

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

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 for the Construction of a New High Voltage Transmission Line in New Hampshire

Docket No. 2015-06

**MUNICIPAL GROUPS 1 SOUTH, 2, 3 SOUTH, 3 NORTH'S MOTION TO EXTEND
DEADLINE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PREFILED TESTIMONY**

Municipal Intervenor Groups 1 South, 2, 3 South, 3 North (collectively "the Parties") submit this motion to extend the deadline to file supplemental prefiled testimony, stating as follows:

1. On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (collectively, the "Applicants"), submitted a Joint Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (the "Application") to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (the "Committee" or "SEC") to construct a 192-mile transmission line to run through New Hampshire from the Canadian border in Pittsburg to Deerfield (the "Project").

2. The Committee issued a Procedural Order in this docket on June 23, 2016, which Order has been modified several times. The current Procedural Order, dated January 26, 2017, establishes February 20-28, 2017 as the time period to conduct Technical Sessions for a number of parties to this docket on a number of topical areas ("January 26th Procedural Order"). The January 26th Procedural Order also sets forth the following discovery deadlines pertinent to this motion: deadline to file Supplemental Prefiled Testimony, March 15, 2017; deadline to file Prehearing Motions, Stipulations of Fact, etc., March 20, 2017; and the Prehearing Conference,

March 28-29, 2017. (“the Deadlines”). The Parties move to extend the Deadlines for the reasons stated below.

3. Due to the size and scope of the Project, the number of Intervenors participating, and the respective witnesses for each, the February 20-28th Technical Session will not be completed within that timeframe. By way of example, Mr. Sansoucy’s technical session, on behalf of the Parties to the within motion, is currently set for Monday, March 13, 2017; Beth Fenstermacher, Candace Bouchard, Gail Matson, Kristine Tardiff, Jan McClure, Rick Van de Poll, on behalf of the City of Concord, are currently set for March 16, 2017; upon information and belief, Harry Dodson and Ray Lobdell’s technical sessions, on behalf of the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests, is currently scheduled for March 14 or 17, 2017. There may be additional Technical Sessions being scheduled subsequent to the February 20-28th period that the Parties are not aware of. In comparison to the Deadlines noted above, these delayed Technical Sessions are currently scheduled to be conducted shortly before and also subsequent to the March 15th deadline to file supplemental testimony, immediately preceding the March 20th deadline to file Prehearing motions, and within two weeks of the March 28-29th Prehearing Conference.

4. The January 26th Procedural Schedule contemplated far more time between the end of the Technical Sessions and the Deadlines noted herein. More specifically, fifteen (15) days from the end of the February 20-28th Technical Session to the March 15th Deadline to file Supplemental Testimony, twenty (20) days from the end of the February 20-28th Technical Session to the March 20th Deadline to file Prehearing Motions, and twenty-eight (28) days from the end of the February 20-28th Technical Session to the March 28-29th Prehearing Conference.

5. These timeframes were intended to provide the parties to this docket sufficient time to conclude the February 20-28th Technical Sessions, review the information elicited at those sessions, review materials provided in response to data requests propounded at those technical sessions, all in an effort to prepare the final submission of Prefiled Testimony on or before the March 15th deadline. Similarly, the timeframes were intended to allow the parties to this docket sufficient time to digest the results of discovery to date to prepare any Prehearing Motions or Stipulations of Fact on or before the March 20th deadline, and to also prepare for the March 28-29th Prehearing Conference to determine an orderly and efficient manner in which to conduct the adjudicative phase.

6. The Parties do not believe that the Deadlines as presently scheduled afford them a meaningful opportunity to participate in this docket. It is almost certain that information will be elicited at any one of the delayed technical sessions noted above that the within Parties, or other parties to this proceeding, will utilize and reference in their respective supplemental prefiled testimony, reference in a prehearing motion, or inform or alter their respective positions for the Prehearing Conference. As presently scheduled, the delayed technical sessions and Deadlines would not allow the Parties to do so, inhibiting their ability to meaningfully participate by foreclosing them from submitting supplemental testimony, not allowing sufficient time to file prehearing motions, or not allowing time to adequately prepare for the Prehearing Conference.

7. The Parties therefore move for an extension of the Deadlines from the end of the delayed technical sessions, whenever that may be, for a commensurate number of days as contemplated in the January 26th Procedural Order, e.g. fifteen (15) days from the end of the technical session to the deadline to file supplemental testimony, twenty (20) days from the end of

the technical session to the deadline to file prehearing motions or stipulations of fact, and twenty-eight (28) days from the end of the technical session to the Prehearing Conference.

8. The Parties acknowledge that due to the relief requested herein, it may cause a conflict with the first two weeks of the adjudicative session currently scheduled for April 4-7, 2017 and April 13-14, 2017. Postponement of those adjudicative sessions may ultimately be necessary but is premature as this time. The Parties' intent is to keep the within motion as narrow as possible and to avoid postponement or rescheduling of the adjudicative sessions unless absolutely necessary.

9. The Applicant was contacted and does not assent to the within motion.

10. The following parties were contacted and assent: Abutters & Non-abutters, Group 1 North; New England Power Generator's Association; Grafton County Commissioners; Deerfield Abutters; Non-abutters, Stark to Bethlehem; Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee; Abutters, Dummer, Stark, Northumberland; Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests; Dalton, Whitefield, Bethlehem Abutters; National Trust for Historic Preservation, Sugar Hill Historic Museum, NH Preservation Alliance. Counsel for the Public takes no position on the motion. All other parties did not respond prior to filing.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the Site Evaluation Committee:

- A. Reschedule the Deadlines as requested above;
- B. Assuming it is necessary to grant the above relief, reschedule the adjudicative sessions as needed; and
- C. Grant such other and further relief as may be just.

Respectfully submitted,

**MUNICIPAL GROUP 1 SOUTH
MUNICIPAL GROUP 2
MUNICIPAL GROUP 3 NORTH
MUNICIPAL GROUP 3 SOUTH**

TOWNS OF BRIDGEWATER, NEW HAMPTON,
LITTLETON, WOODSTOCK, DEERFIELD,
PEMBROKE, and ASHLAND WATER & SEWER
DISTRICT

By and through its attorneys,

MITCHELL MUNICIPAL GROUP, P.A.

Dated: February 3, 2017

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TOWNS OF BETHLEHEM, BRISTOL, EASTON,
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PLYMOUTH, SUGAR HILL and WHITEFIELD

By and through their attorneys,

GARDNER, FULTON & WAUGH, PLLC

Dated: February 3, 2017

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CITY OF CONCORD

Dated: February 3, 2017

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date, a copy of the foregoing was sent by electronic mail to persons named on the Service List of this docket.

Dated: February 3, 2017

By: /s/ Danielle Pacik
Danielle Pacik, Esq.