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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

April 13, 2017 - 1:12 p.m. DAY 1
49 Donovan Street Afternoon Session ONLY
Concord, New Hampshire

{Electronically filed with SEC on 04-21-17}

IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-06
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.
(Hearing on the merits)

PRESENT FOR SUBCOMMITTEE/SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

Chrmn. Martin P. Honigberg	Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Presiding Officer)
Cmsr. Kathryn M. Bailey	Public Utilities Comm.
Dir. Craig Wright, Designee	Dept. of Environ. Serv.
Christopher Way, Designee	Dept. of Resources & Economic Development
William Oldenburg, Designee	Dept. of Transportation
Patricia Weathersby	Public Member
Rachel Whitaker	Alternate Public Member

ALSO PRESENT FOR THE SEC:

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Iryna Dore, Esq.
(Brennan, Caron, Lenehan & Iacopino)
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I N D E X

WITNESS: WILLIAM J. QUINLAN

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION
2 (Resumed at 1:12 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Pappas.

4 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you.

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION (Resumed)

6 BY MR. PAPPAS:

7 Q. Mr. Quinlan, I want to start by asking you some
8 questions about the New Hampshire Jobs Fund as
9 part of the Forward NH Plan.

10 Now, I understand that the Jobs Fund was
11 announced -- the creation of the fund was
12 announced in January 2014. Is that your
13 understanding?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And I understand that it was limited to
16 Coos County; correct?

17 A. Generally the North Country, yes. The North
18 Country Jobs Creation Fund.

19 Q. And the intent was to have an independent board
20 for this Jobs Fund?

21 A. Yes, that's correct.

22 Q. Okay. What's on the screen now is Counsel for
23 the Public's Exhibit 36. And this is the press
24 release announcing the creation of the Jobs

1 Fund, and it's January 29, 2014. And if you
2 turn to the second page, it indicates members
3 of the fund. And it indicates former State
4 Senator John Gallus of Gallus & Green Real
5 Estate in Berlin will chair the association.
6 And joining him were Allen Bouthillier, owner
7 of AB Logging in Lancaster, and David Atkinson,
8 also of AB Logging in Lancaster. Do you see
9 that?

10 A. I do, yes. And just one correction. I think
11 this was the release announcing the members of
12 the board of the Job Creation Fund. I think it
13 was technically announced a year prior; the
14 existence of the fund was in 2013.

15 Q. Okay. And then could we have... what's on the
16 screen now is Counsel for the Public's
17 Exhibit 37, which are the Articles of Agreement
18 for the Coos County Job Creation Association.
19 Do you see that?

20 A. I do, yes.

21 Q. Okay. If you look at the top corner, they were
22 filed on January 27, 2014. Do you see that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. All right. And under Address, the address of

1 the Coos County Job Creation Association is
2 "care of AB Logging" at 653 Main Street,
3 Lancaster. Do you see that?

4 A. I do, yes.

5 Q. Okay. And if we turn to the third page, do you
6 see on the third page the initial five board
7 members included Mr. Atkinson and Mr.
8 Bouthillier being from AB Logging? Do you see
9 that?

10 A. I do, yes.

11 Q. Okay. Now, what we have on the screen now is
12 Exhibit 38, which are the Articles of Agreement
13 of the Coos County Business and Employers
14 Group. Do you see that?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And this group -- this group organized on
17 February 5, 2016. Do you see that in the top
18 right-hand corner?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And the address of this group is also the
21 address of AB Logging at 653 Main Street in
22 Lancaster under Article II. Do you see that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. And on the second page of these articles

1 it lists the board of directors, and the first
2 director is Allen Bouthillier of AB Logging at
3 653 Main Street Lancaster. Do you see that?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. Now, Exhibit 39 is the Coos County
6 Business and Employers Group's Petition to
7 Intervene in this matter. Do you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now, they petitioned to intervene on
10 February 5, 2016. Do you see the date of the
11 petition?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And that's the same day that the Coos County
14 Business Employers Group registered with the
15 Secretary of State, as we saw earlier. Do you
16 recall that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And this Petition to Intervene was granted.
19 The group intervened. And, in fact, they
20 are -- they intervened to support the
21 Application; is that correct?

22 A. Generally. I think their intervention is in
23 support of job creation generally in the North
24 Country. I personally know Allen Bouthillier,

1 who is the signature you're referring to. And
2 I know he's passionate about growing jobs in
3 the North Country.

4 Q. So the North Country Jobs Fund, which you
5 indicated was designed to be an independent
6 group, has Mr. Bouthillier on its board. And
7 he's also on the board of the Coos County
8 Business and Employers Group that was formed on
9 the day the Petition to Intervene in this
10 matter in support of this Project; correct?

11 A. Yes. And by independent, what we're saying is
12 that that board makes determinations concerning
13 funding without the Company's direction. I
14 mean, it's independent in that sense, yes.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. It's not to say that, you know, board members
17 don't also have an interest in North Country
18 elements. I mean, I saw Chris Diego's name
19 there, I believe the manager of the Mountain
20 View Grand. He's certainly interested in
21 tourism. I think we selected board members who
22 had a particular interest in seeing the North
23 Country advance.

24 Q. Well, certainly these two groups. The Jobs

1 Fund that the Project set up as an independent
2 group is not independent entirely of the Coos
3 County Business and Employers Group, which
4 formed to support this program, are they --
5 this Project, are they?

6 A. Yes, that's not what we suggested. And it's
7 logical for them to be interested in this
8 proceeding. You know, if you think about this
9 group, they're really focused on job
10 opportunities in the North Country. AB Logging
11 happens to be a significant contractor in the
12 North Country, you know, and that's why they
13 were selected for the board. So I think the
14 relationship is a reasonable one. In both
15 instances it's independent from Eversource.

16 Q. Is the Project funding the Coos County Business
17 and Employers Group?

18 A. Not to my knowledge, no.

19 Q. Now, the North Country Jobs Fund Board, they're
20 not economic development professionals, are
21 they?

22 A. I don't know the specific resumé's of the board
23 members, but I know we identified board members
24 who understood the North Country and its

1 various challenges. I mean, you mentioned
2 Former Senator John Gallus is the chair. I
3 know he's highly regarded in the region and
4 understands its challenges. So I don't know if
5 they technically have economic development
6 expertise, but they certainly know the North
7 Country and the challenges of growing jobs in
8 the region, whether it's logging jobs,
9 construction jobs or tourism.

10 Q. Now, this independent fund -- or independent
11 group is being overseen by Mr. Ramsey at
12 Eversource; correct?

13 A. It's not being overseen. Mr. Ramsey is the
14 interface between the Company and the Jobs
15 Creation Fund. Mr. Ramsey also happens to be
16 from the North Country and was selected in
17 large part because he understands the
18 challenges and what it's going to take to
19 advance that region.

20 Q. So what we have up on the screen is Counsel for
21 the Public 49, which is the Applicant's
22 Response to Counsel for the Public's Data
23 Request Set No. 1. And we have the answer to
24 Data Request 140. And in that, the question

1 relates to the North Country Jobs Creation
2 Fund. And the response was: "The North
3 Country Jobs Creation Fund provides funding to
4 projects designed to facilitate job creation in
5 New Hampshire's North Country. The Coos County
6 Job Creation Association has been established
7 to oversee the fund and is represented by a
8 board of directors composed of local
9 businessmen." Do you see that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And then it goes on to list the grants that the
12 fund has provided. Do you see those?

13 A. I do, yes.

14 Q. And they total \$136,000. I'll do the math for
15 you.

16 A. Subject to check, yes.

17 Q. And the initial seed money was \$200,000.

18 A. That's correct. Yes.

19 Q. Do you know where the other \$64,000 -- what
20 happened or how the other \$64,000 was used?

21 A. I'm not sure that it has been used. I
22 understand that not all \$200,000 has been spent
23 at this point. I'm sure there have been some
24 administrative costs perhaps that have been

1 borne, so I can't speak to the other 64. But I
2 know there are undeployed amounts at this point
3 as part of the \$200,000.

4 Q. Okay. Now, these grants were made in 2015;
5 correct?

6 A. I believe that's true, yes.

7 Q. Has Eversource done any follow-up analysis,
8 written analysis to determine whether or not
9 the grants created jobs?

10 A. Written analysis? No. But I'm very familiar
11 with several of these, like the fourth one
12 down, the White Mountain Regional High School
13 in Whitefield. We essentially funded an
14 excavator-simulation trainer at that regional
15 high school. Mr. Ramsey was just there last
16 week for a North Country-wide high school
17 conference where students from across the North
18 Country were brought into that regional high
19 school. And we received substantial feedback
20 that this simulator is really being valued.
21 It's one of a kind in the state. It creates an
22 opportunity for these young folks to learn a
23 trade. And so, anecdotally, we're getting a
24 lot of feedback that these grants are making a

1 significant difference.

2 I recently had lunch at The Dancing Bear
3 in Colebrook. I had never met the owner
4 before. And he stopped by and told me about
5 the difference that that investment had made in
6 his local business.

7 So, do we have, you know, an economic
8 impact study? No. But anecdotally, we're
9 getting a lot of feedback that these grants are
10 making a difference.

11 Q. Okay. Now, some of the grant recipients turned
12 down money from the fund; is that right?

13 A. I'm not aware of that.

14 Q. Okay. What's on the screen now is Counsel for
15 the Public's Exhibit 43. And this is an
16 article back in September of 2015 that talks
17 about the job fund and some of the grants. And
18 if you look at the first paragraph, it refers
19 to the Coos County Ride the Wilds Trail System
20 that voted to decline the funds awarded by the
21 Coos County Job Creation Association. Do you
22 see that?

23 A. I do.

24 Q. And if you skip down to the paragraph that

1 begins, "The previous week..." do you see that
2 paragraph?

3 A. I don't. Which paragraph? I'm sorry. Oh,
4 okay, down towards the bottom.

5 Q. Down towards the end. There is a paragraph
6 that says --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- "The previous week" --

9 A. Yes, got it.

10 Q. -- "the North Country Community Recreation
11 Center's Board of Directors voted to return a
12 \$10,000 CCJCA grant, apparently also leery of
13 being perceived as being willing to accept a
14 bribe." Do you see that?

15 A. I do, yes.

16 Q. So these two organizations turned down funding
17 from the fund; is that right?

18 A. Apparently, yes.

19 Q. Now, at the January 2016 Public Information
20 Session in Whitefield, you stated that the
21 North Country Job Fund had already had some
22 very good success in 2015, and you looked
23 forward to more in 2016. Do you recall those
24 statements?

1 A. Generally, yes. Yeah.

2 Q. Okay. The New Hampshire -- the North Country,
3 rather, Job Fund had no activity in 2016, did
4 it?

5 A. I'm not aware of any specific grants in 2016.

6 Q. And they've had no grants in 2017; is that
7 right?

8 A. I would have to check. I'm not certain they
9 did. Again, this fund is one that will be
10 established upon receipt of all permits, which
11 was always the commitment. What we're talking
12 about here --

13 Q. Well, we've already seen it established because
14 we saw Articles of Incorporation; right?

15 A. I'm referring to full funding.

16 Q. Ah.

17 A. If you look at the details of those articles,
18 it's keyed off of receipt of permits. What
19 we're referring to here are advanced
20 commitments.

21 Q. Right. But they've allocated \$136,000 of the
22 \$200,000 seed funds; right?

23 A. Yeah, I see towards the bottom of this it
24 refers to my predecessor, Gary Long, and his

1 decision to seed this with \$200,000, yes.

2 Q. Right. Are you aware of whether the job fund
3 has any published criteria for an application
4 process?

5 A. That I don't know. I'd have to consult with
6 Mr. Ramsey. But again --

7 Q. Are you aware of whether they have any
8 published criteria for awarding grants?

9 A. Again, I'm not aware of the detailed workings.
10 I suspect that as part of a government
11 structure they have criteria that apply.

12 Q. But you understand --

13 A. Personally, no.

14 Q. Okay. Fair enough.

15 Let me ask you some questions about the
16 5,000 acres, which is another part of the
17 Forward NH Plan.

18 A. Sure.

19 Q. As I understand it, NPT bought approximately
20 5,000 acres of land in the North Country;
21 correct?

22 A. Roughly, yes.

23 Q. And the land was purchased for the Northern
24 Pass Project, but it's no longer needed for the

1 Northern Pass Project; correct?

2 A. Well, some of it is going to be used for the
3 Northern Pass Project, whether it's directly to
4 support project construction or as part of our
5 formal mitigation commitment to DES. But
6 you're correct. There are parcels that will
7 not be used for either purpose. So there's
8 kind of a mix there.

9 Q. Okay. And NPT has pledged up to 5,000 acres
10 for natural resource preservation, recreation
11 and mixed use?

12 A. Yes. We refer to it as "mixed use."

13 Q. In October of 2016, the pledge was still in the
14 conceptual stage; is that right?

15 A. It was a pledge that we made, or a commitment
16 that we had made as part of the Forward NH Plan
17 announcement in 2015. So I view that as a
18 corporate commitment at that point.

19 Q. But as of today, the Project is currently
20 engaged in some discussions for potential uses,
21 but nothing has materialized in terms of a
22 specific use of a specific parcel; is that
23 right? There's nothing in writing? There's no
24 announced plan for a specific parcel for any

1 specific use?

2 A. Well, as I indicated, several of those parcels
3 will be used for purposes of meeting our formal
4 environmental mitigation obligation. Those
5 will likely be mixed use parcels. So, those
6 are formal commitments that we've made to DES.
7 But beyond those commitments, correct, we're in
8 the exploratory stage here.

9 Q. But the commitment up to 5,000 acres, that
10 doesn't relate to your DES permits. That
11 relates to the commitment to use funds for
12 other purposes, doesn't it?

13 A. Can you reask that question?

14 Q. Sure.

15 A. When you say "funds," I'm not sure what you're
16 talking about.

17 Q. I probably misspoke. The parcels, the
18 property --

19 A. Correct, yes.

20 Q. -- that the Project's using to satisfy its DES
21 permit, that's separate from the commitment to
22 donate parcels for recreation or mixed use; is
23 it not?

24 A. Generally true. We first need to satisfy our

1 mitigation, formal mitigation requirements.

2 The balance will be available for mixed use.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. And it's that balance that we are in the
5 exploratory stage on.

6 Q. Now, let me ask you a few questions about
7 another aspect of the Plan, which is
8 partnership with the natural -- National
9 Wildlife Foundation. I understand that the
10 Project, or Eversource, has funded \$1.5 million
11 to date; is that correct?

12 A. Roughly, yes.

13 Q. Okay. And --

14 A. By the way, it's the National Fish and Wildlife
15 Foundation.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And it's pledged an additional \$1.5 million if
19 the Application is approved; correct?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. And there have been approximately 20 grants
22 awarded to date?

23 A. Subject to check, yes. I know there's been two
24 grant cycles. I believe the Foundation is in

1 it's third cycle as we speak.

2 Q. And some of those grants are specific to New
3 Hampshire?

4 A. Many of them are, yes.

5 Q. And other grants have more of a regional
6 impact; is that correct?

7 A. Generally correct, yes.

8 Q. Okay. Now let me ask you some questions that
9 first appear in your supplemental testimony
10 regarding the NPT Guarantee Program. And on
11 the screen is Counsel for the Public's
12 Exhibit 40, which is the NPT Guarantee Program
13 Overview that's an attachment to your
14 supplemental testimony.

15 Now, as I understand it, this program was
16 first made public when you filed your
17 supplemental testimony on March 24, 2017; is
18 that right?

19 A. I believe that's true, yes. That's correct.

20 Q. All right. And would I also be correct in
21 saying that, other than this program, your
22 testimony doesn't really relate to real estate
23 values, does it?

24 A. No. There is an expert, Dr. Chalmers, who, you

1 know, opines concerning real estate values.

2 This program was designed, in essence, at my
3 request as a way of addressing some of the
4 remaining questions posed by landowners.

5 Q. Was the program developed because the Project
6 recognizes that Northern Pass will adversely
7 impact the values of some properties?

8 A. No. I think Dr. Chalmers has concluded that
9 generally these types of projects do not have
10 an adverse impact on property values. The
11 study that's referenced in the Objective
12 section is his study. He's indicated that in
13 certain instances -- and the criteria are set
14 forth in 2a, b and c -- there may be an adverse
15 impact on a case-by-case basis. And we asked
16 him to design a program around that potential
17 effect. I don't believe he's concluded that
18 there is such an effect. But if there were to
19 be, it would be properties that satisfied these
20 three criteria.

