

November 15, 2016

Pamela Monroe, Administrator
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee Docket No. 2015-06
Pre-Filed Testimony for Abutters and Non-Abutters' Group I,
Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown

Dear Ms. Monroe:

As Spokesperson for the Abutters' and Non-Abutters' Group I, of Pittsburg, Clarksville, and Stewartstown, I am submitting our pre-filed testimony in PDF format, electronically, to you and to the distribution list.

We will be hand-delivering hard copies of all pre-filed testimonies to you later today.

Previously, on November 10, 2016, a video was submitted on a thumb drive, also part of our pre-filed testimony.

We are submitting group testimony, as well as individual testimonies. Please find included, testimonies from the following:

- Group Testimony from Abutters and Non-Abutters, Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown
- Individual Personal Testimony from Bradley J. Thompson
- Individual Testimony from Bradley J. Thompson, *Bear Rock Springs*
- Individual Testimony from Daryl Thompson, *The Bears' Den*
- Individual Personal Testimony from E. Martin Kaufman
- Individual Personal Testimony from Lori and Jon Levesque
- Individual Personal Testimony from Roderick McAllaster
- Individual Personal Testimony from John Petrofsky, plus *Wetlands*
- Individual Personal Testimony from John Petrofsky, plus *Historic*
- Individual Personal Testimony from Sally Zankowski
- Individual Personal Testimony from Peter Perkins

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Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Bradley Thompson
Spokesperson for Abutters Group I,
Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown

Enclosures

November 15, 2016

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

BRADLEY J. THOMPSON, on behalf of ABUTTERS and

NON-ABUTTERS in Northern Coos County

Q: Please state your name and address.

A: Bradley Thompson, 599 Noyes Road, Stewartstown, New Hampshire 03576.

Q: For whom are you presenting this testimony?

A: This testimony is presented on behalf of two groups of intervenors, identified in the SEC intervention order of May 20, 2016 as the Abutting Property Owners, Group I, in Pittsburg, Clarksville and Stewartstown and the Non-Abutting Property Owners, Group I, in Clarksville and Stewartstown. A subsequent order of the SEC is imminent, in which we expect to formally establish that the two groups can merge, for the purposes of presenting pre-filed testimony and representing ourselves in the Northern Pass docket.

The Abutting Property Owners include nine individual intervenors:

1. Charles and Donna Jordan of Clarksville (West Road & Route 145)
Mailing address: 647 West Road
Clarksville NH 03592
NP LL Number of impacted land: 429 (sheet 5 of 189)
2. Sally Zankowski of Stewartstown (land on Route 145 in Clarksville)
Mailing address: PO Box 135
Colebrook NH 03576
NP LL Number of impacted land: 424.01 (sheet 5 of 189)
3. Jon and Lori Levesque of Stewartstown (on Bear Rock Road)
Mailing address: 107 Oak Street
Gonic NH 03839

- 1 NP LL Number of impacted land: 742.01, 10644.03 (sheet 9 of 189)
2 4. Roderick and Donna McAllaster of Stewartstown (on Bear Rock Road)
3 Mailing address: 380 McAllaster Road
4 Stewartstown NH 03576
5 NP LL Number of impacted land: 10649 (sheet 9 of 189)
6 5. Lynne Placey of Stewartstown (land on Bear ROCK Road)
7 Mailing address: 1043 South Hill Road
8 Stewartstown, NH 03576
9 NP LL Number of impacted land: 10673 (sheet 11 of 189)
10 6. Arlene Placey of Stewartstown (land on Bear Rock Road)
11 Mailing address: 944 Bear Rock Road
12 Stewartstown, NH 03576
13 NP LL Number of impacted land: 10656 (sheet 11 of 189)
14 7. Brad an Daryl Thompson of Stewartstown (land on Bear Rock Road)
15 Mailing address: 599 Noyes Road, Stewartstown, NH 03576
16 NP LL Number of impacted land: 10676 (sheet 11 of 189)
17 8. David A. Schrier of Exeter (land on Old County Road, Stewartstown)
18 Mailing address: 188 High Street, Exter, NH 03833
19 NP LL Number of impacted land: 704 (sheet 6 of 189)
20 9. Nancy Dodge of Stewartstown (land on Old County Road)
21 Mailing address: 157 Creampoke Road, Stewartstown , NH 03576
22 NP LL Number of impacted land: 711.01 (sheet 7 of 189)
23

24 The Non-Abutting Property Owners includes three separate property owners as
25 intervenors:

- 26 • Robert Martin of Clarksville
27 • Roderick C. Moore, Jr., Joseph John Dunlap, Shawn Patrick Brady and
28 Christopher Thompson, owners together of one property in Stewartstown;
29 • E. Martin Kaufman, Bradley J. Thompson, and John Petrofsky on behalf of 44
30 residents of Stewartstown and East Colebrook (Dixville Notch-Harvey Swell
31 Location residents).
32

33 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**
34

35 A: The purpose of this group testimony is to present the SEC with material of concern to
36 the entire group regarding the Northern Pass application. Specifically, the group will
37 present two installments of materials. One installment, provided today in this filing,
38 addresses issues related to aesthetics, the local tourism economy, historic resources, Glacial
39 Springs waterworks, property rights and public health and safety. A second installment
40 will be submitted December 30 concerning 1) issues related to wetlands and other natural
41 resources and 2) issues related to underground construction in Pittsburg, Clarksville and
42 Stewartstown, including middle-of-the-road issues.
43

1 We believe that the applicant has failed to demonstrate --- as required by RSA 162-H --- that
2 the award of a certificate for site and facility will not unduly interfere with the orderly
3 development of the region. The project as proposed will have a dramatic and permanently
4 adverse impact on the orderly development of the region we call home. We believe the
5 applicant has failed to demonstrate that the project as proposed will not have an
6 unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, the natural environment, and
7 public health and safety. As we explain in this installment of our testimony, and as we will
8 explain in our December 30 installment, the impacts of this project will be unreasonably
9 adverse as they relate to aesthetics, historic sites, the natural environment and public
10 health and safety. Finally, the proponents of this project have failed to demonstrate that
11 awarding the project a certificate of site and facility serves the public interest.

12
13 As our first piece of evidence, we have submitted a video, produced for our group by
14 photographer Tim Shellmer of Jackson, New Hampshire. We mailed this video on a flash
15 drive to Pamela Monroe, on Thursday, November 10, 2016, as directed by Ms. Monroe.

