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To: Monroe, Pamela
Subject: NP

Remarks on NP follow below:

Over the last 6-7 years and the deliberations about NP I have been repeatedly impressed with the number of people of integrity and dedication who have continued to resist this enterprise and, have enumerated endless, compelling reasons why it should not be built.

For my part, I fought the initial DC line through northern NH in the early '80's. Ultimately it was moved next door to Vermont. It didn't exactly go away, or far even, but it did not destroy the lovely piece of Coos County that I had fallen in love with after moving north in 1979, East Colebrook, Creampoke, et al. The lovely family farms I had frequented as "the tester" we're shortly after decimated by the politics of agribusiness, and now, what's left of the small but spectacular corner of our state, is on the block again.

It is really unconscionable that this travesty could happen, that all those lovely back roads, quiet corners and incredible landscapes will be the victim of a massively disruptive and disfiguring construct that, will I suspect, be technically outmoded within a decade or two. Not to mention it is from our northern neighbors who, through any tool at their disposal, have undermined the local will at every pass!

While I don't entertain much hope for the survival of humanity, or this incredible planet as we have known it, I continue to press for some result like this: that humanity will make intelligent choices in a time when the results of our excesses are depressingly apparent.

CONSERVATION is the highest and best option! For me this means we DO NOT GIVE PEOPLE MORE ENERGY to squander but create a situation that forces them to live within their means. One can argue the benefits and drawbacks of this theoretically green project, but ultimately, if we do not avail ourselves of it we:

1. Encourage the continuing development of locally derived alternatives, including conservation.
2. Save the last large expanse of Northern NH that still represents what this state once was. Even if the family farms that opened up and sustained the pastoral beauty that remains no longer exist, the beauty will. The foresight to save such things is what really did make this country great, Yellowstone being one of the most remarkable. We are not Yellowstone but we have a wonderful, spectacular landscape that warrants saving.

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