

From: Nilla M [<mailto:nillamaj@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2016 12:03 PM
To: Monroe, Pamela
Subject: Comment regarding the Northern Pass project

Dear Ms. Monroe and Site Evaluation Committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition of the current plan for the Northern Pass project, specifically, the aspects of the plan related to routing electrical wiring above ground on pylons. I do not live in New Hampshire, but instead visit the state nearly every weekend for outdoor recreation purposes. My family and friends are avid hikers, and we are concerned that an electrical line will have a significant visual impact on the landscape of New Hampshire. Our main goals for driving up for a weekend from Massachusetts are to get away from "civilization", and we are concerned that a pylon-supported electrical line will reduce our enjoyment of the New Hampshire outdoors. I fear that it will result in us selecting other surrounding areas (such as Vermont, the Berkshires, and the Adirondacks) for our outdoor pursuits instead. Assuming that we are representative of the outdoor community as a whole, this would result in decreased revenue for the state of New Hampshire.

I urge you to consider alternative mechanisms for transporting the electricity. I would appreciate if you ensured that appropriate studies are conducted to investigate approaches such as underground wires, wires under a road, or wires within rivers and waterways as potential alternatives to the visually unappealing pylons. New England has plenty of beautiful nature and landscapes, and I would not be surprised if a decrease in recreational visitors to the state (in favor of areas which are unadulterated in comparison) was the result of this new energy project.

I am certain that you are evaluating all aspects of the proposal. As a concerned citizen who visits the state nearly every weekend, I would appreciate if you would spend some additional time evaluating the impact on the visual landscape, and how that will translate to tourism and revenue. I would hope that this would cause you to reconsider the proposed overhead pylons, in favor of a less visually intrusive solution.

Sincerely,
N.M.
Salem, Massachusetts