't recognize borders between states -- <br> UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Or countries. <br> MR. QUINLAN: -- or countries. So, you <br> know, that's a -- that looks at the generation fleet for all of New England, not just New Hampshire. <br> THE MODERATOR: Okay. How tall are the current structures in the right-of -- in the right-of-way in New Hampton? Why should the tourists coming, I guess, gathering -- coming to the Lakes Region, why should they suffer the visual blight of even taller towers? <br> MR. QUINLAN: So, I think, as to the first question, subject to check, I think the structures \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | structure would be 80 feet. <br> THE MODERATOR: Is that correct? Okay. All right. What is the estimated amount Northern Pass/Hydro-Quebec will earn from this project annually, in 5 years, 10 years, 15 years? <br> MR. QUINLAN: So, I'm going to turn this question over to Jim Muntz. Jim is the President of our Transmission Operations for the three states that I referred to earlier, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Jim. <br> MR. MUNTZ: Okay. So, Eversource's role and NPT's role in this project is to build the transmission, just like our role is to build any other transmission in New England, in our service territory. We're really disconnected and have no part with the power sales. So, you know, HQ's profits are really up to whatever deals they can strike, whatever power purchase arrangements they can make. So, this is like any other New England transmission project, as far as investment for us. <br> Typically, you know, depending on how it's financed, you're looking at probably, you know, an 8 percent average return on the money needed to finance the project. There's an equity and a debt piece of that. But \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| 1 | the average earnings that we expect, which would decline | 1 | Standard? |
| 2 | over the life of the project, we would start, as it goes | 2 | MR. QUINLAN: My view of that is "no". |
| 3 | into service in the first year, somewhere in the 80 to | 3 | This project, you know, was originally conceived as a way |
| 4 | \$90 million range per year. That's Eversource's profit | 4 | of meeting our clean energy goals. That was the original |
| 5 | for this. And, then, that declines as the asset | 5 | concept behind it. And, it's still one of the significant |
| 6 | depreciates over 40 years. | 6 | benefits that it derives. You know, if you think about |
| 7 | Typically, after an asset is fully | 7 | what we're trying to achieve through energy efficiency or |
| 8 | depreciated, the operating and maintenance expense is all | 8 | new clean supplies of electricity like this, is to |
| 9 | that's left. And, that's minimal, usually five to ten | 9 | basically reduce our emissions and carbon footprint to |
| 10 | percent. Occasionally, in a case like this, that would be | 10 | address climate change or global warming. That's the -- |
| 11 | rolled into the regional costs. So, you know, that's our | 11 | that's the key. This is entirely complementary with an |
| 12 | investment story. | 12 | energy efficiency program. |
| 13 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Is it | 13 | I'll add another way in which this |
| 14 | Eversource's intent to put some of their property holdings | 14 | actually increases potentially the amount of energy |
| 15 | into current use? If that is the case, would that not be | 15 | efficiency. We announced, as part of that ForwardNH Fund, |
| 16 | a reduction in revenue for the towns? So, it seems what | 16 | a focus on clean energy innovation. You know, one of the |
| 17 | you claim you will be giving with one -- on one hand, you | 17 | things we're specifically looking at is "how do we make |
| 18 | will be taking with the other. | 18 | investments in the clean energy sector, including |
| 19 | MR. QUINLAN: Could you repeat that | 19 | potentially energy efficiency, to further that important |
| 20 | question, -- | 20 | objective?" So, we've identified it as a focus area. |
| 21 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. | 21 | It's incremental environmental benefit from the project |
| 22 | MR. QUINLAN: -- to make sure I | 22 | itself. But it's clearly something we're very focused on. |
| 23 | understand it. | 23 | So, I personally believe that the energy efficiency and |
| 24 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Is it <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | our need for more of that is very complementary to what \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
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| 1 | Eversource's intent to put some of their property holdings | 1 | the objectives of this project are. |
| 2 | into current use, which would reduce the property taxes on | 2 | THE MODERATOR: Why did you choose |
| 3 | that? If that is the case, would that not be a reduction | 3 | Deerfield as the termination point for Northern Pass? |
| 4 | in revenue for the towns? So, -- | 4 | MR. QUINLAN: Okay. I'm going to turn |
| 5 | MR. QUINLAN: Oh, okay. I've got it. | 5 | that one to the Project Team? |
| 6 | THE MODERATOR: Yes. | 6 | MR. MUNTZ: Sure. As we looked at the |
| 7 | MR. QUINLAN: I've got it. | 7 | project initially, there's lots of ways to do this. And, |
| 8 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. | 8 | we looked at where the converter would be. We could have |
| 9 | MR. QUINLAN: Okay. You know, for | 9 | put it just over the border. You can actually -- you need |
| 10 | properties that we own that are going to be used for | 10 | two converters, you need to convert, okay? You need to |
| 11 | purposes of this project, you know, obviously, we're going | 11 | keep the Canadian system and the New England system |
