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January 26, 2016

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

RE: SEC Docket No. 2015-06 PETITION FOR INTERVENTION

Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy

Dear Ms. Monroe:

As Grafton County Commissioners we are acting on behalf of our citizens who will be impacted by the Northern Pass project as presently proposed. Thus, we are petitioning the Site Evaluation Committee to grant us intervention status in the proceedings for the above-mentioned docket.

Thirty two point eight per cent (32.8%) or sixty-three (63) miles of the proposed route lies within Grafton County. Of these, eleven (11) miles will be <u>overhead</u> lines. In the towns of Bethlehem – 4.9 miles, Bridgewater – 2 miles, Ashland – 1.6 miles, and Bristol – 2.5 miles will all be adversely affected with these unsightly towers and overhead lines. These towns will be <u>negatively</u> affected by this project for the following reasons:

- Property value loss and the impact on the tax base due to property value loss
- Health and safety issues due to EMF's
- Destruction and disturbance on the owners' land and property
- Probable loss of "bucolic" way of life as had been known
- View sheds and aesthetics
- Noise during and after construction
- The dangers associated with the fall radius
- Effect on economic stability of areas affected
- Probable expansion of the PSNH easement use beyond what was originally intended in the transmission line's location

COMMISSIONERS

In addition, there will be major disruptions in the Main Streets in the towns of Franconia, Woodstock, and Plymouth with significant economic impact to businesses along these routes.

In general, we are very concerned with the overall deleterious effect of the project on the County's general well-being and economic health. As Grafton County Commissioners, we take our duty to represent our citizens with their concerns and specific interests very seriously and to the best of our abilities. For these reasons, we ask that the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee grant us intervention status as requested.

Thank you for your consideration of our petition.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Michael J. Cryans Chairman

Martha &

Martha B. Richards Vice-Chairman

Vula-

Linda D. Lauer Clerk