

Town of Whitefield Planning Board
56 Littleton Road
Whitefield, NH 03598
whitefielddtax@ne.rr.com

February 2, 2016

PETITION TO INTERVENE

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 033012429

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC")
Docket No. 201506 Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe:

The Town of Whitefield Planning Board 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 Whitefield Planning Board states:

1. On October 1, 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 10.4 miles of Whitefield. In addition to the new overhead lines, the Project will include 77 new structures in Whitefield, several reaching heights of over 100 feet. These structures will be well above both the tree canopy and the wooden poles on the existing transmission right-of-way. The Whitefield Planning Board has great concern regarding the effect that the proposed Northern Pass Transmission Project would have on our town. The Project accordingly will have a significant impact on Whitefield's character and property and its orderly development.
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 Whitefield Planning Board, through the Whitefield Master Plan and Comprehensive Development Guide, has developed a plan for the orderly growth of Whitefield, and should therefore be provided the opportunity to present testimony and evidence on the Project's impact.
4. RSA 162-H: 16IV (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 Whitefield Planning Board has a municipal responsibility for those issues and therefore can assist the Commission, through our participation as intervenors, in assessing the impact of the Project on Whitefield.

5. By obtaining intervenor status, the Whitefield 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 Whitefield, the interest of justice will be served by allowing the Town's intervention. Similarly, the Planning Board has municipal information and knowledge that will be useful for 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 Whitefield Planning Board respectfully requests that the Site Evaluation Committee:

- A. Grant the Whitefield Planning Board's petition to intervene in these proceedings, and
- B. Grant such other relief as may be just.

Sincerely,

Everett W. Kennedy Alan W. Steadman
Frank [Signature]
Scott Burns

The Whitefield Planning Board

Cc: SEC distribution list of Docket No. 2015-06. Copies sent by email.