

9/9/2015

SEC of New Hampshire

Dear SEC members,

I am a concerned citizen of Lancaster, New Hampshire. I am an orthopedic surgeon who has lived in the area for 9 years now, having moved from the coast of Maine to work and enjoy this beautiful area. Lancaster is in a beautiful valley, surrounded by visible mountains, 360 degrees. I own 110 acres of this wonderful area, and enjoy my views, and pay the New Hampshire 'view tax', an acknowledgement that as landowners who partake in the view, it is an asset worth taxing. When I return home from trips south, Concord or Boston, and approach the Lancaster valley, I descend Corrigan Hill, atop of which is the Weeks State Park. That park was established in the 30's, as a place to enjoy the views that surround the Lancaster Valley (mountains 360). I live up North Road, that climbs up a hill, from which we overlook the valley of Lancaster on the opposite side of Corrigan Hill, of Prospect Mountain. As I climb the hill of North Road, I pass neighbors, a combination of locals, and those who have purchased second homes from out-of-state, and believe me....we all cherish the view.

Northern Pass proposes to pass tall metal towers right thru our beautiful valley, towers that will be visible from 360 degrees. The collective loss of property values for myself and each of my neighbors will be immense if the project goes thru as planned. The psychological impact, our loss of control over our maintenance of the surrounding beauty of our land, having been overtaken by large corporate powers from away is incalculable.

I attended the SEC meeting put on by Eversource tonight for Coos county. I was struck by the slick presentation of Northern Pass, the promise for economic development brought by their millions of dollars. Those local citizens who presented arguments for the project all seemed to be employed by Eversource (electrical workers), large local excavator company owners, or business men who would directly benefit from the transitory (2-3 year project). The biggest excavating contractor (who stands to make millions off the project, Allen Bouthiller) presented a convoluted argument as to why burying the line would be undesirable. "I would have to get a permit every time I need to cross the buried line on my own property". He is obviously on the paycheck already of Northern Pass. He is a member of a committee that has been awarding 'seed money' from Northern Pass to local businesses to spur 'economic development'.

The large scale bribes by Northern Pass to our economically deprived area is certainly enticing to some. However, the overwhelming beauty of our valley, AND THE ENTIRE COOS COUNTY, CANNOT be sacrificed to this large project that will deface our environment. As you know, our weak economy is very dependent upon tourism, the beauty of this land is the draw for such.

Nearly every citizen of the county that spoke last night in opposition, was willing to concede that they could live with a buried line. That is also my stance. Please insist that the project in some way is buried from the Canadian border, at least all the way to below the White Mountains, thus preserving the unparalleled beauty of the North Country,,,,, Thank You, Paul Kamins MD.

