Ms. Ann Ross  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
21 South Fruit Street  
Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429  

January 20, 2016  

RE: NH Site Evaluation Docket #2015-06  

Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC ("NPT) and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource) for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Construction of a New 1090 MW Electric Transmission Line

**Motion to Intervene**

Dear Ms. Ross,

As the Chairman of the Planning Board and on behalf of the members of the Planning Board for the Town of Easton, we respectfully request the NH Site Evaluation Committee grant us this intervention status in the proceedings for the above mentioned docket, pursuant to the NH Code of Administrative Rules, Site 202.11 and RSA 541-A:32,

Without dissension, we **object** to the latest proposal of routing the so-called Northern Pass transmission lines underground and through our town. Many
of the property owners in our community have already been held hostage over five years, not knowing if this transmission line would negatively impact their health and property. This latest plan similarly impacts those property owners who are located along this proposed route.

**HEALTH & SAFETY***

**The objections include the potential damage to** those homes in this area that are especially close to the road and therefore highly susceptible to damage from excavation. The developer has acknowledged that excavation involves drilling and blasting, and provides no guarantee that no damage will occur during the project. The developer admits they will be inspecting and photographing wells and foundations in anticipation of having to defend damage claims.

Routing this project through our residential neighborhood subjects these property owners in **perpetuity**, to the potential risk of catastrophic accidental dig-ins. Property owners located along this latest proposed, corridor, already bear the uncertainty of not knowing if the project will damage and/or impact the value of their property.

**TAX PAYMENTS***

The developer, Eversource is continuing to use projected “property tax payments” to entice all local governments to approve this route. For over five years this developer has tried to buy its way across the northern part of the state, only to be turned back by an organized and determined grassroots movement.

The developer does not guarantee these long term payments. In the absence of these payments, all communities who are directly impacted would reject this project unequivocally.
ALTERNATIVES*

If the State of NH SEC determines this project is required to “keep the lights on”, we urge the SEC to require Eversource to use the I-93 alternative, a more direct route in a corridor that has already been developed and would minimize the potential impact on private property.

The developer has consistently noted problems with using this alternative based on traffic considerations. We all know that traffic is slowed routinely for construction and paving, and slowed daily for toll collection. This rationale does not appear to be valid or supportable.

The disruption period to anyone along this latest proposed route will cause much greater hardship (financial and other), to a greater number of persons, for a greater period of time if the burial were along the I-93 corridors. It would be most reasonable to assume the developer has not anticipated all the many unknown obstacles and impediments in such a project.

It would appear that I-93 already forms a de facto industrial corridor. We object to sacrificing the homes and property of our citizens and creating yet another industrial corridor that snakes across the North Country for the profit of a few.

Sincerely,

James Collier, Chairperson