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**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2016 1:58 PM

**To:** Monroe, Pamela

**Subject:** SEC Docket No. 2015-16 Northern Pass- BethlehemObjectionstoNPSiteVisitAnswer

Dear Ms. Monroe:

During the March 8 Site Visit that the SEC made to Bethlehem, SEC members had a question about Transition Station #5. The Applicants provided an answer. Attached is Bethlehem's objection to that response, along with some input and questions.

Our letter is dated May 27 because it took a while for some of the boards to meet and review the letter.

This has been sent to the Distribution List revised on 6/9/16.

Thank you,

Cheryl Jensen, Co-Chair, Bethlehem Conservation Commission

# TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



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May 27, 2016

Pamela Monroe  
Site Evaluation Committee

Re: Docket No. 2015-06, The Town of Bethlehem's Objections to the Applicants' Responses to the Site Evaluation Committee Members' Questions During the March 8, 2016 Site Visit

Dear Ms. Monroe:

The Town of Bethlehem (Bethlehem Selectboard, Conservation Commission and Planning Board) would like to raise several issues regarding an answer given to the following question about visual impacts asked during the site visit to Transition Station #5 in Bethlehem.

*Q: How will the Transition Station #5 be screened from Route 302?*

*A: Final planting plans have not been designed for the transition station. There is an opportunity to provide screening, using non-capable species between the transition station and the roadway, avoiding the underground conductor and the existing overhead line.*

We are at a loss to understand how it will be possible to "screen" a Transition Station which will be 80 feet, almost eight stories, high. There will be a building on the site as well.

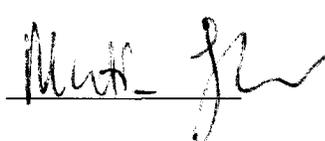
We would the Applicants to define specifically what they mean by "non-capable" species. Perhaps the Applicants would like to provide information about which species it is considering, what the height of the trees would be at planting, and how long it is expected to take for them to grow to 80 feet.

When they are planted, will they be high enough to screen the chain link fence surrounding the Transition Station? The fence is supposed to be 8 feet high and then topped by 1 foot of barbed wire.

Also, the Site Evaluation Committee members may not be aware that, in addition to the Transition Station planned for the site, it will be virtually flanked by two Towers, one of which will be 95 feet high and another of which will be 105 feet high.

How do the Applicants plan to screen those, or are there no plans to do so?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bus", written over a horizontal line.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bus", written over a horizontal line.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meryl Jensen", written over a horizontal line.