16
17 This video depicts the 16 miles of landscapes that will be forever scarred by the Northern
18 Pass project, as proposed. It includes short interviews with local people, highlighting the
19 issues of concern to us.

20
21 **Q: Are you concerned about economic growth in the North Country?**

22 A. Yes! Our scenic resources and incredible landscapes are who we are. This is the heritage.
23 And people can't get enough of it. Folks from "Down Below" will travel the extra distance,
24 drive into Colebrook, turn right on Rte. 26 or proceed north on Rte. 3. They've reached their
25 destination. That big smile is on their face. I know this because I feel it every time I drive north
26 through Colebrook.

27 This is what brings tourists north – the many outdoor activities. There's not much need for a
28 couch in camp, except to rest up after a long day outdoors. To stretch an overhead powerline
29 over Big Diamond Pond Road with tainted views east and west looking out at 5-15 towers is not
30 the welcome mat we should offer for owners of the many camps on Big Diamond Pond (mostly
31 2nd homes), or the 800 different campers that spent time at Coleman State Park in 2015.

32 And as tourists and residents of Pittsburg pass over the Rte. 3 steel bridge one mile north of the
33 Clarksville store, the smile will quickly drop from their faces as they glance to see Transition
34 Stations #1 and #2 – each an area 80' by 150' (+/-) with eight foot fences topped with 3 strands
35 of barbed wire. They'll look west and up to see a hillside of towers coming from Hall Stream.
36 What a great way to say "Welcome" to the 2,158 different travelers that stayed at Lake Francis
37 State Park in Pittsburg in 2015. These are the people who in some cases will upgrade from
38 camping to owning a camp. This will lead to hiring a local builder, an excavation company, a
39 concrete company, and a well-driller. They'll shop at the Trading Post, buy gas at Young's Store

1 and get their snowmobile repaired at Lemieux's in Colebrook. They'll also go out to dinner at
2 the Buck Rub Pub, Tall Timber, the Black Bear, or the Spa. And this all leads to more growth –
3 new businesses.

4 It's a simple formula. We must protect our natural beauty and special resources at all costs.

5 **Q: Are there other issues you'd like to put on file?**

6 A: Yes, I'll list them below. Some will also be addressed further in our filing for the
7 December 30, 2016 deadline.

- 8
- 9 1. The existing natural beauty and visual impact on the region is monumentally affected
10 by the construction of this Transmission line. The landscapes will go from virgin,
11 natural beauty to a construction zone.
- 12 2. Visitors to the three State Parks in Northern Coos County will be permanently and
13 negatively affected. Every visitor to Coleman State Park in Stewartstown, and Lakes
14 Francis State Park, and the Connecticut Lakes State Forest, for the next forty years,
15 maybe longer, will have to pass under overhead lines or directly pass by large
16 Transition Station structures, which are surrounded by an 8' high steel woven fence,
17 with three strands of barbed wire on the top, with gates, cameras, and security lights.
18 Light pollution and the ruining of our night sky would have a definite negative impact.
- 19 3. One of the most valued aspects of the Bear Rock area of Stewartstown is its solitude—
20 peace and quiet. Visitors always comment on this. The crackling noise of snow or sleet
21 hitting the transmission lines during storms, which occur very often up North, as well
22 as the constant hum of the lines year-round, would be offensive, to say the least. We
23 are not willing, nor should we be, to give up the peace and quiet which brought us here
24 in the first place.
- 25 4. The effect of possible transmission lines being built to the existing cemeteries is a
26 serious issue. The North Hill Cemetery in Stewartstown and the cemetery under Old
27 County Road in Clarksville, are two major concerns. We cannot allow the excavation of
28 these historic locations.
- 29 5. The effectiveness of measures to be undertaken by the Applicant to avoid, minimize or
30 mitigate potential adverse effects on the affected wildlife species, rare plants, rare
31 natural communities— are at the very least, unclear. We're talking about the next forty
32 years—Mother nature is way too fragile to mess with. If fragmentation or other
33 alterations to the existing natural resources might even possibly occur, this project
34 should be dismissed.
- 35 6. Just because the Applicant maintains that the Site Evaluation Committee overrules the
36 Boards of Selectmen of Pittsburg, Clarksville and Stewartstown, concerning the
37 permitting on construction over and under town roads, we need not accept this
38 statement as truth. Both the SEC, first, and then the State of New Hampshire, if
39 necessary, needs to rule on this.
- 40 7. The comparison costs of underground versus overhead construction do not equate.

1 Mr. Bill Quinlan's assertion that the costs of land clearing access roads to tower sites,
2 tower material costs, concrete foundations, erection of towers, site restoration, and
3 cable installation is \$3,000,000 per mile. He also claims that the cost of burying two 6-
4 inch cables in gravel, covered with an 8"x 36" pad of concrete, accompanied by three
5 2 ½" conduits for communications, will be \$8,000,000-\$13,000,000 per mile. This does
6 include a splice pit manhole every 1800 feet and eight pipe jack locations at wetland
7 areas. This makes no sense. Who is their estimator?

8 8. Underground burial issues:

- 9 a.) The landowners on Bear Rock Road own the dirt under the roads. In some cases,
10 this land is also in conservation easements, stipulating that there will be no
11 underground or overhead transmission lines on the property. Personal property
12 rights are being violated.
- 13 b.) Transition Stations are poorly located. They could easily be better hidden. The SEC
14 needs to perform a site visitation to review this, preferably before snow season, or
15 in the spring.
- 16 c.) The look of the Transition Stations needs to be redesigned, as they are
17 unnecessarily visibly offensive.
- 18 d.) There is an obvious lack of experience on the part of the Applicant, related to
19 underground burial of transmission lines on a dirt road. At the Construction
20 Technical Session in September, 2016, I asked for examples of typical dirt road
21 construction. One of the experts finally gave me an example of a project in Calgary,
22 Canada. I asked for details, specifically the name of the present road agent in
23 charge. I want to talk about how splice pit manholes in a dirt road, in a serious
24 freeze/thaw climate, perform. What does the snow removal crew have to say about
25 plowing dirt roads with manholes? Although I was promised answers, they were
26 never provided.
- 27 e.) I have the same issues on Transition Stations. I've asked for and not received the
28 location of Transition Stations the Applicant has constructed. I want to visit a
29 number of them and experience them first-hand. If the Applicant has built them,
30 where are they? I'll travel.
- 31 f.) There will be a major disruption if Bear Rock Road is closed. There are 20 splice pit
32 manholes under town roads in Clarksville and Stewartstown. Mr. Ken Bowes
33 admits that each pit installation will close that road for one week. There are seven
34 pipe jack or HDD locations. Mr. Ken Bowes admits freely, that each of these
35 underground jacks will require the roads to close for 2 ½ to 5 weeks. These total
36 road closures are unacceptable. People live on the roads, business is conducted
37 over these roads daily.

38 **Q: Have you covered everything?**

39
40 A: No. There will be many more questions, after I totally review the 90% complete
41 construction documentation promised by the Applicant, prior to December 30,
42 2016.

1 Upon this thorough review of the new documents, I will be able to finalize my pre-
2 filed testimony, which will include the following:

- 3
4 1.) Property Rights: Middle of the road issues, Conservation Easement issues,
5 Road closures during construction
6 2.) Hydrology of Water Works
7 3.) Wetlands
8
9

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
BRADLEY J. THOMPSON,
RE: AGAINST NORTHERN PASS PROJECT,
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is Bradley J. Thompson, age 70, married to Daryl Thompson for 47 years. We have four grown children, and five grandchildren. We are retired and now spend 80 to 90% of our time in Stewartstown, New Hampshire, in a home we built in 2008 on 365 scenic acres of fields, pastures, ponds and mountains. Our primary address is 18 Tannery Hill Road, Gilford, NH, but we hope to make 599 Noyes Road, Stewartstown, NH our permanent address eventually.

Q: Briefly summarize what brought you to Stewartstown.

A: In the early 1970's, my dad, Walton, and brother, Brian, would travel north from our homes in Gilford to Pittsburg, where we would enjoy the four seasons of the North Country, by rabbit-hunting and ice-fishing in the winter, fly-fishing in the summer, and deer hunting in the fall. This led to our purchasing an 8-acre parcel of land on West Road, in Clarksville in 1974. Ironically, it directly borders the LeBlanc farm, which is now owned by the Applicant, and which will possibly soon have buried transmission lines running through it. We built a four-season camp on the 8-acres in 1974.

Down through the years our family, including my brother's family, with our six children and grandchildren, have continued to use and enjoy the 'old' camp—snowmobiling, skiing and golfing at the Balsams, boating on the many bodies of water, and hunting and fishing in the

1 Great North Woods. Relaxation and thoroughly enjoying the natural beauty and solitude—
2 and making new friends— were not overlooked.

3
4 This led to 2007, when my wife and I decided to purchase our present 365 acre-property
5 and build our retirement home. My brother's family still owns the 'old' camp on West Road.

6
7 Since 2008, and especially since my retirement in 2015, I have spent a great deal of my time
8 *working the land*. The 70-plus acres of fields and pastures were nearly overgrown. They
9 are now pristine, well-manicured landscapes. I have also built many hiking and ATV trails,
10 and a new pond.

11
12 This is the legacy we are leaving for our children and grandchildren and future generations.

13
14 **Q: What is the purpose of your personal testimony?**

15
16 A: The next 40 years can be defined as two future generations. This means my great-great
17 grandchildren may possibly be enjoying the Stewartstown property and be forced to look
18 directly at Transition Station #4, on its 3-plus acres, with its 8 -foot perimeter fence, and
19 three strands of barbed wire at its top—and at least seven transmission line towers, up to
20 135 feet tall, as the line heads east along Heath Road, toward Dixville. I have great concern
21 that this is not proper stewardship of my land and the surrounding 360 degree viewscape.

22
23 Foremost, I have serious doubt that the 40-year decommissioning of this transmission line
24 will ever occur. Who knows what the future holds? But, for sure, if we do not let this
25 travesty occur, then we won't have to worry about it.

26
27 I feel a major responsibility to protect my land and the surrounding viewscapes of
28 Pittsburg, Clarksville and Stewartstown. Friends, neighbors and strangers are welcome to
29 hike, hunt, fish, or just enjoy the beauty of our land. I cannot allow this to be taken away.

30
31 Eight miles of 120-foot wide clear cut, with 72 towers, ranging up to 135 feet tall, is not
32 taking care of our land.

33
34 I cannot have those little kids, forty years from now, saying, "How did our great-great
35 grandpa let this happen?"

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

BRADLEY J. THOMPSON

NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Q: Please state your name and address:

A: My name is Bradley J. Thompson. My wife Daryl and I are retired and live on 599 Noyes Road in Stewartstown, just off Bear Rock Road. Our home is located on a 365-acre parcel; also located on our property are three capped glacial springs wells, which make up *Bear Rock Beverages*.

Q: What are the details of Bear Rock Beverages?

Located on our property at 599 Noyes Road in Stewartstown, is a system of three wells, producing clear, pure glacial springs water. We are deeply concerned about losing these wells due to damage caused by the installation of the proposed buried Northern Pass transmission line, and the construction of the transition area where the buried cables will go overhead.

1. The three wells are located approximately 90' from each other.
2. The three wells are 460-480 feet from the center of Bear Rock Road, where the buried cables are proposed, and 1160 feet to the center of the transition area.
3. The three wells are presently free flowing, releasing 41,000 gallons of pristine glacial water every 24 hours.
4. The water temperature in the springs is 43.5 degrees presently, and warms up to 44 degrees in the summer.
5. This water flows under pressure from distant water tables on Holden Hill and Lovering Mountain, filtering its way through millions of cubic feet of glacial

deposits (silt, sand and rock). Bear Rock Road is uphill and in direct line with Holden Hill.

6. These wells were originally developed in the late 1970's under the name, *Glacial Springs*. The waterworks DES license (ID 55447) expired in 2006. We purchased the land and waterworks in 2007. The name *Bear Rock Beverages* was also used in the DES application.

Q: What are your concerns relating to the underground construction of the Northern Pass transmission lines?

A: The concerns are of long term and irreparable damage to our wells:

- Contamination of ground water, resulting from a release of a regulated or unregulated substance to the surrounding groundwater. In some instances, materials such as detonators and explosives are not entirely combusted during blasting, resulting in the release of soluble substances into the groundwater.
- Agitation of the subsurface may cause an increase in turbidity in groundwater. Blasting may cause a shaking loose of silt, sand, rock particles, and chemical precipitates that line fracture surfaces in the subsurface, resulting in increased turbidity in water derived from a bedrock well.

