

Howie Wemyss
PO Box 85
Gorham, NH 03581

September 21, 2015

Timothy Drew, Administrator
Public Information and Permitting Unit
PO Box 95
Concord NH 03302-0095

RE: Northern Pass comment to Site Evaluation Committee

Greetings;

I offer the following as a comment against the project known as Northern Pass as it is currently planned with a large percentage of transmission lines to be above ground on steel towers.

At last weeks public hearing at the Mountain View Grand, a spokesperson for Eversource made a number of comments that cause me to write and protest against the current plan. I don't agree that the project cannot be built using advanced technology that will allow for the burial of the cables for the entire length. Other projects in surrounding states show that these types of projects can be buried. If some of it can be buried, then all of it can be buried. The fact that full burial may not allow as generous a return on their investment should make no difference in this case. This is a private venture that the citizens of New Hampshire should not have to pay for with reduced land values that will come with overhead transmission towers.

There is no question that overhead towers as described in the current plan will lower the property values of all within sight of them. Others in the region will suffer indirectly from the general decrease in overall beauty of the area and the slow decline in tourism due to these degraded viewsheds. I believe this taking will amount to nothing less than a form of eminent domain - something currently not allowed with this private project. It will actually be worse than eminent domain since there will be no damages awarded the aggrieved parties. Eversource and their investors will reap the benefits of being allowed to build their project at a lower cost while the State of New Hampshire will suffer the consequences of a severely degraded landscape.

The blatant bribes being offered by Eversource in the name of "Forward NH" in exchange for silence on the part of those of us against this travesty are a testament to how Eversource plans to push this project through. This is not the "balanced" project that they would like us to believe.

If this project is to go forward at all, it should be fully buried in its entire length.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Howie Wemyss", with a stylized, flowing script.

Howie Wemyss
Randolph, NH