



DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Deerfield, New Hampshire 03037

Via First Class Mail and email  
([Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov](mailto:Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov))

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

February 4, 2016

Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-06, Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a/ Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed is the Petition for Intervention by the Deerfield Conservation Commission in the “*Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a/ Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility*” before the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC Docket No. 2015-06)”.

Copies of this letter and Petition have of this date been forwarded via email or mail to all parties on the email distribution list.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,  
Deerfield Conservation Commission

Katherine Hartnett  
Acting Chair

Deerfield Conservation Commission  
PO Box 159  
Deerfield, NH 03037  
603 463 5504

cc: Service List via email or first class mail

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**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE (SEC)**

**Docket No. 2015-06**

**Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC & Public Service Company of  
New Hampshire d/b/a/ Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility**

**PETITION FOR INTERVENTION BY**  
**DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Petitioner, Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC), respectfully petitions the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) to grant it leave to intervene in these proceedings.

In support of its Petition, DCC states:

- 1) The mission of the Deerfield Conservation Commission is as follows: *“With the preservation of open spaces and the protection of our natural resources and wetlands in mind, the Deerfield Conservation Commission works to provide for the protection and appreciation of the magnificent beauty and heritage of Deerfield.”* That heritage is being especially recognized in 2016, as Deerfield’s citizens celebrate the Sestercentennial of 250 years since incorporation.
- 2) The Applicant Northern Pass Transmission LLC (“Northern Pass”) seeks permission to site a new high voltage transmission line facility running approximately 190 miles from Pittsburg to Deerfield, New Hampshire.
- 3) The Northern Pass transmission line facility, if permitted and built as proposed, would run overhead 7.5 miles across the entire central part of Deerfield, and terminate at the existing Deerfield substation. A major expansion of the substation is proposed, as well as additional line capacity expansion work in the 5.2 mile long corridor that brings that power south.
- 4) The new transmission line would be placed on lattice-type, galvanized steel transmission towers two or more times higher than presently exist. The new transmission line structures would be up to 130 feet high.
- 5) The Town of Deerfield has substantial interests that would be affected by the proposed facility.
- 6) DCC contends that the proposed project will have an unreasonably adverse effect on the natural resources, environmental quality, and quality of life within the Town of Deerfield, without compensating benefit.

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***by DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION***

- 7) DCC, individual landowners, and Lamprey Rivers Advisory Council (LRAC) members have documented multiple failures over years to adequately protect wetlands within and along access ways to the existing right of way, during and after previous field operations. (Ref. correspondence including without limitation LRAC letters to NH Department of Environmental Services (DES), dated 9 November 2015; DCC letter to SEC, dated 16 November 2015; and DCC letter to DES Wetlands Bureau, et al., dated 22 January 2016).
- 8) DCC's rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests will be affected by this proceeding in numerous ways, including but not limited to, the following:
  - a) temporary and/or permanent impact on wetlands, streams, vernal pools, forested wetlands, deep organic soils, and buffers to upland streams and vernal pools;
  - b) deterioration of shoreland along the Lamprey River;
  - c) deterioration of water quality;
  - d) endangering the local habitat for *New Hampshire Species of Greatest Conservation Need*, including without limitation the *Endangered* Blanding's Turtle, the *Threatened* Spotted Turtle and American Marten, and *Species of Special Concern* Wood Turtle and Smooth Green Snake;
  - e) potential to introduce and spread invasive flora and fauna;
  - f) negative impact on recreation use;
  - g) endangering wildlife and habitat both during construction and in ongoing operation and maintenance;
  - h) infliction of potential health and safety hazards and fears imposed upon townspeople and other users of Deerfield property;
  - i) loss of enjoyment and scenic and cultural value of property;
  - j) infliction of damage and temporary loss of use and enjoyment of property due to the noise and movement of construction vehicles and equipment passing via town roads;
  - k) loss of aesthetic, historic, and scenic values of Deerfield's local and regional environment, that form the highly valuable cultural setting for the Town, and support a local economy still dependent on environmental quality;
  - l) infliction of damage to the forest lands of Deerfield.
- 9) Allowing this intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, and would help to serve the interests of justice.
- 10) No other entities could articulate our specific interests and concerns in the proceedings for this docket as well as we could. DCC respectfully requests that the SEC grant its Petition for Intervention and granting such other and further relief as it deems appropriate.

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***by DEERFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION***

11) DCC reserves 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 DCC. 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deerfield Conservation Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine Hartnett", is written over a horizontal dashed line.

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Katherine Hartnett, Acting Chair

Deerfield Conservation Commission

PO Box 159

Deerfield, NH 03037

Date: 4 February 2016