

Petition to Intervene

Via Email

To: Pamela Monroe, Administrator
NH Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC")
pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov

cc: Distribution list below

Re: **Petition to Intervene, 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

Dear Ms. Monroe:

We, the Webster family, 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.

We are a group of eleven cousins, all of whom are property owners in Bridgewater, NH. Our individual holdings total roughly 300 acres, running from the shores of the Pemigewasset to high on the shoulder of Bridgewater Hill. Our individual names are below and our addresses are provided on the attached Exhibit A. We share an abiding interest in the wellbeing of both the town of Bridgewater and the river beside which we reside.

Our particular rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests that may be affected by the SEC's Northern Pass proceedings include the following:

1. Abutting the Ashland route. The property of Webster Farms includes riverfront on the Pemi and is directly across the river from the property over which the NHPS transmission easement runs and on which the Northern Pass towers would be constructed.
2. Webster Farms marked in Northern Pass route map. The Webster Farms property contains historic structures built in the early 19th century, including the former Webster Tavern. Built as a farmhouse in 1806, from 1818-1860 the Tavern served travelers on the horse-drawn carriage route from Boston. Webster Farms is marked with a number in a map that is part of the Section 106 process to identify affected historical properties and archeological resources. The property is marked as 688 in a yellow box on the Sketch Map C on page 9 of "Project Area Form: Lakes Region Part 2 of 7" of the Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Section 106 Documents. The fact that Webster Farms was flagged in the route planning process speaks to our proximity to the route, and to the close involvement of our interests.
3. Visibility of towers. The towers will be visible from most of our properties. This would negatively affect our property values and our enjoyment of the landscape in which we live.
4. Recreation along the Pemigewasset. We use the affected segment of the Pemi recreationally, for swimming, boating, and fishing. We hike along the Pemi, and participate in a snowmobile club, which maintains & improves paths through Bridgewater, including 2 main corridors that meet within 1/4 mile of where the proposed route comes out of the ground, and a

trail which rides right under the proposed towers, then follows the opposite side of the river down to Sawhegenet Falls. Our enjoyment of these activities will be permanently marred by the sight of the towers and by any environmental damage from the installation and maintenance of the line.

5. Daily impact of Bridgewater transition station and towers. The Northern Pass project is proposing to bring transmission lines out from underground, and up onto overhead towers at the intersection of Daniel Webster Highway/Route 3 and John Jenness Road. There would also be a transition station built at this location. The intersection is 2.8 miles from our properties, and our main route to Ashland and Route 93. Most of us would pass the transition station and the towers coming from it on a daily basis.

6. Possibility of further underground route change on Bridgewater side. It is reasonable to anticipate the possibility of a subsequent change in the proposed route, especially given the relatively recent change which brought the route from transmission towers in Holderness to underground sections through Plymouth. Our concern is that the route might change again to take in further underground sections along the River Road. If there were to be further underground sections from the proposed transition point at Route 3 and John Jenness Road and going south under the River Road, these would negatively impact not only the Webster Tavern (fewer than 5 yards from the road) but the Webster Cross Cemetery (fewer than 3 yards from the road), where many of our family members are buried. We also note that there are significant engineering obstacles to such a route given the sharp curves and steep banks of the road, very close to the river. To be clear, we have substantive interests in opposing the current route; we also note here that an underground route along the River Road would have a seriously negative impact on us. We believe that Northern Pass should either not be built at all or should follow alternative 4a, full burial along I93, as suggested by the DOE.

7. The Pemigewasset. The Pemi is a State-protected river, which itself ought to be reason enough for it to be free from towers which would not only crisscross it multiple times, but which are so tall as loom over it, even in places where they do not cross. Our family settled beside the Pemi in the 1790s, and has remained in the area ever since. As adjacent neighbors to the Pemi, we feel a responsibility toward stewardship of the river. Sections close to us, including Sawhegenet Falls, remain wild in appearance, as they have for centuries. For many of us personally, the river is a place where we go to connect with that environment. The continuing wildness of sections of the Pemi is an invaluable resource not only for our family and community, but for all New Hampshire residents and visitors.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,

