Alan Robert Baker Attorney at Law

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January 21, 2016

Via First Class Mail and email (Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov)

Pamela Monroe Administrator, Site Evaluation Committee 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord NH 03301

Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-06

Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New

Hampshire dba Eversource Energy

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed please find for filing in this matter:

- 1. My appearance in this matter on behalf of David Schrier; and
- 2. A Petition for Intervention by David Schrier.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Alan Robert Baker Alan Robert Baker

Enclosure

cc: Service List via email or first class mail

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Docket No. SEC 2015-06

Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility

<u>APPEARANCE</u>

Pursuant to NH Admin Rule Site 202.04, please take notice that the undersigned appears as counsel for proposed intervenor David Schrier in the above-captioned matter. The undersigned is an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New Hampshire.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Alan Robert Baker

Alan Robert Baker 481 Meriden Hill Road North Stratford NH 03590 Telephone: (603) 922-5571

Email: abobbaker@aol.com

Dated: January 21, 2016

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 21st day of January, 2016, a copy of the foregoing has been sent via electronic mail or first class mail to the parties named in the Distribution List for this Docket.

/s/Alan Robert Baker								
Alan	Robert Baker	-						

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Docket No. SEC 2015-06

Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility

PETITION FOR INTERVENTION BY DAVID SCHRIER

David Schrier, by his undersigned representative, seeks to intervene in the captioned proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:32 and Site 202.11 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by the Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC"). Intervenor status is sought based on the following:

- 1. David Schrier is a resident of Exeter, New Hampshire. He owns 38 acres of land together with the buildings and improvements thereon located in Stewartstown, New Hampshire (the "Property"). The Property is in the Great North Woods Tourism Region. It is reached from the south by way of NH Route 145 running north through Colebrook, Stewartstown and Clarksville and then by turning right and heading southerly on Old County Road. Route 145 is a State of New Hampshire Cultural and Scenic Byway known as the Moose Path Trail. Old County Road is a narrow ancient way that has neither been laid out nor taken by eminent domain by any municipal or state authority.
- 2. The Property is used by Mr. Schrier as an all-season second home for vacation and recreation for himself, his family and his friends who enjoy and value the pristine rural, scenic, and pastoral environmental attributes of the Property and its surrounding environs in the Great North Woods Tourism Region of New Hampshire.
- 3. The Property is located in the Town of Stewartstown 200 yards southerly of the Clarksville town line and is bounded on the east by Old County Road. Mr. Schrier

owns to the centerline of that road, subject to the rights of others to use the road for passage by vehicle and foot.

- 4. In this proceeding, the Applicants seek permission to site a new high voltage transmission line facility (the "Northern Pass") running approximately 190 miles through New Hampshire from Pittsburg to Deerfield.
- 5. The Northern Pass transmission line facility, if permitted and built as proposed, would run through the Towns of Clarksville and Stewartstown for approximately 13 miles. 5.7 miles of the transmission line is planned to be constructed above ground on over 50 transmission towers that Northern Pass says it would like to erect in a new transmission line corridor clear cut through portions of Clarksville and the east side of Stewartstown. Among the nearby local scenic and cultural treasures that would be directly and adversely impacted by the above ground transmission towers proposed by the Applicants' Northern Pass project are the Connecticut River, the Connecticut River Scenic and Cultural Byway, the historic Indian Stream Republic; the Washburn Family Forest, the Moose Path Trail Scenic and Cultural Highway and Coleman State Park. Another 7.4 miles of transmission line is planned to be placed in Clarksville and Stewartstown by heavy construction equipment that Northern Pass says it will use to dig trenches and/or to drill borings under roads that the Applicants have strategically selected to avoid landowner blockades formed by local property owners who oppose the construction of the Northern Pass project. Some of the roads that the Applicants claim they will use are not even wide enough for two vehicles to pass safely.
- 6. One of the roads that the Applicants plan to dig up and to use to longitudinally bury the Northern Pass transmission line is Old County Road which the abutting owners including Mr. Schrier own in its entirety except for the rights to pass by vehicle and foot held by other users of that road.

