

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
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 for a Certificate of Site and Facility

**COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC'S MOTION TO AMEND SCHEDULE**

Counsel for the Public, by his attorneys, the Office of the Attorney General and Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC, hereby moves to amend the schedule in this docket to set the deadline for the filing of Closing Arguments and Final Briefs for Counsel for the Public and Intervenor to January 12, 2018, and the Applicants to file their Closing Arguments and Final Brief on January 19, 2018. In support hereof, Counsel for the Public respectfully represents as follows:

1. On October 19, 2015, 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"). The Application with its appendices contains more than 27,000 pages including numerous expert reports and studies. Since the filing, the parties have produced and exchanged tens of thousands of additional documents.

2. Evidentiary hearings commenced on April 13, 2017, and will continue to on or around December 22, 2017. In all, there will have been approximately seventy-two (72) days of evidentiary hearings.

3. On September 12, 2017, the Presiding Officer issued a Procedural Order in this docket. That Order states that Counsel for the Public's and the Intervenor's Closing Arguments

and Final Briefs (“Briefs”) shall be filed within fourteen (14) days of the closing of the record. The Applicants’ Brief shall be filed seven (7) days after the other parties’ Briefs are filed. September 12, 2017, Scheduling Order at 5.

4. Based on the current expectations for the schedule in this docket, it is anticipated that the closing of the record is likely to occur on December 22, 2017. In that case, according to the Order, Counsel for the Public’s and Intervenors’ Briefs would be due on January 5, 2018, and Applicants’ Brief would be due on January 12, 2018.

5. Assuming that the record closes on December 22, 2017, or earlier, Counsel for the Public first requests that the Subcommittee set a date-specific deadline for the filing of Briefs. For planning purposes as the evidentiary hearings near completion and the winter holiday season approaches, it would be extremely helpful to the parties to know what specific dates the Briefs will be due.

6. Specifically, Counsel for the Public requests that, assuming the record closes on December 22, 2017, or earlier, the deadline for Counsel for the Public’s and Intervenors’ Briefs be January 12, 2018, and the deadline for Applicants’ Brief be January 19, 2018. Such deadlines would provide a reasonable accommodation to the parties’ in light of the holiday season (including two State of New Hampshire holidays on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day), while maintaining an appropriate schedule for expeditious resolution of this proceeding.

7. In addition, from a practical perspective, the parties will need access to the final exhibits admitted into the record and the final version of the transcripts from the last few evidentiary hearings. Given the possibility an evidentiary hearing or procedural hearing could be occurring on December 22, 2017, there is a significant chance that the final exhibit list and/or the final transcripts will not be available until the end of the week of December 29 or later. Pushing

back the briefing deadline by one week allows additional time for the parties to receive documents necessary for the Briefs.

8. This amendment to the schedule will promote the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding and assist in resolving the case fairly. It will not significantly delay the proceeding and is consistent with the Subcommittee's September 18, 2017, Order Suspending Statutory Timeframe, which anticipates that "briefing will be completed by the end of January 2018." September 18, 2017, Order Suspending Statutory Timeframe at 3.

9. Should the record close after December 22, 2017, Counsel for the Public requests that the deadline for Briefs be set according to the September 12 Order but not earlier than January 12, 2018 for Counsel for the Public and the Intervenors and January 19, 2018 for the Applicants.

10. Counsel for the Public provided a copy of this motion to counsel for the Applicants by e-mail on November 22. As of the date of filing, Applicants have not provided their position on the motion.

11. The Spokespersons for the following parties concur in this motion:

- (a) Non-Abutting Property Owners (underground portion), Bethlehem to Plymouth;
- (b) Abutting Property Owners (overhead portion), Whitefield, Dalton, and Bethlehem;
- (c) Combined Group of Intervenors Clarksville-Stewartstown;
- (d) Municipal Group 3-South;
- (e) Municipal Group 2;
- (f) Abutting Property Owners (underground portion), Bethlehem to Plymouth;
- (g) Appalachian Mountain Club, Conservation Law Foundation, Sierra Club Chapter of NH and Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust;

- (h) Non-Abutting Property Owners (overhead portion), Stark, Lancaster, Whitefield, Dalton, and Bethlehem;
- (i) Grafton County Commissioners;
- (j) Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee;
- (k) Abutting Property Owners (underground portion) Deerfield;
- (l) Non-Abutting Property Owners (overhead portion) Ashland to Deerfield;
- (m) Sugar Hill Historical Museum, NH Preservation Alliance and National Trust for Historic Preservation, North Country Scenic Byways Council; and
- (n) Society for the Protection of NH Forests.

12. The remaining parties have not responded.

WHEREFORE, Counsel for the Public respectfully requests that the Subcommittee enter an order amending the schedule to set the deadline for the filing of Closing Arguments and Final Briefs for Counsel for the Public and Intervenors on January 12, 2018, and the Applicants to file its Closing Arguments and Final Brief on January 19, 2018 as requested herein and grant such other relief as may be just.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC,

By his attorneys,

Dated: November 30, 2017

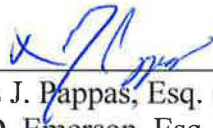
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Dated: November 30, 2017

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing MOTION TO AMEND SCHEDULE has this day been forwarded via e-mail or mail to persons named on the Distribution List of this docket.

Dated: November 30, 2017

  
Thomas J. Pappas, Esq. (N.H. Bar No. 4111)