

**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**

**May 25, 2016**

**ORDER ON COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC'S MOTION  
TO RETAIN CONSULTANTS**

On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC, and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (collectively Applicant) submitted an Application to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (Committee) for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application) to construct a 192-mile transmission line. The transmission line is proposed to have a capacity rating of up to 1,090 MW; and to run through New Hampshire from the Canadian border in Pittsburg to Deerfield.

Counsel for the Public, Peter C.L. Roth was appointed in this docket by the Attorney General on October 28, 2015.

On May 13, 2016, pursuant to RSA 162-H:10, V, Counsel for the Public filed the following motions:

Motion for leave to retain, Kavet, Rocker and Associates LLC, to consult about economic benefits impacts of the Project in an amount up to \$227,070;

Motion for leave to retain TJ Boyle Associates, to consult with respect to impacts of the Project on aesthetics and scenic resources in an amount up to \$362,502;

Motion for leave to retain the Brattle Group, to consult with respect to the benefits and impacts of the Project on energy markets in an amount up to \$751,000;

Motion for leave to retain Heritage Landscapes, LLC, to consult about the Project's impacts to historic and cultural resources in an amount up to \$148,500;

Motion to retain Arrowood Environmental LLC, to consult about the Project's

impacts to wildlife, wildlife habitat and rare, threatened and endangered species in an amount up to \$142,654; and

Motion to retain the following transmission line design and construction consultants: Dewberry, in an amount up to \$284,765; Siemens Industry, Inc., in an amount up to \$139,480; and Electrical Consulting Engineers, PC, in an amount up to \$96,030.

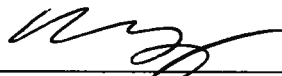
In each motion, Counsel for the Public indicated that the Applicant did not object to the relief requested. No other party objects to the relief requested.

The Applicant filed a consolidated response to the motions. In its response, the Applicant stated that it does not object to the retention of the above consultants by Counsel for the Public. The Applicant, however, asked that the Subcommittee require Counsel for the Public to submit data requests to the Applicant on or before June 13, 2016. The Applicant argued that timely discovery is necessary for the prompt and orderly disposition of the pending Application.

RSA 162-H:10, V, allows the Subcommittee and Counsel for the Public to “conduct such reasonable studies and investigations as they deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this chapter and may employ a consultant or consultants ... the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant in such amount as may be approved by the committee.” Given the nature, size, and scope of the proposed project which is the subject of the Application, retaining the requested consultants is reasonable. Therefore, each of the motions is granted and the costs for each of the retained consultants shall be borne by the Applicant.

Issues concerning discovery deadlines and scheduling will be resolved by separate order.

**By Order of the Site Evaluation Committee, this twenty-fifth day of May, 2016.**



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Martin P. Honigberg, Presiding Officer  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee