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April 6, 2017

**Via Electronic Mail & Hand Delivery**

Pamela Monroe, Administrator  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

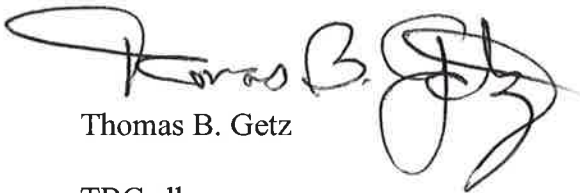
**Re: Site Evaluation Committee Docket No. 2015-06  
Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC and Public Service Company  
of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (the "Applicants") for a Certificate of  
Site and Facility  
Motion for Leave to Reply and Reply to Counsel for the Public's Response**

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned docket, please find an original and one copy of a Motion For Leave to Reply and Reply to Counsel for the Public's Response to Motion to Suspend Timeframe.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Thomas B. Getz

TBG:slb

cc: SEC Distribution List

Enclosure

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**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**

**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO REPLY AND REPLY TO  
COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC'S RESPONSE TO  
MOTION TO SUSPEND TIMEFRAME**

NOW COME Northern Pass Transmission LLC (“NPT”) and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“PSNH”) (collectively the “Applicants”), by and through their attorneys, McLane Middleton, Professional Association, and respectfully request leave to reply to Counsel for the Public’s (“CFP”) April 5, 2017 response to the motion by the Abutting Property Owners, Bethlehem to Plymouth (“Intervenors”) asking, in part, that the Site Evaluation Committee (“SEC”) suspend the timeframe for supplemental testimony and adjudicative hearings.<sup>1</sup>

1. On March 31, 2017, the Intervenors filed a motion asking the SEC to compel the Applicants to provide certain non-relevant information and information that is yet to be developed as part of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation’s (“DOT”) permitting process. The Intervenors also ask that the SEC extend the deadline for supplemental testimony until May 1, 2017, or later. The Applicants filed their objection to that motion on April 4, 2017.

2. In its response, CFP, among other things, supports an extension of the deadline for filing supplemental testimony regarding the underground portions of the Project until May 1,

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<sup>1</sup> The Applicants also ask the Presiding Officer to waive the requirement to seek assent set forth in the June 23, 2016 Order on Pending Motions and Procedural Order in this instance inasmuch as the Intervenors’ motion has been set for deliberations on an accelerated schedule, prior to the expiration of the 10-day period for objections.

2017, and speculates that construction topics are “unlikely to be raised during the adjudicative hearings until after May 15.”<sup>2</sup> CFP does not provide the basis for its conclusion but, based on statements at the April 3, 2017 Pre-Hearing Conference, the Applicants believe it is reasonable to expect that the examination of their Track 1 witnesses could be concluded by April 19, 2017. Consequently, the Applicants intend to call the construction panel to testify beginning May 1, 2017. It is the prerogative of each party to determine how to present their case, which includes the order in which they call witnesses. The Applicants believe it is important to have the construction panel testify beginning on May 1 and they do not believe it is fair to permit other parties to determine how the Applicants may present their case.

3. As the Applicants pointed out in their objection to the Intervenors’ motion, the Intervenors misconstrue the relationship of the DOT permitting process to the SEC adjudicative hearings. Furthermore, consistent with the initial procedural schedule, there is sufficient time under the existing schedule for the parties to file supplemental testimony reflecting the DOT’s final decision issued April 3, 2017.

4. In conclusion, the Applicants believe that allowing their reply will clarify the issues, serve the interests of justice, and not impair the orderly conduct of the proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the Applicants respectfully request that the Site Evaluation Committee:

- A. Grant the Applicants leave to reply to the CFP response;
- B. Waive the requirement to seek assent;
- C. Deny the Intervenors’ motion to compel and to suspend; and
- D. Grant such further relief as is deemed just and appropriate.

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<sup>2</sup> It is not clear why CFP points to May 15. Hearings are scheduled for May 1, 2, 3 and 4 and do not resume until May 24 and 25. Furthermore, CFP is incorrect that supplemental testimony is due April 24, 2017; supplemental testimony is due April 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Northern Pass Transmission LLC and  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a  
Eversource Energy

By Its Attorneys,

McLANE MIDDLETON,  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dated: April 6, 2017

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017, an original and one copy of the foregoing Motion was hand-delivered to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee and an electronic copy was served upon the SEC Distribution List.

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Thomas B. Getz