Q: What is Northern Pass's responsibility to possible water contamination?

Ensuring safe and adequate drinking-water supplies require maintaining the quality and availability of present and future water sources, because in the long run, it is less expensive and more protective of public health to prevent contamination, than it is to treat water to meet health standards; it is less expensive to use existing sources than it is to develop new ones.

Please note that the waterworks is located on our property, which borders Bear Rock Road and runs for 1200 feet along the road where the underground transmission line is proposed.

Q: What are your ultimate concerns?

I realize that my *Bear Rock Beverages* bottling business could very well be vulnerable to irreparable damage. If the three capped wells become contaminated from blasting, fuel spills, agitation of the subsurface, ditch excavation, and/or restoration, what is the repair? There is none. You can't just "drill three more wells." Money cannot reverse this damage—it would be too late. Our only answer here, is to not construct this underground project on Bear Rock Road.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
DARYL D. THOMPSON
D/B/A/ AT THE BEARS' DEN
AGAINST NORTHERN PASS PROJECT
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is Daryl Thompson; my address is 599 Noyes Road, Stewartstown

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: The Northern Pass project, as proposed, would destroy our views, and therefore, negatively impact our home business, which is offering retreats at our home and studio, at the *Bears' Den*, at 599 Noyes Road.

Q: Describe what you offer at the Bears' Den.

A: We offer the ultimate getaway, "*Where Relaxation Happens Naturally, and Nature Inspires Creativity.*" I hope to show the Site Evaluation Committee how this project would severely impact our home business.

Q: How did you come to be residents of Stewartstown?

My husband, Brad Thompson, and I decided to build a retirement home somewhere north of the Notch, back in 2007. We had been enjoying the area since 1974, when we built a

1 family hunting camp, in Clarksville.
2

3 We eventually found a beautiful, pristine 100-acre parcel of land, consisting of fields, ponds,
4 and apple orchards. It had at one time been a thriving farm. There were also Glacial
5 Springs on the property, which had once been a profitable bottled-water business back in
6 the 1970's. We hoped to re-permit the springs, and get it up and running again.
7

8 Our property offers amazing views of the neighboring hills and mountains. We have a view
9 of the Balsams and Dixville Notch. This is a serene, peaceful place. We were still working at
10 that time, and it was our intention to live here mortgage-free when we retired.
11

12 After our home was just about complete in November of 2008, we discovered from our real
13 estate agent, that there was a buyer, hoping to develop a campground on the mountain
14 behind us. That led to our quickly purchasing an additional 266-acre parcel, to preserve
15 our privacy, and our investment. In addition to that, we soon realized we would have to
16 build a barn, to house all the equipment needed to tend to the land. Our dream of living
17 mortgage-free, was just that— a dream. We had a substantial mortgage at this point, as
18 well as a hefty tax bill with the town of Stewartstown. If we needed to supplement our
19 retirement income, perhaps we could do so, by offering retreats here on the property.
20

21 We reserved a third of our barn to create an art studio. We realized we had the perfect
22 setting to offer retreats for family and friends and others. We had plenty of bedrooms and
23 bathrooms, so we could offer comfortable accommodations, and we had a 625-square foot
24 studio, to offer an art experience. In addition, we had the whole of the Great North Woods
25 to offer outdoor experiences. We purchased several snowmobiles and ATVs, so our guests
26 could enjoy the amazing trail systems for both activities. In 2010, we started working on
27 the *Bears' Den* website, before there was any thought of Northern Pass going through our
28 property.
29

30 **Q: What have your efforts been to date to try to stop this project?**
31

32 A: For obvious reasons, we have been strongly opposed to this project since it was
33 announced in the fall of 2010. We still find it inconceivable that our private property rights
34 could be so violated.
35

36 Early on, when Northern Pass was buying up land on Bear Rock Road, we were approached
37 by their agents, and offered a substantial amount of money for our property. We were
38 adamant that we would not sell out—not at any price. We could see no way that this project
39 would serve the public interest of New Hampshire. It was at this time that we decided the
40 best way to protect our property from this project, was to give a conservation easement to
41 the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, prohibiting—forever—
42 underground or overhead transmission lines.
43

1 We were warned by Northern Pass agents that we would lose in the end, threatening that
2 our neighbors would sell out, and then we would be looking directly at the project— at its
3 worst— in the form of a 3-acre Transition Station (#4). Yes, their threats have come true.
4 Maybe it's coincidental, but other landowners who refused to be bought out by Northern
5 Pass, are also now going to be looking at a Transition Station (#3). Punishment for doing
6 the right thing?

7
8 Since the announcement of the project back in 2010, we attended numerous local meetings,
9 trying to get an understanding of what was being proposed; we've held several events at
10 our home over the past six years, to educate ourselves and others on what was happening
11 with the project. We've attended many of the information sessions that were held
12 throughout the state. My husband took part this fall in the Technical sessions in Concord,
13 specifically trying to get information on the underground portion of the route. Now we are
14 working on our pre-filed testimony.

15
16 We will continue to try to show what a high cost this project is for the State of New
17 Hampshire. Does the Site Evaluation Committee realize that once our landscapes are
18 scarred by this project, we will never get them back?

19
20 **Q: How can we convince the Sight Evaluation Committee that this project would**
21 **devastate the Great North Woods—greatly affecting people emotionally and**
22 **economically?**

23
24 A: We ask that the members of the Sight Evaluation Committee come up to the Great North
25 Woods, to see what we have here, to share the same experience. This is the Big Woods—
26 where else can people go, to enjoy such unspoiled wilderness?

27
28 What we are offering here at the *Bears' Den* will certainly be negatively impacted, as will all
29 the other small businesses that hope to make a living from tourism in the Great North
30 Woods.

31
32 Please take the time to visit our website: www.atthebearsden.com
33 We have a quirky video tour on the contact page, that will give you an idea of the scenic
34 beauty here on Bear Rock Road. Please take the six minutes to watch it. How could we be
35 forced to give up these views for those of a 3-acre transition station, across from our home?
36 And a string of tall towers dotting our landscapes? Who is going to protect our property
37 rights?

