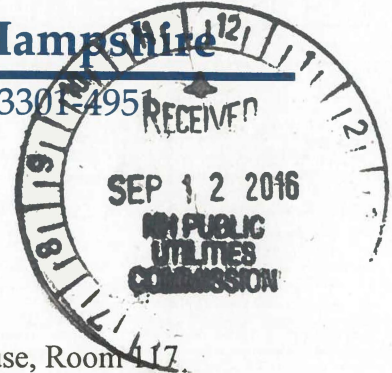




The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 North Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951



LOU D'ALLESANDRO
Senate District 20

State House, Room 417
(603) 271-2117

September 9, 2016

Commissioner Martin Honigberg
Chairman, NH Public Utilities Commission
21 Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Commissioner Honigberg,

I am writing to express my concern with the ongoing efforts to delay the Northern Pass project. While I appreciate the need to fully evaluate the project, many of the concerns raised have the appearance of efforts to derail the project. At the same time, the need for energy is becoming greater.

As you know, New Hampshire and the New England region has some of the highest electric costs in the country. This is tough on our state's economy, both in terms of attracting new jobs and keeping existing businesses in our state. Given our current energy costs and future cost increases associated with forward capacity payments, this problem will only get worse in the coming years.

Unfortunately, many of the projects aimed at addressing this problem are being withdrawn or are facing major legal hurdles. Providing the region with a broad increase in energy supply seems to be a decade or more away. The Northern Pass project ensures our ability to access the electricity we need from Canadian hydro.

In recent weeks, I have heard from many New Hampshire businesses and homeowners that are increasingly concerned about the cost of electricity and the failure of the New Hampshire government to address this problem. These people are not only concerned about the impact on their own pocketbooks, but the impact this problem is now having on our local businesses and their jobs. If the Northern Pass project is not successful, it is difficult to see how we can assure our citizens that these issues will get any better.



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I have great confidence in the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee and your ability to provide the Northern Pass project with a comprehensive review. However, it is important that the SEC conducts its review in a prompt manner. Please understand that your decision will have a great impact on our state's economy for years to come.

Warmest personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lou D'Allesandro".

Lou D'Allesandro