21 Q. If there were no adverse impact on property
22 values, there would be no need for a program;
23 isn't that right?

24 A. Not necessarily. There's a potential adverse

1 versus and actual. What we're trying to do
2 here is to say, if there are circumstances that
3 could lead to an adverse effect, let's put in
4 place a program that would address that. This
5 is the first time our company has ever done
6 such a program in all the transmission and
7 distribution projects we've built. So it's an
8 attempt to address a potential concern.

9 Q. Applies to residents only, not businesses?

10 A. Generally, yes.

11 Q. Yeah. And to be eligible, some portion of the
12 house has to be within 100 feet of the
13 right-of-way?

14 A. Yes. Those three criteria are the residences
15 that are eligible.

16 Q. And it is based on visibility of a transmission
17 line; correct? In other words, you have to be
18 100 feet away, and the visibility has to have
19 been changed as a result of the Northern Pass
20 Project; correct?

21 A. Yes. That's eligibility Criteria C.

22 Q. So if a homeowner's visibility changes because
23 of the Project, either they can now see part of
24 the Project for the first time or they can see

1 more of the structures than they could before,
2 that makes them eligible for this program;
3 correct?

4 A. No, the eligible property would have to satisfy
5 all three criteria.

6 Q. But one of the criteria is what I just
7 described, which is the property owners have to
8 either see the Project for the first time, or
9 their view of the structures has to be greater
10 than it was before Northern Pass was built;
11 correct?

12 A. Yes, that's one of the three criteria.

13 Q. Yeah.

14 A. All three have to be satisfied.

15 Q. And visibility obviously applies to
16 residential, and residential with a 100 feet.
17 But after that it's visibility of the
18 structures that is really the determining
19 factor whether or not somebody within a 100
20 feet qualifies for this program or doesn't;
21 correct?

22 A. You're paraphrasing. But it is the three
23 criteria, visibility being the third, yes.

24 Q. So, just to summarize the eligibility,

1 proximity to the right-of-way and visibility of
2 the Project are the two key factors; correct?

3 A. The criteria speak for themselves.

4 Q. So the answer is yes?

5 A. There are three criteria and you are reducing
6 it to two. But generally you're -- the factors
7 are visibility and proximity, yes.

8 Q. That's my point. Thank you.

9 A. You know, again, you have to go back to Dr.
10 Chalmers' report. I mean, it's a scientific
11 study of impact --

12 Q. Mr. Quinlan, we're not here to --

13 A. -- and he's identified three criteria --

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Quinlan,
15 you'd actually gotten there. You and he had
16 gotten there. It had been a bit of a
17 struggle --

18 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: -- but I don't
20 know why it was such a struggle, Mr. Pappas,
21 because he was pretty much agreeing with you.
22 So I think you've got the criteria right there
23 in that exhibit that you showed him. So what's
24 your next issue?

1 BY MR. PAPPAS:

2 Q. How many homes are eligible under this? Do you
3 know?

4 A. I believe there are nine currently.

5 Q. Let me now ask you some questions about the
6 claims process that also appears in your
7 March 2017 supplemental testimony.

8 Now, as I understand it, your March
9 supplemental testimony was the first time that
10 this was published; correct?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Okay. And it covers damage to property by the
13 Northern Pass Project; is that right?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And is that damage to both real estate and
16 personal property?

17 A. I believe it's focused on the personalty. But
18 I -- yes.

19 Q. Is it limited to personalty, or does it also
20 include damage to --

21 A. Improvements on real estate. Improvements,
22 yeah. Sure.

23 Q. All right. Now, in order to bring a claim, a
24 claimant has to complete the form. If you look

1 at the second sentence, it says, "Completion of
2 this form is required in order to bring a
3 direct claim against the Project." Do you see
4 that?

5 A. I do.

6 Q. Okay. Now, it goes on to say that
7 documentation must include photos, legible
8 copies of repair estimates and/or documentation
9 of financial loss. Do you see that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And it also requires that documentation of loss
12 must be provided by a company licensed in the
13 state to perform the work. Do you see that?

14 A. The repair work, yes.

15 Q. Okay. So, if somebody -- if the Project
16 results in damage to somebody's home, the
17 claims process requires a damage estimate from
18 someone licensed in New Hampshire; correct?

19 A. To repair the damage, yes.

20 Q. To repair the damage.

21 A. Someone who can assess the cost of repair, if
22 you will.

23 Q. Well, it says here "by a company licensed in
24 the state of New Hampshire to perform the

1 work." Do you see that?

2 A. I see that, yes.

3 Q. Now, in New Hampshire, general contractors are
4 not licensed, are they?

5 A. I don't know the answer to that.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Don't know.

8 Q. Do you know whether or not paving companies for
9 damage to driveways have to be licensed in New
10 Hampshire?

11 A. I do not.

12 Q. Do you know whether or not landscapers, if
13 there's damage to trees or other shrubbery,
14 whether they need to be licensed in New
15 Hampshire?

16 A. I'm unaware of the licensing requirements.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. I suspect electrical workers require a license.
19 But some of the other trades that you're
20 referring to, I don't know whether there's a
21 specific license requirement or not.

22 Q. If there's no licensing in New Hampshire of
23 general contractors or paving contractors or
24 landscapers, anybody along the route whose

1 property was damaged and they wanted to use a
2 local general contractor or local paving
3 company or local landscaper would not be able
4 to do so because those folks aren't licensed;
5 correct?

6 A. That's certainly not the intent of this
7 document. If there's no license required, the
8 Company would be reasonable in interpreting
9 that requirement.

10 Q. But that's not what this document says, is it?

11 A. It's a draft document at this point. But
12 generally you're correct. That's not what the
13 document says. I can just tell you how the
14 Company would apply it.

15 Q. But this is the only document produced by the
16 Company to date describing the claims process;
17 is that correct?

18 A. That's fair. Yes, it is. And it's a document
19 that we've used for projects in other states.
20 So if the licensing requirements don't apply, I
21 am certain we'll waive them.

22 Q. But as it stands now, that's the only document
23 before the Subcommittee that describes the
24 claims process; correct?

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: He already said
2 "Yes" to that.

3 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you.

4 BY MR. PAPPAS:

5 Q. Last subject. Exhibit 42 is a draft agreement
6 between Northern Pass Transmission and various
7 towns. And this also appears for the first
8 time in your supplemental testimony; correct?
9 This formal document.

10 A. Yes, it's certainly in my testimony. I don't
11 know if it appeared previously. But it's
12 certainly an attachment to my testimony, yes.

13 Q. I'm not going to ask a lot of questions about
14 this because most of the towns are represented
15 by counsel, and my understanding is they'll ask
16 you about this. But I'm only interested in one
17 part of it.

18 Under Article 3, it talks about public
19 roads and the use of public roads and damage to
20 public roads. Does that relate to traffic on
21 roads as opposed to damage from construction?
22 Do you know?

23 (Witness reviews document.)

24 A. So I think it applies to both. You know,

1 3.1(a) refers to traffic generally, and 3.1(b)
2 pertains to repairing damage caused to the
3 roads.

4 Q. Okay. All right. Let me ask you this: Are
5 you the appropriate witness to ask how it is
6 the damage is intended to be repaired, or would
7 that be somebody else on another panel?

8 A. I would defer that to the engineering panel,
9 Mr. Bowes, Mr. Johnson and others. They can
10 get into the details of how we intend to manage
11 that issue and ensure that the roads end up in
12 the same or better condition, which is the
13 criteria that's here.

14 Q. But --

15 A. They can provide the details.

16 Q. That's my question. In terms of the details of
17 how they intend to accomplish that, they're
18 better to address that than you are?

19 A. Yes, certainly.

20 Q. Okay. Reason I ask is it appeared for the
21 first time in your testimony and --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- it hadn't appeared before.

24 A. The reason this is in my testimony, this is an

1 approach we've used successfully in other
2 states with other projects. It's a way of
3 ensuring there's good coordination with the
4 municipalities around Means and Methods.
5 Again, this is a draft. That will be ironed
6 out with each municipality as we get closer to
7 the construction phase. But Mr. Bowes and that
8 panel can provide the detail.

9 Q. Is the intent to reach an agreement with each
10 town on what the acceptable repair method will
11 be?

12 A. That's just one area. The objective certainly
13 is to have, you know, full coordination with
14 every municipality that we are working with,
15 and this is the vehicle to ensure that there is
16 full agreement as to how we're going to
17 approach the work. So, yes, in essence, every
18 town that we will be working with, impacts on
19 public roads being just one aspect of it.
20 There's a lot of other elements to it. And
21 coupled with a business coordination plan, that
22 suggests how we will interact with businesses
23 on town roads.

24 Q. But my question is very specifically geared to

1 public roads. That's the only part I asked you
2 about. Now, you --

3 A. I thought you were talking more generally.

4 Q. Nope, nope. And I want to make sure I
5 understand clearly. It's the intent to reach
6 an agreement with the towns because you're
7 doing work on a lot of local town roads. The
8 intent is to have NPT and the towns agree on
9 what the appropriate repair to the roads are.
10 Is that the intent?

11 A. Yes. Among other things, yes.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. That is the intent.

14 MR. PAPPAS: All right. Thank you.
15 I have no other questions that would pertain to
16 Public Interest.

17 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right.
18 We're going to intentionally go out of order
19 right now to accommodate Mr. Bilodeau. Mr.
20 Bilodeau, you're up.

21 MR. BILODEAU: Thank you. Am I okay
22 from here?

23 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: If you'd like.
24 As long as you're speaking into the microphone,

1 you're fine.

2 MR. BILODEAU: Thank you.

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
4 thank you to the SEC Committee for giving me
5 the opportunity to ask these questions of Mr.
6 Quinlan.

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. BILODEAU:

9 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Quinlan.

10 A. Good afternoon.

11 Q. I don't have a lot of technical questions. So
12 in the interest of preserving time for everyone
13 else that's here, I would suggest that your
14 answers are simply "Yes" or "No."

15 A. I'll try.

16 Q. Do you own a home?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Is your home in a residential neighborhood?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Is your residential neighborhood rural or
21 suburban?

22 A. Both. I would say suburban. How's that?

23 Q. Thank you. Would you expect a filling station
24 to be built across the street from your home?

1 A. Filling station? Gas station you mean?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Not across from my home because there's another
4 home across the street.

5 Q. Would you expect a filling station to be built
6 in your neighborhood?

7 A. Potentially, yes.

8 Q. If a filling station were built in your
9 neighborhood, would you expect that to affect
10 the quality of your life and the enjoyment of
11 your home?

12 A. Depends. It might be more convenient. But
13 yes.

14 Q. Thank you.

15 A. It could be positive or --

16 Q. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Bilodeau,
18 sometimes your questions aren't pure "Yes" or
19 "No" questions. He may actually have an "it
20 depends" answer to give you. But I mean so far
21 you're working pretty well together, so --

22 WITNESS QUINLAN: We're trying.

23 MR. BILODEAU: Only few more. Again,
24 not highly technical.

1 BY MR. BILODEAU:

2 Q. Mr. Quinlan, have you been to the substation in
3 Deerfield?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Would you characterize that area as "rural
6 residential"?

7 A. Generally rural.

8 Q. Thank you. Are there other pieces of the
9 Project of the same magnitude as the Deerfield
10 substation?

11 A. Can you clarify that? I'm not sure I
12 understand.

13 Q. So, from the 192 miles in some of the documents
14 we saw today there's transfer stations or
15 ending --

16 A. Transition stations.

17 Q. Transition stations. Are any of those
18 facilities on the 192 miles of the same
19 magnitude as the substation in Deerfield?

20 A. Magnitude, as in size?

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. How -- that's not a "Yes" or "No." I'm not
24 going to ask that question.

1 Are you aware that Eversource has been
2 cutting Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this
3 week to widen the right-of-way from Nottingham
4 Road to the substation?

5 A. Substation in Deerfield?

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. I'm not aware of that, but it doesn't surprise
8 me. One of the things we do along on all of
9 our circuits every four years is remove
10 vegetation that threatens the lines. So it
11 wouldn't surprise me.

12 Q. Okay. I'd have to make a response back to that
13 and it's not a question. So that's not really
14 fair.

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: If you have
16 other questions, you should ask them.

17 BY MR. BILODEAU:

18 Q. Now, this one just came about as Mr. Pappas was
19 asking the question about those three criteria
20 agreements. And I haven't seen that yet, but
21 -- oh, I saw it, but I didn't read it in any
22 detail.

23 Would you consider the Bilodeau property
24 to fall within any of those three criterias?

1 A. I'm not familiar with the Bilodeau property in
2 detail. I would have to check with the team on
3 that.

4 Q. I could answer "no" for you. Thank you.

5 A. Okay.

6 MR. BILODEAU: Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman. That's it.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Thank you, Mr.
9 Bilodeau.

10 All right. I have Municipal
11 Group 1 North. Mr. Ellis.

12 MR. ELLIS: I have no questions at
13 this point, Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Municipal
15 Group 1 South. Mr. Whitley.

16 MR. WHITLEY: Can I go off the record
17 just to make sure that we're set up to have
18 images broadcast here?

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Yeah, let's make
20 sure everything's set up.

21 MR. WHITLEY: Okay. Thank you.

22 (Pause in proceedings)

23 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Back on the
24 record.

1 MR. WHITLEY: Thank you.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. WHITLEY:

4 Q. Mr. Quinlan, my name is Steven Whitley. I
5 represent a number of municipalities. I
6 introduced them earlier. I can do so again if
7 you'd like. But I want to start off by asking
8 you some questions about the PUC decision by
9 which public utility status was given to
10 Northern Pass. And the reason I'm asking this
11 is I believe that you have made statements
12 before that New Hampshire ratepayers will not
13 have to pay for any of the costs of building
14 the line. Is that a fair characterization?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And my read of the PUC order -- and it's
17 Applicant's Exhibit 78, which is what's on the
18 screen there -- is that the protections for New
19 Hampshire ratepayers have some -- there's some
20 conditions to that. So I'd like you to take a
21 look at Page 6, please, which should be coming
22 up shortly.

23 You see there in that document it breaks
24 out the line into two segments. It talks about

1 the AC line and then the DC line. For the AC
2 line, you see the first sentence, see after the
3 comma there, the second line says, "could be
4 included in regional rates" if ISO identifies a
5 reliability need and incorporates that into the
6 grid. Do you see that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And then it goes on, and at the end of that
9 paragraph it says FERC has not determined
10 whether to do that. Then the next sentence --
11 you see that statement about FERC there in the
12 middle?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And then the next sentence says Northern Pass
15 will not initiate a proceeding to seek recovery
16 in this manner. Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And then the last sentence is, in the event
19 that it is made a part of the reliability
20 network, that Northern Pass would work with the
21 Staff to limit any impact on the New Hampshire
22 ratepayers, to the extent possible.

23 A. I see that, yes.

24 Q. Do you disagree with any of those statements?

1 A. No.

2 Q. So, for the AC line there is a scenario, or
3 certain scenarios under which New Hampshire
4 ratepayers could be exposed to paying for the
5 cost of the line; isn't that right?

6 A. There is a scenario. You know, I would
7 characterize it as "very remote, certainly not
8 within the planning horizon," just to give you
9 some context. I think it's very unlikely that,
10 if we didn't seek such treatment, which we've
11 committed not to seek, that anyone else would
12 pursue regional treatment for these costs.

13 Q. No, no --

14 A. I'm trying to give you context around the
15 remoteness of this because I think it's a very
16 low-probability event. So I think it's highly
17 unlikely. And just so you have a sense for the
18 order of magnitude, if that were to occur --
19 that segment of the line is approximately \$100
20 million of investment. If in the extreme
21 circumstance, 10 years from now, ISO-New
22 England and FERC deem it to be regionalized,
23 you know, New Hampshire's share of that would
24 be 9 percent. And you're talking about a line

1 that would have been largely depreciated by
2 that point. So I'm just trying to paint for
3 you the picture of the remoteness and the
4 potential impact of that scenario.

5 Q. And I understand that you're giving some
6 context, and I appreciate that.

7 A. It's context, yes.

8 Q. I think my question was, which you answered,
9 there is a scenario under which New Hampshire
10 ratepayers would be exposed.

11 A. Yes, to a very small portion of the line --

12 Q. Thank you.

13 A. -- and the Company has committed not to pursue
14 that.

15 Q. Next paragraph there discusses the DC line.
16 It's that paragraph on Page 7 onto Page 8.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And so, similarly, there's a scenario under
19 which the DC portion of the line, the cost of
20 that line could be exposed to New Hampshire
21 ratepayers; isn't that true?

22 A. No. For you to be into regional cost recovery
23 space, an entity would have to determine that
24 the line was required for grid reliability --

1 namely, to keep the lights on in New England.
2 There's no scenario that I'm aware of that the
3 DC portion of the line is going to trigger that
4 type of treatment.

5 Q. Yet, there is language in this order that
6 provides a scenario by which New Hampshire
7 ratepayers could be exposed to the cost of the
8 DC line. And that is on the top of Page 8. If
9 there is a FERC Order 1000 process or other
10 regional cost-sharing mechanism --

11 A. We've agreed to hold harmless New Hampshire
12 customers.

13 Q. No, I understand that. I see that "hold
14 harmless" language, and I was about to ask you
15 about that. But that "hold harmless" language
16 itself has a limitation, which is the last
17 sentence of that paragraph, "...so long as
18 Northern Pass Project costs are being recovered
19 through any such regional cost-sharing process
20 or mechanism." So, again --

21 A. That's the only cost-recovery mechanism that's
22 possible.

23 Q. Okay. So there's no way by which the cost
24 recovery would be isolated to New Hampshire.

1 A. Not that I'm aware, no.

2 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn now, Mr. Quinlan, to
3 your Applicant's Exhibit 6, which is your
4 supplemental testimony that was recently
5 submitted.

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. Do you have that in front of you there?

8 A. I do. Which page?

9 Q. Page 8.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. You touched on this previously with Attorney
12 Boldt, but I wanted to come back to it again.

13 You made a statement earlier this morning
14 that PSNH/Eversource has a position about the
15 appropriate methodology for the assessment of
16 utility property.

17 A. Yes. Not just PSNH, but I think the industry
18 has a methodology, which is the straight-line
19 depreciation method, yes.

20 Q. Okay. And are you aware that many
21 municipalities that host these assets would
22 disagree with that methodology?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And that the reason for that disagreement is

1 that the municipalities believe it undervalues
2 the assets within the community?

3 A. I suspect that's their view. I think those are
4 the issues that are being considered by the
5 courts.

6 Q. You mentioned in your prefiled testimony...
7 let's see. On Page 14 there, 13 and 14 of --
8 I'm sorry -- Line 13 and 14 --

9 A. Still Page 8?

10 Q. Still on Page 8, Line 13 or 14.

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. You see that first sentence there, "Northern
13 Pass has made a pledge not to seek tax
14 assessments that are consistent with
15 straight-line depreciation method commonly used
16 for valuation of utility assets."

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. But when you mean -- when you say "commonly
19 used" you mean commonly used among the utility
20 industry.

21 A. Yeah, nationally. This is the -- I would
22 characterize it personally as "the industry
23 accepted practice." I know there are some
24 municipalities that have a different view. But

1 if you look across the country, this is
2 generally accepted. What we're trying to do
3 here is pledge that, if municipalities assess
4 our property on that basis, we would not seek
5 to abate it. So, essentially it establishes
6 tax certainty or a floor for municipal planning
7 purposes.

8 Q. No, I understand what the pledge is seeking to
9 achieve.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. But it sounds like you are also aware that
12 you're asking the municipalities to agree to a
13 methodology that they don't agree with and they
14 don't accept.

15 A. No, we're not asking the towns to agree to
16 this. This is a pledge that we are making, a
17 commitment, in other words. But, you know, if
18 a municipality were to assess it at a higher
19 value and it was significantly over-assessed,
20 then we would likely seek abatement. But those
21 are extreme circumstances.

22 Q. But your pledge is premised on this methodology
23 that the industry has typically used.

24 A. Yes. It's a pledge. It's a commitment to a

1 tax floor to provide tax certainty. We're not
2 asking municipalities to say they agree with
3 the methodology.

4 Q. Mr. Quinlan, if you could turn now to the
5 pledge itself, which is Attachment I, and it's
6 located on Page 50 of the document.

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. I wanted to ask you some questions about what
9 the pledge really entails.

10 The second line there appears to be a
11 definition for "transmission infrastructure."

12 A. Are you in the "whereas"?

13 Q. Yes, very first clause.

14 A. Yeah, okay.

15 Q. Do you see that there?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So then you go down to Paragraph No. 1, the
18 first sentence, "Northern Pass shall not seek
19 an abatement on valuation of Northern Pass's
20 taxable transmission infrastructure."

21 So what is applicable under this agreement
22 is only how you define the term "transmission
23 infrastructure"; is that accurate?

24 A. Yes, that's generally all of the

1 infrastructure, however.

2 Q. Okay. Are you aware that when towns assess
3 municipal -- or excuse me -- when towns assess
4 utility assets, included in that assessment is
5 the land on which the utility is located?

6 A. I'm not aware of that, no. I suspect that's
7 probably true. But I would ask the detailed
8 tax questions to Dr. Shapiro.

9 Q. Well, understood.

10 So this pledge as written, then, would not
11 necessarily cover any assessments or taxes
12 based on the land, only the transmission
13 infrastructure.

14 A. Again, I would ask that question of Dr.
15 Shapiro. I am aware that for PSNH assets the
16 real estate is taxed as well. And I think it's
17 our intention to have it covered here. But I
18 would defer that to Dr. Shapiro.

19 Q. I mean, I ask because it is attached to your
20 testimony and was introduced as part of your
21 testimony.

22 A. I understand that. And I think she provides a
23 tax schedule, for example, to the Town of
24 Allenstown, and I believe it does include the

1 underlying real estate property. But she's the
2 person to ask.

3 Q. So who drafted the tax pledge?

4 A. The tax pledge? Probably drafted by counsel.

5 Q. Okay. Did you -- have you seen it before it
6 was attached to your testimony?

7 A. Yes. Yes, I've certainly seen it.

8 Q. Did you check to make sure it was consistent
9 with the statements that Ms. Shapiro had made?

10 A. Did I personally check? No. But I'm sure
11 counsel did in consulting with our expert in
12 this regard.

13 Q. Okay. It sounds to me like there's an
14 inconsistency between what Ms. Shapiro has
15 indicated would be covered and what the tax
16 pledge --

17 A. I don't believe so. Again, I would ask these
18 questions directly of her. I don't believe
19 there is an inconsistency.

20 Q. So, under the tax pledge as it's written, there
21 would be no limitation on Northern Pass's
22 ability to seek an abatement for the assessment
23 based on the land in town.

24 A. I don't believe that's true. Our intent would

1 be to allow taxation of the infrastructure,
2 including the real property.

3 Q. Okay. Also in Paragraph 1, that first
4 sentence, there appears to be another kind of
5 condition on what this applies to. It says,
6 "Transmission infrastructure which is placed in
7 service" --

8 A. Just as I sit here thinking, you know, there's
9 probably a different tax methodology for the
10 underlying real estate. I'm not certain that
11 straight-line depreciation is that methodology.
12 But, again, I would speak to Dr. Shapiro about
13 the specifics of the tax basis.

14 Q. Did you --

15 A. But it's certainly our intention to commit to
16 taxation of the property.

17 Q. Including any taxation based on the land.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. Did you hear my question there?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Okay. Paragraph 1, the first sentence, appears
22 there's another condition on what sort of -- or
23 what the pledge applies to. Second line there
24 says, "Valuation of Northern Pass's taxable

1 transmission infrastructure which is placed in
2 service." Do you see the "placed in service"?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So do I take that to mean that this pledge only
5 applies if the line is in operation?

6 A. That's been "placed in service," meaning it's
7 going into commercial operation.

8 Q. And "commercial operation" means power is
9 running over the line.

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. It has begun to operate.

13 Q. Okay. But if power is not -- so if the Project
14 is constructed but there is no power yet
15 running over the line, then this pledge is not
16 applicable.

17 A. It's upon it being placed in service. You can
18 see a scenario where the Project is placed in
19 service, if you will, and then for a period of
20 time it is not in service, meaning it's not
21 flowing power. But I think that the tax would
22 still be applicable. So, "placed in service"
23 means the initial commissioning placement into
24 service.

1 Q. No, I understand what that refers to. But what
2 I'm asking you is --

3 A. You're talking about during the construction
4 phase?

5 Q. I'm saying if there's a lag between when
6 construction ends and that initial commencement
7 of operation begins, this pledge does not
8 appear to apply to that period.

9 A. I'm not familiar with New Hampshire law as to
10 taxation of infrastructure during the
11 construction phase. So, again, I would pose
12 that question to Dr. Shapiro.

13 Q. And I don't believe it's a question that's
14 based on New Hampshire law. It's based on the
15 language of this agreement, and that's what I'm
16 trying to ask you.

17 A. Well, this agreement is clear. It says "placed
18 in service," which means it's been placed into
19 commercial operation. Back to your point,
20 power is flowing over it.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. Now, is there a state law that suggests you can
23 tax a property before it's achieved that? I
24 think that's a question of New Hampshire law.

1 Q. Okay. The duration of the TSA between Northern
2 Pass and Hydro-Quebec is 40 years; correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And the life span of a transmission line is
5 more than 20 years; is that correct?

6 A. More than 20 years?

7 Q. More than 20 years.

8 A. Likely, yes.

9 Q. Then why is this pledge limited to 20 years?

10 A. So, again, the TSA is a 40-year agreement. You
11 know, this is the first 20 years is what we
12 committed to in the Forward NH Plan. We're
13 looking at a 20-year planning horizon. So the
14 tax pledge runs in parallel, if you will, with
15 the Forward NH Plan. That's what drove the tax
16 pledge was the existence of the Forward NH
17 Plan. Both have 20-year lives.

18 Q. Okay. So at the end of this 20-year tax pledge
19 period, the town will be free to assess at
20 whatever level they felt appropriate, and
21 Northern Pass would be free to seek an
22 abatement if it so choosed.

23 A. I think the town is free to assess on the basis
24 they see fit at any time. I think our pledge

1 is our commitment to not seek an abatement if
2 it's used this methodology.

3 Q. And let me state it a different way. You're
4 right. If after the 20-year period has expired
5 and the town assesses at a level that Northern
6 Pass disagrees with, Northern Pass would then
7 be free to seek an abatement if they so choose.

8 A. We would be free to do that in the first 20
9 years. Do you follow?

10 Q. Hmm-hmm. No, I think you've answered the
11 question.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. So if Northern Pass's position with regard to
14 methodology is something the towns disagree
15 with, and this appears on its face to not cover
16 the assessment based on the land rights, is
17 this pledge truly in the best economic
18 interests of the host community?

19 A. Yes. Again, this is a floor, if you will, for
20 taxation. It's intended to define the minimum
21 tax revenue that a town could count on. You
22 know, if a town were to choose a different
23 methodology, it could result in further tax
24 revenues above and beyond this. So this is a

1 unilateral pledge. Again, we're not asking the
2 town to agree with our methodology, but we are
3 providing tax certainty. So it's a minimum
4 amount. And I think that's very valuable based
5 upon my --

6 Q. But it's tax certainty provided the town
7 doesn't go above the calculation that Ms.
8 Shapiro has provided.

9 A. True. But that's a pretty straightforward
10 methodology. I mean, it takes the investment
11 amount and it depreciates it on a straight-line
12 basis. So that's almost formulaic. And for
13 each and every town, we've provided a schedule
14 of what those payments would look like over
15 time. And I would say generally that's been
16 very well received from many towns. You know,
17 they have some degree of certainty. It's not
18 to say they necessarily agree with the
19 methodology, but it's providing a sense for
20 what the tax revenues will look like.

21 Q. If you could go back to your supplemental
22 testimony, which is Applicant's Exhibit 6 --

23 A. Six.

24 Q. Applicant's 6, Page 9 of the testimony, yes.

1 So, your prefiled testimony --

2 A. So you're not referring to the attachments.

3 You're referring to the body --

4 Q. No. Yes.

5 A. I'm sorry. Page 9?

6 Q. Page 9, yes.

7 A. Okay. Got it.

8 Q. I'm sorry. Page 8. My apologies. Go to
9 Line 8 and 9. There's a statement there,
10 "Property taxes paid by PSNH or recouped from
11 customers through rates." Do you see that?

12 (Witness reviews document.)

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And I just wanted to get some clarity on what
15 you mean by that.

16 The line in the host communities is a
17 transmission line as opposed to a distribution
18 line.

19 A. That's true, yes.

20 Q. Okay. And so transmission lines -- property
21 taxes on transmission lines can be recouped
22 through a tariff at the regional level.

23 A. Yes. That's through rates. Just a federal
24 ratemaking as opposed to a state ratemaking,

1 yes.

2 Q. Okay, okay. So, any sort of an increase in
3 property tax payments that Northern Pass or
4 PSNH might be subject to is not borne
5 exclusively by New Hampshire ratepayers; it is
6 instead distributed throughout the New England
7 region as a rate.

8 A. For a regionalized tariff, that would be true.
9 So if the costs are being socialized across New
10 England, that would be true.

11 Q. Okay. Thank you.

12 A. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Municipal
14 Group 2, Attorney Fillmore.

15 MS. FILLMORE: Logistical issues.
16 One moment.

17 (Pause in proceedings)

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. FILLMORE:

20 Q. I introduced myself earlier. I represent eight
21 municipalities, and I'm speaking for Municipal
22 Group 2 today.

23 A. Good afternoon.

24 Q. Good afternoon. I'd like to ask you a few

1 questions about the North Country Jobs Creation
2 Fund, which Attorney Pappas has already
3 covered, and I'm going to try not to repeat
4 anything that he did.

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. So as you discussed with him, the Coos County
7 Jobs Creation Association administers that
8 fund; is that right?

9 A. No, the North Country Job Creation Fund Board
10 administers that fund.

11 Q. Okay. What you see on the screen now is a
12 portion of Joint Muni Exhibit 61, and it is
13 looking at Page 7 of that exhibit that is on
14 the right of the screen. And that is an
15 internal document that was provided as part of
16 a data request to Counsel for the Public --
17 from Counsel for the Public, which shows that
18 the Coos County Jobs Creation Association is
19 the one that would be administering that fund.

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. And Northern Pass stated that it will provide
22 \$7.5 million to that fund over several years;
23 is that correct?

24 A. Yes, that's correct.

1 Q. Okay. Is there a written agreement between
2 Northern Pass or Eversource and the association
3 that requires the contribution of five-point --
4 of \$7.5 million?

5 A. I believe that there is, but I would have to
6 confirm that. I believe there is a formal
7 agreement. Again, this predated by
8 involvement. It was put in place by my
9 predecessor.

10 Q. Refer you to the screen which now has Joint
11 Muni Exhibit 42, which is a response to data
12 requests that grew out of a technical
13 session --

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Fillmore,
15 before you ask the question, as whoever was
16 bringing it up gave us the full screen, it
17 became -- the lettering became really small.
18 Just before they blew it up to full screen, it
19 was beautifully readable. Do you think we
20 could go back there again? There we go. Thank
21 you.

22 MS. FILLMORE: Day 1 is always
23 interesting.

24 BY MS. FILLMORE:

1 Q. And in this response, as you can see, it says
2 there is no written agreement that has been
3 executed between Northern Pass Transmission and
4 the North Country Jobs Creation Fund.

5 A. Okay. I do see that, yes.

6 Q. So as you're sitting here today --

7 A. I'm not certain that that's still the case,
8 but --

9 Q. As you sit here today, can you think of one?

10 A. No. But that's not to say it doesn't exist
11 because, as I said, this fund was announced
12 prior to my involvement, and it's really being
13 administered by others. So I'm not certain
14 whether there are formal agreements that have
15 memorialized the commitment. I do know it's a
16 firm company commitment, so...

17 Q. When did you become involved with the Project?

18 A. In the middle of 2014.

19 Q. I'll represent to you that this data request
20 was made at some point in the last six months.

21 A. Okay. But I'm not looking at all the data
22 requests, just so you're aware.

23 Q. Thank you.

24 Do you know if Eversource or Northern Pass

1 ever required the association, the North
2 Country Jobs Creation Association or the North
3 Country Jobs Creation Fund, do you know if
4 Eversource or Northern Pass ever required them
5 to create written guidelines or standards
6 regarding rating of proposals and the wording
7 of grants?

8 A. I believe Attorney Pappas asked this question,
9 and my response was I was unaware whether
10 published criteria exists or not.

11 Q. And do you know if the association or the fund
12 was required by Eversource or Northern Pass to
13 create any kind of reporting requirements for
14 its grant recipients?

15 A. That again I'm unaware of. You know, as I said
16 earlier, Mr. Ramsey handles the interface with
17 the Jobs Creation Fund. I know he periodically
18 meets with the board members, and from time to
19 time he'll talk to me about the nature of the
20 commitments that have been made. But as to the
21 reporting requirements from those grants, you
22 know, to the earlier questions, the jobs
23 created specifically, no, I'm not aware of
24 that. I do know anecdotally that these

1 advanced commitments are making a difference.

2 Q. Unfortunately, Mr. Ramsey is not available for
3 us to ask these questions of but --

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. So I'll continue.

6 A. But I will tell you, you know, just as a
7 general matter, you know, I do view these as
8 corporate commitments that we take very
9 seriously. And if we elect to make advanced
10 commitments such as the one we're talking about
11 now, you know, that's a corporate decision. If
12 and when there needs to be formal agreements
13 put in place -- for example, this fund truly
14 matures when the permits are granted -- then
15 we'll put the necessary agreements in place.

16 Q. Do you know if the association has required any
17 of the six organizations that received grants
18 so far, the advanced funding, do you know if
19 the association has required them to report
20 back any information about how the money was
21 used or how many jobs were created?

22 A. Again, I'm not aware of the reporting
23 requirements back from the grant recipients.
24 The funds that have been allocated thus far

1 have been fairly modest. But I am aware that
2 they're doing exactly what they were intending
3 to do, which is create opportunities in the
4 North Country.

5 (Pause in proceedings)

6 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Fillmore?

7 MS. FILLMORE: Yes.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Where are we
9 here in --

10 MS. FILLMORE: We're having a
11 technical problem. But I'm going to skip ahead
12 without the visual aid, I believe.

13 BY MS. FILLMORE:

14 Q. Can we talk for a moment about the six grants
15 that were awarded from the North Country Jobs
16 Creation Fund? Counsel for the Public had a
17 beautiful exhibit up earlier. And I understand
18 from your discussion with him that you're
19 pretty familiar with the six grants that were
20 awarded, so --

21 A. I'm familiar with a couple of them, not all
22 six. I can't --

23 Q. There was one that you mentioned, which was the
24 White Mountain Regional High School --

1 A. Yes, that one I'm familiar with.

2 Q. Okay. And The Dancing Bear at River's Edge in
3 Colebrook.

4 A. I'm familiar with that as well, yes.

5 Q. And what was that one for?

6 A. That was for exterior renovation. I believe
7 that's the only restaurant, if you will, in
8 Colebrook. It's a tourist destination, if you
9 will, and they applied for a grant to make it
10 more attractive -- essentially, to side the
11 exterior.

12 Q. A grant for siding?

13 A. A grant for siding, yes.

14 Q. Then there was another one, I'll represent to
15 you, the Enriched Learning Center in Berlin.
16 Are you familiar with that one?

17 A. I'm not. That may be the daycare center.
18 There was a daycare center that was looking for
19 some seed money to set up its operation. That
20 may be the one you're referring to. But I'm
21 not certain.

22 Q. There was a daycare center. Would you agree it
23 was in Lancaster?

24 A. Subject to check. You know, again, I'm not

1 familiar with all six.

2 Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the jeweler?

3 A. I am not familiar with the jeweler.

4 Q. Okay. Still hoping that my technical support
5 can support my question.

6 So there was a jeweler in Berlin, I'll
7 represent to you, and the grant was used for
8 the purchase of a desktop laser welder.

9 A. Okay. Sounds like a good purchase.

10 MR. ROTH: Mr. Chairman, if it would
11 help, it was our Exhibit No. 49, I believe.

12 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Let's go off the
13 record for a second.

14 (Discussion off the record.)

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: We're back on
16 the record.

17 BY MS. FILLMORE:

18 Q. If you could look at the screen, please. So,
19 do these look familiar to you: The Greetings
20 Jewelers in Berlin, the Enriched Learning
21 Center -- that one, as you can see, a grant to
22 be used for two seasonal employees who, among
23 other things, will be functioning as whitewater
24 guides; is that correct?

1 A. Yes. That appears to be what it's saying.

2 Yes.

3 Q. Skipping down to No. 5, Tillotson Performance
4 Polymers, a grant to purchase package-sealing
5 equipment and materials; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And then the daycare in Lancaster, a grant to
8 fund expansion of daycare capacity; is that
9 correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. As you think about those six grants, would you
12 agree that it is difficult to find a common
13 thread among them, other than the fact that
14 they are all located in the North Country?

15 A. No, I think that's certainly common among them.
16 The other is that these are small businesses
17 that are seemingly looking to grow their
18 business and to create jobs. So, in each
19 instance, you know, the seed money that was
20 provided would be consistent with the purpose
21 of the Job Creation Fund, which is to target
22 small business development in the North
23 Country. So I think they're very consistent.

24 Q. Are any of the towns --

1 A. But they're obviously a diverse set of
2 businesses. We're not focused all on one.
3 Some are tourism-related. Others are
4 construction-related. So I'd say there's a
5 wide range of small businesses, but they are
6 all small businesses.

7 Q. And are any of those businesses located, to
8 your knowledge, in a town that has intervened
9 to oppose the Project?

10 A. Can you go back, please?

11 Q. I can tell you what they are. Berlin, Berlin,
12 Colebrook, Whitefield, Colebrook, Lancaster.

13 A. So, Berlin and -- Berlin is not along the
14 Project route, nor is Colebrook. Whitefield, I
15 believe, has intervened, and I believe
16 currently they have some concerns about the
17 Project. Lancaster, I know they're along the
18 route. I don't believe they've intervened. So
19 I don't think there's a common thread there.
20 You have a mix of parties who have intervened
21 in favor of the Project, like Berlin, and
22 opposed to the project, like Whitefield, and
23 towns that are not along the route at all, like
24 Colebrook and Berlin.

1 Q. On the screen right now is Joint Muni Exhibit
2 80, which is an excerpt from the testimony that
3 will be introduced by Counsel for the Public,
4 their expert, Thomas Kavet. He reviewed the
5 Forward NH Plan in my understanding. Can you
6 look at Lines 23 to 25 and --

7 A. So, I'm sorry. Whose testimony?

8 Q. Thomas Kavet.

9 A. Okay. So this is his testimony? Is that what
10 you're saying?

11 Q. It is.

12 A. Which lines?

13 Q. Twenty-three to 25.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. And that says, "However, to date, the small
16 grants awarded by the NCJCF, North Country Jobs
17 Creation Fund, have seemed haphazard and poorly
18 targeted for achievement of meaningful economic
19 development outcomes." Is that what it says?

20 A. It is what it says. I don't necessarily agree
21 with that. I think our goal all along has been
22 to put these funds in the hands of individuals
23 who know the North Country and know best how to
24 grow jobs in that region. I'm not sure who Mr.

1 Kavet is or the basis for this conclusion. But
2 I think the board is well regarded. They come
3 from the North Country and they know the
4 challenges. So I see that as what it says. I
5 don't agree.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. And just moreover, you know, the feedback I've
8 received has been very positive. I mentioned
9 the White Mountain High School. If you think
10 about the impact that that small grant could
11 have on that entire region --

12 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Quinlan, I
13 don't think there's a pending question right
14 now.

15 Ms. Fillmore.

16 MS. FILLMORE: Thank you.

17 BY MS. FILLMORE:

18 Q. What will be appearing on the screen shortly is
19 Applicant's 6, which is your supplemental
20 prefiled testimony, and I would direct you to
21 Page 4.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Lines 5 through 8.

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. And is it your testimony here that, "Moreover,
2 the Forward NH Fund will work to reinvest a
3 portion of the \$200 million commitment to
4 further its objectives and ensure the ability
5 of the fund to provide benefits to the state
6 for decades to come"? That was your testimony?

7 A. Yes. So an example of that is the loan to the
8 Balsams that we talked about earlier and the
9 repayment of that loan and the fact that it
10 would flow back into the fund.

11 Q. Yes, I was just going to bring that up.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Would you agree that if it's a loan, then it's
14 not really the same benefit as a grant? Would
15 it be?

16 A. It's by definition different. A grant need not
17 be repaid; a loan would require repayment
18 generally, yes.

19 Q. And is Eversource charging interest on that
20 loan?

21 A. I believe the agreement does provide for
22 interest or a return if it's converted to
23 equity.

24 Q. And if it's converted to equity, would that

1 mean that the lender would hold an equity
2 interest in the Balsams or Dixville Capital?

3 A. For the time that it was true equity. But
4 there's also a provision for it to be repaid,
5 and that's when the return would be delivered
6 back into the fund.

7 Q. Are you aware of anything in the Forward NH
8 Fund's formation documents -- I'm sorry. I did
9 skip to the Forward NH Fund.

10 Are you aware of anything in the formation
11 documents that requires money to be loaned
12 rather than granted outright, or that requires
13 the money to be reinvested?

14 A. I believe the formation documents allow either.
15 But that's a legal question.

16 Q. Allow, but not require?

17 A. I think it allows both.

18 Q. I'd like to look at your testimony from
19 October 16, your original testimony, which is
20 Applicant's Exhibit 5.

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. Do you have that?

23 A. I do.

24 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. Which page?
- 2 Q. Please turn to Page 6.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Page 6, Lines 18 and 19.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And do you see that says, "The emphasis for
7 this fund will be on host communities, and in
8 particular, host communities in the North
9 Country"?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And that is in response to Counsel for the
12 Public's question earlier, Attorney Pappas's
13 question earlier. You also said that the
14 emphasis would be on host communities in the
15 North Country.
- 16 A. Yes. That's what this says, yes. And that's
17 true.
- 18 Q. Are you aware of anything in the formation
19 documents or the Forward NH Fund that requires
20 or provides for an emphasis on host
21 communities?
- 22 A. I have not studied those in detail, but I do
23 think there is specific mention of the North
24 Country, and I believe community investment.

1 I'd have to study it. It's certainly our
2 intention --

3 Q. We'll bring that up and take a look.

4 A. That's fine.

5 Q. All right. Attachment A to your supplemental
6 testimony --

7 A. The Articles of Agreement?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. And if you look at Article II --

11 A. Yup.

12 Q. -- Section B(1), this is the same paragraph
13 that Mr. Pappas brought up earlier.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. And do you see anything in there that says
16 "host community"?

17 A. Well, I see specific reference to the "North
18 Country of New Hampshire."

19 Q. But not "host community."

20 A. That's what I was referring to. I'm sorry?

21 Q. But not "host community."

22 A. I don't see the words "host community" here,
23 but that's what's intended.

24 Q. Are there other communities in the North

1 Country that are not host communities?

2 A. Yes. And as I said earlier, it's not -- this
3 is not exclusive. We're not saying every
4 dollar is going to be invested in a community
5 hosting the Northern Pass transmission line.
6 You know, several of the projects may well be
7 outside of that area. But our focus is on host
8 community investment and on the North Country
9 in particular.

10 Q. I'd like to talk now a little bit about some of
11 the advanced funding that's been given out.
12 I'm going to try not to cover the same ground
13 that Attorney Pappas already has.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. So, quickly about the Balsams, as we've already
16 covered that. That is the \$5 million loan
17 commitment; is that correct?

18 A. Yes. At this point we've made a \$5 million
19 loan commitment. Correct.

20 Q. And that additional \$3 million was committed
21 last month, March of 2017?

22 A. Yes, I think the commitment was made last
23 month. I can't get into the details 'cause
24 it's confidential, but it's based upon

1 progress.

2 Q. And you're familiar with Mr. Otten?

3 A. I am, yes.

4 Q. And that he's the developer of Dixville
5 Capital?

6 A. Yes, he's the lead developer, as I understand
7 it.

8 Q. Are you aware that Mr. Otten appeared here at a
9 technical session on January 19th?

10 A. I am, yes.

11 Q. And then you're also aware, I assume, that
12 Dixville Capital is in support of the Project,
13 the Northern Pass Project?

14 A. Yes. As I understand it, he personally is very
15 supportive, has been for a long time. Predated
16 my arrival in New Hampshire. I think the
17 Company's dealings with Mr. Otten in the
18 context of the Balsams dates back to my
19 predecessor, and I think in the first instance
20 related to providing the power supply to its
21 development because his electrical needs are a
22 significant increase over what exists today.
23 But my understanding is he's always been an
24 advocate for clean energy.

1 Q. And he appeared here at a technical session in
2 January and then shortly thereafter received an
3 additional \$3 million loan commitment?

4 A. Yes. I don't believe they're related. But
5 yes, that's true.

6 Q. Some of the other advanced funding -- are you
7 familiar with the other advanced funding from
8 the Forward NH Fund?

9 A. Generally, yes. We talked about some of it
10 earlier, yes.

11 Q. Okay. Attorney Pappas has already talked about
12 Roger's Campground, so we'll skip that.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Coming up on the screen now should be Joint
15 Muni Exhibit 61.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. And here is a list. So, the North Country Cell
18 Effort, are you familiar with that?

19 A. Generally, yes.

20 Q. And that was a one-time payment to the Coos
21 County Economic Development Corporation for
22 some cell service improvements in the area?

23 A. Yes, in the town of Groveton. Yes.

24 Q. But the money went to Coos County Economic

1 Development Corporation.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And then the Public Safety Services Initiative
4 in Lancaster. And that one was to provide
5 funding for the attachment and rental expense
6 associated with a public safety service antenna
7 on a cell tower; is that correct?

8 A. Yes, which I think is also in Groveton. But
9 that serves kind of a regional need. I believe
10 Lancaster is kind of a regional hub for these
11 public safety services. But I think the cell
12 tower's technically in Groveton.

13 Q. And under that agreement for that project, my
14 understanding is that the fund would pay the
15 cost of having the antenna installed and then
16 pay the rental payments on it for 20 years; is
17 that correct?

18 A. I believe that's the first of those
19 agreements -- actually, no. That agreement is
20 not coming out of the Forward NH Fund. So the
21 construction of the Morse Mountain cell tower
22 was a previous commitment the Company made
23 outside that predated the Forward NH Fund. So
24 that cell tower was built basically before my

1 arrival and before the Forward NH Fund existed.

2 So construction --

3 Q. Okay. I wasn't asking about the cell tower.

4 A. I thought you were saying the construction and
5 maintenance of the cell tower. That's not what
6 you said?

7 Q. That's not what I said.

8 A. Okay. I apologize.

9 Q. No, I was talking about -- what is it called?
10 The agreement that's up on the screen is also
11 part of Joint Muni 61. This is Page 42 of that
12 exhibit.

13 A. Can you go back, please, to the list?

14 Q. Sure. We'll go back to the list, Page 36.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. There's the list.

17 A. So are you referring to Item 2, the North
18 Country Cell Effort?

19 Q. No, Item 3.

20 A. Okay, okay.

21 Q. The Public Safety Services Initiative.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Okay. And my understanding with that one, as
24 it says here, is to provide funding for the

1 attachment and rental expense associated with
2 the public safety service antenna on the
3 pre-existing cell tower.

4 A. Yes, that's on -- just so we're clear, that's
5 on the cell tower that we previously funded
6 outside of the Forward NH Plan. So we first
7 built the cell tower earlier. This is a
8 specific antenna that was then installed on the
9 tower, yes.

10 Q. So the arrangement is that Northern Pass,
11 through the Forward NH Fund, would pay to have
12 the antenna installed and then make the rental
13 payments --

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. -- over 20 years?

16 A. That's right.

17 Q. And is there a written agreement memorializing
18 this?

19 A. I believe there is.

20 Q. On the screen now is the agreement, part of
21 Joint Muni 61.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. And it says in the introductory paragraph that
24 it is between Northern Pass Transmission and

1 the Town of Lancaster; is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Not Groveton?

4 A. That's correct. It's with the Town of
5 Lancaster. The tower is physically located in
6 Groveton.

7 Q. And if we could go to Section 8, which is where
8 we are going, Section 8.1 is on the screen, and
9 it says, "Should the Project not be placed in
10 service for whatever reason, this agreement
11 shall terminate, and no funds, with the
12 exception of those funds previously expended,
13 shall be expended by the Forward NH Fund, and
14 the rental fee described in Section 3.1 will no
15 longer be paid by the fund, it being expressly
16 understood that such placement in service is a
17 precondition to the obligation to make those
18 payments hereunder." Do you see that?

19 A. I see that. But this has been installed and is
20 service currently, just for --

21 Q. The antenna has been installed.

22 A. It has, yeah. It's in service and performing
23 its role.

24 Q. Section 8.1, though, the Project --

1 A. Yeah, that's referring to Northern Pass and the
2 continuing obligation --

3 Q. Yes, thank you.

4 A. -- to pay the lease payments. Again, this
5 is --

6 Q. So if the Northern Pass --

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Both of you, try
8 not to talk over each other.

9 MS. FILLMORE: Sorry.

10 BY MS. FILLMORE:

11 Q. So if the Northern Pass Project does not go
12 forward, the rental payments would stop.

13 A. Yes. So, again, this is an advanced commitment
14 from a fund that is conditioned upon the
15 Project going in service. The entire construct
16 of the Forward NH Fund has that condition or
17 contingency. We advanced some funds in this
18 instance, but the continued lease obligation is
19 linked to the Project going in service.

