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February 4, 2016

PETITION TO INTERVENE

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

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

Dear Ms. Monroe:

I 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, I am directing this electronic request to you, with copies to the SEC's distribution list for this proceeding as noted in the "cc" below. I am also mailing a hard copy of this petition to you.

My particular rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests that may be adversely affected by the SEC's Northern Pass proceedings relate to two properties that I own in fee: 1) my business property at 28 Academy Street, Franconia NH 03580, specifically, Unit #1 of the Dow Academy Condominium, which I maintain as rental property; 2) my residence at 162 Loop Road, Easton NH 03580.

1. 28 Academy Street, Dow Academy Condo Unit #1, Franconia NH 03580

Initially built in 1884 and re-built in 1903, the Dow Academy was converted into a condominium in 1983. I am the fee owner of Unit #1, which is partially subgrade.

The building and grounds were nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1979 and accepted in 1982. The property abuts the latest version of Northern Pass's proposed route. On the final page of the NRHP nomination form, link following, the map shows the building to be approximately 185' from Church Street, Franconia, which is Route 116, site of an underground portion of the latest version of the Northern Pass route proposed to the SEC on October 19, 2015:

<http://focus.nps.gov/pdfhost/docs/NRHP/Text/82001675.pdf>

The proposed Northern Pass underground route along Rte. 116 would have no visual impact on the Dow building, but potential construction techniques (blasting) could threaten the integrity of the structure's foundation, which possibly dates to the first iteration of the academy in 1884. Blasting could not only damage an NRHP listed property, but, since the interior walls of Unit #1, situated in the northeast corner of the building, are part of the foundation, it could damage my unit, require relocation and reimbursement of tenants during repair, and possibly lead to the loss of their tenancy. This would create an unduly adverse effect upon my ability to conduct my rental business in an orderly manner.

The Dow building also houses the historic Dow Clock, now owned and recently repaired by the Town of Franconia: <http://www.franconianh.org/dow-clock.html>

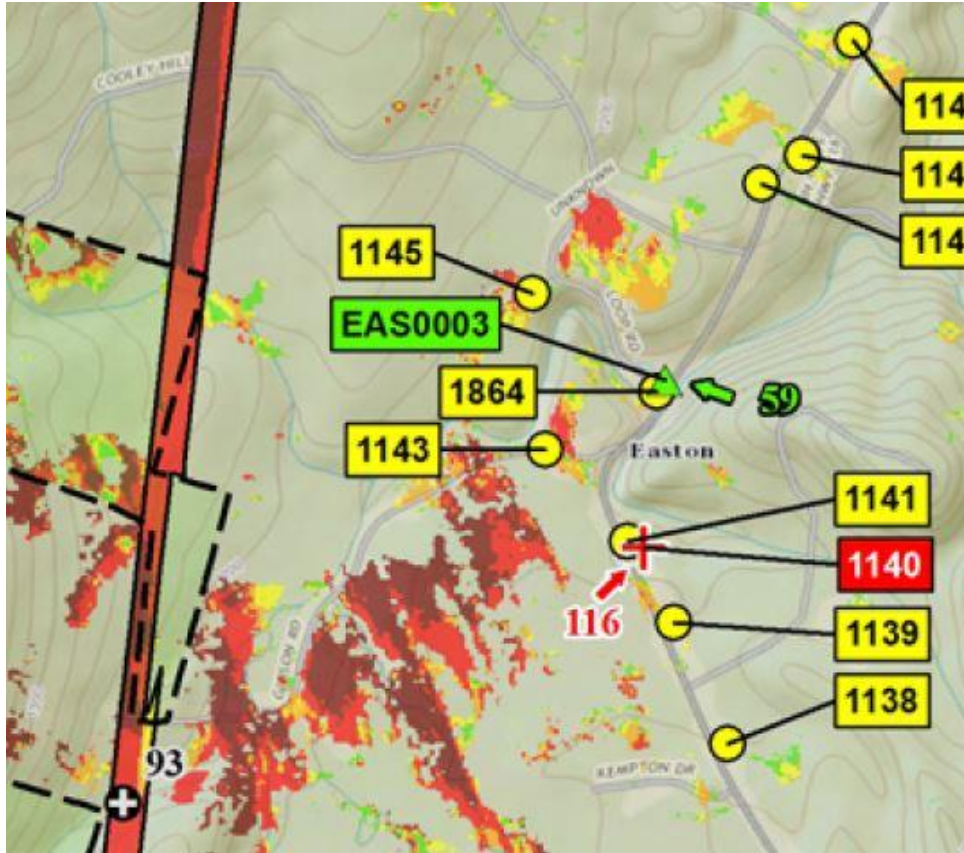
It too is vulnerable to damage from blasting for construction of the underground portion of Northern Pass along Rte. 116.

2. 162 Loop Road, Easton NH 03580

This property consists of my residence and approximately 200 acres of forest land (Easton Tax Map 3-5, 3-15, 3-16, 3-16A). The PSNH X-187 transmission line runs across the western side of this property on an easement granted in 1947 by a predecessor in title (PSNH Property Owner ID 3715, 3716, Northern Pass Mapbooks 88 and 89). The PSNH easement on my land is 225' wide (cleared to 150') and approximately 2800' long, or 0.53 mile, running from northwest to southeast, starting from an elevation of approximately 1500' and dropping down to approximately 1200'.

The current structures on this easement are wooden H-frame supports approximately 50' tall. These structures, shielded by tall white pines, create virtually no visual impact on my residence or upon the approximately 2 miles of recreational trails and other amenities we have created for us and our neighbors to enjoy the use of this property.

Until August 18, 2015, my property in Easton formed part of Northern Pass's preferred overhead route as part of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Alternative 2 (Draft EIS). Lattice towers up to 120' tall were proposed for our property. The visual consultant for the DOE-NHDHR Section 106 study, T. J. Boyle, created "Sketch Maps" showing leaf-on condition "zones of visual influence" (ZVI) within the "area of potential effect" (APE) along the full 187-mile length of the proposed project. In the area of my residence (#1145), the Boyle sketch map shows 21-40 (twenty-one to forty) towers visible (red zone) during leaf-on conditions – where no towers are currently visible year-round, leaf-on or leaf-off:



Sketch Map J at http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/Part_2_of_8_White_Mountains_Draft_PAF_REDACTED.pdf (Detail)

To my knowledge, this proposed route over my land, which still exists in the DOE's Draft EIS of July 2015 as Alternative 2, has never been officially withdrawn. Northern Pass "amended" its application to the DOE in September 2015, saying "it no longer supports" certain overhead portions of Alternative 2, and it did not submit this route to the SEC, but I have not been able to find any statement or other action that officially removes Alternative 2 from consideration. Therefore, I conclude that Alternative 2, which would cross my land with overhead towers and create undue adverse visual impact on my residence and recreational amenities where none exists today, is still potentially in play.

As outlined above, my property interests are unique and substantial. To combine my interests with those of others would limit my procedural rights and would hinder my ability to protect my property effectively, as is my statutory right.

Thank you for considering my petition.

Sincerely,

Susan Schibanoff
Susan Schibanoff

Cc: SEC distribution list for Docket No. 2015-06 as of February 4, 2016.

