



One Main Street
Franconia, NH 03580

October 20, 2017

Mr. Jerry P. Fortier
Project Director – Transmission
Northern Pass Project
P.O. Box 330
780 North Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03305

To Mr. Fortier:

Thank you for responding to my request to your letter of October 2, 2017. Mr. Jim Wagner contacted me and coordinated a visit with project representatives Catalina Celentano of Eversource and Ovide Redsham of Northern Pass. I enjoyed a very pleasant thirty-minute visit with these representatives, but was more amazed at what they didn't know versus what they did know about the Northern Pass project.

Of the questions that I posed to them about the scope of the work, impact and management of traffic patterns, compensation to businesses and property owners for damages and lost revenue, and management and drainage of water from the trench during construction; the only concrete fact that they were able to offer to me was that the trench would be between five and seven feet deep and would be 2'9" wide at the bottom with a width of approximately 4' at the surface.

They were unable to answer questions about Right of Way access on my property. Being close to the Gale River Motel, they were unable to answer how water flooding into the construction trench would be discharged. They had no information as to the management of traffic patterns during construction. They had no information as to how commercial or residential property owners would be compensated for lost revenue or damages to property (my neighbor has a tree within feet of the roadway that may be killed due to root damage resulting from the excavation and a stone foundation of an early 1800's home that is also within feet of the planned excavation) other than to promise to send me a copy of the "Claim Form". The representatives were unable to answer questions with regards to the source of the aggregate that would be used to re-fill the trench and were unable to provide any details about the "fluid thermal backfill" that would be poured into the trench.

In fact, I provided more detailed information about the project to your representatives pointing out a sewer line that runs under the roadway to the septic tank located eight-feet from the roadway which services my residence and the water line crossing under the roadway servicing my neighbor. None of these details were noted on your plans.

Your representatives were very nice, but essentially impotent in regard to answering my questions; promising to get back to me with answers in a follow up letter that I am anticipating will be equally vague and uninformative. Either these representatives were new to the process, poorly trained and unprepared to answer questions on behalf of Eversource/Northern Pass, or public relations people who can document the “success” of their public outreach in having met with a representative of a commercial lodging property and a Sugar Hill resident. The complete lack of knowledge and the inability to answer even the most basic questions about this project left me with even greater concerns about this project. It appears that Northern Pass and Eversource are trying to give the impression of reaching out to communities with no real substance behind the effort, I am as much in the dark about the impact of the project and the impact it will have on my business, livelihood, and community-at-large as I was prior to my visit with the representatives.

As project director, I will present my questions directly to you in the hopes an honest and direct answer can be offered.

1. Please provide me with a detailed description of the site plan as it impacts my property at 1 Main Street, Franconia.
2. Please explain how water infiltrating the construction trench due to the high water table next to the Gale River Motel will be removed and disposed of during construction
3. Please describe the plan for the management of traffic during the construction to insure that business customers and property owners have access to their properties.
4. Please describe the process for determining, calculating, submitting, approving, and providing reparations for claims of damages or losses to personal property or commercial endeavors.
5. Please describe the chemical composition of the “fluid thermal barrier”, the source of the aggregate used to back fill the trenches and whether there are any potentially harmful, toxic, or hazardous materials in the materials that will be filling the trenches posing a possible threat to the health and well-being of the community from leachate.

It is my hope that you will be more successful in answering these questions with direct and honest answers. I would hope that these simple questions of a humble innkeeper can be answered by the myriad of engineers, hydrologists, geologists, and construction experts that have been planning this project for years.

Sincerely,

Kevin Johnson
Gale River Motel
One Main Street
Franconia, NH 03580