



February 8, 2017

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

Re: Docket No. 2015-16, Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe:

We write on behalf of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) and Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce (GNCC), together representing more than 1,400 businesses across southern New Hampshire.

Last February we requested intervenor status in the Northern Pass Docket. In denying our requests to intervene, the SEC wrote: "Interests in economic benefits and supply of electricity associated with the Project affect all members of the public. Those interests will be addressed and represented by the process and Counsel for the Public and other intervenors."

We are writing now, over a year later, because we feel our interests are not being represented by Counsel for the Public (CFP) or any other intervenors.

In our requests to intervene, we highlighted our view that this project is in the best interest of New Hampshire, its businesses and residents. Energy rates in New Hampshire are well above the national average, and will only get worse unless significant steps are taken to improve our energy diversity and create new transmission lines that can bring new sources of clean energy into our region. High energy costs are a barrier to business growth, job creation and economic development in New Hampshire.

Following your denial of our petition, we relied in good faith on your assertion that CFP would address our interests as part of the SEC process.

In October of 2016, we requested a meeting with Counsel for the Public to discuss our concerns around high energy costs in New Hampshire. At the meeting on October 31, 2016, we highlighted a variety of concerns, including:

- The sense of urgency among businesses because of the precarious nature of the New England Energy supply and high costs.
- With energy costs 40%-50% higher than the national average, it is difficult to attract and retain good paying manufacturing jobs in the state.
- While Northern Pass will not solve the entire energy problem, we do believe it is an important part of the solution.

By agreeing to meet with us, we were hopeful that CFP recognized his role in representing all interests before the SEC. Alarming, that hasn't been the case. In all the pre-filed testimony submitted by CFP to date, we have yet to see any mention or acknowledgement of our concerns.

With the SEC having denied our motion to intervene, based on a presumption that CFP would be representing our interests, we are left to question how our interests are now being represented before the SEC. If our voices aren't being heard, we feel that's a major problem – one that gets to the very heart and integrity of the process.

We respectfully request that you consider these issues, and let us know we can best ensure our voices are heard as part of your review process.

Very truly yours,



Michael Skelton
President & CEO, GMCC



Tracey S. Hatch
President and CEO, GNCC