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January 6, 2015

Via First Class Mail and email (Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov)

Pamela Monroe Administrator, Site Evaluation Committee 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord NH 03301

Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-06

Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New

Hampshire dba Eversource Energy

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed please find for filing:

- 1. My appearance in this matter on behalf of Rodrigue J. Beland and Tammy L. Beland; and
- 2. Petition for Intervention by Rodrigue J. Beland and Tammy L. Beland.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Alan Robert Baker Alan Robert Baker

## Enclosure

cc: Service List via email or first class mail

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

### Docket No. SEC 2015-06

Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility

# <u>APPEARANCE</u>

Pursuant to NH Admin Rule Site 202.04, please take notice that the undersigned appears as counsel for proposed intervenors Rodrigue J. Beland and Tammy L. Beland in the above-captioned matter. The undersigned is an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New Hampshire.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alan Robert Baker

Alan Robert Baker 481 Meriden Hill Road North Stratford NH 03590 Telephone: (603) 922-5571 Email: abobbaker@aol.com

Dated: January 6, 2016

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012, a copy of the foregoing has been sent via electronic mail or first class mail to the parties named in the Service List of this Docket.

Alan Robert Baker

/s/ Alan Robert Baker

#### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Docket No. SEC 2015-06

Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility

# PETITION FOR INTERVENTION BY RODRIGUE J. BELAND AND TAMMY L. BELAND

Rodrigue J. Beland and Tammy L. Beland (the "Belands"), by their undersigned representative, seek to intervene in the captioned proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:32 and Site 202.11 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by the Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC"). In support of their Petition, the Belands state as follows:

- 1. The Belands are residents of Waitsfield, Vermont who own two abutting parcels of land in Stark, New Hampshire consisting of approximately 60 acres of land together with a residence and related outbuildings and improvements on the north side of New Hampshire State Route 110. The Belands purchased their Stark property for purposes of improving it for use as a vacation, recreation and eventual retirement home. The Belands' property is accessible solely by Route 110 which itself is an important New Hampshire Scenic and Cultural Highway known as the Woodlands Heritage Trail.
- 2. In this proceeding, the Applicant Northern Pass Transmission LLC ("Northern Pass") seeks permission to site a new high voltage transmission line facility running approximately 190 miles through New Hampshire from Pittsburgh to Deerfield.
- 3. The Northern Pass proposed transmission line facility, if permitted and built, would run overhead through the Town of Stark for approximately 8.5 miles in an existing 150 foot wide right of way held by the Applicant Public Service of New Hampshire, dba Eversource ("PSNH"). The new transmission line would be built on one

side of the existing right of way near a natural gas transmission line and the existing transmission line would be relocated to the other side of the right of way and placed on transmission towers two or more times higher than presently exist. The new transmission line structures would be up to 130 feet high and would run along side a 24 inch natural gas pipeline.

- 4. The PSNH right of way that Northern Pass states it intends to use to site its transmission line and to conduct its other activities runs for over 1,000 feet through the Belands' property in Stark and crosses Route 110, the Woodlands Heritage Trail, directly in front of their home. By virtue of that potential impact, the Belands' rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests may be affected by this proceeding in numerous ways, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Loss of the entire value of their property;
  - b. Violation of the explicit terms and conditions of the easement held by PSNH as granted 70 years ago by the Belands' predecessors in title;
  - c. Excessive burdening and expansion of the PSNH easement area beyond that which was originally intended by the parties to the point of such use becoming unreasonable.
  - d. Infliction of potential health and safety hazards and fears imposed upon them and other users of their property by virtue of the new proposed transmission towers having fall zones outside the existing PSNH right of way.
  - e. Infliction of potential health and safety hazards and fears imposed upon them and other users of their property by virtue of their home being within the incineration zone of an existing natural gas pipeline that also occupies the right of way and which would be within the fall zone of the new proposed transmission towers.

- f. Infliction of damage to the wetlands on and near the Belands' property.
- g. Temporary loss of use and enjoyment of the Belands' property due to the noise and movement of construction vehicles and equipment passing by within a few hundred feet of their home.
- h. Loss of enjoyment and scenic and cultural value of the Woodlands

  Heritage Trail which abuts their Stark property and which is the only public

  access way by which their property can be reached by automobile.
- Loss of esthetic and scenic values of the greater Stark local and regional environment that forms the highly valuable scenic and cultural backdrop for their property.
- j. Loss of esthetic, cultural, and scenic values of the nearby Upper Ammonoosuc River which is an important component of the international 740 mile long Northern Forest Canoe Trail. The proposed new transmission line would be built over the Upper Ammonoosuc River on a parcel of land abutting the Belands' property which can only be accessed by the Applicants from the Belands' property.
- 5. The Belands' also believe and contend that the SEC does not have jurisdiction to take action or to grant the Applicants any relief that damages or impairs the Belands' private property interests or which purports to resolve or affect the private property disputes between them and the Applicants with respect to the construction and interpretation of the 70 year old easement held by PSNH which encumbers their property.
- 6. The Belands therefore wish to intervene and to prevent the Applicants from using or contending in any court proceedings that this SEC administrative law proceeding in any way deprives the Belands of their rights to have their property dispute

with the Applicants resolved in a court of law by a jury of their peers pursuant to the provisions of Article 20 of the New Hampshire Constitution Bill of Rights, which provides as follows:

"In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons except those in which another practice is and has been customary and except those in which the value in controversy does not exceed \$1,500 and no title to real estate is involved, the parties have a right to a trial by jury. This method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless, in cases arising on the high seas and in cases relating to mariners' wages, the legislature shall think it necessary hereafter to alter it."

WHEREFORE, Rodrigue J. Beland and Tammy L. Beland respectfully request that the SEC issue an order granting their petition for intervention and granting such other and further relief as it deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

RODRIGUE J. BELAND TAMMY L. BELAND

/s/ Alan Robert Baker

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Alan Robert Baker Their Attorney 481 Meridan Hill Road North Stratford NH 03590

Email: <u>abobbaker@aol.com</u>

Tel. (603) 922-5571

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012, a copy of the foregoing has been sent via electronic mail or first class mail to the parties named in the Service List of this Docket.

/S/ Alan hober baker	
Alan Robert Baker	