



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner

August 15, 2016

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

Subject: Northern Pass Transmission, LLC & Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy – Docket No. 2015-06

Dear Ms. Monroe:

I am writing in regards to the Department of Transportation's review of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's application to the NH Site Evaluation Committee (Docket No. 2015-06). The original SEC order accepting the application was issued on December 18, 2015. Per RSA 162-H:7 VI-c, all state agencies having permitting authority shall make and submit to the committee a final decision relating to its permitting and other regulatory authority no later than 240 days after the application has been accepted. In this case the regulatory date for final decision is August 15, 2016. On June 15, 2016, the SEC issued an Order on Motions to Suspend. Per this order, the Subcommittee shall issue a Final Order and Decision denying or granting the application by September 30, 2017. The order also authorizes the Presiding Officer of the Subcommittee to review and rule upon any proper request for suspension of the deadlines set forth in RSA 162-H:7, VI-b and RSA 162-H:7, VI-c from the state agencies to which such deadlines apply.

The Department has been meeting with the applicant on a monthly basis for the last several months. The applicant is currently obtaining geotechnical and survey information within the proposed corridor in order to more fully develop the design within the State highways. The Department has issued excavation permits for that exploratory work within the right-of-way. That information is necessary for the Department to determine if the proposed route can be accommodated. The most recent schedule provided to the Department with respect to submissions for the Department's review and approval anticipates the final submission by the applicant in mid-December. Given the complexity of the project and the potential impacts to the transportation system, the Department anticipates that at least 10 weeks will be required to review and determine the conditions to be included within the Use and Occupancy Agreement, excavation permits, driveway permits, crossing agreements and licenses.

Therefore, the Department of Transportation respectfully requests a suspension of the deadline set forth in RSA 162-H:7, VI-c to February 28, 2017.

Sincerely,

Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

cc: D. Rodrigue
S. Winters
M. Esterberg