

SEC COMMENTS COLLECTION

SECDocket	2015-06 Northern Pass Transmission - Eversource
CommenterName	Alex Ray
CommenterCity	Ashland
DateReceived	12-16-2017

CommenterWords

Dear SEC:

I am writing to respectfully request that do not approve of the Northern Pass Transmission project.

I am a 46-year business owner in New Hampshire, property owner, large employer (2,000) and concerned citizen who has helped grow tourism and hospitality in our state to the point where it is a major economic engine providing a high quality of life for our state. This development and success relies most largely on the idyllic landscapes of central and northern New Hampshire, where our lakes, mountains, rivers and landscapes draw visitors from around the world. To compromise our vistas, our wildlife, our businesses, our property values, and other aspects of our quality of life for the benefit of a Canadian power company is not acceptable. There is no cost-benefit analysis that supports New Hampshire's acceptance of this trespassing of our landscape and our rights as communities, business owners, landowners and citizens.

My businesses include an inn, performing arts center and three restaurants along Main Street in Plymouth, NH (visit thecman.com) where this project would disturb business, guest continuity, wage earning and other aspects of our community.

Additional reasons from our local citizenry:

- There is overwhelming opposition to NTP all across New Hampshire because:
 - o Aesthetically it will leave a huge scar on our otherwise beautiful land.
 - o The aesthetic degradation of New Hampshire will negatively impact our tourism, state economy, and property values.
 - o Main street construction disruptions for up to six months in multiple towns will result in reduced traffic, loss of business revenue, and business closures, as experienced with past projects that were far less intrusive than NTP's proposal.
 - o New Hampshire has no need for this project, will not benefit from it, but our impacted communities will incur costs during and subsequent to construction. As an example, in the town where I own 3 business and multiple rental properties (Plymouth, NH), NTP proposes to bury their line under our Main Street but on top of Plymouth's buried infrastructure, therefor future town repairs and development requires working around NTP's property at higher expense with no allowance for compensation. Furthermore, my businesses will be impacted, as will my employees' ability to earn wages, during the burial construction.
 - o There will be enormous devastation to flora, fauna, water and eco systems from massive clearcutting and digging along its 192-mile path.
 - o Project construction maps make clear the hundreds of times NTP will invade private property boundaries that will result in damage to lawns, trees, stone walls, driveways, etc., and with no plan for compensation, thus also resulting in financial loss to private citizens.
- The NTP project is proposed to run through 31 New Hampshire towns. 25 of those towns have registered opposition.
- An unprecedented number of individuals, groups, and towns petitioned to intervene at the NH's Site Evaluation Committee against the project.
- Not a single conservation/environmental group supports this project.
- Public comment at the SEC has run approximately 13:1 against this project.

- Multiple thousands of anti-NTP comments were entered into the DOE process.

In addition, it appears that other power companies have avoided these disturbances: New England Clean Power Link has achieved full burial with proper site selection and Granite State Power Link proposes use of existing right of ways and towers, with only eight miles of digging along its 115-mile route.

Thank you for your rejection of Northern Pass's proposal in NH.

Sincerely,

Alex Ray
Plymouth, Ashland, Holderness (and more) NH
603-481-1872 (personal cell)