| 12 | to continue to own them, the project will be sited on | 12 | separate, because they have some different characteristics |
| 13 | them, and that combination will generate the tax revenues | 13 | that aren't compatible. So, you need two converters. We |
| 14 | that we were referring to earlier. That's where the | 14 | could have put both converters up right near the border. |
| 15 | \$30 million estimate comes from. It's the -- basically, | 15 | The only problem with that, when you start looking at the |
| 16 | the cost of the project, including those properties we | 16 | impact of this project on the system, you have to deliver |
| 17 | own. | 17 | it to a strong point, a strong electrical point. |
| 18 | The 5,000 acres that I was referring to | 18 | If we put the converter up there and |
| 19 | earlier, we don't intend to use for the project. So, | 19 | dropped a thousand megawatts in the far north, we would |
| 20 | they're not factored into the tax calculation and the tax | 20 | have to build two AC lines up to the converters. And, we |
| 21 | figures that we shared with you, the \$30 million. | 21 | felt that was more of an impact than one line coming down |
| 22 | THE MODERATOR: Will the Northern Pass | 22 | the state to a relatively strong delivery point, which is |
| 23 | Project create a disincentive towards greater energy | 23 | actually in Deerfield. |
| 24 | efficiency, such as through an Energy Efficiency Resource \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | Now, when we looked "where is a good \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| point to put the converter?" We wanted to look at where our route terminus would be. And, then, what -- how do we get from wherever that converter would be on over to Deerfield? So, we, you know, looked at land parcels and so forth, and found a good location near the existing AC right-of-way. And, we ended up with that as the best balanced choice. <br> THE MODERATOR: Is there any technical reason you chose not to continue burial into New Hampton? <br> MR. QUINLAN: A technical reason? So, I will say that, you know, one of the things we have been focused on in striking the balance, I think I said it earlier, which is, you know, the technical aspect of this. This fundamentally has to be a project that uses a proven technology, and we know it's going to work when we energize it, and it operates reliably. <br> It's one of the reasons we scaled down the size of the project. So, you know, when we looked at the decision to underground more of the project, you know, there is a 1,200-megawatt cable technology that has been introduced, of the same design as the one we're going with here, which is 1,000 megawatts. It's not in commercial use anywhere in the United States. And, we didn't want to be the first-of-a-kind introducing that in a project of \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | THE MODERATOR: You seem to understand <br> the importance of tourism to the state, as you have acquiesced to bury the line in the White Mountains. Are you aware that the Lakes Region -- Lakes Region garnish more tourism dollars and will be greatly impacted by impaired viewscapes? <br> MR. QUINLAN: Certainly aware of the importance of tourism to New Hampshire. You know, that also came loud and clear as we listened to stakeholders across the state. And, it wasn't just limited to the White Mountain National Forest or that area of the region. It's, obviously, an important economic driver for the entirety of this state. <br> Our ForwardNH Fund also identifies tourism as a focus area. So, we have the four focus areas. I mentioned the clean energy innovation, community investment, tourism, okay? We specifically picked tourism, because we understand it's important. And, we think, by deploying a portion of that fund in this critical area, we can have a positive impact on tourism here in this state. And, we've already had some initiatives come forward that we really think would deliver significant benefits in this space to the State of New Hampshire. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
| this importance, with this type of investment, where we're not comfortable with the technological risk. <br> So, that's what led to the decision to go to 1,000 megawatts. Now, we got to 1,000 . Even at 1,000 megawatts, this 60 miles of underground construction will be the longest underground construction in North America using this cable. Okay? So, we'll be, you know, I'll say "innovating" in a way, in that we're pushing that envelope for the use of this particular cable. We do see instances overseas where it's been used successfully. But, you know, we feel comfortable with that technological risk. <br> You know, can you go further? We think you probably can go further, from a technical perspective, using this type of cable. There is a limit as to how far you would want to go technologically. <br> Now, I mentioned at the outset, the reason we landed on the $\mathbf{6 0}$ miles was one of balance. And, it's not just a "technical" question, you have to factor in the economics of more underground construction. From a balance perspective, we landed on 60 miles of underground construction as being technological acceptable, addressing the view impacts that we've heard the most about, and being economic. Okay? <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | So, the short answer is, we clearly are aware of the importance of tourism. We're going to do what we can around this project, to ensure that we don't have a negative effect. And, I think we're going to have some opportunities to actually have a very positive effect on tourism as a result of those local investments that we intend to make. <br> THE MODERATOR: Please comment on the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources' initial evaluation of Northern Pass's evaluation and survey of visual impacts to state historic resources along the proposed route. <br> MR. QUINLAN: Okay. I'll turn that over to Lee. <br> MS. CARBONNEAU: Could you repeat that question please. <br> THE MODERATOR: Please comment on the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources' initial evaluation of Northern Pass's evaluation and survey of visual impacts to state historic resources along the proposed route. <br> MS. CARBONNEAU: Okay. The Division of Historical Resources actually has not yet commented on the Northern Pass Team's historical resources evaluation. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| 1 | That's being prepared now. That information is -- we have |  | using herbicides; it's mechanical. |
