

Weeks Lancaster Trust
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Pamela G. Monroe Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

March 2, 2016

Docket 2015-06 Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe

Regarding the letter to you from Elijah Emerson dated March 1, 2015, requesting a delay in site visits so that, *inter alia*, the visits could be made when leaves are on the trees, it is the opinion of the undersigned Intervenor that the Applicants have misconstrued the legal requirements for determining impact under Sec 106 and under the S.E.C. regulations.

Impact needs to be determined **over the whole year**, or in other words, both when leaves are on the trees **and when the leaves are off the trees**. Since the greatest visual impact will occur when the leaves are off the trees, the site visits should occur in late fall, winter or early spring. The impact studies done by the Northern Pass consultants for the Sec 106 review have generally been based on leaves being on the trees. Thus, these studies are materially flawed.

Two sites that need to be visited are the Weeks State Park (Route 3, Lancaster NH), located on Mt Prospect overlooking the proposed Northern Pass towers, and the Route 2 Scenic Highway in Lancaster, where the existing power lines cross Route 2.

The proposed towers would be approximately 1.14 miles from a scenic overlook on Mt Prospect that provides a clear view of the existing power lines. There are hiking and cross country skiing paths on Mt Prospect that are closer to the existing power lines, but no photographs show the views from these paths.

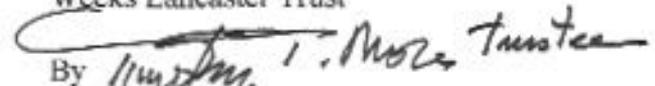
The Northern Pass lines will cross Route 2, a scenic highway. However, for its impact study the Northern Pass consultants chose photographs taken from an outlook on Route 2 that is .19 to .26 miles from the existing power lines. This choice is as flawed and misleading as the choice not to use photographs when leaves are off the trees or photographs from the hiking and skiing trails on Mt Prospect.

The photographs from Mt Prospect, dated September 14, would show much more of the existing power lines if the photographs had been taken between November 1 – April 15. Of

note--the photographs taken from the nearby overlook on Route 2 were taken in mid October when leaves were partially off the trees.

It would appear that Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy have not acted, and are not acting in good faith in presenting required information on the visual impact of the proposed power lines and in requesting a delay in the site visits.

Sincerely
Weeks Lancaster Trust

By  Justin I. Moore, Trustee