20 Q. Just a few more questions also about the
21 Forward NH Fund. And we're bringing back up
22 Applicant's Exhibit 6, which is your
23 supplemental prefiled testimony.

24 A. Okay.

1 Q. Attachment A. There we go.

2 Okay. This is the Articles of Agreement
3 for the Forward NH Fund. And I am scrolling
4 back to Article X, which has the list of the
5 initial incorporators. And you explained to
6 Mr. Pappas earlier that you are familiar with
7 the first incorporator, Mr. Ardinger --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- is that correct?

10 And would you believe me if I told you
11 that Chris Sullivan, Kathy Michaelis, Olga
12 Goldberg and Alex Russell are all tax lawyers
13 at Mr. Ardinger's firm?

14 A. I have no reason to not believe you. I assume
15 you're correct.

16 Q. So, currently they are the incorporators of the
17 funds which doesn't have a board yet.

18 A. That's correct. As I said, Bill Ardinger is
19 our counsel for purposes of this. You know,
20 the initial incorporators are largely
21 irrelevant. They're essentially helping us
22 form up the corporation and creating what we
23 hope is a very tax-efficient structure. That's
24 why we retained Mr. Ardinger for that purpose.

1 Q. And I just have two questions left.

2 Do you agree that the Northern Pass
3 Project has to be in the public interest in
4 order to receive a certificate from this
5 committee?

6 A. I know there's a "public interest test," but I
7 would leave it to the lawyers to characterize
8 it. I know we have to demonstrate that the
9 Project serves the public interest. But the
10 exact characterization of that, you know, I
11 leave to counsel. That's certainly our
12 intention. That's what the Forward NH Plan is
13 largely all about is to bring to life the
14 environmental, economic and other benefits of
15 the Project.

16 Q. Your testimony, and I would represent testimony
17 of the Applicant's many other witnesses, is
18 full of claims regarding the benefits of the
19 Project. But if as you claim the Project is
20 already in the public interest, you don't
21 really need another \$2 million to sweeten the
22 pot, do you?

23 A. Again, that's part of the Forward NH Plan. I
24 view that plan in its entirety as designed to

1 serve the public interest. And it's in direct
2 response to feedback from New Hampshire
3 stakeholders who asked the question: What can
4 this project do for New Hampshire?

5 Q. Thank you, Mr. Quinlan.

6 A. So that was the purpose.

7 MS. FILLMORE: No further questions,
8 Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. Mr.
10 Whitley, I assume when you spoke, you were also
11 covering Municipal Group North?

12 MR. WHITLEY: Correct, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Attorney Pacik,
14 Municipal Group 3 South.

15 MS. PACIK: Good afternoon.

16 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Just before you
17 get started, we would like to break sometime in
18 the next 10 minutes. So if you have a couple
19 things you can do and then we'll take a break,
20 that would probably be best.

21 MS. PACIK: That's fine.

22 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Okay.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION

24 BY MS. PACIK:

1 Q. Mr. Quinlan, you spoke about the Coos Loop
2 upgrade earlier today; right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And you had talked a little bit about the cost
5 of it. And you understand that's being
6 proposed as one of the public benefits of this
7 project; correct?

8 A. Clearly. You know, unlocking those small-scale
9 renewables are clearly in the public interest.
10 This is an upgrade that has been contemplated
11 in New Hampshire for decades but was
12 cost-prohibitive. So our ability to deliver
13 that as part of the Forward NH Plan --

14 Q. Okay. So, based on what you just said, it
15 would be fair to say that you agree that this
16 is an important project for the North Country.

17 A. Which project?

18 Q. The Coos Loop upgrade.

19 A. Yes. It's part of the Northern Pass Project.
20 But yes, I would agree the Project in its
21 entirety, including that portion, are in the
22 public interest.

23 Q. Okay. And so in terms of the cost, you said
24 that the cost of the upgrades are \$55 million?

1 A. I said approximately 50.

2 Q. Approximately. And I do recall you had talked
3 about the CV -- SVC compensator; is that
4 correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And that was \$20 million?

7 A. Could be. That's the component that ISO will
8 determine whether we need or do not need.

9 Q. And in the event it is not needed, then that
10 would reduce the cost of the Project to
11 approximately \$35 million?

12 A. It could, it could.

13 Q. Okay. And so, even if Northern Pass doesn't go
14 forward, that's something that Eversource could
15 still do; correct?

16 A. Not typically. The types of upgrades we're
17 talking about here would normally be borne by a
18 generator who is seeking to interconnect into
19 the loop. And in the past -- just let me -- in
20 the past, generators who have been faced with
21 that incremental cost have declined to make the
22 investment. That's why it hasn't taken place
23 previously. Again, it's been studied for many
24 years here in New Hampshire and has been deemed

1 to be cost-prohibitive. This is not something
2 Eversource would do in the ordinary course.
3 It's not a reliability upgrade.

4 Q. But if something -- if Eversource chose to do
5 it, they could do it. It's technically
6 feasible to do it without the Northern Pass.

7 A. It's technically feasible. But under our rate
8 regulation, we don't normally make investments
9 of this kind.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. These are generally reliability-driven
12 investments or capacity-driven investments.
13 This is not something we would seek to have
14 distribution customers pay for.

15 Q. So I understand it's something you would not
16 normally do.

17 There's been testimony in the case that
18 between 2012 and 2014, so in that three-year
19 time period, Eversource invested over
20 \$2 billion in transmission projects in New
21 England. Are you familiar with that number?

22 A. Generally, yes.

23 Q. And are you familiar with the fact that there's
24 also been testimony in this case that between

1 2014 and 2018, so over those four years,
2 Eversource is planning to spend an additional
3 \$8.4 billion on transmission projects?

4 A. That sounds about right, yes.

5 Q. And the Coos Loop upgrade is approximately \$55
6 million?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. You're talking about two different types of
10 investments, just so we're clear. The
11 investments that were made previously, as well
12 as the \$8.4 billion, are investments that
13 ISO-New England has determined to be
14 reliability-based investments; therefore, the
15 costs would be socialized across New England.

16 The Coos Loop upgrade that we're talking
17 about here doesn't qualify as a
18 reliability-based investment, therefore would
19 not be collectible through a transmission rate.
20 So you're talking about two different types of
21 investment.

22 Q. I understand.

23 A. Okay. Just so we're clear.

24 Q. Okay. Thank you.

1 There's also discussion -- and I'm not
2 going to go into details about the tax
3 abatements that have been filed. I think we
4 covered that pretty well.

5 A. You sure?

6 Q. But I'll do everybody a favor and not ask about
7 that.

8 But there have been, obviously, a number
9 of tax abatements filed by Eversource in the
10 past. And you did make a statement that the
11 reason that you needed to file those tax
12 abatements was to protect the customers; right?

13 A. Yes. Tax expense is a flow through to our
14 customers; in essence, it's collected through
15 our rates. So if we are taxed an extraordinary
16 amount by a municipality, customers throughout
17 the state would essentially pay that tax.

18 Q. Okay. And I do want to just confirm that
19 Eversource is a publicly traded company. It's
20 not a non-profit; right?

21 A. Eversource?

22 Q. Yeah.

23 A. The parent company is a publicly traded
24 company. PSNH, the subsidiary, is not.

1 Q. But Eversource is publicly traded. And it's
2 actually a Fortune 500 Company; right?

3 A. Eversource the parent, yes.

4 Q. And so the savings from tax abatements are also
5 enjoyed by the shareholders; is that correct?

6 A. No.

7 Q. So you disagree with that.

8 A. Potentially between rate cases?

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. Maybe. But, you know, for all intents and
11 purposes, taxes are an operating expense that's
12 recovered through rates. So it's paid for by
13 other customers.

14 Q. But between the rate cases --

15 A. The Company does not profit on taxes.

16 Q. Okay. And between the rate cases there is
17 potentially a flow through to the shareholders;
18 right?

19 A. Potentially, if there's a regulatory lag, which
20 there generally isn't.

21 Q. You also talked about the amount of jobs
22 created during construction. And I think the
23 number that was put out there was 2600 jobs at
24 the peak of construction; right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And that calculation was done by Julia Frayer.
3 And she is the economist that was hired by
4 Northern Pass for this case?

5 A. Yes. It's also consistent with our experience,
6 as you've said. We've built a lot of
7 transmission infrastructure in the last decade
8 or so. So we have a pretty good feel for
9 ourselves. And we also now have a general
10 contractor for Northern Pass who has confirmed
11 the numbers.

12 So, yes, the 2600 came through her
13 analysis, but we believe it to be a strong
14 estimate.

15 Q. So I just want to clarify, because for most of
16 us when we hear "a job," we think of a job
17 being "a job," whether it's one year or three
18 years. And that's not how the 2600 jobs are
19 being counted in this case; right? So let
20 me --

21 A. No, I don't agree with that. I think there are
22 jobs that are, you know, for the duration of
23 the Project. So a construction job tends to be
24 for the duration of a particular project. This

1 has approximately a three-year construction
2 window. So it's long period for a construction
3 worker.

4 Q. Are you aware that Julia Frayer counted jobs,
5 for example, if a construction worker worked
6 for three years, she counted that as three
7 jobs?

8 A. No. I do understand there are secondary and
9 tertiary effects. So the construction worker
10 needs equipment. The construction worker has
11 to stay in a hotel. The construction worker is
12 generally eating where he or she he is
13 living --

14 Q. I'm just going to stop you because I don't
15 think you understood my question.

16 A. Go ahead.

17 Q. If construction -- regardless of what they're
18 eating or where they're staying, if a
19 construction worker works year one, year two
20 and year three, according to Julia Frayer's
21 calculations, that was three jobs. Are you
22 aware of that?

23 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Danielle, do you have
24 a specific reference that you can put in front

1 of Mr. Quinlan to show him --

2 MS. PACIK: It's a confidential
3 document, so I don't think we want to be
4 putting that up right now.

5 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Well, then I think we
6 should save that for the confidential session.

7 MS. PACIK: And if he's not aware,
8 then he can say no. But I'm just asking --

9 A. No, I would defer that question to Ms. Frayer.

10 BY MS. PACIK:

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. All I'm saying is we have executed a lot of
13 large-scale transmission construction projects,
14 and her numbers look about right to us.

15 Q. And I understand that. I'm just trying to get
16 to that 2600 number.

17 A. Okay. That's fine.

18 Q. Are you aware whether that 2600 number includes
19 jobs other than construction -- for example:
20 Administrative jobs or flow-through jobs?

21 A. Yes, it does. It certainly does. If you think
22 about what it takes to execute a \$1.6 billion
23 project, it's not just the folks in the field.
24 There's a lot of secondary and tertiary job

1 effects required to support their construction
2 efforts. So, absolutely it should count
3 those --

4 Q. So, for tertiary jobs, for example, the 2600
5 jobs, it could include the construction worker.
6 And she also included, for example, if people
7 went to The Dancing Bear --

8 A. Sure.

9 Q. -- because of the new siding and they spent a
10 lot of money. She assumed that based on the
11 amount spent, another job might be created;
12 right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. Yes, she has.

16 Q. And you --

17 A. Not specifically The Dancing Bear, but yes.
18 Have you ever been there, by the way? No.

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Quinlan,
20 let's try not to talk over each and let Ms.
21 Pacik finish her questions. And Ms. Pacik, why
22 don't you try and let Mr. Quinlan finish his
23 answers.

24 MS. PACIK: Certainly.

1 BY MS. PACIK:

2 Q. Okay. So it includes not only primary jobs,
3 but incidental jobs, flow-through jobs; right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. And at the end of the construction,
6 those jobs, that 2600 number, not all of them
7 are permanent; right?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Okay.

10 MS. PACIK: Last area, just so you
11 know, Mr. Chairman, unless you want to take a
12 break now. But I can finish up in a minute.

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Go for it.

14 MS. PACIK: Okay.

15 BY MS. PACIK:

16 Q. You did talk to Attorney Pappas about the
17 Granite State Power Link?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And from what we have heard, 80 percent are
20 proposed on existing structures, and 20 percent
21 of the proposed project would be on new
22 structures. Is that also consistent with your
23 understanding?

24 A. No. That's the New Hampshire portion of the

1 line?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. I think that's a guess at this point.

4 Q. Okay. That's the information at least that's
5 been put out publicly. You're aware of that?

6 A. For the New Hampshire portion of the line.
7 There's a substantial Vermont portion, which
8 would be all new construction. So, no, I don't
9 agree.

10 Q. Okay. Are you aware that they have stated that
11 the heights of the structures will not be
12 increased to what the current structure heights
13 are?

14 A. No. I believe the structures that are being
15 replaced will be taller structures generally.

16 Q. Okay. And that's your understanding?

17 A. Again, I think they're very early in their
18 design. We have had some contact with National
19 Grid about this. So I think it's early in its
20 conceptual phase to draw conclusions about the
21 Project.

22 MS. PACIK: Okay. I have nothing
23 further.

24 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right.

1 We're going to take our break and come back as
2 close to quarter after as we can.

3 (Brief recess was taken at 3:04 p.m., and
4 the hearing resumed at 3:18 p.m.)

5 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. Next
6 up on the list, Grafton County Commissioners.
7 Is Ms. Saffo here? Anybody from Grafton County
8 Commissioners?

9 [No verbal response]

10 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Seeing none,
11 Society for the Protection of New Hampshire
12 Forests, Attorney Reimers.

13 MR. REIMERS: Yes. I'm going to use
14 the podium.

15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. REIMERS:

18 Q. My name is Jason Reimers. I represent the
19 Society for the Protection of New Hampshire
20 Forests. And I just want to clarify, in
21 Applicant's Exhibit 70, which is the letter
22 whereby you adopted -- you and Mr. Bowes
23 adopted some of Mr. Muntz's testimony, it says
24 that you will cover the Project's inception and

1 an overview of the route selection process, and
2 Mr. Bowes will cover details relating to the
3 Project's route selection process and
4 alternatives analysis. So if you could just
5 look at Mr. Muntz's testimony at Page 1 and
6 just review Pages 1 through 3 and let me know
7 if that's yours or Mr. Bowes' territory.

8 A. All three pages in their entirety? Is that
9 what you're referring to?

10 Q. Yes.

11 (Witness reviews document.)

12 MR. IACOPINO: For the record, that's
13 part of Applicant's Exhibit 4, Mr. Muntz's
14 testimony? Or if you have it marked --

15 MR. REIMERS: I know Applicant's 1 is
16 the whole application.

17 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Yeah, Applicant 4 is
18 Mr. Muntz's testimony.

19 MR. REIMERS: Thank you.

20 A. So I would say generally, Pages 1 and 2 are my
21 responsibility. When you start talking about
22 alternative routes and, for example, the
23 analysis performed to quantify the incremental
24 cost of underground construction, that would be

1 Mr. Bowes.

2 Q. Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Quinlan,
4 could you move your microphone a little closer
5 to you, please?

6 WITNESS QUINLAN: Is that better?

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: We'll see.

8 Probably.

9 (Pause proceedings)

10 BY MR. REIMERS:

11 Q. Okay. So, in Mr. Muntz's testimony, he
12 discusses the original 2009 proposal, doesn't
13 he?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And that was an all-overhead design?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. And Mr. Muntz also discusses the 2013 proposal?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And the 2013 proposal included two underground
20 sections of .7 miles and 7.5 miles. And the
21 route changed in the Northern Section; is that
22 right?

23 A. Yes, that's correct. Generally moved to the
24 east.

1 Q. Okay. So, on Page 3 of Mr. Muntz's testimony,
2 at Line 6, he states, "The 2013 reconfiguration
3 of the proposed route in the North Section also
4 avoided all lakes or ponds that are subject to
5 regulation under the New Hampshire Shoreland
6 Water Quality Protection Act." Do you see that
7 part?

8 A. I do.

9 Q. Do you know what he means by the "North
10 Section"? To help you out, I can point you to
11 Page 2, Lines 25 to 26.

12 A. Yes, the North Section is approximately
13 40 miles from the border crossing to the
14 connection to the Coos Loop. That's the
15 so-called "North Section."

16 Q. The new right-of-way.

17 A. Right. Yes. For now, portions of it is
18 underground, so --

19 Q. Okay. And by "avoided," what did Mr. Muntz
20 mean? I'm sorry. Going back to Page 3, where
21 he talks about how the new route avoids all
22 lakes and ponds subject to what was formerly
23 called Shoreland Protection Act. What did he
24 mean by "avoid"?