| 2 | provided them with some preliminary information. They | 2 | The wetlands and the water bodies are |
| 3 | will receive the rest of that information in our SEC | 3 | protected throughout that. There's a permit that |
| 4 | application. | 4 | identifies what they can and cannot do. Vernal pools are |
| 5 | But they have commented on the | 5 | generally not impacted. For the most part, in a wetland |
| 6 | Department of Energy's historical resource survey, the | 6 | situation, the vegetation is already maintained in shrub |
| 7 | aboveground portion. The Department of Energy's experts | 7 | vegetation or low emergent vegetation, and that is usually |
| 8 | have submitted project area forms for the project area. | 8 | maintained. So, you know, where it's unnecessary to cut |
| 9 | They have submitted four separate documents, broken down | 9 | shrubs, because they never get tall enough to be a problem |
| 10 | by region throughout the state. | 10 | in the lines, then those are left alone. |
| 11 | I really can't comment on their | 11 | THE MODERATOR: What does your research |
| 12 | comments. It's not something that has been directed | 12 | tell you about wildlife corridor disruptions in buried |
| 13 | towards us. They are beholding to the lead federal | 13 | rights-of-ways? |
| 14 | agency, which is the Department of Energy, and their team | 14 | MS. CARBONNEAU: Hi again. |
| 15 | will handle the comments that are received on those | 15 | THE MODERATOR: So, Lee, let me repeat |
| 16 | project area forms. | 16 | that. |
| 17 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. What will be your | 17 | MS. CARBONNEAU: Yes. Thank you. |
| 18 | methods of maintaining the rights-of-way, especially the | 18 | THE MODERATOR: I think it's asking if |
| 19 | vernal pools and wetlands? | 19 | there's a difference between wildlife disruption if |
| 20 | MR. QUINLAN: Okay. So, this is a | 20 | they're overhead or buried, I'm not sure, but l'll read |
| 21 | question of "vernal pools and wetlands", perhaps Lee. | 21 | the question exactly as it is. What does your research |
| 22 | MS. CARBONNEAU: I'm sorry. Could your | 22 | tell you about wildlife corridor disruptions in buried |
| 23 | repeat that again. Sorry. | 23 | rights-of-ways? |
| 24 | THE MODERATOR: You didn't expect two in \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | FROM THE FLOOR: Can I respond to that \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
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| 1 | a row, right? |  | or not? No? Okay. |
| 2 | MS. CARBONNEAU: No. | 2 | MS. CARBONNEAU: Okay. |
| 3 | THE MODERATOR: All right. What will be | 3 | MR. QUINLAN: So, maybe address it this |
| 4 | your methods of maintaining the rights-of-way, especially | 4 | way. Address regular rights-of-way, and, then, obviously, |
| 5 | the vernal pools and wetlands? | 5 | most of our burial is in state roadways here, so -- |
| 6 | MS. CARBONNEAU: Okay. The methods for | 6 | FROM THE FLOOR: It is my question. |
| 7 | managing vegetation in the rights-of-way will be | 7 | I've asked that I clarify the question. |
| 8 | consistent with the way it's been done all along, | 8 | THE MODERATOR: That's your question? |
| 9 | through -- certainly, through New Hampton and most of the | 9 | All right. Just a second, sir. Come up to the microphone |
| 10 | project area. The new lines are going to be collocated in | 10 | then. |
| 11 | a right-of-way that's already being managed. | 11 | FROM THE FLOOR: Okay. It is my |
| 12 | The management generally involves | 12 | question. And, it's kind of hard to -- |
| 13 | trimming of vegetation mechanically every three to five | 13 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. Sir, just ask the |
| 14 | years or a little bit more. The goal is to, obviously, | 14 | question. |
| 15 | maintain the clearance that's necessary for safety | 15 | FROM THE FLOOR: Okay. What I meant |
| 16 | purposes between the conductors and the vegetation. So, | 16 | was, have you found in your research anything about the |
| 17 | generally, anything that gets over about 20 feet needs to | 17 | disruption of -- I'm talking about the corridor of the |
| 18 | be cut. That happens whether it's in wetlands or in | 18 | wildlife movement and your buried -- any burial of lines? |
| 19 | uplands throughout the right-of-way. | 19 | Does that make sense? I'm talking about, do animals |
| 20 | But that work is generally done through | 20 | continue to go over lines that have already previously |
| 21 | permitting process with the State of New Hampshire, | 21 | been buried? I have never heard it. |
| 22 | following best management practices. There is an actual | 22 | THE MODERATOR: Okay. All right. Thank |
| 23 | manual that has been developed, and it's being used by | 23 | you. |
| 24 | Eversource in New Hampshire. And, it doesn't involve \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | 24 | FROM THE FLOOR: That's all. <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |


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| MS. CARBONNEAU: All right. Thank you. <br> That helps. Generally, I think a buried corridor, as well as an aboveground corridor, has an area where the vegetation needs to be maintained in a low cover. Obviously, in an aerial line, it's because of clearance problems. In a buried line, you don't want trees with deep roots growing over your lines. <br> So, in both cases, you'll have a corridor of some width that is maintained in low cover, and that may be different from what's adjacent to it. So, you may have this corridor that's maintained running through a forested area, for example. <br> We have done some research on that for this project, because we will have a new corridor up north, where we have some cleared vegetation. That corridor is 120 feet wide. And, we are looking into both -- there are three main issues associated with that. So, the first issue is, if it runs through a forested area, you've obviously lost some forest canopy and forest habitat. The second issue is, you may have an edge effect. Where you didn't have an edge before, you will now have an edge. And, edges are important. Because, in some cases, they change what kinds of animals can traverse those areas. Sometimes they bring more predators to an \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | add, beyond this project, there's a body of research that's being done by universities across the Northeast on this early successional habitat, particularly in transmission corridors. They look at the shrub areas. And, there are quite a number of endangered species that actually have found that to be a very positive habitat. You know, I think the New England cottontail, you've seen a lot of press around that, and many other similar species, that find that to be attractive areas. <br> So, there is a developing body of research around the positive benefits of having some linear corridors that are shrub in nature. <br> FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you. <br> THE MODERATOR: You've said that you intend to file an application with the SEC in October. To have a complete application, you must show you have control and access to the route you propose. Are you negotiating with the New Hampshire DOT for permission to use the state road right-of-ways? When do you expect to finalize any such agreement? <br> MR. HODGDON: The highways that are proposed for the underground section, for the most part, there are a couple up in the North Country, in that 8-mile section, that are local roads. Part of Bear Rock Road, as \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |
| area where that was not the case before. The third item is, if you have fragmenting of large forest blocks. And, we have done some analysis of that with some modeling. <br> In all of those cases, the project has found that these -- the new corridor through the North Country is not going to have a really major effect on any of those things. That is, the modeling has shown that the fragmentation of forest blocks is actually fairly minimal. There are other fragmenting features up there already. This will not contribute substantially to that. There's a minor effect. <br> There is a little bit of edge effect. That's really difficult to quantify. But there are other items in roadways, access roads, logging roads that already do that as well. The loss of forest canopy cover, when you look at how much forest canopy there is in the North Country, that's also a relatively minor effect. <br> So, we have evaluated that. That information will be included in our SEC application. For the underground route, again, that's going to be in roadways or in the shoulder. And, so, we're not expecting that to have an effect. <br> FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you. <br> MR. QUINLAN: And, I would say, just to <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} | was mentioned earlier, is one, and Old County Road and North Hill Road. Those are local roads. But the bulk of the roads around the White Mountain Forest, which is 52 miles, I think is the number, those are all state-maintained, state-owned right-of-ways. And, we have been in discussions with DOT. <br> They have, as you probably realize just by driving around and living in New Hampshire, utilities are in public roads all over the state. And, they have an established procedure, what's called the "Utility Accommodation Manual", which we have to comply with. And, we are in discussions with them about using those roads, and what they're going to require, and what the steps are to go through that. <br> So, the answer to the question, I think the question was "have we been in discussions with them?" Yes, we have been. We are -- they are ongoing. They do not have the application yet. They will get that at the time of the filing of the SEC, that will be part of that filing. But they are aware of the project, they are aware of the intention. And, it's a very significant project, from their point of view, because of the impacts on the public highways. <br> So, it's, you know, they're well aware <br> \{SEC 2015-06\}[Laconia Meeting-Presentation/Q\&A]\{09-10-15\} |