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ELLIOT MARTIN KAUFMAN, MD

RE: AGAINST NORTHERN PASS PROJECT

NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Q: Please state your name and address.

A: My name is Elliot Martin Kaufman, MD. My wife, Janice, and I live full time at 714 Bear Rock Road, Stewartstown New Hampshire. I am 81 years old and still practicing psychiatry 20 hours each week. My wife is a second generation American from Western Europe and I am a first generation American from Eastern Europe.

Q: Briefly summarize what brought you to Stewartstown.

A: My wife and I bought this 350-acre farm in 1971. Discharged from the Army, having served with the 101st in Vietnam, we camped for a few weeks on a hay field of Mr. Jackson's farm, treated a few neighbors and bonded with the land and people. In 1981 I left my position as Medical Director of a 250-bed psychiatric hospital in NYC to help develop mental health services in northern N.H. My wife and our 8-year-old son, Greg, had bought the farm we had camped on, built a home largely with our own hands, opened a Psychiatric Unit at Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin N.H. as its Director and created a life that is now being threatened by this Applicant's proposal. As we sit writing this, we look out at land now owned by Northern Pass not 200 feet away that extends for miles across the hills traversed by Heath Road, across Diamond Pond Road up by Coleman State Park and over the mountain into Dixville. Our spring house will be on the other side of the proposed towers.

1 The fields I used to help my neighbor hay will be part of the avenue of towers and the simple
2 pleasure of hiking and tracking bear and deer with my grandchildren will be erased by the
3 infrastructure of Hydro Quebec Transition Zones and Towers which will be our new view. This
4 entire area is in transition from farming to the Hospitality Industry branded by Concord as The
5 Great North Woods. There must be a balance between the commercial desires of this and
6 future applicants and the needs and desires of the people who live here. What is at stake? Four
7 families, children and grandchildren include four M.D.'s, two nurses, one software engineer,
8 one banker, a psychologist and on and on. We are the new people who have contributed to the
9 area and either live here permanently or gather during those wonderful vacations and
10 celebrations when we are all together enjoying each other and the land. Our children and
11 grandchildren are not going to make an emotional and financial investment in this area and
12 look at HQ infrastructure. They can afford better. We will go where they go. The Transition
13 Zones and Avenues of Towers and decaying homes will remain.

14 **Q: What is the purpose of your personal testimony?**

15 We need to achieve a better, fairer, balance between the commercial needs of the current and
16 future Applicants and the needs of the people who have lived through years of transition from
17 the paper industry to an uncertain future in the hospitality industry. We are asking our
18 government to protect us. It is that simple. We need a better deal than we are being offered. At
19 the very least, the line should be buried to minimize the impact and allow us to continue to
20 treasure the land, or preferably to rethink the route of the line and place it along existing
21 transportation routes. There should be a better balance. This negotiation is going on between
22 the State of NH and the Applicant. We look to the Site Evaluation Committee to protect
23 something that cannot be easily measured which is our relationship to the land. Whether the
24 system in New Hampshire created to evaluate and strike that balance is viewed as successful in
25 the end will be a decision that our grandchildren will make.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JON & LORI LEVESQUE

RE: Against Northern Pass Transmission Project

November 15, 2015

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: We are Jon and Lori Levesque, husband and wife, who currently reside at 107 Oak Street in Gonic, New Hampshire. We have owned the property at 1459 Bear Rock Road in Stewartstown, New Hampshire since December 2010. In October of 2012, we purchased the 3 acre lot across the street on Bear Rock Road.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: Our two Stewartstown properties were purchased without the knowledge that they would be on a proposed route for Northern Pass. We spent many days shopping for a serene, quiet out of the way location that we would someday call our home. We purchased the first property because we fell in love with the location and our hope is to retire there and start a small homestead farm in a few years. When the lot across the street became available we purchased it as a potential site for a barn. Northern Pass Transmission is proposed to be buried under Bear Rock Road which is between our two properties.

Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?

A: The purpose of this letter being written to you, is to voice our concerns over this project abutting our two properties and to let you know how this will affect us as homeowners.

In speaking with two realtors, we were told that if we were to sell either of the Bear Rock Road properties, we would have to disclose on the purchase and sale agreement that the property abuts the Northern Pass Transmission line. When we asked if this would affect

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the values of our two properties, both realtors said yes, absolutely. It would also limit our market as some people would not even consider buying a property that abuts this project.

As stated earlier, we plan to retire to our Bear Rock Road property a few years from now. Once we have a barn across the street and if Northern Pass is allowed, we will be walking over this transmission line several times per day. We do not know how much radiation this will be emitting or how this could affect our health, or the health of animals we will have on our homestead.

We are also concerned about how the burial of this line will affect our newly drilled well which is approximately 100 feet from the edge of the road on the downward side. Also, how will we be inconvenienced and for how long? Will we not be able to access our property when the road is closed for construction? Additionally, we are very concerned about the potential blasting that would be needed to bury the transmission line on North Hill Road and how this might affect our foundation and our well.

In closing, we also have concerns with this project in regard to the possible cost to the town of Stewartstown. With rapid advancements in technology, how soon will this project be outdated? Will Northern Pass be allowed to walk away and abandon this project leaving a final bill for the towns to remove? What kind of a financial burden might this place upon our town and other towns with extremely limited budgets?

We respectfully ask that you carefully consider our concerns and also the concerns of all intervenors who are directly impacted by this project. Our hope is that you will deny the Northern Pass application.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon and Lori Levesque
107 Oak Street
Gonic, NH 03839

Property owners
1459 Bear Rock Road and
Lot across the street from 1459 Bear Rock Road
Stewartstown, NH

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
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d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK MCALLASTER
RE: NORTHERN PASS PROJECT
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is Roderick McAllaster, and my address is 380 McAllaster Road
Stewartstown NH 03576.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: I am a life-long resident of Bear Rock Road, Stewartstown. My wife Donna and I own a
dairy farm, with over 80 cows. We produce milk. The milk truck comes every other day,
year-round. The truck is a large tractor trailer, which requires a good road, not a back road
detour.

Also, our hay fields are on Bear Rock Road. We need the road to be open all summer.
Closures for weeks at a time will put us out of business. At their meetings, Northern Pass
said one lane will always be open. They lied. They lie about everything.

Northern Pass is going East to go South. This route is longer and a bad choice. They want
to rape as much of New Hampshire as possible—all for money, laughing all the way to the
bank.

