

From: Marcia Santore [<mailto:mlsantore@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:48 PM

To: Monroe, Pamela

Subject: Northern Pass

Dear Ms. Monroe,

By now the Site Evaluation Committee has doubtless received hundreds of letters protesting the Northern Pass project, highlighting the questionable behavior of Eversource throughout the process, and emphasizing the detriment to New Hampshire that this project represents.

As a resident of Plymouth, I was flabbergasted at the proposal to bury the lines for the Northern Pass on Main Street of our town. Why would they choose a long and wobbly path instead of a much straighter and simpler route along Interstate 93? It turns out that if lines are buried in the most obvious and least disruptive place, the state of New Hampshire would be entitled to rent for use of that land. It isn't hard to figure out that the state of New Hampshire needs that money more than the companies involved in Northern Pass.

Burying the lines along Main Street in Plymouth would not only be detrimental to the state of New Hampshire, but much more specifically to the town of Plymouth. As the committee would have seen during your visit on Tuesday, parking in downtown Plymouth is already difficult. There are no "large municipal parking lots within 100 feet of Main Street" as claimed by lead project manager Samuel Johnson of Burns and MacDonald last May. Without the access provided by parking, Main Street businesses will suffer, some irrevocably.

Plymouth has a thriving Main Street, which is something many towns around the country wish they could maintain. We know our downtown business people as friends and neighbors, and take great pride in our town. While the Northern Pass proponents say this construction will only last three months, anyone who has ever endured a construction project knows that when a contractor says "three months" it means "six months." So if the contractor already knows the project will "really" take six months, people in Plymouth know that it will likely take at least 12. (There's a fine old New Hampshire saying: "I was born at night, but t'weren't last night.")

Finally, I would like to point out that if, somehow, the Main Street businesses are able to remain open during the construction, people like me will still be unable to access them. I have a walking DISABILITY (and the parking permit to prove it) and I would not be able to park blocks away to get the businesses on Main Street during this lengthy construction project, even if such parking existed.

There are many retirees in this area who have similar problems. If the "large municipal parking area" that Mr. Johnson spoke of means the one in front of the Senior Center, additional cars there would mean that Plymouth area seniors would lose access to the Senior Center as well as Main Street. Anyone parking anywhere on Green Street must walk up a steep hill to reach Main Street. This is already something that disabled people have trouble with -- add ice and it becomes completely impossible.

Therefore, for the sake of New Hampshire, the town of Plymouth, the Main Street businesses, and the disabled people who patronize those businesses, I respectfully request that the Site Evaluation Committee decide against allowing the Northern Pass to cross New Hampshire, and at the very least, that the lines be buried along the Interstate, not through the middle of towns such as Plymouth.

Sincerely,

Marcia Santore

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