

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE
DOCKET No. 2015-06

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
ERICK B BERGLUND JR and KATHLEEN A BERGLUND
OF DEERFIELD ABUTTERS INTERVENOR GROUP

DECEMBER 30, 2016

Qualifications and Purpose of Testimony

Our pre-filed direct testimony of November 15, 2016 presented information about the adverse impact on the aesthetics of our viewscape that will result if NPT as proposed is constructed. This testimony supplements the testimony of November 15, 2016.

Q Please state your name and address?

A We are Erick B Berglund Jr and Kathleen A Berglund. We live in Deerfield, NH. Our address is 23 Nottingham Rd, Deerfield, NH 03037. The PSNH ROW that Northern Pass proposes to use runs over our property.

Q Are you familiar with the proposed Northern Pass Transmission project?

A We are very familiar with this project. Erick was a member of a committee formed by the Deerfield Selectboard in 2011 to study this project and its impact on Deerfield and recommend a course of action for the Selectboard. Both of us have attended numerous public information meetings on this project throughout the state since the original announcement of this project in 2010.

Q What is the impact of Northern Pass on the aesthetics of your homestead viewscape?

A Forty five years ago we left New Jersey and moved to Deerfield, NH. We wanted a nice community to raise our three children with open space, clean air, a natural environment and the outdoor recreation opportunities that Deerfield, NH and New England offer. We could not be happier. We are now retired and our homestead continues to be right here in Deerfield.

Over the years we have worked diligently to retain and restore the historic character of our farmhouse home. Our farm is under the protection of a federal Wetland Reserve Program conservation easement. We manage our farm and surrounding lands to encourage wildlife and protect wildlife habitat. We are fortunate to have a beautiful view of the fields and forest behind our house. Pawtuckaway North Mountain is seen in the distance across the wetlands in the foreground. The PSNH ROW over which the Northern Pass transmission line is proposed to be built is about 800 feet from the back of our house. If the Northern Pass transmission line is constructed as proposed, the towers, poles and transmission lines will be significantly higher than the existing structures and lines, creating an unreasonable adverse impact on the aesthetics of our viewscape which we currently enjoy.

Q Can you provide details of the unreasonable adverse impacts on the aesthetics of your homestead viewscape?

Aesthetics Impact Today

The ROW over our hayfield and across the wetland contains two power lines – G146 on the far (south) side of the ROW and D118 on the near (north) side of the ROW. There is an adverse impact on the aesthetics of our viewscape today during both leaf on and leaf off seasons.

Please see Photo 1 (Leaf On) and Photo 2 (Leaf Off) at the end of this testimony.

- In Photo 1 the G146-24 pole is visible. It is behind the distant tree without leaves on the right side of the photo. That pole is 75 feet high.
- In Photo 2 the adverse impact is far greater. The G146-25 pole is prominent, as are the transmission lines for D118 and G146. Also, there is some visibility of one of the D118 poles on the left side of the photo.

Aesthetics Impact of NPT

Please keep Photo 1 and Photo 2 in mind and consider what the impact of NPT will be on the aesthetics of this viewscape to the south. If NPT is constructed it proposes to erect two poles in the hayfield, pole 3132-297 at 115 feet in height and pole 3132-298 at 125 feet in height. A steel lattice-work tower 3132-299 is proposed to be erected just below the hayfield and this is to be 125 feet in height.

NPT will produce an unreasonable adverse impact on the aesthetics of our viewscape to the south if this project is constructed. The NPT poles and tower in this setting, and the transmission lines they carry, will dominate our viewscape throughout the year, replacing our natural viewscape with an industrialized one.

Q What is your recommendation to the SEC regarding the Northern Pass project?

1. We strongly urge the SEC to **not approve** this project as it was initially proposed

Q Does this conclude your pre-filed testimony?

A Yes

We reserve the right to file additional testimony as allowed under SEC rules and future changes to the SEC schedule.

Kathleen A Berglund
Erick B Berglund Jr

Photo 1



Photo 2