1 A. Again, those details I would defer to Mr.
2 Bowes. I'm assuming that it meant that the
3 prior route, the westerly route, was in closer
4 proximity to certain ponds or lakes that are
5 subject to that act. There may well be some
6 specific bodies of water there he's referring
7 to.

8 Q. Okay. Do you have a --

9 A. That may be the so-called "Connecticut
10 Headwaters area."

11 Q. Okay. Do you know what determines whether a
12 lake or a pond is subject to that statute?

13 A. I do not.

14 Q. Would you believe me if it was 10 acres or
15 more?

16 A. Again, I don't -- subject to check, I guess I
17 would believe you.

18 MR. REIMERS: Dawn, could you do the
19 hard wire?

20 BY MR. REIMERS:

21 Q. I am showing you part of exhibit -- well, I'm
22 calling it Exhibit 1 because that's the
23 Application; however, this is Mr. DeWan's
24 report, or part of Mr. DeWan's report.

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. And Mr. DeWan is a consultant hired by the
3 Applicant?
- 4 A. He is, yes.
- 5 Q. Do you know where Little Diamond Pond is?
- 6 A. Generally, yes. It's in the Stewartstown area.
- 7 Q. If you look at your screen, you'll see it's in
8 Coleman State Park, according to Mr. DeWan?
- 9 A. Yes, I am familiar with the area.
- 10 Q. And this is along the North Section of the
11 route, isn't it?
- 12 A. It is in the North Section, yes.
- 13 Q. The next page that I'm showing you is a photo
14 simulation of Mr. DeWan. Do you see the
15 proposed Northern Pass in that photo
16 simulation? Here, I'll go back and then
17 forward.
- 18 A. I believe so. I think so. I think I see --
- 19 Q. How's that?
- 20 A. It's from a distance. I think this is a view
21 simulation from a mile or two away.
- 22 Q. Okay. The next one is another existing view
23 from Little Diamond Pond.
- 24 A. Okay.

1 Q. Obviously without the Northern Pass.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And in the next one, do you see the Northern
4 Pass in the photo simulation?

5 A. Yes. Yes, I do see that.

6 Q. Is it your opinion that the Northern Pass
7 avoids Little Diamond Pond?

8 A. I've never used those words, "avoids."

9 Q. But you've adopted Mr. Muntz's testimony,
10 haven't you?

11 A. Yes. I don't know whether Little Diamond Pond
12 is subject to regulation by this water quality
13 protection act.

14 Q. You don't need to. Assuming that it does for
15 this question, would it be your opinion that
16 the Northern Pass would avoid Little Diamond
17 Pond?

18 A. I assume the -- I honestly don't know. I
19 assume avoidance is based upon distance from,
20 in this case, infrastructure. I don't know if
21 a mile or two away constitutes an impact or is
22 "avoided."

23 Q. I'm not using the term "avoid" in any term of
24 art way or legal sense.

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. Just layman sense, in your opinion, would the
3 Northern Pass avoid Little Diamond Pond?

4 A. Well, again, I don't know if there's a legal or
5 technical term around it. I can -- it's
6 visible in at least one of these instances for
7 me.

8 Q. Okay. Which one do you see it in?

9 A. The second view sim you showed, it was more
10 visible. The first was very faint.

11 Q. But you do see it, don't you?

12 A. Barely, yes.

13 Q. And I'm asking because you just said maybe it's
14 visible.

15 A. Yeah. Again, I did see it in the second view
16 simulation, yes.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 Do you know where Big Dummer Pond is?

19 A. I don't. I assume it's in Dummer, but I don't
20 know.

21 Q. You assumed correct.

22 Hold on.

23 MR. REIMERS: Mr. Chairman, I
24 promise I'll get quicker at this as we proceed.

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: It's a shakedown
2 cruise, Mr. Reimers. We're all working through
3 it.

4 MR. REIMERS: I appreciate that.

5 BY MR. REIMERS:

6 Q. Okay. This is also from Mr. DeWan's report.
7 This is the existing conditions at Big Dummer
8 Pond in Dummer. The next one -- I just changed
9 it -- is Mr. DeWan's photo simulation. Do you
10 see the Northern Pass in there?

11 A. I do. On this simulation I do, yes.

12 Q. And are those lattice structures proposed?

13 A. The only one I can make out clearly is to the
14 right-hand side of the simulation. It does
15 appear to be lattice. Now, this is a 2014
16 simulation. I'm not certain whether the design
17 has changed or not to monopole.

18 Q. Are you aware of sections of Mr. DeWan's report
19 that are no longer accurate?

20 A. No, but I am aware that we have, you know, as
21 part of the Forward NH Plan, changed quite a
22 number of lattice structures to monopoles --
23 and this is to our earlier discussion with
24 Attorney Pappas -- to reduce visual impacts.

1 So I just don't know whether these particular
2 structures are among those that were changed.
3 Many of the early view simulations have gone to
4 monopole. And we selected these because --

5 Q. But my question was are you aware of any parts
6 of Mr. DeWan's report that are no longer
7 accurate?

8 A. No. I said no. But I said this view
9 simulation, I believe, predated his report.

10 Q. Okay. And the monopoles are used because they
11 have less of a negative visual impact than the
12 lattice structures?

13 A. Depending on the conditions in the area,
14 they're certainly less visible. It's a
15 streamlined structure, and there are things we
16 can do with material and color to make them
17 less visible. In this instance, for example, a
18 galvanized structure against the white
19 background would make it clearly less visible.

20 Q. And this is not a galvanized structure that
21 you're looking at.

22 A. From this distance, you can't tell. I can't
23 tell. This is probably a mile? How far is
24 that?

1 Q. It's half a mile to 1.35 miles.

2 A. Yeah, I think the structure that's most visible
3 to me, the one off to the right, looks like
4 it's a mile, roughly.

5 Q. Right. The one that's most visible to you
6 happens to be --

7 A. That's because --

8 Q. -- the one that's furthest away.

9 A. Yes, because it's what looks like -- again, I
10 don't know -- looks like it's a galvanized
11 structure against a brown background. In that
12 instance, a monopole with a weathered steel
13 finish would probably be invisible. It looks
14 like a tree. Against a white background, a
15 galvanized becomes invisible.

16 Q. Okay. This is Mr. DeWan's other photo of
17 existing conditions, and this is another photo
18 simulation. Do you see the proposed Northern
19 Pass here?

20 A. Yes. That's clearly a lattice structure, at
21 least the upper left structure is lattice.

22 Q. And what about the one right on the right of
23 the island?

24 A. That appears to be a lattice as well. Again, I

1 don't know if those have been changed to
2 monopole at this point and whether the color
3 has changed. Now, these are the type of design
4 refinements we are making.

5 Q. Okay. So there could be things in Mr. DeWan's
6 report that are no longer accurate?

7 A. Again, I think this probably predated his
8 report. But as we've said all along, we're
9 going to continue to look at local
10 opportunities to address local concerns. So,
11 you know, the final design does not exist
12 today.

13 Q. I understand --

14 A. These view simulations were a snapshot in time.

15 Q. I understand your answer to be yes, it is
16 possible.

17 A. No, I didn't say that. I said these predated
18 his report, so I don't know whether any of his
19 final report simulations have been changed.
20 This, I don't know if it was part of his report
21 or not.

22 Q. It's marked --

23 A. The earlier one was 2014 vintage, so it clearly
24 predated his report.

1 Q. Do you see at the bottom right it says
2 "Northern Pass Visual Impact Assessment"?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. And do you see on the bottom left how it's
5 stamped by the Applicant with a Bates stamp
6 number?

7 A. You're talking about the "APP"?

8 Q. I am.

9 A. I don't know if that's our stamping or yours.
10 But that's for production purposes, I gather.

11 Q. Okay. Mr. DeWan's report will come up later
12 on, so we can move on.

13 Assume for this question that this pond,
14 Big Dummer Pond, is subject to the Shoreland
15 Protection Act, I'm going to call it. Would it
16 be your opinion that the Northern Pass avoids
17 it? Using plain language, there's no hidden
18 trap there.

19 A. I would say it's visible. You know, whether it
20 avoids it or not, you know, I'm not going to --
21 that's an odd word, in my view. But it's
22 visible.

23 Q. Okay. But it's testimony you've adopted.

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. On Page 3 of your testimony --

2 A. Which testimony?

3 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. Mr. Muntz's testimony.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. Still on Mr. Muntz. On Page 3, Mr. Muntz
6 discusses that the current proposal builds on
7 the 2013 changes and adds a 52-mile underground
8 section through the White Mountains. That's
9 right, isn't it?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And he notes the reasons for these changes as
12 including, "public concerns over iconic
13 viewsheds." That's at Page 3, Line 11. Do you
14 see that?

15 A. Yes. Yes, I do.

16 Q. What iconic viewsheds is he referring to?

17 A. He's referring to viewsheds in and around the
18 White Mountain National Forest, including those
19 from the Franconia Notch area, you know, the
20 Appalachian Trail.

21 Q. And so the 2013 -- or, yeah, the 2015 proposal
22 eliminated any impact to those iconic
23 viewsheds?

24 A. In and around the White Mountain National

1 Forest, yes. That was the purpose of the
2 change.

3 Q. And so did the 2009 proposal include -- would
4 it have been visible from Franconia Notch?

5 A. I don't know.

6 Q. Well, if you look at his testimony, he seems to
7 be saying that it would have been.

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. And my question is: Why would Eversource, in
10 the first place, propose a transmission line
11 that would be visible from a place so iconic as
12 Franconia Notch?

13 A. Well, one of the reasons the initial route was
14 selected was to maximize the use of an existing
15 right-of-way. There's a right-of-way that runs
16 through that area today and has an existing
17 transmission facility. So, one way to mitigate
18 incremental impacts, if you will, is to
19 co-locate infrastructure. So that was the
20 premise behind the initial route selection was
21 to maximize the use of existing transmission
22 corridors.

23 Q. Turn to your prefiled testimony, please.

24 A. Okay. Supplemental or initial?

1 Q. No, initial.

2 A. Okay. Which page?

3 Q. I'll get there. You list -- it's on Page 3,
4 around Line 22.

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. You list Northern Pass's justifications for why
7 it has chosen to propose burial where it has,
8 and Attorney Pappas went through some of this
9 with you earlier. The first factor you
10 mentioned is the availability of aerial
11 right-of-way and public highway corridors. Do
12 you see that?

13 (Witness reviews document.)

14 Q. Line 23.

15 A. Yes, I see that.

16 Q. Did the Northern Pass or any of its affiliates
17 directly inquire to the New Hampshire
18 Department of Transportation about burial along
19 I-93?

20 A. I believe so, yes. I personally did not.

21 Q. What do you understand of those communications?

22 A. I would be speculating, but I would refer that
23 question to Mr. Bowes. I am generally aware
24 that we have looked at the feasibility of I-93.

1 And we had retained on our staff a member of
2 the department -- a previous member of the
3 Department of Transportation who helped
4 illustrate the challenges in using that for
5 this purpose, but --

6 Q. Mr. Hodgdon that is; right? Mark Hodgdon?

7 A. Yes, I believe Mark Hodgdon and Mike Pillsbury,
8 yes.

9 Q. Neither of those gentlemen are witnesses in
10 this matter, are they?

11 A. I don't believe they are. But, you know, they
12 helped to advise us on the feasibility of that
13 corridor.

14 Q. No, I understand that you looked into --
15 Northern Pass looked into feasibility.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. But my question was whether you approached DOT
18 about it, and you said ask Mr. Bowes; right?

19 A. No, I said we had, but ask Mr. Bowes for the
20 details because I had not personally.

21 Q. Okay. When did the Northern Pass idea
22 initially arise, the inception of the idea?

23 A. In the 2009 time frame.

24 Q. And whose idea was it?

1 A. You know, I honestly don't know. There were
2 several individuals involved in the genesis of
3 the project. Our then vice-president of
4 strategic development, certainly was involved.

5 Q. Going back to Mr. Muntz's testimony on Page 1,
6 he states Northern Pass -- tell you where I am.
7 Line 30, Page 1.

8 A. Page 1.

9 Q. "Northern Pass arose in direct response to a
10 longstanding demonstrated need in New Hampshire
11 and the New England region for a more diverse,
12 low-cost, clean energy supply."

13 However, in the original proposal, New
14 Hampshire wasn't going to get any of the
15 proposed 1200 megawatts; isn't that right?

16 A. That I don't know. But I do know there existed
17 at the time a Climate Action Plan, or at least
18 it was in development in New Hampshire, which
19 specifically recognized the importance of
20 importing large amounts of clean energy from
21 Canada that would meet our climate goals here
22 in New Hampshire.

23 Q. Whose Climate Action Plan was that?

24 A. New Hampshire's.

1 Q. But I'm talking about Northern Pass's original
2 proposal. Did your --

3 A. I'm not sure I understand what you're referring
4 to. It's a regional project. The
5 environmental benefits flow to the region.
6 They don't recognize borders.

7 Q. In the 2009 proposal -- well, let me -- at some
8 point a Power Purchase Agreement arose -- is
9 that right -- that reserved 10 percent of the
10 1200 --

11 A. Yes, I believe that was 2016.

12 Q. To finish my question, that reserved -- that
13 would have reserved 10 percent of the
14 1200 megawatts specifically for New Hampshire?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And what was the date of that?

17 A. I believe it was sometime in 2016.

18 Q. Okay. Prior to that, was any of the
19 1200 megawatts earmarked for New Hampshire?

20 A. So we're mixing two things. So, "earmarked"
21 being contracted for? None of it was
22 contracted for --

23 Q. Dedicated to.

24 A. Well, that is the first and only agreement that

1 allocates a specific portion of the power to a
2 specific buyer. The concept always has been to
3 deliver the volume into the regional grid,
4 either at market or bilaterally. This is the
5 first bilateral contract that existed. So I
6 think we're mixing a couple things here. One
7 is the entitlement to the energy and associated
8 capacity as opposed to the environmental
9 benefits.

10 Q. Okay.

11 MR. REIMERS: Dawn, I'm going to use
12 the ELMO.

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Off the record.

14 (Pause in proceedings)

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Back on the
16 record.

17 BY MR. REIMERS:

18 Q. Counsel for the Public asked you a few
19 questions about the National Grid proposal
20 earlier. And I'll just quickly go through it
21 because I think these maps help clarify or
22 complement Counsel for the Public's map.

23 On the screen, is that the existing HVDC
24 line of National Grid?

1 A. Yes, it appears.

2 MR. IACOPINO: And Mr. Reimers,
3 that's SPNHF 8?

4 MR. REIMERS: I'm sorry. SPNHF 8.

5 BY MR. REIMERS:

6 Q. This is SPNHF 9. And if that National Grid
7 proposal were to prevail or happen, wouldn't
8 the line in New Hampshire look substantially
9 the same as the existing one, and it would look
10 like this?

11 A. I'm not sure I understand when you say "look
12 the same."

13 Q. If National Grid's proposal actually comes to
14 pass --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- the New Hampshire portion of the existing
17 line would look essentially the same, wouldn't
18 it?

19 A. No. No. We talked earlier about the need to
20 increase the height of some indeterminate
21 number of structures, as well as to widen the
22 right-of-way to accommodate those structures.
23 So, no.

24 Q. Okay.

1 A. And in the Vermont portion, there would be a
2 new line running parallel to the existing line.

3 Q. Right. Understood. But we're in New
4 Hampshire, and I asked --

5 A. No, I understand.

6 Q. -- specifically about New Hampshire.

7 A. Just for clarity.

8 Q. Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Resist the
10 temptation to talk over each other.

11 WITNESS QUINLAN: I'm trying.

12 MR. REIMERS: I apologize.

13 BY MR. REIMERS:

14 Q. And this is SPNHF 10 showing the existing HVDC
15 line and the Northern Pass line, if the
16 Northern Pass line were to be built. I guess I
17 don't have a question.

18 A. Can you just put that back just so we're...

19 Q. Sure.

20 A. Okay. I've got it. Just to be fair --

21 Q. Sure.

22 A. -- much of the Northern Pass line is in an
23 existing corridor. You know, over 80 percent
24 of it --

1 Q. That's correct.

2 A. -- is in the same corridor, just so we're
3 clear.

4 Q. Except for the 40 miles up north?

5 A. Eight of which is underground, and 24 of which
6 is in a working forest, yes.

7 Q. For approximately 10 miles in the towns of
8 Dummer, Stark and North UMBERLAND, the Northern
9 Pass proposes to co-locate its new overhead
10 facility in a 150-foot-wide right-of-way
11 already hosting the existing Coos Loop
12 distribution line and a 24-inch buried natural
13 gas pipeline owned by Portland Natural Gas; is
14 that right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you explain why none of the project maps
17 submitted with the Application for the towns of
18 Dummer, Stark and North UMBERLAND depict the
19 gas pipeline, while they do depict the current
20 Coos Loop transmission line?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Can you describe --

23 A. We typically don't depict subsurface
24 infrastructure. But I can't speak specifically

1 about the drawing you're referring to. It's
2 the use of the right-of-way above ground that
3 we're evaluating.

