



For a thriving New England

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Via Hand-Delivery and Email

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

February 5, 2016

Re: 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, NH Site Evaluation Committee Docket No. 2015-06

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Please find enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter the Petition to Intervene of Conservation Law Foundation, on behalf of itself and its members.

Copies of this letter and the attached Petition to Intervene have this day been forwarded via email to all parties on the Distribution List.

Thank you for your attention. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

Melissa E. Birchard

cc: Distribution List

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

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

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION

Conservation Law Foundation (“CLF”), pursuant to Site 202.11 and RSA 541-A:32, hereby petitions to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding before the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (“SEC” or “Committee”). On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire, doing business as Eversource Energy, filed a joint application for a certificate of site and facility in connection with a proposed 192-mile electric transmission line extending from Pittsburgh, New Hampshire to Deerfield, New Hampshire. By order of December 22, 2015, the Committee directed interested parties to seek intervention by February 5, 2016.

In support of its petition for intervention, CLF states as follows:

1. CLF is a private, non-profit environmental membership organization dedicated to the protection and responsible use of New England’s natural resources, including resources affected by the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power. CLF has over 4,100 members, approximately 500 of whom reside in New Hampshire, including members in at least eight of the towns in the path of the proposed Northern Pass transmission line.
2. Consistent with its mission to promote thriving, resilient communities, CLF is dedicated to advancing solutions that strengthen New England’s – and New Hampshire’s –

environmental and economic vitality. CLF has extensive expertise concerning energy projects and markets. As a participant in the NEPOOL stakeholder process, CLF has participated in the formation and refinement of New England's energy markets and planning of the region's electric transmission grid. CLF's involvement in New Hampshire energy matters has spanned the past two decades and includes intervention in numerous dockets before the state's Public Utilities Commission, such as: DR 97-211, DE 01-057, DE 07-064, DE 08-103, DE 08-145, DE 09-033, DE 10-160; DE 10-188; DE 11-215; DE 11-250; DE 13-108; and DE 13-275, DE 14-120, DE 14-238, DE 15-124, IR 15-124, and IR 15-137.

3. Intervention before the SEC is supported by "facts demonstrating that the petitioner's rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests might be affected." Site 202.11(b)(2). As demonstrated herein, CLF and its members have a substantial interest in this proceeding, and many of CLF's members will be directly affected by its outcome. *See id.* In addition, CLF's participation will be in the interests of justice and will aid the committee's decision-making. *See id.* at 202.11(b)(3).
4. CLF has a deep familiarity with the proposed project and has been involved in legal, technical and economic analysis of the project for the more than five years, when the original permit applications were made with the U.S. Department of Energy. Among other things, CLF's engagement with this project has included the submission of seven sets of written comments on the project's Presidential Permit application to cross the international border. CLF is also a consulting party in the Department of Energy's consultations with stakeholders under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

5. CLF's members include residents of New England, and New Hampshire in particular, who will or may be affected by the transmission line proposed in this proceeding, including residents of communities in the line's proposed path, as well as those who can be expected to pay for and otherwise be affected by the electric power that the line is proposed to transmit.
6. CLF and its members have long been concerned with the potential environmental, economic, and health impacts of meeting the region's current and future energy needs. CLF strives to enhance the clean energy public policies of the New England states to facilitate the development of clean energy sources. For decades, CLF has been active at state utility and siting commissions, ISO-New England ("ISO-NE"), and before federal agencies advocating for policies that advance clean energy including demand-side resources, non-transmission alternatives, and renewables including solar and wind.
7. CLF's expert participation will enhance the Committee's thorough review of the project application. CLF intends to submit evidence and analysis on subjects relative to, inter alia: the adverse effects of the proposed project on the environment and communities, state and regional energy needs, and the public interest.
8. CLF is concerned that the Northern Pass project as proposed will have substantial impacts on the state and the region, will impose harms on our communities including but not limited to landscape fragmentation, habitat impacts, and climate impacts, and that it is not in the public interest. Consequently, CLF seeks full intervenor status. CLF appreciates the opportunity this proceeding provides to offer rigorous analysis of the impacts of the proposed project.
9. CLF's participation will neither delay nor disrupt the instant proceedings.

WHEREFORE, Conservation Law Foundation respectfully requests that the Committee grant its petition to intervene in Docket No. 2015-06.

Respectfully submitted,

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION

BY: 

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February 5, 2016

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Docket No. 2015-06


Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC
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APPEARANCE

Please enter my Appearance for Conservation Law Foundation in the above-captioned docket, *SEC 2015-06, Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility*. I am an attorney in good standing and duly licensed to practice law in Washington, D.C. (D.C. Bar No. 991264; U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, Bar No. 54766), with an application pending in New Hampshire. I agree to adhere to the Committee's rules of practice and procedure and to adhere to any orders of the Committee or agreements between the parties in the docket, including orders or agreements addressing confidentiality. I will represent the interests of Conservation Law Foundation in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION

BY: _____

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February 5, 2016

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Appearance has on this 5th day of February 2016 been sent by email to the service list in Docket No. 2015-06.



Melissa E. Birchard, Staff Attorney
Conservation Law Foundation