



The State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

December 2, 2015

PAMELA MONROE, SEC ADMINISTRATOR  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST., SUITE 10  
CONCORD, NH 03301-2429

**RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility, NH Site Evaluation Committee Docket No. 2015-06**

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Pursuant to RSA 162-H:7, IV, the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (“Committee”) forwarded an application (or relevant portion thereof) for a Certificate of Site and Facility (“Application”) to the Department of Environmental Services (the “Department”). By letter dated November 12, 2005, the Department advised the Committee that the Application did not have sufficient information regarding Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire’s (the “Applicant”) ownership interest to satisfy the Department’s application requirements, as required by RSA 162-H:7, IV, as to the following components of the Application:

1. Alteration of Terrain File No. SEC – 151020-171
2. Wetland File No. SEC – 2015-02817
3. Shoreland File Nos. SEC – 2015- 02828 through 2015-02859

By letter to the Committee, dated November 20, 2015, copied to the Department, the Applicant provided additional information to support its assertion that it has sufficient rights to proceed with the project either through its ownership interest or statutory authority under RSA 231:160 *et seq.* Based on that information and further review of the Application, the Department has determined that the Application, as supplemented by the additional information, now has sufficient information to satisfy the Department’s application requirements, as required by RSA 162-H:7, IV, as to each of the components of the Application identified above. These components now meet the Department’s administrative completeness requirements.

This determination does not address the relative property rights of the Applicant and any parties that may have competing property interests. The Department’s authority regarding property rights is limited to determining whether an applicant has sufficient ownership interest to proceed and whether it has met the applicable statutory and regulatory criteria. *See Appeal of Robert C. Michele & a.*, (Slip Opinion 2014-159, August 11, 2015, <http://www.courts.state.nh.us/supreme/opinions/2015/2015066michele.pdf>).

DES Web site: [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

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RSA 162-H:7, VI, requires the Committee to decide within 60 days from the date on which the Application was filed whether to accept the Application or to reject it because it is administratively incomplete. If the Committee accepts the Application the Department will forward the Application to appropriate staff for technical review.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (603) 271-2951.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier", written in black ink.

Rene Pelletier, Assistant Water Division Director  
Land Resources Management

cc: Eugene Forbes, P.E., Director, DES Water Division  
Timothy Drew, Administrator, DES Office of Public Information and Permitting  
James Martin, DES Office of Public Information and Permitting  
Dave Keddell, ACOE