



March 28, 2016

Mr. Martin Honigberg, Chairman
NH Public Utilities Commission
NH Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-06

Dear Mr. Honigberg and Members of the Committee:

The Colebrook Selectboard recognizes the divisiveness that the Northern Pass Project has created in our community and surrounding region. The project truly has brought harm to this region and the relationships between neighbors and friends. The Town of Colebrook is not and has not been a party to the negative campaigns opposed to the transmission project.

The Town of Colebrook does support the \$200M *Forward New Hampshire Fund* and its stated goals of community betterment, clean energy innovation, economic development and tourism. If there ever was a need for accomplishing all four goals in northern Coös County and Colebrook, it is now. The most critical success factor for Colebrook's revival and advancement is the redevelopment of The Balsams Resort. The Fund has made a significant financial commitment to The Balsams redevelopment at this crucial juncture. Almost every citizen of our Town awaits the sound of heavy equipment traveling east on Route 26 to work on Balsams Project in both Dixville and Colebrook. The Balsams Panorama Golf Course is located in Colebrook and its closure negatively impacted Colebrook's tax base when the renowned 18-hole course became a non-income producing property.

The Fund is an opportunity for financial incentives to local entrepreneurs to create and/or enhance small businesses that will provide support services to the new resort and/or an enhanced population. Tourism-based economic development will surely trickle over from the four seasons resort to our rural town. Jobs in all sectors will open up and many former citizens will move back; human capital will be attracted to this area. Our fondest dream is to see young people returning to Colebrook or staying in Colebrook after high school because there are new job opportunities. We have good schools, a modern community recreation center, a performing arts venue as well as our popular mountains, rivers and forests.

Thank you for an opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Sincerely,

Greg Placy
Chairman

Raymond Gorman
Selectman

Suzanne Collins
Selectman