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It became obvious to me in 2002 while purchasing land for a home off Nottingham Road in Deerfield that dedicated residents were planning for sustainable development. The work by dedicated volunteers, state and local officials was ongoing with substantial evidence (including the Deerfield Master Plan) that town planning had set clear goals, and it was likely to continue.

In 2002, I had over a dozen years of professional experience on development projects that significantly altered the Rights-of-Way, private land tracts, and resource land throughout New England. My wife and I, with the help of Bear Paw Regional Greenways, other volunteers, and dedicated officials in the Towns of Deerfield & Nottingham, conveyed development rights for the purpose of land conservation. The intent was to help preserve the rural culture and ecosystems that attract people to live in Deerfield and Nottingham.

A dog's life later, my professional views have matured while providing services to clients and the public sector as a Professional Civil Engineer (Water Resources) and Land Surveyor. The centralized hydroelectric power generation associated with the Northern Pass Project is not nearly as green as the solar array on the roof of our house. **Centralized energy is not as green as decentralized energy.** The waste from line loss in transmitting energy to sell at tremendous distance is not efficient. The lack of dissolved oxygen in the water behind the dam is not green. The sediment building up in the still waters behind the dam is not green. The aquatic organisms that attempt to migrate upstream do not view the dam that provides head for the turbines as green.

Of course this project is more about the economics of energy than greenery. Economics that will not have a net benefit for property owners in Deerfield (or any other town in New Hampshire except perhaps Franklin). The project is inconsistent with the goals that the community published in the Master Plan and the Open Space criteria set forth. Deerfield detailed the goal to preserve higher elevations in a natural state. We will be forced to live with the enormous industrial scale towers and substation infrastructure every time we walk out the front door and drive to work, visit friends, or go on an errand.

In my view, the project creates a minimal amount of short term jobs. The proponents must secure agreements further south in suburban towns and cities to make the project profitable. There will be no significant net profit for Deerfield residents. The proponents do have the same rights that any other utility company has, but they do not have the right to take the rights of others.

Will the towers influence my support of green infrastructure networks as envisioned by the Deerfield Open Space Plan? Yes, I'll likely look for another place to go out to pasture in my golden years. Somewhere where I don't have to listen to the hum of voltage.

Timothy S. Mallette, LS, PE
193 Nottingham Road
Deerfield, NH 03037