



March 17, 2016

Ms. Pamela Monroe, Administrator  
Site Evaluation Committee  
State of New Hampshire  
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10  
Concord NH 03301

Dear Ms. Monroe:

At the request of several senators, I have been asked to enter a Letter of Testimony that I hope you will seriously consider in your evaluation of the NORTHERN PASS application.

My company employs approximately 1,000 people in the manufacture of emergency lighting components. We are the only manufacturer of emergency warning lights in the United States. We compete with off-shore suppliers and manufacturers.

We are also amongst the ten largest users of electricity in the state of New Hampshire. Electricity is a very large portion of our overhead expenses. It has gone up almost double in the past two years.

When the NORTHERN PASS Project was first presented, it was as an overhead line with a capacity of 1,200 Kilowatts. A great deal of lobbying by people in the North country, many of whom either don't work or certainly don't understand the competition issues of manufacturers and business in general, successfully forced NORTHERN PASS to bury a great deal of this important line. This raised the construction cost to approaching \$2 billion (up 100% over an overhead line), increasing its maintenance cost and also reducing the capacity down to approximately 1,000 Kilowatts. The hope that many of us in business had that this line could greatly reduce the astronomical cost of electricity was dashed.

Unless there is a way to restore the original proposal, we should not build NORTHERN PASS. If somehow we cannot find a way of substantially reducing electricity costs, many companies such as ours will be considering one of two things:

1. In our case, no further expansion (we had two major expansions in the works), and

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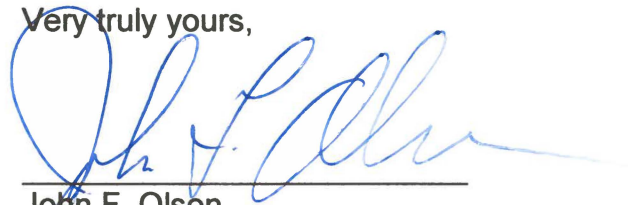
2. Possibly considering moving some of our operations to other areas of the country where electricity costs are between 25% and 30% of the cost of electricity in New Hampshire.

The same is going to be true for the pipe lines bringing in natural gas if someone with courage does not force the issue to make it economical. Natural gas would help reduce energy costs and possibly supply gas to existing generators that are not in use.

This is a very serious problem in New Hampshire for all businesses, especially manufacturing. *I ask that you do what is in your power to address the concerns that I have mentioned, by forcing changes to the location for overhead lines or cancelling the project altogether.*

I would be willing to meet and testify in a public meeting if this could be arranged.

Very truly yours,



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