Please do the right thing. Say NO to this proposed route. It stinks.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire)
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility)

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JOHN P. PETROFSKY

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is John P. Petrofsky. I am 30 years old and am the fourth generation in my family to reside in Stewartstown, NH. I own the house my parents built themselves in 1972, as well as 85 acres. My primary address is 5347 42nd St. NW, Washington DC, but I spend a significant amount of time in Stewartstown, and I plan to move back eventually if it remains the unique and beautiful place that I grew up in.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: My interest in the project as proposed is in ensuring that the natural resources of the North Country are not destroyed or degraded by Northern Pass. As I mentioned, I plan to move back at some point, because my business will afford me that flexibility. When I do, I will bring part of that business with me. I can afford to spend time anywhere. I choose to spend time in the North Country specifically because of its deep history, and precious natural resources. I grew up fishing these rivers, wandering its hills, and learning about its history from my ancestors. Northern Pass threatens to destroy everything I hold dear about this place. If Northern Pass as proposed is approved, I don't think I'm ever coming back. I'll take my tax dollars, and my company, somewhere that remains unspoiled.

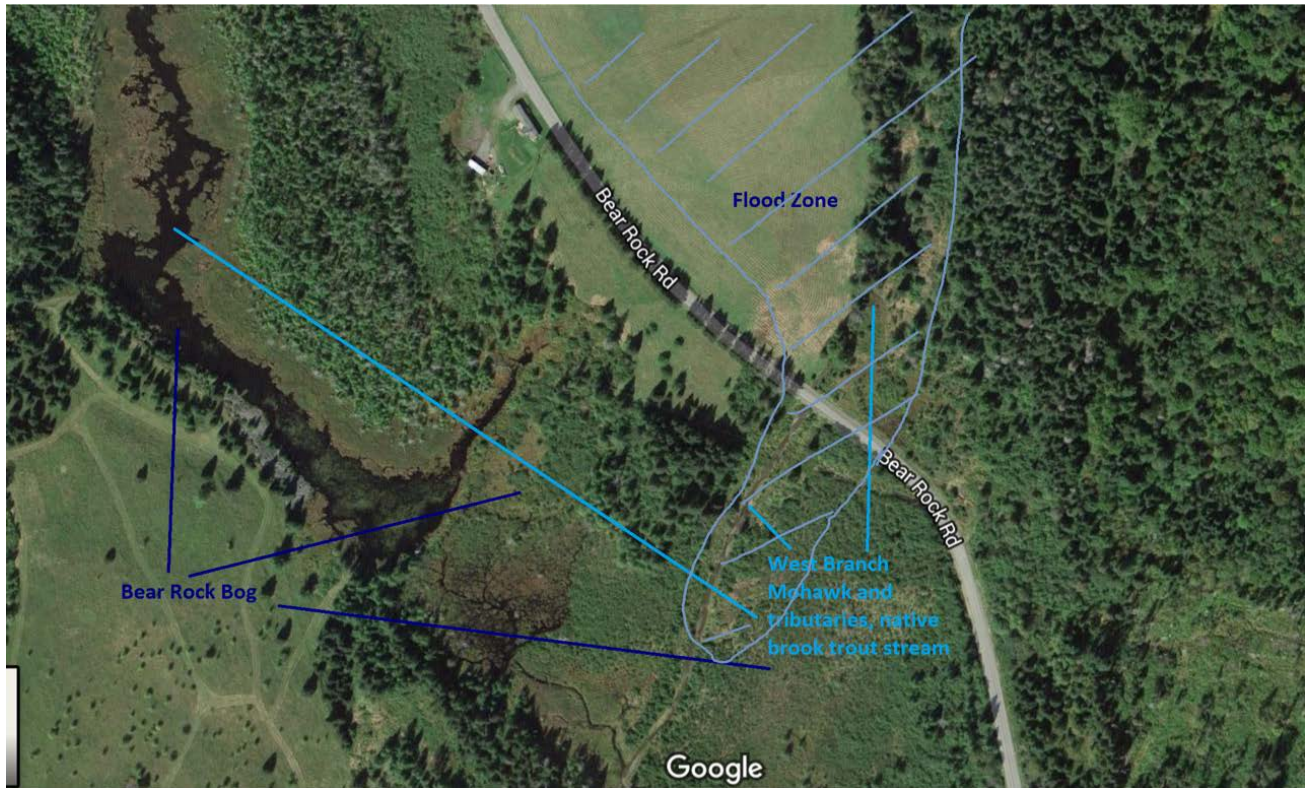
Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?

A: The purpose of my testimony is to highlight the damages to certain wetlands and drinking water resources of eastern Stewartstown and Colebrook that would occur from the construction of Northern Pass as proposed. The application contains what appear to be serious flaws in its analysis of wetlands, and I aim to highlight several of the resources and considerations where they have been overlooked.

1 To begin, the Applicant is proposing to build a buried portion of the line through or
2 adjacent to several wetlands including but not limited to Bear Rock Bog and the West
3 Branch of the Mohawk River. Bear Rock Bog is fed by calcareous seeps, which are very
4 common in the immediate area, but fairly rare in New Hampshire as a whole. The seeps and
5 the attendant wetlands are likely to contain rare plant species. Bear Rock Road travels
6 alongside the Bog, and then crosses a headwater stream feeding the West Branch of the
7 Mohawk immediately before the river (stream at this point) enters the Bog. The West
8 Branch from this point to where it joins the East Branch is a catch and release body of
9 water, designated as such by the state, because it contains a native brook trout population.
10 Threats to this body of water include sedimentation during initial construction, as well as
11 ambient heat radiating from the buried lines into the stream, permanently raising the
12 water temperature. Furthermore, the possibility of additional erosion, particularly during
13 the winter, from having a high voltage line buried under a dirt road that passes next to a
14 bog and over a stream have not been considered.

15
16 The analysis contained within the "**Fisheries and Aquatic Invertebrates Resource**
17 **Report and Impact Analysis**" report did not take into account radiant heat from the burial
18 of the line directly under several streams. See pg. 54. This report contains no reference to
19 the native brook trout fishery in the West Branch of the Mohawk River. It only states,
20 "Surveys in these streams [north of the White Mountains] will only be conducted if
21 verification of a cold-water fish community would influence the design or permitting of the
22 project". The West Branch of the Mohawk is a cold-water fish community according to the
23 State and anyone who has ever fished it. It should influence the design and permitting of
24 the project. The Applicant's failure to disclose this makes a mockery of the project.