of it. They are putting together a team to review it, and to consult with us and work through the process. They have an established process for doing it.

THE MODERATOR: All right. And, so, we're running out of time. And, I'm just going to ask, this is a question about New Hampton. How many towers will be along the 7.3 miles in New Hampton, then, in parentheses, (new and relocated)?

MR. QUINLAN: Maybe Sam. Sam, again, is
one of our project engineers.
THE MODERATOR: They're counting. MR. JOHNSON: So, in New Hampton, DC
structures, the new structures, there will be 63
structures. And, relocated 115 structures, there will be 19.

THE MODERATOR: Okay. And, finally, and
I'm not sure if this has been asked or not, but what is the ROI rate, the return of investment, for the proposed Northern Pass? And, how long to pay it off and turn profit?

MR. QUINLAN: Jim. And, this goes back
to Jim's earlier answer about how, in essence, our investment is recovered, and then the return that we would receive from making the investment. Again, this is part
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that they're going to commit, you know, a piece of their system power to that market and they're going to make a profit. Okay?

So, our profit just comes from the
infrastructure. So, you know, our interest would be "hey, let's go build a 5 billion transmission project."

Eversource would make more money, but it's not going to happen, because the power supplier isn't going to be willing to do it. And, most importantly, the customers that are paying for both, on the other end, eventually, there's customers on the other end that are going to pay for both. They're going to look at it and say "this doesn't make any sense."

I'll give you an example. There's a lot of wind resource in New England, in northern Maine, and, you know, far reaches of Vermont and New Hampshire. And, that wind resource costs so much, and the system can't absorb any more. They really need a long transmission line, okay, down to the load centers to make that, you know, to make that wind able to be connected to the grid and to get it to where the load is. And, nobody is willing to pay the cost of that new wind generation and the long transmission line, as good as wind sounds, part of that is because the wind is only going to give you
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of the Transmission Support Agreement that was submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

MR. MUNTZ: Right. And, like other investments in New England, transmission that we've made, regulated by FERC, we've got an agreed on contractual rate with them, that's similar to and indexed to the existing FERC return on equity piece of this. We would typically finance this like a utility would finance it, with half debt and half equity. You end up with about, you know, an 8 percent money cost. This is amortized over 40 years. So, it's basically a 40-year mortgage on the project, that's half financed by debt and half equity, just, you know, for example.

THE MODERATOR: All right. And, the second part of that question, if the entire project was buried, how long would it take to pay it off and turn a profit, with the return of investment?

MR. MUNTZ: Well, it still would be $\mathbf{4 0}$
years. And, it would be amortized over 40 years for us, but our piece of this is only the transmission. To do any of these projects, to have them, you know, be viable, you really need a power supplier that's willing to pay for the cost of the transmission, and understand the market on the other side enough that they're going to feel comfortable
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about 30 percent capacity on that line, okay? It's only going to be blowing 30 percent of the time. The hydropower can flow all the time. You know, they have a very high capacity factor, so they spread the cost of the transmission over more megawatts that are delivered. That's why we feel this project is viable at a certain cost.

MR. QUINLAN: And, I would add, because
I think this is an important question, and maybe an opportunity to clear up a misconception. There is a misconception that l've heard that, you know, "to the extent we, we, Eversource, keep project costs low, we would make more money or a greater profit." That's not the way a regulated business works. We receive a return on the investment we make.

So, to Jim's point, if there is a larger
investment, meaning a more expensive project, the associated return is larger. And, I know that may be counterintuitive to some, but that's the way a regulated industry operates. And, we talked about franchise rights earlier today, that's the business model for a regulated utility.

THE MODERATOR: Okay. Thank you,
Mr. Quinlan. That ends the questions, the
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| \$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41 \text { feet [1] 47/24 } \\ & 45[1] 9 / 2 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
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