



NORTH COUNTRY

Chamber of Commerce



December 30, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Re: Northern Pass Transmission- Eversource SEC Docket No. 2015-06”

NORTH COUNTRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 1

Colebrook, NH 03576

603-237-8939

Contact: Wayne Frizzell

603-237-7030

In May of 2013, the North Country Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors convened to discuss the ongoing dialogue related to the Northern Pass Project. Many of New Hampshire’s Chambers of Commerce and other community-led organizations had issued public statements regarding the project. At that time, the board believed it was our responsibility to poll our membership to determine what the majority of our membership thought about the Northern Pass Project.

The North Country Chamber of Commerce represents the business community interests of over 100 members. Our members represent business sectors that range from manufacturing to tourism. Initially, we as a board believed we should speak on behalf of our membership regarding the Northern Pass Project. In the end, given the volatility of this project, we decided to issue a statement as a board, on behalf of the board of directors of the North Country Chamber of Commerce, and not as an expressed opinion of any of our members. Now, two years later the current board still believes that this was and is the correct way to proceed.

As the Northern Pass Project stands today the board of directors of the North Country Chamber of Commerce does not support the project. We have concerns about the following:

- The project’s proposed pathways-- Why is it economically viable to bury other transmission projects but not this one?
- The intention of for-profit companies as it relates to the proposed benefits to the North Country, -- The benefits will accrue to absentee corporations and investors.
- The negative effects on our environment as well as Canada’s.--In Quebec, entire ecosystems are drowned and mercury stored in inert forms is released into the food chain; in the US, the health hazards and the negative impact on our untouched beautiful landscapes which would have a negative impact on tourism, the area’s main economic driver.
- The potential negative impact to the value of our properties.

The board of directors of the North Country Chamber of Commerce supports economic development, new job opportunities, and the success of our membership in the North Country. If you have questions regarding this statement please contact me directly as our directors have been asked not to speak on this issue directly to the media or public on behalf of the North Country Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Frizzell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wayne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Frizzell".

Wayne Frizzell, President
North Country Chamber of Commerce