- 7. Mr. Schrier has not consented to the Applicants' proposed use of his property to dig in his road or to use it for purposes of burying a high voltage direct current transmission line. Indeed, the Applicants have never asked him for permission and claim that they do not need his consent. Mr. Schrier, on the other hand, claims that the Applicants have no right to use his road for their project without his consent; that any such use would be a trespass giving rise to damages; and that he can lawfully take whatever actions may be necessary and appropriate to prevent such use and damage to his property rights and interests.
- 8. By virtue of the foregoing potential impacts threatened by the Applicants, Mr. Schrier's rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests may be affected by this proceeding in numerous ways, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Loss of the value and use of all or a portion of his property;
 - b. Violation of his rights as a property owner opposed to any use or taking of his property for the Northern Pass Transmission line project;
 - c. Impairment of Mr. Schrier's property rights, including his ownership interests and his rights of access to his property, without the Applicants showing or proving any right, privilege or license to block, use or dig up his property and Old County Road.
 - d. The illegal attempt by the Applicants to use the SEC to act or rule in such a manner as to take Mr. Schrier's property and the property of Old County Road abutters without their consent and without any right having been granted to the SEC to exercise or use the State of New Hampshire's power of eminent domain and without any ability in the SEC to award compensation or damages to Mr. Schrier and those similarly situated.
 - e. The illegal attempt by the Applicants to use the SEC to act or rule in such a manner as to take Mr. Schrier's property and the property of other Old

County Road abutters without their consent and without any right in the Applicants to exercise or use the State of New Hampshire's power of eminent domain for their proposed project.

- f. Infliction of damage to wetlands on and near Mr. Schrier's Stewartstown property.
- g. Temporary loss of use and enjoyment of Mr. Schrier's property due to the Applicants' digging up and closure of Old County Road and the noise and movement of construction vehicles and equipment passing by within a few hundred feet of Mr. Schrier's residence.
- h. Loss of esthetic and scenic values of the greater Stewartstown,
 Clarksville and Pittsburg local and regional environment that forms the highly
 valuable Great North Woods Tourism Region backdrop for their property,
 including the Connecticut River, the Connecticut River Scenic and Cultural
 Byway, the Indian Stream Republic, the Washburn Family Forest, the Moose
 Path Trail and Coleman State Park.
- i. Loss of the esthetic, cultural and scenic values of nearby cemeteries on or under Old County Road. One of those nearby cemeteries is known as the burial place of the Native American Metallak who is celebrated on New Hampshire Historic Marker #47 on the Moose Path Trail. The Marker reads: "Hunter, trapper, fisherman, and guide, well and favorably known by the region's early settlers. 'The Lone Indian of the Magalloway' was the last survivor of a band of Abenaki inhabiting the Upper Androscoggin. Blinded by accidents, Metallak died a town charge in 1847 at the reputed age of 120."
- 9. Mr. Schrier also believe and contends that the SEC does not have jurisdiction to take action or to grant the Applicants any relief that damages or impairs his

property interests or which purports to resolve or affect the private property disputes between him and the Applicants with respect to the use of Old County Road.

10. Mr. Schrier therefore wishes to intervene to make his claims and interest known and to prevent the Applicants from using or contending in any court proceedings that this SEC administrative law proceeding in any way deprives Mr. Schrier of his rights to have his property dispute with the Applicants resolved in a court of law by a jury of his peers pursuant to the provisions of Article 20 of the New Hampshire Constitution Bill of Rights, which provides as follows:

"In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons except those in which another practice is and has been customary and except those in which the value in controversy does not exceed \$1,500 and no title to real estate is involved, the parties have a right to a trial by jury. This method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless, in cases arising on the high seas and in cases relating to mariners' wages, the legislature shall think it necessary hereafter to alter it."

WHEREFORE, David Schrier respectfully request that the SEC issue an order granting his petition for intervention and granting such other and further relief as it deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID SCHRIER

/s/Alan Robert Baker

By_____

Alan Robert Baker His Attorney 481 Meriden Hill Road North Stratford NH 03590 Email: abobbaker@aol.com

Tel. (603) 922-5571

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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has b	oeen	sent	via ele	ctroni	c mail	or firs	t class	mail t	o the	parties	name	d in the	Service
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/s/Alan Robert Baker	
Alan Robert Baker	