

From: Kathy Home [<mailto:leebike@aol.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 12:15 PM

To: Monroe, Pamela

Subject: Oppose Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe,

Please record my opposition to the Northern Pass project in the state of New Hampshire. I have followed this project with interest for many years.

As the times have changed since this project was first proposed, there is no actual need or benefit from this power for the people of the state of New Hampshire and I believe that Eversource is attempting to use New Hampshire as a conduit through which to pass their power on the grid to sell off to other states, from our National Forest based tourist industry in the north all the way to the newly re-established oyster farms in Great Bay on the Seacoast.

In addition to my concerns regarding the proposed path from Colebrook through Franconia and the Kinsman Valley, I am concerned about the proposal by Eversource to dig under Great Bay. The re-establishment of Oyster Farms as sustainable "fishing" has been a long-term project. Oyster farming is a sustainable practice which also serves to clean the estuaries. I personally know two young families who have grown their business as oyster farmers in Great Bay. There are many such families in the Seacoast who are now part of this growing industry, and I have concerns about putting Eversource and Northern Pass above the future of this industry, as well as concerns about disturbing the Great Bay Estuary.

I believe that the narrowness of NH geographically makes this state a poor choice for this project. Eversource has chosen to use New Hampshire as the thruway for a privately held company to make financial gain on the backs of the livelihood of the people of New Hampshire from the north country to the seacoast. In the state of Maine the power comes south from Canada along interstate 95, an existing thruway-far from their mountains and ocean. Would it not make more sense for Hydro Quebec to send their power along existing lines to the east instead of through New Hampshire, a much narrower state? Eversource's insistence on passing through Franklin leads to the presumption that an east-west corridor is planned, underlining that NH's only purpose is to pass power to nearby states.

I was born and raised in Franconia where my parents owned a small family run inn, so I fully recognize the reliance of businesses in the North Country and in particular in the White Mountains on the scenery afforded our tourist industry.

I have a brother who, along with his grown children, is a small maple producer in Franconia and Sugar Hill. His business is already affected by a right-of-way Eversource owns across his maple stand. The treatment of the wood on the poles used for the electrical towers causes a run off onto his land, which precludes organic status for his maple product, limiting his market.

I have a sister who lives on route 116 in Franconia whose front yard would be dug up in order to run buried lines for the northern pass. Route 116 is a National Forest corridor. I do not believe that oriole's property should be dug up under the claim of eminent domain when the need for the power by that community is not imminent, and is driven by financial greed by a private company.

Everyone in my family has worked in the tourist industry, from the White Mountains to Hampton Beach, while in college and beyond. Five family members still have jobs fully dependent on our scenic natural resources. Those are the jobs that are sustainable for generations to come, but only if we don't sell out our resources to a private company like Eversource based on an incomplete application, ulterior motives, and unsubstantiated claims.

I do have a suggestion regarding a site study. If our new governor truly feels that there is no negative impact on our state tourist industry from the Eversource Northern Pass project, then I believe that he should put some 135 foot tall towers smack in the middle of Town Square at Waterville Valley for 3-5 years and see if their presence affects his tourist dollars. Perhaps that is something the SEC could consider as a site evaluation study?

Thank you for your consideration,  
Katherine Stroup  
Lee, NH