The Webster Family

Contact person for the Webster family: Ellen Webster Faran
ewfaran@gmail.com

/s/ Charlotte Crane

Charlotte Crane

/s/ Ellen Webster Faran

Ellen Webster Faran

/s/ George Faran

George Faran

/s/ Judith L. Faran

Judith L. Faran

/s/ Cynthia Crane Fisher

Cynthia Crane Fisher

/s/ William Fisher

William Fisher

/s/ Suzanne Crane Gilman

Suzanne Gilman

/s/ George A. Gilman

George A. Gilman

/s/ Margaret Mumford

Margaret Mumford

/s/ Christopher Mumford

Christopher Mumford

/s/ Heather Townsend

Heather Townsend

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Family names and addresses

Exhibit B: Photographs of current landscape (3 pages)

Copies to the SEC distribution list (as of this email date)

cc:

Martin.honigberg@puc.nh.gov;Craig.Wright@des.nh.gov;kate.bailey@puc.nh.gov;christopher.way@dred.state.nh.us;woldenburg@dot.state.nh.us;weathersbylawpllc@gmail.com;rwhitaker@ccsnh.edu;Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov;miacopino@brennanlenehan.com;jody.carmody@puc.nh.gov;ldore@brennanlenehan.com;cmunroe@brennanlenehan.com;Brian.buonamano@doj.nh.gov;Jeremy.walker@mclane.com;Barry.needleman@mclane.com;Adam.dumville@mclane.com;Rebecca.walkley@mclane.com;Thomas.getz@mclane.com;dbisbee@devinemillimet.com;marvin.bellis@eversource.com;Christopher.allwarden@eversource.com;Elizabeth.maldonado@eversource.com;Robert.clarke@eversource.com;Laura.maynard@doj.nh.gov;Peter.roth@doj.nh.gov;dawn.gagnon@mclane.com;denise.frazier@mclane.com;tpappas@primmer.com;eemerson@primmer.com;Viggo.fish@mclane.com;russ.kelly@eversource.com;Sevans-brown@nhpr.org;Collis.adams@des.nh.gov;cindykudlik@hotmail.com;elaineplanchet@nhacc.org;drwarner@ncia.net;tbamford@nccouncil.org;Susan.schibanoff@unh.edu;Eric.feldbaum@dred.nh.gov;tmassland@ranspell.com;Caroline.bone@db.com;manzelli@nhlandlaw.com;bill.gegas@dred.nh.gov;dpacik@concordnh.gov;reimers@nhlandlaw.com;amorris@cmonitor.com;higherground@wildblue.net;Gregory.Reiss@mlp.com;saholz@myfairpoint.net;steverselectperson@gmail.com;connorsmargo@gmail.com;cfillmore@townandcitylaw.com;Meredith.hatfield@nh.gov;Tracey.boisvert@nh.gov;cjensen@nhpr.org;edithtucker@ne.rr.com;dhartford@clf.org;mbirchard@clf.org;william.carpenter@dred.nh.gov;Caroline.bone@db.com;spenney@plymouth-nh.org;bos@townofdeerfieldnh.com;nancy.martland@gmail.com;erickb@metrocast.net;sandydannis@gmail.com;townadmin@townofbristolnh.org;kleindienstm@gmail.com;abobbaker@aol.com;bruceahern@roadrunner.com;Kkspencerbwi161@gmail.com;lmrapp@lmrapp.com;Thad.presby@presbyc.com;ashlandconcom@gmail.com;dbklogging@myfairpoint.net;yarge@comcast.net;krispastoriza@gmail.com;Roy.stever@gmail.com

Exhibit A to the Webster family petition letter

Names and addresses of the Webster family group

Charlotte Crane

Webster Farms
1868 River Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Ellen Webster Faran

Webster Farms
1868 River Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

George Faran

1788 River Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Judith L. Faran

42 Bridgewater Hill Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Cynthia Crane Fisher

William Fisher

168 Hammond Hill Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Suzanne Crane Gilman

George A. Gilman

1892 River Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Margaret Crane Mumford

Christopher Mumford

115 Highland Street
PO Box 451
Plymouth NH 03264

Heather Townsend

1896 River Road
Bridgewater
Plymouth NH 03264

Exhibit B: Photographs of the current landscape

Three photographs:

a) From Sawhegenet Falls looking south along the Pemigewasset to Webster Farms property



b) From Webster Farms property just south of Sawhegenet Falls looking east at the property over which the NHPS easement runs, and on which the Northern Pass towers would be built



c) From the shoulder of Bridgewater Hill looking east across Webster family land toward the proposed Northern Pass tower route; the snow-covered Pemigewasset is seen mid-way up the image, with I-93 just visible above it

