

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

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF ROBERT W. VARNEY
(Air Quality)**

**IN SUPPORT OF THE
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 TO CONSTRUCT A NEW HIGH
VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE AND RELATED FACILITIES IN NEW
HAMPSHIRE**

April 17, 2017

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Robert W. Varney and my business address is 25 Nashua Road,
3 Bedford, NH 03110.

4 **Q. Who is your current employer and what position do you hold?**

5 A. I am President of Normandeau Associates, Inc.

6 **Q. What is the purpose of this supplemental testimony?**

7 A. The purpose of my supplemental testimony is to provide information to update my
8 Pre-filed Direct Testimony about the air quality benefits of the Northern Pass Transmission Project,
9 (the “Project”), which was dated October 16, 2015.

10 **Q. Have you reviewed the *Update of the Electricity Market Impacts Associated with***
11 ***the Proposed Northern Pass Transmission Project*, prepared by London Economics**
12 **International LLC and Julia Frayer’s Updated Testimony, both dated March 17, 2017?**

13 A. Yes. I reviewed the updated LEI report (App. Ex. 81) and Julia Frayer’s
14 supplemental testimony (App. Ex. 82) which provide a revised analysis of the significant air quality
15 benefits of the Northern Pass Project. The results of the updated modeling show that these benefits
16 are largely unchanged since the October 15, 2015 LEI report. Specifically, she indicates that the
17 Project will reduce annual CO₂ emissions in New England by approximately 3.2 million metric tons
18 from 2020 to 2030, instead of 3.3 million to 3.4 million metric tons from 2019 to 2029, as was
19 originally detailed in the October 2015 report. This is the equivalent of removing approximately
20 675,000 passenger vehicles from the road per year (previously 690,000). LEI further updated
21 projected annual average emission reductions for NO_x and SO₂ across New England from 2020 to
22 2030 as follows:

23 1) Nitrous Oxide (NO_x): 565 – 650 short tons (previously 537 – 624 from 2019 – 2029)

24 2) Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂): 107 – 198 short tons (previously 261 – 460 from 2019 – 2029)

25 **Q. Does this updated information change your opinion about the anticipated effects**
26 **on air quality or climate change?**

27 A. No. The results of LEI’s updated modeling continue to show that Northern Pass will
28 reduce CO₂, NO_x and SO₂ emissions, improve air quality, and help New Hampshire and the region
29 address issues such as smog, acid rain, regional haze (visibility) and climate change. The Project will
30 provide significant long-term benefits to the State and region.

1 **Q. Does this conclude your supplemental pre-filed testimony?**

2 A. Yes.