25
26 Additionally, the Applicant has in at least one instance failed to identify flood zones, and
27 plans to construct underground portions of the line within these zones. In the photo on the
28 next page you will see my notation of where it there is in fact a flood zone.
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In fact, most of the field where I've noted the flood zone is essentially a wetland for much of the year. You can see ducks and muskrat swimming in it, for example. The analysis seems to indicate that this area isn't expected to flood in a 100-year storm, but I've seen water crest the road several times in my life.

These questions are based on my analysis of a few frames, out of more than one hundred. If there are such material errors and omissions in Northern Pass's analysis of wetland impacts in these few frames, consider what is lacking in the rest of the application.

Furthermore, the Applicant's proposed route would threaten drinking water for several of my neighbors, and myself. Brad and Daryl Thompson possess a world class spring that is both an economic asset as well as a prized source of drinking water, which would be severely impacted if not destroyed by Northern Pass. Additionally, several of my neighbors and I use a spring on Holden Hill that might be impacted in two ways. First, the blasting for tower footings, buried sections of line, and transition station four, could potentially alter the course of the aquifer and disrupt the spring. Second, the line passes over our pipe/aqueduct, which would likely be disrupted or completely destroyed. We have received no meaningful reassurance that this would not be the case.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
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**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
JOHN P. PETROFSKY**

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is John P. Petrofsky. I am 30 years old and am the fourth generation in my family to reside in Stewartstown, NH. I own the house my parents built themselves in 1972, as well as 85 acres. My primary address is 5347 42nd St. NW, Washington DC, but I spend a significant amount of time in Stewartstown, and I plan to move back eventually if it remains the unique and beautiful place that I grew up in.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: My interest in the project as proposed is in ensuring that the historic resources of the North Country, including those that are or might one day be part of our tourist economy, are not destroyed or degraded by Northern Pass. As I mentioned, I plan to move back at some point, because my business will afford me that flexibility. When I do, I will bring part of that business with me. I can afford to spend time anywhere. I choose to spend time in the North Country specifically because of its deep history, and precious natural resources. I grew up fishing these rivers, wandering its hills, and learning about its history from my ancestors. Northern Pass threatens to destroy everything I hold dear about this place. If Northern Pass as proposed is approved, I don't think I'm ever coming back. I'll take my tax dollars, and my company, somewhere that remains unspoiled.

Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?

A: The purpose of my testimony is to highlight the damages to certain historic resources in Clarksville and Stewartstown that might occur from the construction of Northern Pass as

1 proposed. I am particularly focused on the areas known locally as Bear Rock and North Hill.
2 Both Bear Rock and North Hill would be ideal candidates for Landscape designation with
3 the National Registry. The Section 106 Review for NEPA has suggested as much for North
4 Hill, and I am in the early stages of inventorying resources for Bear Rock. It would be a
5 tragedy if their resources were degraded or destroyed by this project. The following are
6 some of the resources that at most at risk from the project as proposed.
7

8 *Bear Rock Spring:* the spring played a role in the early development of commercialized
9 spring water in the United States, and helped supply the city of Berlin with water during a
10 giardia outbreak, I believe in the early '80s. As discussed in separate pre-filed testimony,
11 this spring might be completely destroyed by the digging and blasting of an underground
12 portion of the proposed route.
13

14 *Historic Homesteads:* multiple homesteads from the 1800's were once located at the foot of
15 Bear Rock, and there may be archeological remains. One of the original Placey homesteads
16 (an early settler family whose descendants continue to live in the region) was located very
17 close to, if not exactly where, Transmission Station Four is proposed to be constructed.
18 Another early homestead was located on the north side of Bear Rock.
19

20 *Starch Mill and Brick Kilns:* The area of Bear Rock was once more heavily settled, and a
21 starch mill and three brick kilns were developed in the immediate vicinity of Bear Rock.
22 Ruins of the starch mill are still extant several hundred feet below Bear Rock. I am unsure
23 about the brick kilns. The starch mill was from the latter half of the 1800's, while the brick
24 kilns were built earlier. Starch mills were once a defining feature of the local economy, and
25 efforts should be taken to ensure that no damage is done. Further work should be
26 undertaken to identify possible remains of the brick kilns. To my knowledge, Northern Pass
27 has made no note of any of these resources.
28

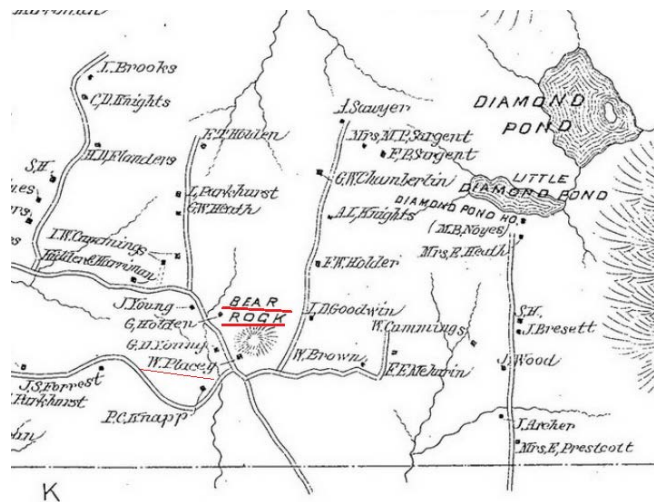
29 *Bear Rock School House:* This is one of the few remaining original one-room school houses
30 in Stewartstown. It was located across the West Branch of the Mohawk from Bear Rock.
31 The foundation hole remains. The schoolhouse itself was moved to Colebrook and is still
32 standing on Bridge Street.
33

34 *Unnamed, North Hill, and Terrill Cemeteries:* Three historical cemeteries located along Old
35 County Road and North Hill/Creampoke Road. North Hill is the location of Metallak's
36 (Abenaki chief of North Country lore) grave. Burials for at least two of these cemeteries
37 extend beneath the roads, and Northern Pass as proposed would force these graves to be
38 exhumed. Excavation and blasting would essentially destroy the Unnamed Cemetery, which
39 is one of the oldest in Clarksville, and would cause significant damage the remaining
40 portions of North Hill Cemetery, possibly including Metallak's grave.
41

