

## New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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May 13, 2016

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator NH Site Evaluation Committee 21 South Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

**RE**: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and PSNH d/b/a Eversource Energy For a Certificate of Site and Facility

NH Site Evaluation Committee No. 2015-06

## Dear Administrator Monroe:

In accordance with the previously approved procedural schedule for this project, progress reports are expected by State agencies by May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. However, it is my understanding that a Hearing is scheduled on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to discuss a number of requests before the Subcommittee, more specifically motions relevant to timeframe extensions. The Departments' staff would greatly appreciate the extension of the previously proposed timeframe, in order to thoroughly review the extensive information involved with this project. At this time, the Departments' staff are continuing to work on reviewing this projects' previously submitted application materials and we are interested in participating in these proceedings at some level in the near future.

We also understand the importance of the timeframes outlined in the procedural schedule. If the Subcommittee determines that the schedule will not be extended, then the Department will do its best to adhere to the existing schedule and not delay the SEC process in any way.

The NH Fish and Game Department does not have independent permitting or regulatory authority for this project; however, as guardians of the State's fish, wildlife and marine resources, it is the Department's responsibility to work in partnership with the public to conserve, manage and protect these resources.

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In addition, the Department anticipates additional information to be provided throughout the (SEC) process before the Department can offer its opinion on any proposed avoidance, minimization and/or mitigation measures with respect to fish and wildlife. The Department would like to encourage and we appreciate the continuation of discussions with the applicant throughout the SEC process.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the Department's Environmental Review Coordinator, Carol Henderson via email at <a href="mailto:carol.henderson@wildlife.nh.gov">carol.henderson@wildlife.nh.gov</a> or by phone at 603-271-3511.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Glenn Normandeau Executive Director

NH Fish and Game Department