4 Q. Can you describe the communications that
5 Northern Pass has had with the owner of the
6 Portland Natural Gas pipeline concerning the
7 co-location?

8 A. No, but I know we are going to comply with all
9 industry standards for separation of electric
10 and gas facilities.

11 Q. So there hasn't been communications?

12 A. I didn't say that. I'm not familiar with them.
13 There may well have been. But we are aware of
14 the separation requirements, so we're going to
15 comply with them.

16 Q. So, from that answer, would I be correct in
17 assuming that there is no written agreements in
18 place between Northern Pass and Portland
19 Natural Gas at this time?

20 A. I'm not aware of any. But, again, we're aware
21 of the requirements and we'll comply with them.

22 Q. If you're not aware of them, is there a witness
23 following you who would be?

24 A. Mr. Bowes may be aware of. So I would defer

1 that question to Mr. Bowes.

2 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Jason.

3 MR. REIMERS: Yes?

4 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Barry. I think that
5 issue was also addressed with the construction
6 panel testimony.

7 MR. REIMERS: Okay. Thanks, Barry.

8 BY MR. REIMERS:

9 Q. Couple questions about the TSA. There's been
10 no amendment to the TSA -- actually, let me
11 back up.

12 The TSA that's in effect, I think you said
13 earlier, is the one that's for the \$1.4 million
14 project; is that right?

15 A. I don't know that the TSA refers to an amount.

16 Q. The TSA does refer to a 1200-megawatt project,
17 doesn't it?

18 A. It may, yes, subject to check.

19 Q. Again I'm calling this Applicant's 1. Appendix
20 16 of the Application. Do you see where it
21 refers to 1200 megawatts?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So, has this -- the TSA has not been amended to
24 reflect the 1,090-megawatt project; is that

1 correct?

2 A. To my knowledge, that's correct. But, you
3 know, that's a question for Mr. Auseré
4 specifically. But I'm not aware of an
5 amendment that changes that size.

6 Q. Okay. I'll save my questions for Mr. Auseré.

7 Regarding the Balsams and Mr. Otten, is
8 there a written agreement between any affiliate
9 of the Applicant's and any affiliate of the
10 Balsams stating that Mr. Otten or the Balsams
11 would support or would not disparage the
12 Northern Pass in return for the loan?

13 A. There are certainly agreements with the
14 Balsams. I'm not aware of that provision, as
15 to whether it exists or not. I do know the
16 loans that we have made to the Balsams are, you
17 know, not conditioned or contingent upon
18 Northern Pass moving forward.

19 Q. Not conditioned on Northern Pass moving
20 forward? But do you know whether they're
21 conditioned on the Balsams or Mr. Otten either
22 promoting, supporting or not disparaging?

23 A. Again, I don't know the answer to that
24 question. I know the loans that we discussed

1 earlier today are conditioned on progress of
2 the project, meaning his redevelopment project.
3 There are certain milestones that he is seeking
4 to achieve, and the loan amounts are triggered
5 off of those requirements.

6 Q. Thank you. I wanted to ask you a few questions
7 about the National Fish and Wildlife
8 Foundation, Partners for Fish and Wildlife
9 Program.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Have you seen -- by the way, this is SPNHF 11.
12 Have you seen or read the National Fish and
13 Wildlife Foundation's annual reports?

14 A. I've not read them in detail. I have skimmed
15 them. They're very well done.

16 Q. Okay. I'm showing you SPNHF 15 -- I'm sorry --
17 SPNHF 11, which is the 2015 annual report of
18 the foundation. And do you see the dots, the
19 numbered dots?

20 A. I do.

21 Q. Okay. Those are the project -- it's discussed
22 in the report, those are the projects that have
23 been funded by the program.

24 Are any of these projects related to

1 impacts of the Northern Pass or impacts that
2 host communities might experience related to
3 the Northern Pass?

4 A. Not directly. But, you know, the one you
5 highlighted here, which I believe is dot No. 1,
6 does look at the effect of early successional
7 habitat on certain species. You know, there's
8 a developing body of science that transmission
9 corridors present a type of early successional
10 habitat that allows species, some of which are
11 endangered, to prosper. In this case, I think
12 it's in Londonderry, and it relates to the New
13 England Cottontail. So, not directly. That
14 wasn't the purpose of the study. But they are
15 looking at early successional habitat and
16 bringing back these endangered species and
17 whether transmission corridors can be helpful
18 in that regard.

19 Q. Okay. The Northern Pass wouldn't run through
20 Londonderry, would it?

21 A. No.

22 Q. And just to clarify, you said I highlighted one
23 on there?

24 A. Well, this is Item 1; correct? It looks like

1 enhancing habit --

2 Q. Oh, I see. It just happens --

3 (Court Reporter inquiry)

4 A. It says "Enhancing Habitat for Early
5 Successional Species NH."

6 MR. REIMERS: Just for the record,
7 that just happens to be discussed on the same
8 page as the map.

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Understood. I
10 think you're probably both understanding each
11 other now.

12 A. I saw it before you covered it.

13 BY MR. REIMERS:

14 Q. What did it say?

15 A. "Stream Bank Restoration"; right?

16 Q. I'm showing you now what is still SPNHF 11, but
17 this is the map from the 2016 annual report.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. Do you know whether any of these projects are
20 related to the impacts of the Northern Pass or
21 impacts that host communities might experience
22 related to the Northern Pass?

23 A. Yeah, so, none of the projects are directed
24 towards Northern Pass impacts. As I said

1 earlier, some of these studies do look at this
2 question of early successional habitat, which
3 happens to be the habitat under a transmission
4 corridor. But none of them pertain directly to
5 Northern Pass. But I am aware that they are
6 working with several universities and other
7 environmental organizations on studying these
8 effects. So there is a relationship, but it's
9 not direct.

10 Q. Project No. 3, which is on the top right,
11 that's in Maine. Are you aware of that?

12 A. I'm not aware of the project. It appears to be
13 on the Maine/New Hampshire border. Some of
14 these, to our earlier discussion with Attorney
15 Pappas, are regional.

16 Q. Okay. Regarding the 5,000 acres of land for
17 protection -- actually, let's turn to your
18 initial testimony, Page 7, Line 11. This is
19 where you begin the discussion on 5,000 acres.

20 You say that Northern Pass has committed
21 up to 5,000 acres of land for natural resource
22 preservation, recreational activities, and
23 additional mixed uses. Can you elaborate on
24 what those mixed uses are?

1 A. Yes. So this is, again, based on the listening
2 tour we conducted -- I conducted in the North
3 Country, many stakeholders in the North Country
4 aren't necessarily interested in preserving
5 land and locking it down to future use. You
6 know, they're more supportive of what I refer
7 to as a "mixed use," which may host
8 recreational activities, may involve logging
9 operations, for example. There could be
10 conservation elements. So a mixed use is one
11 that has multiple uses: Conservation,
12 preservation, recreational and a working
13 forest, which seems to be of great interest in
14 the North Country.

15 Q. So you mentioned conservation, preservation,
16 recreational and logging.

17 A. Working forest, logging forest.

18 Q. Working forest.

19 A. Just one type of activity, yes.

20 Q. So you list here --

21 A. Hunting, fishing, you know, snowmobiling, those
22 all --

23 Q. Those sound like recreational to me.

24 A. Of various types, yes. Some in the North

1 Country refer to that as "mixed use."

2 Q. But you list here three separate categories:

3 Natural resource preservation --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- recreational activities --

6 A. Sure.

7 Q. -- and additional mixed uses. The only
8 additional mixed use that doesn't fall into the
9 prior two categories I've heard is logging.

10 Are there any others you --

11 A. That immediately come to mind? No.

12 Q. Would these properties allow for transmission
13 rights --

14 A. One just came to mind. Maple sugaring. We
15 know we're using some of these properties for
16 maple sugaring.

17 Q. Would these --

18 A. I'll give you another one. There's gravel
19 quarries. You're asking for mixed uses. These
20 are other types of mixed uses. Logging, maple
21 sugaring, quarrying.

22 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Okay. Mr.
23 Quinlan, hold any other thoughts.

24 WITNESS QUINLAN: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: And maybe Mr.
2 Needleman will circle back with you. But let's
3 let Mr. Reimers continue with his questions.

4 BY MR. REIMERS:

5 Q. So this land would be protected; correct?

6 A. Protected in what way?

7 Q. So it won't necessarily be protected; is that
8 right?

9 A. It will be available for mixed use.

10 Q. Such as granite quarries.

11 A. Potentially.

12 Q. Will these properties allow for transmission
13 rights-of-way?

14 A. Unlikely.

15 Q. So these 5,000 acres, will any of it be
16 actually conserved via conservation easements?

17 A. Likely.

18 Q. Can you guesstimate how much?

19 A. I can't. I mentioned earlier there's
20 approximately 1500 acres that are being set
21 aside for conservation as a result of our
22 formal mitigation obligation to DES. So that's
23 certainly going to be conserved.

24 Q. Are you counting that towards this 5,000 acres?

1 A. I believe so, yes.

2 Q. So is that 1500 acres required by DES?

3 A. It's a commitment we made as part of our formal
4 mitigation proposal.

5 Q. And is that -- a few questions about the Coos
6 Loop.

7 What costs of the Coos Loop will be funded
8 by the Forward NH Fund?

9 A. The Forward NH Fund?

10 Q. Right.

11 A. Potentially none of it.

12 Q. Didn't I read in your testimony that
13 approximately \$1.2 million of it would be?

14 A. Potentially. I have not made that final
15 determination. The vast majority of it will be
16 paid for as a project cost for Northern Pass.

17 Q. Why would any of it be paid for by the Forward
18 NH Fund?

19 A. Early on there was -- and by the way, I don't
20 believe it's in my testimony. But early on
21 there was some consideration for a portion that
22 is truly incremental in seeking funding through
23 the Forward NH Fund, but a final determination
24 has not been made. We're certainly committed

1 to do the upgrades, and, again, the vast
2 majority will be a project expense.

3 Q. And did I hear correctly earlier that, let's
4 call it \$50 million for the upgrade --

5 A. Roughly.

6 Q. -- that that \$50 million is not part of the
7 \$1.6 billion project costs?

8 A. It is part of the 1.6. The SVC which was
9 referred to earlier, there's a question as to
10 whether that's going to be required or not,
11 which could be anywhere from zero to \$20
12 million.

13 Q. So, the \$50 million, assuming the SVC -- SVC or
14 SBC?

15 A. V, Victor.

16 Q. Assuming that the SVC doesn't come to pass and
17 it costs \$50 million for upgrades, then that's
18 part of the project costs --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- that are covered by -- that are then in the
21 TSA essentially reimbursed over 40 years by
22 Hydro-Quebec?

23 A. Yes, as is the Forward NH Fund, back to your
24 earlier question. That will all be project

1 expense under the TSA.

2 Q. Okay. That will be paid for by Hydro-Quebec.

3 A. Paid for through use of the line.

4 Q. Paid for -- when you say that, "by use of the
5 line," who are you -- who's doing the paying in
6 that sentence?

7 A. Well, as we said in our recent press release,
8 the joint press release between Hydro-Quebec
9 and Eversource, the TSA, the one we've been
10 discussing, remains fully effective. And under
11 that Transmission Services Agreement,
12 Hydro-Quebec would be the payor for use of the
13 line. If as a result of one of the
14 solicitations, whether it's Massachusetts RFP
15 or another bilateral transaction, if we have to
16 amend the TSA or supplement it, we will do so
17 then. But right now, as we said in that joint
18 release, it is a binding corporate commitment
19 between Hydro-Quebec and Eversource.

20 Q. Okay. And the TSA can be amended at any time;
21 right?

22 A. It does require mutual agreement of the
23 parties, and it also has to be approved by the
24 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

1 Q. Is the Coos Loop work at all connected to the
2 agreement by Bayroot, LLC, to allow Northern
3 Pass to go through the Wagner Forest?

4 A. No. No, they're totally unrelated. No. I
5 can't think of any connection. They're
6 geographically separate.

7 Q. Geographically or otherwise?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Regarding the Guarantee Program that you
10 unveiled in your supplemental testimony
11 regarding the properties that would likely
12 experience property value impacts, according to
13 Mr. Chalmers --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- you said that nine property owners would be
16 potentially eligible for that?

17 A. That's his current estimate of the number of
18 properties that satisfy the criteria, yes.

19 Q. Okay. How many property owners will view --
20 would view the Northern Pass if it were built?

21 A. I don't know the answer to that. From what
22 distance? From a hundred yards or -- I
23 honestly don't know the answer to that
24 question.

1 Q. Would you agree that it's a lot more than nine?

2 A. I suspect it is, yes.

3 Q. And Mr. Pappas and you went through the
4 criteria. I won't go through all those again.
5 And you talked about how there were three
6 criteria. However, there really is a fourth
7 criteria, because in order for a property owner
8 to get any -- to be compensated, they would
9 have to sell their property within five years
10 after the commencement of construction; is that
11 right?

12 A. Yes. That's the underlying premise behind the
13 guaranty, which is if there's been a diminution
14 in value and it actually occurs, when a
15 property owner sells a property, we will make
16 them whole. That's the intention.

17 Q. If they decide to sell within five years.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. If they are impacted visually and they decide
20 that they are going to stay, but they
21 experience a property value decrease and they
22 decide to stay for more than five years, they
23 won't see any money; is that right?

24 A. Well, no. We did add an opt-out provision,

1 which is if the party elects for whatever
2 reason not to --

3 Q. That's where they get \$1500?

4 A. Yes. That's intended for those property owners
5 who, you know, largely aren't intending to sell
6 their property in the foreseeable future.

7 Q. So, different topic. You know, a wind farm,
8 for example, might have a life of 20 to 30
9 years. Would you agree with that?

10 A. Generally, yes.

11 Q. Okay. And in such an instance, the impacts
12 occurring from a 20- to 30-life span might be
13 considered temporary. Would you agree with
14 that?

15 A. No, that's a long-lived asset.

16 Q. Okay. Then you would agree that the Northern
17 Pass would essentially have permanent impacts,
18 wouldn't you?

19 A. No. Northern Pass is a transmission asset. It
20 is also a long-lived asset.

21 Q. Would you agree that the Northern Pass, like
22 many transmission lines, will be re-conducted
23 and refurbished over time, keeping it in
24 service indefinitely for all practical

1 purposes?

2 A. No, that doesn't necessarily happen. I don't
3 know what you're reading from.

4 Q. I'm reading from a recent -- actually, a
5 pleading filed by Northern Pass, which is SPNHF
6 13. It says, "A likely scenario is that the
7 Project, like many transmission lines, will be
8 re-conducted and refurbished over time,
9 keeping it in service indefinitely for all
10 practical purposes."

11 A. It could be.

12 Q. It would be a likely scenario?

13 A. I wouldn't characterize it as "likely." I'd
14 say it will be assessed at that time. But it
15 is clearly a long-lived asset, just like a wind
16 farm.

17 Q. That was SPNHF 13. Thank you. No further
18 questions.

19 A. You're welcome.

20 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Reimers,
21 what is SPNHF 13?

22 MR. REIMERS: It is Applicant's
23 Motion for Clarification of Site
24 301.08(d)2)(b), dated March 24th, 2017.

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Thank you.

2 All right. Next on the list is
3 AMC, CLF and Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust.
4 Mr. Plouffe.

5 MR. PLOUFFE: Thank you, Mr.
6 Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Hang on, Mr.
8 Plouffe. We're having trouble hearing you.
9 Off the record.

10 (Discussion off the record.)

11 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. Mr
12 Plouffe.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. PLOUFFE:

15 Q. I'm representing the Non-Governmental
16 Organizations that the Chairman just stated.
17 So I only have a few questions for you this
18 afternoon, and I want to start by following up
19 on dialogue you had with Mr. Pappas and Mr.
20 Reimers regarding the route selection and your
21 reference to "mitigating the visual impacts of
22 the Project."

23 So, am I correct that the current route as
24 proposed, other than the burial through the

1 White Mountain National Forest, is essentially
2 determined by the Company in 2013?

3 A. As to the overall route? Yes.

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. There are some other design changes we made in
6 2015 but --

7 Q. I'm talking about --

8 A. But yes, the route itself was largely
9 determined in 2013, other than the underground
10 portion around the White Mountain National
11 Forest.

