March 21, 2016

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

RE: REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION TO THE ORDER
ON PETITION TO INTERVENE

Docket No. 2015-06
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
March 18, 2016 ORDER ON PETITIONS TO INTERVENE

Dear Ms. Monroe,

I respectfully respond and request reconsideration of the Order on Petition to Intervene published by the Site Evaluation Committee on March 18, 2016 denying me the opportunity to intervene in this matter along with Mr. Peter Powell.

Mr. Powell and I are the only two individuals who have sought intervenor status specifically representing one of the most important business interests in the State of New Hampshire namely, the real estate sales industry. As you and the SEC are aware, one of the most commonly referred to impacts of the proposed Northern Pass is the damage it has already inflicted on the values and salability of view and aesthetically oriented properties throughout our state.

As we all know, the investments people make in their year-round homes is one of the most significant investments they make in their entire lives. The Northern Pass has greatly impacted in a negative fashion, the equity these people have in these homes.
Those in the general vicinity of NP, who have needed to sell their properties since
the NP was announced, have had to accept significantly reduced sales prices and
many more have been unable to sell at any price.

The second home, vacation home marketplace anywhere within sight of the NP
towers and wires has been paralyzed since the NP project was announced on
October 10, 2010. One of the very first questions I routinely get asked by clients
for any type of real estate in my market area has to do with whether the property
I have picked for them to look at is anywhere near the power line wires and
towers. If so, they all to a one, decline to look at such properties.

My industry contributes many millions of dollars in real estate transfer taxes into
the State of New Hampshire’s coffers. The SEC should forthwith appoint a sub-
committee to look into the relative contributions to this source of income in NP
view affected areas and it will see a huge fall off in yields from these impacted
communities. It’s not just my income that has been greatly impacted, but the
residents of the towns where values have been badly reduced from NP are paying
a huge price if they must sell their homes.

Please don’t parrot comments from NP about all the property taxes they will pay
impacted towns because we all know about the huge backlogs of tax abatement
cases brought by such towns that are currently pending before the Board of Land
and Tax Appeals – one hand giveth and the other hand taketh away. This damage
done to towns’ tax yields from the many dozens of properties whose assessments
have had to be reduced has been alarming. Those taxes just can’t be so easily
made up by owners of properties elsewhere in these towns because they’re
already struggling to meet ends.

We have been told by NP representatives that the NP project will lower residents’
electricity bills by an average of $5 per month -- $60 per year. Come on SEC! Are
you kidding me? We are being asked to put up with years of construction; roads
torn up; wetlands violated like they always do; vistas destroyed; property values
decimated, hundreds of thousands of citizens’ lives turned upside down. And for
what? A measly $5 reduction in our power bills that will very quickly get eaten up
by next year’s rate increase. $5 off our monthly bills, and in exchange, many of
our friends, neighbors and ourselves will experience tens of thousands of dollars
in reduced property values. Sucha Deal for New Hampshire already???
This is a really lousy deal for New Hampshire’s property owners who want/need to sell their homes, but can’t because the shadow of the NP is hanging over them. And it’s a lot more than a lousy deal for the professionals who earn their livings helping those people move on with their lives by finding buyers for those homes.

Unlike the paid consultants from other regions in the country where gazing out on a city skyline or a highway passing by counts as a view, our New Hampshire skylines, lakes, rivers and mountains are more than just views. They are a constant reminder that where we live is a gift from God created for our peace, comfort and pleasure never to be compromised and always to be protected from being compromised. We pass on this reverence for our surroundings to our children and we teach them to protect these special gifts from God from all who would sacrifice what we have in exchange for profits for special interests who have no appreciation whatsoever for what they will destroy in the name of making money.

I have been telling these NP people that the beauty and tranquility of New Hampshire is NOT FOR SALE! Peter Powell and I can help you temporarily purchase a small chunk of it, but you’d better take very good care of it and then pass it on to someone else who appreciates it as much as you did. This is a message that Peter Powell and I are uniquely qualified as North Country Realtors to pass on to our neighbors, friends and especially our customers.

Northern Pass and the NH SEC needs to hear our testimony as unique intervenors, and it is critically important to the on-going dialogue on NP.

On behalf of Peter Powell and myself, I respectfully ask the NH SEC to reconsider Peter Powell’s and my status as intervenors with the right to fully participate as a group of two in all aspects of the current proceedings as unique voices in this critical matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Thomas N.T. Mullen
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