PETITION TO INTERVENE

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

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord NH 03301-2429

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC")
Docket No. 2015-06 Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe:

We respectfully request to intervene in the SEC’s proceedings under Docket No. 2015-06 relating to the proposed Northern Pass transmission line. Per the SEC’s regulations, we are sending this request to you, with copies to the SEC’s distribution list for this proceeding as noted in the “cc” below. In support of our petition, we state the following:

1. We moved to Deerfield 45 years ago. We were drawn here for the rural character and charm of Deerfield, NH and that it was a wonderful place to raise our three children. Our home is a traditional New England farmhouse (c 1840) with 50 acres of open fields, forests and a special wetland. We have expansive views to the south across the wetland to the North Ridge of Pawtuckaway Mountain. This is our retirement home now. We travel regularly within Deerfield and between our home and the cities of Manchester, Concord and Portsmouth, NH as part of our daily and weekly activities.

2. Northern Pass Transmission LLC, ("Northern Pass"), the Applicant, seeks permission to site a new 345 kV transmission line facility running from Pittsburg, NH to Deerfield, NH for approximately 192 miles. If permitted and built, the Northern Pass proposed transmission line facility would run overhead through Deerfield, NH for about 7.5 miles.

3. The proposed Northern Pass transmission line would be built on an existing 200 ft wide right of way ("ROW") held by the Applicant, Public Service of New Hampshire, dba Eversource ("PSNH") and placed on transmission towers significantly higher than presently exist. The new transmission line structures would be as high as 140 ft or more. The ROW is 800 ft from our house.
4. Today there are two 115 kV transmission lines running over the ROW. To accommodate the proposed 345 kV transmission line, one of the 115 kV transmission lines will be removed and re-established on a new line of higher poles to increase its distance from the 345 kV transmission line by 15 ft.

5. The ROW that Northern Pass states it intends to use to site its transmission line and to conduct its other activities runs for 1200 ft over our 10 acre hayfield and across a wetland with which we share ownership with two neighbors.

6. Our particular rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests will be affected by the SEC’s Northern Pass proceedings in numerous ways, including but not limited to the following:

   • Adverse Visual Impact – From our living space the view is directly to the south and across the ROW to North Mountain in Pawtuckaway State Park. New towers and poles will exceed the height of the current poles and the treeline, creating a view of transmission towers and poles in the foreground and North Mountain in the background. Bundled transmission lines will be prominent in the view.

   • Severe Damage to Wetland – The wetland referenced above is identified as DF31 in the Northern Pass application to the SEC. It is a high quality wetland that provides extensive habitat for amphibians, reptiles and other wildlife. Blanding’s Turtle, a NH Endangered Species, is prominent here. The construction activities planned in this sensitive wetland to erect and maintain the Northern Pass transmission line are significant and will irreparably harm it.

   • Significant loss of the value of our entire property

   • Infliction of damage to, and loss of, wildlife habitat on our property for New Hampshire Species of Greatest Conservation Need, including without limitation the Endangered Blanding’s Turtle and the Threatened American Marten.

   • Violation of and expansion of the terms and conditions of the easement held by PSNH beyond that which was originally intended by the parties to the point of the proposed use becoming unreasonable.

   • Infliction of damage to our hayfield and Tree Farm from heavy construction vehicles traveling over our property. Loss of “danger” trees along the ROW.

   • Loss of enjoyment and scenic, historic and cultural value of our property.

   • Infliction of damage and temporary loss of use and enjoyment of our property due to the noise and movement of construction vehicles and equipment.
• Loss of esthetic, historic and scenic values of the greater Deerfield and regional environment that forms the highly valuable scenic, historic and cultural backdrop for our property.

• Infliction of potential health and safety hazards and fears imposed upon us and other users of our property by virtue of the new proposed transmission towers having fall zones outside the existing ROW.

• In our local travels we will forever encounter the Northern Pass transmission line in several locations subjecting us to the stark visual impact of massive steel towers and the feeling that our once small country town has been industrialized.

7. Erick B Berglund Jr and Kathleen A Berglund reserve all rights, powers and privileges in respect of this matter. Nothing in this petition is intended to operate as a waiver of any right, power or privilege of us. A failure or delay in exercising any right, power or privilege in respect of this matter shall not be presumed to operate as a waiver, and a single or partial exercise of any right, power or privilege shall not be presumed to preclude any subsequent or further exercise, of that right, power or privilege or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege.

8. As we have demonstrated above, our interests as affected property owners are direct and substantial and are distinct from the interests of the public at large. Allowing this intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, and would help to serve the interests of justice. We respectfully request that the SEC grant our Petition for Intervention and granting such other and further relief as it deems appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,

Erick B Berglund Jr
Date: Feb 4, 2016

Kathleen A Berglund
Date: Feb 4, 2016

Cc: SEC distribution list for Docket No. 2015-06