

SEC COMMENTS COLLECTION

SECDocket	2015-06 Northern Pass Transmission - Eversource
CommenterName	Joan Barnum
CommenterCity	Plymouth
DateReceived	12-01-2017

CommenterWords

Dear Site Evaluation Committee,

I write today to urge you not to grant approval for the Northern Pass transmission line as it is currently proposed. The only way this project should be permitted is if it can be done with minimal impact to the state of New Hampshire's scenic beauty and economy. And the only way I can envision that is complete burial along state transportation corridors, avoiding all environmentally sensitive areas and the small towns that will be devastated by the upheaval of months of heavy construction.

New Hampshire has much to lose and little to gain from this project. I have lived in this state all my life, and I do not want to see it destroyed by becoming an extension cord to carry power from Quebec to southern New England. New Hampshire, which produces more electricity than it consumes, will see no benefit from this transmission line.

New Hampshire should also not be used as a means to promote the distribution of hydroelectric power obtained at the expense of the natural habitats of Quebec - rivers, and tens of thousands of acres of forests - and the native people who have been displaced. Massachusetts is attempting to lower the proportion of power obtained from fossil fuels, but the alternative offers little or no improvement, and will come at a great cost to New Hampshire.

The impact on our state's environment and scenic vistas is a huge concern, but I find that, as the project has evolved, that I now have an additional reason for concern about impact very close to home. The town of Plymouth will be devastated by the negative impact of months of construction in the downtown area. I am afraid that we will emerge from the other side of this project with a virtual ghost town. Our local business people are concerned for their livelihoods and for their futures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joan Barnum
Plymouth, NH