

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

August 23, 2016

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources 19 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH 03301-3570 TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964 www.nh.gov/nhdhr

603-271-3483 603-271-3558 FAX 603-271-3433 preservation@dcr.nh.gov

Pamela Monroe
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 (RPR # 1448)

Dear Ms. Monroe:

I am writing in regards to the Division of Historical Resource'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 or regulator authority shall make and submit to the committee a final decision relating to their 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 Division has been meeting with the applicant on a monthly basis for the last several months as part of its consultation under a Memorandum of Understanding executed 12/4/15 that outlines a number of steps that will facilitate in the identification of historic properties within the project area. Identification is ongoing at this time for both above-ground and below-ground properties. Eversource Energy has also hired a Cultural Resources Manager to assist in the historic review process; which was also a stipulation of the MOU. The Division is anticipating a large amount of additional information submitted on the identification of historic properties in the coming months and will require significant additional time to fully evaluate it. The Division's final report will be more comprehensive given a greater number of identified historic properties with the project area.

Therefore, the Division of Historical Resources respectfully requests a suspension of the deadline set forth in RSA 162-H:7, VI-c to March 1, 2017.

Sincerely,

Nadine Miller

Preservation Project Reviewer