

# TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



2155 Main Street • Post Office Box 189 • Bethlehem, New Hampshire 03574  
(603) 869-3351 / 869-2042 • fax (603) 869-2280 • www.bethlehemnh.org

May 27, 2016

Ms. Darlene Forst, Shoreland Program ([darlene.forst@des.nh.gov](mailto:darlene.forst@des.nh.gov))

NH Department of Environmental Services

P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302

Re: Northern Pass Transmission, LLC, Shoreland Application

Dear Ms. Forst:

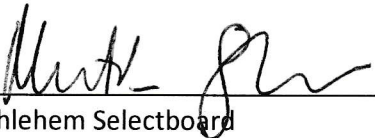
We (the Bethlehem Selectboard, Bethlehem Planning Board and Bethlehem Conservation Commission) ask that DES deny the application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC, for geotechnical borings along Route 302 in Bethlehem. (We are not sending a copy of this via the U.S. postal service.)

This application is premature in light of the DES progress report dated May 16, 2016, which was submitted to the Site Evaluation Committee last week and which asks NP to consider alternative sites for Transition Station #5.

That report states on page 4, item #11: "The plans for Transition Station #5 propose filling 16, 378 square feet of wetlands for the yard and a stormwater pond. Similar to the above comment, impacts to naturally-occurring wetlands for stormwater treatment and attenuation are typically not allowed. **Given the amount of wetland impacts and the steep slopes in the area, alternative sites should be considered that further avoid wetland impacts.**"

There is another route this project could take that would avoid the need for transition station #5 in its current location, would avoid all the wetland impacts and would avoid burial along route 302.

This application is further premature in light of the SEC's decision to extend the timeframe for this project out to September 30, 2017. Thank you for considering our request.

  
Bethlehem Selectboard

  
Bethlehem Planning Board

  
Bethlehem Conservation Commission

cc: Thomas Burack, ([Thomas.Burack@des.nh.gov](mailto:Thomas.Burack@des.nh.gov)); Craig Rennie, ([craig.ennie@des.nh.gov](mailto:craig.ennie@des.nh.gov))  
Ridgely Mauck, ([ridgely.mauck@des.nh.gov](mailto:ridgely.mauck@des.nh.gov)); Ammonoosuc Local Advisory Committee, ([cmcdade@roadrunner.com](mailto:cmcdade@roadrunner.com))  
Pamela Monroe, ([pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov](mailto:pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov)) and the SEC Distribution List revised 5/12/16