

SEC COMMENTS COLLECTION

SECDocket	2015-06 Northern Pass Transmission - Eversource
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To the NH Site Evaluation Committee:

I wish to express my opposition to the proposed Northern Pass, Docket No. 2015-06. I am opposed to this project for several reasons.

First, I am opposed on moral grounds. Hydro-Quebec has displaced the First Nation Pessamit Innu people from their ancestral lands without prior notice or compensation, ignoring their rights as indigenous people. I have personally heard their tribal leaders speak about this. I have also learned the Canadian government is doing an inquiry into the treatment of the Pessamit Innu by Hydro-Quebec. I do not think it is acceptable or wise to do business with Hydro-Quebec.

Second, flooding many thousand square miles of forest is not environmentally "green." Living forests absorb carbon; flooded forests produce significant amounts of carbon dioxide and methane. For the Pessamit Innu, destruction of their forests means they cannot hunt animals - their primary food source. Salmon - their second source of food - is almost gone. Salmon eggs need clean water, not muddy rivers and collapsing river banks caused by the fluctuating water levels due to Hydro-Quebec's daily water flow management, which I'm told is ignoring the UN Law of the Sea as it regards salmon.

Third, I am opposed to allowing a foreign for-profit company to alter our beautiful state. This is OUR scenic state, not a place to be ruined for company greed. Our electricity rights-of-way were created to transmit electricity to NH residents, not to carry exorbitant levels of current to other states. The existing power lines on these paths are generally located in the center, less than 50 feet tall, and masked by trees. The proposed towers would be located right up to the edges, in some cases right next to homes, be up to 165 feet tall and unable to be hidden at all. The proposed project would have a profound and irreversible negative effect on our landscape, tourism, recreation, communities, families and property values. We have a choice – we can prevent this.

Fourth, New Hampshire does not need this electricity. We produce more than we consume. I believe we should be putting our efforts into reducing the amount of electricity we need and developing renewable power, particularly solar, to plan for our own future needs. This plan does not serve NH's public interest. We do not need to cause havoc in our state to provide electricity to other states.

Fifth, Eversource has not proven to be trustworthy or capable. I heard the speakers at four of the 2016 SEC public meetings and the one last week in Concord. I learned about failure to inform abutters, incomplete information being submitted, studies being produced by those unfamiliar with our state, and the inconsistency of what Eversource says. The study by the Analysis Group confirms their use of poor assumptions and methods and missing information. It is too risky to give Eversource any permission to proceed with their plans.

For these reasons, I urge the SEC to deny the Northern Pass project.

From a resident who chose New Hampshire 35 years ago,

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