

February 4, 2016

Ms. Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301 142 Main Street, Fifth Floor Nashua, NH 03060

Phone: 603-881-8333 Fax: 603-881-7323

www.nashuachamber.com

## Re: Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce Request for Intervener Status in Docket No. 2015-06

Dear Ms. Monroe,

Please accept this letter as our formal request for intervener status for the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce in the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee's proceedings in Docket No. 2015-06, related to the Northern Pass project. We make this request pursuant to NH Code of Administrative Rules, Site 202.11 and RSA 541-A:32.

Our Chamber represents over 600 businesses in the greater Nashua region of our state. Our mission is to be a primary catalyst for the success of Greater Nashua's diverse business community through advocacy, building connections and professional development. First in our strategic objectives is promoting a business friendly state and city; of primary importance to achieving that "business friendly state" is energy.

We believe that the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce has a direct interest in the outcome of this proceeding as the cost and availability of energy is consistently among the top 2 issues for our members, across all industries, for small, mid-sized and large businesses alike. Our intervention will not interfere with the orderly conduct of the proceedings.

Our Chamber's Board of Directors endorsed the Northern Pass project in 2012 and our position has not changed. We remain confident today that this project is in the best interests of New Hampshire, its businesses and its residents. Energy rates in New Hampshire are already high, well above the national average, and will only get worse in the future, unless significant steps being taken to improve the diversity of our energy sources and to create new transmission lines that can introduce new sources of clean energy. The Northern Pass project does both.

This project will bring in over 1000 megawatts of clean, low-cost hydropower to the regional energy grid and is projected to lower energy costs in New Hampshire by \$80 million annually, dollars that can be spent on growth instead of overhead. The purchase power agreement proposed by Northern Pass will help ensure additional energy savings to New Hampshire customers; other economic benefits include increased property tax revenue, 2,600 construction jobs and a \$200 million fund to support economic development efforts.

We request intervener status to ensure that the substantial energy and economic benefits of the Northern Pass project are fully considered during your proceedings.

Copies of this request have been forwarded via email to all parties on the distribution list posted on the NHSEC website as of today.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tracy S. Hatdy

President and CEO

cc: NHSEC Distribution List as of February 4, 2016 for Docket No. 2015-06