

To: State of New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
From: Susan E Percy of the Percy Summer Club, Stark, New Hampshire
Date: March 26, 2016
Docket No. 2015-16 Northern Pass Transmission, LLC application for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the construction of a high Voltage Transmission

On March 18, 2016, the SEC reviewed and granted my request to represent the Percy Summer Club as an Intervener. However, the Order consolidates my request for Intervenor Status with other abutting landowners in the Order for Motions from Dummer to Dalton.

I request single Intervenor status with no restrictions. In defense of this request for single Intervenor status, I have outlined our unique and substantial issues as members of the Percy Summer Club and sole property owners on land surrounding Christine Lake and The Kauffmann Forest.

Ownership Interests: The Percy Summer Club, is in a unique and materially different category than other landowners along the proposed route. I represent the interests as Intervenor of seven Percy Summer Club members who own property on the western shore of Christine Lake. We are the only property owners on the lake. The surrounding environment which abuts Percy Summer Club land is protected in perpetuity from development and held in easement by the State of New Hampshire and by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. The Percy Summer Club understands the protections that have been put in place through generations of ownership and can speak directly to those restrictions and covenants that have not been considered by Northern Pass/Hydro-Quebec. (The Applicant Bill Quinlan stated that he was unaware of Christine Lake or the presence of the Percy Summer Club.)

The ROW proposed for use by Northern Pass runs across Percy Summer Club land. The narrow 150 foot ROW that stretches through the Kauffmann Forest on the south shore off Christine Lake has existing towers which are proposed for removal and replaced with up to 130 foot lattice towers and an unknown number of monopoles. This same ROW also has a buried natural gas pipeline which presents obstacles for siting the lattice towers that is currently not addressed. While the photo simulation (prepared by Terrance J Dewan & Associates for Northern Pass July 2015) identifies approximately 22 towers will be visible from Victor Head, a popular hiking trail on the Coos Loop, it is estimated that more than 50 towers will be visible from Percy Summer Club properties, lands and the Lake. Additionally, the photo simulation states that these are "preliminary design plans". (Terrance J Dewan & Associates, July 2015, Northern Pass photo simulation Victor Head, Nash Stream Forest, Stark). Evidently there is the potential for design changes to the proposed large number of towers that will have a significant impact on the Percy Summer Club and the public from viewsheds on, around and above Christine Lake.

Historic Interests: The SEARCH report presented to the Department of Historic Preservation for New Hampshire has recommended the Percy Summer Club "be further documented on a Historic District Area Form" because of its "unique example of a late nineteenth/early twentieth century example of a summer community". By way of reference, the Percy Summer Club was established in 1881 by a group of friends and colleagues, all avid fishermen. Over the years they built structures to house their families and friends with the last house built in 1931. Recognizing the beauty of Christine Lake and the surrounding mountains of Victor Head, Bald Mountain, Long Mountain, and Potters Ledge and its importance in preserving the wilderness, the Club members began acquiring parcels of land to enlarge the area around the lake for protection. In total, members associated with the Percy Summer Club has preserved over 2000

acres all held in trust through gift or easements to the State of New Hampshire and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. With the exception of a dirt road built in the 1940's, the Percy Summer Club, its houses and communal property, is virtually unchanged since the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Public Interests: The Percy Summer Club owns land and maintains access to Christine Lake for the use by the general public. Over the years, families have and continue to enjoy the lake and its surrounding beauty while swimming, canoeing and kayaking. Fisherman launch their boats from this property owned by the Percy Summer Club. Hikers access the trails through Club land. The scenic interests and significant visual impacts of towers more than twice the height of the current 43 foot poles will forever alter the experience on Christine Lake and the surrounding mountains and hills by the public.

Our responsibility as property owners extends beyond our private interests to include the interests of the public to enjoy a pristine environment long protected from industrial impact. We have worked tirelessly over generations to ensure this area is protected for the long term. We seek to continue to promote the public interests by ensuring the view sheds surrounding Christine Lake and views from the lake are not subject to adverse impact. Of late, we successfully engaged with the state of New Hampshire harvest planners to ensure the visual impact of the state's timber harvesting was minimized.

I respectfully request the Committee allow me to represent the Percy Summer Club and its environs as a full party in all proceedings. The transmission line proposed by Northern Pass/Hydro-Quebec has significant issues for the Percy Summer Club, its historic value, and its long history of involvement in the management of surrounding lands. These unique and visually, environmentally and historically important issues cannot be dealt with in a large group represented by one appointed spokesperson. Since the inception of the Percy Summer Club, its members have worked closely with Federal, state and local representatives to ensure the public viewsheds, mountains, forests and lake are protected in perpetuity. To combine our rights with others from Dummer to Dalton would severely hinder our historic involvement and ability to protect Christine lake and its surrounding area.

Most sincerely,

Susan E Percy