

Franconia Conservation Commission
421 Main Street
Franconia, NH 03580

March 7, 2016

Pamela G Monroe, Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC") Docket No 2015-06, Northern Pass Transmission Project: Re: "Applicants' Response and Objection to Certain Petitions to Intervene".

Dear Ms. Monroe,

The Conservation Commission of the Town of Franconia respectfully submits this response to the 2/26/2016 "Applicants' Response and Objection to Certain Petitions to Intervene."

On January 28, 2016, we filed a petition to intervene in the SEC's proceedings under DocketNo 2015-06 relating to the proposed Northern Pass transmission line.

On February 26, 2016 the Applicant filed Applicants' Response and Objection to Certain Petitions to Intervene ("Intervention Response").

In Paragraph 48, the Applicants state:

"The Applicants object to the separate intervention of municipal sub-units to the extent that their interests are already properly and sufficiently represented by their respective Towns and town governing bodies."

In Paragraph 52, the Applicants state:

"The Applicants recognize that municipal governing bodies have a substantial interest in this proceeding. Therefore, the Applicants do not oppose the petitions of Towns and Town governments, so long as their participation is coordinated and combined. As for municipal sub-units, the Applicants request is that they be required to combine or coordinate their participation with their respective Town either outside of these proceedings or as parties to the proceeding as the Committee deems appropriate and least likely to impair the prompt and orderly conduct of the proceeding."

RSA 36-A:2 states that when a town establishes a conservation commission, the mission includes "the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources of said city or town". That function is distinct from that of the governing body of the Town's Select Board.

In Antrim Wind, the SEC permitted the Antrim Conservation Commission to intervene as a full party, as well as the Stoddard Conservation Commission.

We respectfully request that the SEC grant intervenor status to the Franconia Conservation Commission separate from the intervenor status of the Town.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Conservation Commission
Town of Franconia

Kim Cowles, Chair
Kathy McCarthy, Secretary
Mary Grote
Red McCarthy
Eric Pospesil
Chris Nicodemus
Virginia Jeffryes

Cc: SEC distribution list (as posted on the NHSEC website on 3/7/2016) for Docket No 2015-06, copies sent by email.