42 *Cohos Trail:* The Cohos Trail is the first hiking trail to traverse all of Coos County, from the
43 White Mountains to Canada. It is already 38 years old, and over time has become an

1 increasingly important part of the identity and tourist economy of the North Country. It is
2 gradually becoming a resource in its own right, akin to the Appalachian Trail or the Long
3 Trail. Significant parts of the trail in and near Stewartstown would be impacted by
4 Northern Pass's proposed routes. I am including this within historical commentary,
5 because this is an historical, as well as aesthetic, and economic resource. For example,
6 Nathan Pond is currently a very remote pond reached by the Cohos Trail. It is the kind of
7 setting that defines the trail. With the current proposal, several towers would be visible
8 near the pond, and part of what makes the Trail unique would be spoiled. Another example
9 is the part of the Trail that follows Heath Road. The project as proposed would run adjacent
10 to the Trail/Heath Road for several miles, and multiple towers, as well as transition station
11 four, would severely degrade the sense of remoteness along this portion of the Trail, doing
12 real harm to this important asset.

13
14 *Bear Rock:* A rock and cliff outcrop for which the area, road, Bog, schoolhouse, spring, etc.
15 are named. When the region was cleared for agriculture (primarily sheep farming), the
16 Rock was well known for its bear sightings, possibly because the talus slopes and nearby
17 caves make good sites for bear dens. The project as proposed would involve significant
18 blasting adjacent to and on Bear Rock, causing permanent damage to what has been a
19 defining feature of the local landscape and history. In fact the Applicant has proposed
20 locating transmission station four on/immediately adjacent to this natural feature. Bear
21 Rock could play a notable role in highlighting the area's natural history, and is close to the
22 existing Cohos Trail route. Unfortunately, the proposed route would basically eliminate this
23 possibility.



From: Town and City Atlas of the State of New Hampshire, 1892
Old maps, West Chesterfield, N.H. 03466

WEST STEWARTSTOWN P.O.
STEWARTSTOWN COOS CO.

0 5 10 20 40 60 rods

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
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PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

SALLY A. ZANKOWSKI

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: My name is Sally A. Zankowski, and I am a New Hampshire native. Although I have had the opportunity to live in other areas of the country including Colorado, Oregon and California, I have been a fulltime resident of Stewartstown, New Hampshire for over the last 20 years. I live at 436 Creampoke Road, on a section of the road that is only seasonally maintained by the town. Growing up, I had the thrill of spending time at my grandparents' log cabin camp, also on Creampoke Rd, so it is fair to say that this magnificent snippet of the North Country holds a dear place in my heart.

I also own an 1800's farmhouse in Clarksville, New Hampshire (#147 Route 145) which is in the infancy of becoming a "farm" once again. My family and I established a farmer's market here which runs from early summer to late fall. We have been pleasantly surprised at the mix of local and out of town customers that are enchanted by the rickety homestead and its rebirth.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: Simply stated, I am against the Northern Pass project, at any, and all, levels.

Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?

A: Before I delve into a list of reasons as to why I stand firmly against the Northern Pass project, let me state that I was at the first informational meeting in Colebrook, however

1 many years ago, so I could get the facts and make an educated stand on this issue. And I
2 have been to more meetings throughout the North Country. Hearings in Concord. Spoken
3 one on one with members of the Northern Pass campaign. Submitted my concerns to be
4 pondered over. Submitted written questions, only to have them paraphrased in a manner
5 that skirted the point. So, I've voted, voted, and voted again, with the large majority of NH
6 residents who voted AGAINST the project. Gathered at the Canadian border. Worn a
7 sandwich board at public events to share our side of concerns and facts. Here are a few.
8 -With the opportunity to develop energy sources in the U.S. such as wind and solar, we
9 should not be entertaining bringing in foreign power
10 -Hydroelectric at the mammoth scale of this project is not considered green power in New
11 Hampshire
12 -The resulting environmental and cultural damages incurred in Canada to develop this
13 project make this a rather unattractive option
14 -The environmental damage in New Hampshire that will occur if the project goes through is
15 unacceptable, including underground construction
16 -Bribery has been used in attempt to push the project through. Unfortunately, a few have
17 caved and "sold out". The more you insult our integrity, I believe you will find, the more the
18 rest of us will dig our heels in
19 AND, locally in my own "backyard", so to speak
20 -the effects of construction/blasting on the granite foundation of my farmhouse which is
21 spitting distance from the current proposed underground path
22 -the effects on the brook, wetland and pond also at this property
23 -The current proposed route travels by historic structures (2 oldest houses in Clarksville,
24 old school house), the "45th Parallel" sign, NH Scenic Byway Route 145, cemeteries,
25 including the grave of the Indian Metallak.
26 -Road closures during construction on roads which I travel on a daily basis.
27 -Road closures in the area involving Stewartstown and Clarksville that could affect
28 emergency response times
29 -The effect the underground route will have above ground on the roads involved (man
30 holes)
31 -Residential areas should not be candidate for such a project
32
33 In closing, these are the more poignant issues that I believe will not allow for the
34 justification of the proposed Northern Pass project.
35
36 Thank you for your time, Sally Zankowski

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November 15, 2016

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

RE: Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission, LLC)
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**PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
PETER PERKINS**

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: Peter Perkins, 436 Creampoke Rd, Stewartstown, NH. Also part of a farm business in Clarksville, 150 yards from the proposed route where it crosses Route 145 and Old County Road.

Q: What is your interest in the Northern Pass project as proposed?

A: Adamantly opposed to the Northern Pass project.

Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?

A: Not interested in letting a multi-billion-dollar for-profit project go ahead at the cost of my inconvenience. I live on Creampoke Road. above the proposed route (one way in, one way out). The road closures during construction will put a new meaning to the term "can't get there from here". Pretty good odds I'll run into detours for weeks or months.

About the farm business in Clarksville- the manhole construction across from the driveway isn't going to make it easy for customers to see the vegetable

1 stand, or be able to use the turnaround at the traffic island to access it. The
2 house well and block foundation that probably won't hold up to blasting
3 across the road are big concerns. Big inconveniences. I'd like to talk to
4 someone about this.

5

6 I've never been for the project because of its impact on the environment, the
7 ruining of views, and people pushing something on people who don't want it.
8 Now it's personal. Northern Pass is supposed to bring business to the area,
9 not kill them.