THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE


Docket No. 2015-06

Petition To Intervene By The Town Of Deerfield,
Acting through Its Board Of Selectmen And Planning Board

The Town of Deerfield, acting through its Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, (collectively, the “Town”) respectfully petitions the Site Evaluation Committee to intervene in these proceedings, in accordance with RSA 541-A:32 and N.H. Admin. Rule Site 202.11. In support of the petition, the Town states:

1. On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (the “Applicants”) filed an application for a Certificate of Site and Facility with the Site Evaluation Committee for construction of a new high voltage transmission line (the “Project”).

2. The Project will pass through 7.3 miles of Deerfield. In addition to the new overhead lines, the Project will include 85 new structures in Deerfield, many between 115’ to 140’ in height. The terminal substation will be located in Deerfield. The Project accordingly will have a significant impact on Deerfield’s character and property and its orderly development. Therefore, the Town has a substantial interest in the Project.

3. RSA 162-H:16 IV (b) requires the Committee to consider the views of municipal planning commissions and municipal governing bodies on the Project’s impact on the orderly growth of the region. The Deerfield Planning Board, through the Deerfield Master Plan, Zoning
Ordinance, and Site Plan Review Regulations, has developed a plan for the orderly growth of Deerfield, and should therefore be provided the opportunity to present testimony and evidence on the Project’s impact. The Board of Selectmen is the governing body of Deerfield, and similarly has an interest in the orderly growth of Deerfield.

4. RSA 162-H: 16 IV (c) requires the Committee to determine that the Project “will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water quality, the natural environment, and public health and safety.” The Deerfield Planning Board and the Deerfield Board of Selectmen, as the local planning commission and the governing body, are the local governmental bodies having municipal responsibilities for those issues and therefore can assist the Commission, through their participation as intervenors, in assessing the impact of the Project on Deerfield.

5. By obtaining intervenor status, the Town, through its Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, will have standing to present testimony and evidence to assist the Committee on these matters. RSA 162-H:6-a VII.

6. Because of the Project potential impact on Deerfield, the interests of justice will be served by allowing the Town’s intervention. Similarly, as the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board have municipal information and knowledge that will be useful to the Commission, the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by granting the Town’s request. See N.H. Admin. Rule Site 202.11 (b)(3).

Therefore, the Town of Deerfield, acting through its Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, respectively requests that the Site Evaluation Committee:

A. Grant the Town of Deerfield’s petition to intervene in these proceedings, and
B. Grant such other relief as may be just.

Dated: February 1, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

The Town of Deerfield

By the Deerfield Board of Selectmen

By: Stephen R. Barry, Chairman

and

By The Deerfield Planning Board

By: Frederick McGarry, P.E.

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Deerfield, NH 03037
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Certificate of Service

The Town of Deerfield certifies that copies of this petition were mailed to the persons on the attached list on this date.

The Town of Deerfield

By its Board of Selectmen

By: Stephen R. Barry, Chairman

and

By The Deerfield Planning Board

By: Frederick J. McGarry, P.E.