

SEC COMMENTS COLLECTION

SECDocket	2015-06 Northern Pass Transmission - Eversource
CommenterName	Audrey Bethel
CommenterCity	Hillsborough
DateReceived	12-15-2017

CommenterWords

I have been against the Northern Pass Project since I first started hearing about it-- and then over the years, as the details got more ironed out- I was open to hearing why I should be swayed. But I have not heard anything to make me change my opinion. In fact, I have heard more to cement my stance in opposition to the project. This is not a transmission line that we even need here in NH; and it stands to do a lot of damage to the environment and negatively impact the tourism industry of the region. This massive project is designed to fix a problem that doesn't exist. The state already generates more power than it uses, and electricity demand has been trending downward. I am afraid that we are allowing a giant project to take advantage of our state in order for a few companies to profit. Namely, Hydro- Quebec and Eversource Energy.

By creating this one extremely over sized energy transmission line we are also cutting down on the possibility for more of the appropriately sized, smaller scale, hydro electric dam projects to manifest. I know of several small hydro dams in my region that are being rehabilitated and are generating power again. They employ local people to operate them and they have a low environmental impact.

I am worried that these more local energy sources will not be seen as worthwhile investments once there is a giant Northern Pass project flooding the market with their Canadian energy.

Lastly, I gather that the Northern Pass Transmission will be an expensive line to build. The NPT Line would likely cost \$55/MWh (or 5.5 cents per kWh) above and beyond the expected cost of power to New England customers, due to the cost of actually constructing the line. While other studies have assumed that this cost is borne by customers outside of New Hampshire, Analysis Group's report points out that this outcome is unlikely. In addition, the cost could be even larger due to the need for Hydro-Quebec to construct additional hydro resources that would be priced in on top of the projected costs.

In conclusion, I am still counting on this committee to make the right final decision!