



February 22, 2016

Ms. Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator  
NH Site Evaluation Committee  
21 Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Monroe:

I write today in my capacity as International Representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). The IBEW represents more than 3,000 New Hampshire workers in the electrical industry, and has filed to be an intervenor in Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) Docket No. 2015-06, Northern Pass Transmission's application for Certificate of Site and Facility.

The IBEW strongly objects to calls for delaying scheduled public hearings for the Northern Pass, and believes that such delays would not serve the public interest. The Northern Pass project will create thousands of jobs for local IBEW workers, and further delays to the SEC process will cause material harm to our members whose livelihoods depend on the timely consideration of this docket. Furthermore, delaying these scheduled hearings would be contrary to RSA 162-H:1, which states "the legislature finds that it is in the public interest...that undue delay in the construction of new energy facilities be avoided."

We call on the SEC to move forward with the five currently scheduled public hearings in March, including the two public hearings that are scheduled to be held jointly with the US Department of Energy. These hearings have been scheduled appropriately pursuant to RSA 162-H:10, and should move forward in accordance with the statute. The fact that the applicant has taken the opportunity to conform their existing application to current law does not alter the fact that current law requires the scheduled hearings to occur within 90 days of initial acceptance of the application. It is our view that the SEC does not have the authority under RSA 162-H to deviate from the required timeframe for such public hearings.

To date, the Northern Pass has held more than 20 public hearings and information sessions, and there are ongoing opportunities for the public to voice their opinions on this project in writing. Holding the next round of public hearings as scheduled would in no way impede public participation. To the contrary, postponing these public hearings will cause even more delays in the SEC process, resulting in time constraints that could actually diminish the opportunity for full consideration of public input during the adjudicative phase of this docket.

Overall, rescheduling these hearings would undermine the overall integrity of SEC process, be contrary to the public interest, and have a direct, negative impact on the livelihoods of IBEW workers in New Hampshire. The currently scheduled hearings are in keeping with statutory requirements, and should go forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Casey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "C".

**Joe Casey**  
International Representative  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers