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From: Friends of the Pemi - Livermore Falls Chapter
Subject: SEC Docket No. 2015-06 Northern Pass Transmission LLC. Public Comments/Concerns.

Date: March 15, 2017

Friends of the Pemi – Livermore Falls Chapter is a partner with New Hampshire State Parks Division of the Department of Resources and Economic Development with over 100 “Friends” to develop one of New Hampshire’s newest state parks. Our work began in 2012 with a vision begun by Executive Councilor Ray Burton, continued by Executive Councilor Joe Kenney, defined by community visioning sessions and executed by the committed efforts of the Plymouth Rotary Club and our many volunteers. We strive to make Livermore Falls recognized as having the best combination of education, environment and recreation opportunities in New Hampshire.

During the next three years, the Friends worked with the State to improve the east side of Livermore Falls with picnic tables, grills, toilets, a parking lot, fulltime attendants, volunteer greeters and archeological and cultural landscape studies. We now receive over 5,000 visitors per summer and the number of summons for illegal activities has dropped significantly. In 2017, we turn our attention to the west side of Livermore Falls to improve the important scenic, historical and geological assets present there. These improvements will include parking, safe access to views and interpretive historical information about the importance of the place in the development of our communities.

Given our mission and history of commitment, Friends of the Pemi – Livermore Falls Chapter has serious concerns about the Northern Pass Transmission Lines as currently put forward in their SEC application.

Livermore Falls is nestled in the center of the Lakes Region on a beautiful segment of the Pemigewasset River. Its setting includes a large sandy beach, the unique Pumpkin Seed Bridge, clean water, historical landmarks and interesting geology. It is one of the most scenic falls in New Hampshire.

And, Livermore Falls is an increasingly popular destination for tourists and locals alike due to the recent improvements in safety and amenities. Thanks in

part to the Friends activities, the State's commitment to improvements and in social media communications, all indications are that it will grow as an attraction to the Plymouth, Holderness and Campton areas. One activity that fills the parking area on sunny, summer weekends is a two hour float trip down the Pemigewasset to Plymouth's River Front Park.

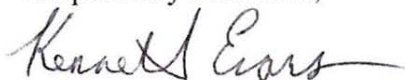
The current route planned for the Northern Pass Transmission line will follow Rt. 3 underground. The route is aligned closely with the Pemigewasset River through the park area and will pass immediately next to the park's western entrance. We have significant concerns with the trenching and possible blasting for this underground segment, which continues down Rt. 3 and through downtown Plymouth. The construction will occur as the State and Friends are actively continuing park development.

We are also concerned with the aesthetics of overhead transmission towers on or close to the river from Bridgewater south. We can definitely relate to the negative aesthetics of transmission towers. The Groton Wind Farm transmission line currently dissects Livermore Falls over the Pumpkin Seed Bridge with the lines and two steel towers creating a visual distraction from an otherwise gorgeous scenic view.

If alternative power transmission options are available to satisfy the southern New England market, it is our request that these alternative options receive serious consideration in the SEC process. The Livermore Falls area on the Pemigewasset River is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when concerned citizens work in concert with nonprofits, organizations, education institutions, state and local governments over an extended period of time to accomplish goals of mutual benefit. We do not want these accomplishments to be degraded in any way by a project that will provide little or no local benefit.

The Comments/Concerns expressed herein are those of the Friends of the Pemi – Livermore Falls Chapter, an independent, non-profit organization. Our views are not necessarily those of the Department of Resources and Economic Development or the Division of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Evans

Coordinator, Friends of the Pemi – Livermore Falls Chapter