12 Q. And just so we're clear, I'm making a
13 distinction between the route and the
14 mitigation within the route.

15 A. Right. The design changes, if you will.

16 Q. Yes. Okay.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So when did you go on your listening tour?

19 A. That would have been run from roughly the
20 middle of 2014 right up to the announcement of
21 the Forward NH Plan, which I believe was in
22 August of 2015. And I'll say it continues. I
23 continue to meet with stakeholders across the
24 state as we look at final design.

1 Q. After you did your first listening tour, what
2 changes did you make to the route?

3 A. Well, the single biggest change is the decision
4 to place 52 miles underground.

5 Q. Were there any other changes to the route
6 itself?

7 A. To the route itself?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. No.

10 Q. We've heard mention of Terrence DeWan. When
11 was -- and they're the consultant on visual
12 impacts for Northern Pass; correct?

13 A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat that?

14 Q. Terrence DeWan, his company, Terrence DeWan
15 Associates, they are the consultants to
16 Northern Pass for visual impacts; is that
17 correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And when was Terrence DeWan's firm hired by
20 Northern Pass?

21 A. I don't know the answer to that question.

22 Q. Do you know whether Terrence DeWan had any role
23 in the selection of the route, other than the
24 burial of the White Mountain National Forest?

1 A. The prior route? The 2013 --

2 Q. 2013. Correct.

3 A. I'm not aware of that. He did not have a role
4 in determining the route enhancement in 2015.

5 Q. Thank you. And when you -- who made the
6 decision to bury through the White Mountain
7 National Forest?

8 A. Generally it was me. I made the decision and
9 discussed it with others at Eversource and our
10 partner, Hydro-Quebec. But it was my decision.

11 Q. So would it be fair to say that Northern Pass
12 presented the route, including the burial
13 through White Mountain National Forest, to
14 Mr. DeWan for an assessment, for a visual
15 impact assessment?

16 A. Yes. And we saw some visual simulations that
17 he had done in 2014. So he was clearly
18 retained prior to the route enhancement that
19 you're referring to.

20 Q. The burial.

21 A. Correct. The burial, yes.

22 Q. But not the original route selection.

23 A. Yeah, I don't know how far back it went. But
24 certainly in 2014 he was performing

1 simulations. It may have been before that. I
2 just don't know the answer.

3 Q. Now I want to ask you about mitigation
4 measures. You spoke to Attorney Pappas this
5 morning about things such as changing from
6 lattice towers to monopoles, changing the
7 coloration of towers and monopoles, potential
8 plantings for screening and that type of thing.
9 And then you said to Mr. Pappas, if I have my
10 notes correctly, something along the lines of
11 you continue to look at these things as you
12 mature the design, and then you spoke just few
13 minutes ago to Attorney Reimers and said that
14 what's in the application is not the final
15 design; correct?

16 A. Something along those lines, yes. I would say
17 the overall route is determined. But we are
18 working at a local level to enhance the design
19 where possible. And it's based largely on
20 interactions with municipalities and
21 landowners. You know, at this point -- you
22 know, we had discussion earlier about these
23 construction MOUs. I think we are now in some
24 level of discussion with approximately 12

1 municipalities along the route. And these type
2 of design enhancements, it might be a different
3 color structure or the movement of a structure
4 or potentially lowering of a structure. These
5 are the types of things we are talking about,
6 as well as construction, in these more local
7 conversations, if you will.

8 Q. And that's probably laudable on your part
9 but --

10 A. I'm sorry?

11 Q. I said that's laudable on your part.

12 A. Thank you.

13 Q. But my question to you is: For the Committee
14 members who have to decide whether or not the
15 Project has an undue adverse effect on
16 aesthetics, what are they considering what to
17 have before them by way of the application if
18 not the final design?

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Let's go off the
20 record for a second.

21 (Pause in proceedings)

22 A. That's interesting. Can you repeat that
23 question, please?

24 BY MR. PLOUFFE:

1 Q. My question for you is: If the Committee is
2 tasked with deciding whether or not the Project
3 has an undue adverse effect on aesthetics, and
4 what they have before them in the form of the
5 application, and particularly the Visual Impact
6 Assessment is not the final design and that you
7 are continuing to mature the Project, what are
8 they supposed to look at in making that
9 decision?

10 A. Yeah, I think the design as submitted is
11 generally near final. I mean, it's a very
12 mature design. You know, any changes we would
13 make between now and moving into construction
14 would tend to reduce visual impacts. You know,
15 we're not going to do something that's going to
16 increase visual impacts. So I think the
17 Application we filed is complete. It gives the
18 SEC a basis upon which to assess visual
19 impacts. But as we've said all along, we're
20 going to continue to work locally to improve
21 the design and reduce visual impacts where
22 possible. That's something we committed to
23 when we announced the Forward NH Plan, and, you
24 know, we're in kind of active discussions

1 around that now.

2 Q. All right. I'm going to move on to another
3 topic, emission savings.

4 I understood your written testimony to be
5 that the Project would save 3.3 million tons of
6 CO₂, carbon dioxide -- carbon dioxide being a
7 greenhouse gas -- and that these savings would
8 assist in the state of New Hampshire's goals
9 with respect to reducing greenhouse gases.

10 Did you study the effects of the Project
11 on the other greenhouse gases, such as methane?

12 A. I did not. The figure you referred to was
13 derived by our expert, Julia Frayer. You know,
14 and the effects are, as I indicated earlier,
15 kind of a regional effect.

16 Q. You are aware that there are other greenhouse
17 gases besides CO₂.

18 A. I am aware of that. And generally the
19 importation of hydropower shouldn't have a
20 material effect on those.

21 Q. Well, that gets to my next question. Did
22 Northern Pass study the gas emission
23 consequences of the source of the power -- in
24 other words, the generation of this power by

1 Hydro-Quebec?

2 A. Did Northern Pass?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. No.

5 Q. So you are, in essence, blind to what's
6 happening on the other side of the border with
7 respect to emissions.

8 A. Not blind. But that is a topic, you know, that
9 is within the purview of the province of Quebec
10 and the country of Canada. That's not
11 something that we assess. They are a
12 generation source. Our goal and objective is
13 to -- one of our goals and objectives is to
14 displace carbon-emitting generation. So, you
15 know, we look at the impacts here as to what a
16 clean source of renewable power will do to push
17 fossil fuel plants off the margin. That's
18 basically the analysis Dr. Frayer performed.

19 Q. Are you aware of any of the scientific studies
20 that have been done on emission of methane from
21 impoundments behind large hydro projects?

22 A. Personally, no.

23 Q. I'm now going to move on to my final questions
24 which have to do with the financial benefits to

1 the state of New Hampshire through lower energy
2 costs.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Your original testimony estimated an \$80
5 million benefit, and then in your supplemental
6 testimony you reduced that to \$62 million,
7 based, as I understand it, on projected
8 reduction in energy prices and Forward Capacity
9 Market prices; is that correct?

10 A. Generally, yes, those are annual figures. So,
11 roughly, at that time, \$800 million in savings
12 across New England, New Hampshire's load share
13 is approximately 10 percent, so \$80 million a
14 year to New Hampshire customers.

15 Q. Are you familiar with the ISO-New England CELT,
16 C-E-L-T, reports?

17 A. Generally, yes. That's their load study.

18 Q. And what are those reports?

19 A. They essentially look at future demands for
20 electricity across the six-state region that
21 they administer.

22 Q. Do they also contain predictions with respect
23 to energy prices?

24 A. I do think -- I think they do have a forward

1 price forecast, yes.

2 Q. And are you aware that last month they issued a
3 draft CELT report?

4 A. A draft? No.

5 Q. So you have no knowledge beyond the 2016 CELT
6 report?

7 A. Do I have a projection of forward price of --

8 Q. No. Do you have knowledge of the CELT report
9 draft that was issued last month?

10 A. A draft? I'm not aware of that. But, you
11 know, I believe you that one was issued.

12 Q. And if that report indicated a lower projected
13 energy price going forward, lower than the 2016
14 report upon which Ms. Frayer based her
15 projections, that would result in further a
16 reduction in your \$62 million estimate?

17 A. Are you referring to energy or capacity?

18 Q. Electrical -- energy costs -- energy prices.

19 A. So, specifically energy?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. The bigger driver of her savings are savings in
22 the capacity market, which are projected to
23 increase starting June 30th of this year. And
24 they're not just projections. Those markets

1 have cleared three years in advance. So we
2 know with certainty what the capacity market
3 prices are going to be out until middle of 2021
4 at this point. That's where the largest
5 portion of the power cost savings come from.
6 And when I say "power," I mean energy plus
7 capacity. I do understand energy prices, you
8 know, some would view them as generally flat,
9 but volatile; others would say they're going to
10 increase as natural gas prices increase. The
11 greater sensitivity, though, is capacity for
12 purposes of this number and her analysis. And
13 those we know are going to be increasing. So,
14 just for frame of reference, that's about a \$1
15 billion market today. It will soon be a \$3- or
16 \$4 billion market. So it's a 3- to 400-percent
17 increase that's known because the markets have
18 cleared.

19 Q. Are you basing that on the latest Forward
20 Capacity Auction No. 11 --

21 A. I'm basing it on the results from auctions or
22 market clearing for 9, 10 and 11. So, as I
23 said, Forward Capacity Auction 11 covers the
24 period mid-2020 to mid-2021. That market has

1 cleared.

2 Q. So it's your understanding that the Forward
3 Capacity Market is going to increase.

4 A. Substantially, yes.

5 Q. Substantially.

6 A. Yes. I think in the year you're referring to
7 it's roughly 2-1/2 times what it is today.

8 Q. Okay. Thank you. I have no further questions.

9 A. You're welcome.

10 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. Is
11 anybody here from NEPGA to ask questions?

12 [No verbal response]

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right.
14 Clarksville, Stewartstown, Abutting and
15 Non-Abutting. Mr. Thompson?

16 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: You're up.

18 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you. My name is
19 Brad Thompson. I'm a resident of Stewartstown,
20 and I'm with Intervenor Group Pittsburg, Clark
21 and Stewartstown North, of which I am the
22 spokesman, Abutters and Non-Abutters.

23 I'd like to ask permission that -- we
24 originally were two groups. Mr. Baker was

1 spokesman for the non-abutters, and he has a
2 couple questions to ask after mine. Is that
3 possible?

4 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Needleman?

5 MR. NEEDLEMAN: I think as long as
6 they're discrete topics, I think we agreed that
7 would be okay.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: You may proceed,
9 Mr. Thompson.

10 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. THOMPSON:

13 Q. Just quickly I'd like to cover a couple of the
14 responsibilities that you have in your job
15 position, and one of them is -- was the
16 selection of the routes; is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. In particular, the 7.5-mile underground route
19 is what I'll be dwelling on.

20 A. No, actually that portion of the route was
21 determined in roughly 2013. So that predated
22 my involvement. The route portion that I've
23 been involved in personally have been changes
24 in and around the White Mountain National

1 Forest. Now, I have adopted Mr. Muntz's
2 testimony as to those earlier periods, but I
3 was not involved in those initial decisions.

4 Q. Do you remember when you did take over
5 leadership from Mr. Muntz, timing-wise?

6 A. Leadership for project development?

7 Q. Yeah, for the job, yeah, taking his job.

8 A. My involvement started in the middle of 2014.
9 And at that time, both Mr. Muntz and Mr. Long
10 were involved in the project. So my initial
11 involvement was in developing the Forward NH
12 Plan. Mr. Muntz resigned from the Company last
13 fall, I believe in October of 2016, and then I
14 assumed responsibility for the project
15 development.

16 Q. But you've been involved in aspects of it since
17 2013.

18 A. 2014.

19 Q. 2014.

20 A. Yes, middle of 2014.

21 Q. Okay. Switching gears for a minute, and then
22 I'll come back to the site selection.

23 The 2600 jobs that are going to be
24 created, kind of a question in my mind, what

1 kinds of jobs are these?

2 A. Well, there are many types of jobs. Some are
3 the electrical workers who are going to be
4 installing the wire, working in the substation.
5 There are construction jobs for folks pouring
6 foundations and --

7 Q. Mostly what you'd call "skilled jobs" would you
8 say?

9 A. Many are skilled jobs. But to our earlier
10 discussion, there are secondary and tertiary
11 effects. You know, there's back office for all
12 of that. There are, you know, local
13 establishments that we will support either
14 through, you know, goods and services that will
15 be procured. So there are second- and
16 third-order effects. You know, if you look at
17 a project like the Maine Reliability Project,
18 was one that was recently constructed, that's
19 probably the most comparable recent example.
20 And the numbers that they have published are
21 very consistent and actually quite a bit
22 greater than the numbers we're talking about
23 here. But it's all manner. It's skilled
24 construction jobs to, you know, administrative

1 staff to hotel workers. You know, there's a
2 very significant local economic impact.

3 Q. Thank you. Do you feel that if it is in fact
4 2600 possible employees, that they're
5 available, they're around, they can be found?

6 A. Well, that's certainly my hope. We have made a
7 New Hampshire First commitment, and we are
8 going to source as much of that locally as we
9 can. We've spent a lot of time in the North
10 Country. I mean, there was some discussion
11 earlier about Allen Bouthillier. You know,
12 contractors like that in the North Country are
13 skilled at building roads, pouring foundations,
14 hauling gravel, clearing rights-of-way. So
15 we're going to source all of that locally.
16 There are instances where we're going to have
17 to go outside the state. I'll take line
18 workers. There's not enough line workers in
19 the state of New Hampshire to build this. But
20 we will fully employ all that are available,
21 and then we will bring in whatever we need
22 beyond that. But, you know, we anticipate
23 sourcing a significant percentage here in New
24 Hampshire. That's our goal.

1 Q. I guess my concern, so you can comment on it,
2 with the unemployment rate at near all time low
3 of less than 4 percent, and many ads and many
4 of the newspapers around the state looking for
5 help, it being spring -- and I'm talking, I
6 think in particular, of excavation companies,
7 paving companies, landscaping companies -- I
8 mean they're all looking for help. I feel like
9 people just aren't there. Perhaps they're
10 lined up in a union hall and I haven't seen
11 them. But I just sense that they're not there
12 and --

13 A. Yeah, I don't necessarily agree that--

14 Q. I really question how you're creating 2600 new
15 jobs. Are you just going to go out and, you
16 know, grab them from a competitor or somebody
17 else that's in the excavation business? Is
18 that really creating jobs?

19 A. Well, I think there's going to be some of both.
20 Some is, you know, taking additional workers
21 and talent that's on the bench and putting them
22 to work. Others will be brand new jobs. We
23 talked about the apprentice program earlier.
24 You know, we have held both contractor fairs

1 and job fairs to test the market, if you will,
2 and we're getting very robust response,
3 particularly in the North Country. And while
4 the unemployment rate might be low in Southern
5 New Hampshire, it's not low in the North
6 Country. We hold a job fair in the North
7 Country, and there's an abundance of talent
8 that can be put to work there. So I don't
9 think we're going to have a challenge creating
10 new jobs and new opportunities for folks,
11 particularly in that region.

12 Q. Without being argumentative, I'd like to refute
13 that a little bit.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. Coos unemployment in February of this year, two
16 months ago, was 4.4 percent.

17 A. It could be. All I'm referring to is the fairs
18 that we've held have been largely subscribed.
19 And, you know, we have a manual we've created
20 for local businesses who have expressed an
21 interest in participating in the Project, and
22 we've got hundreds of local businesses who are
23 anxious to participate. When we hold a
24 contractor fair in the North Country, and we've

1 held several, they're generally very well
2 attended. So it may be that the rate is only
3 2 percent or 4 percent. I've seen higher
4 numbers for the North Country than 4 percent.
5 But I'm not going to challenge you on that. I
6 will tell you that there's a lot of interest in
7 working on the Project.

8 Q. Sounds good.

9 Getting back to the route selection, the
10 seven and a half miles. I'd like to dwell a
11 little bit on how reasonable that choice is,
12 and in particular, how reasonable Transition
13 Station No. 4 choice of location is. I guess
14 probably I should ask the question. Am I
15 talking to the right guy, being a route
16 selection --

17 A. You know, the details of the route are probably
18 better left to Mr. Bowes. I mean, I could
19 answer the higher level questions, if you will.
20 But if you have specific questions about an
21 individual structure and its proximity --

22 Q. Actually, that pretty much defines what I'm
23 digging at, yes.

24 A. I will defer that to Mr. Bowes.

1 Q. Okay. And he's up tomorrow?

2 A. He is, I believe.

3 Q. Thank you. I think I'll just wait until
4 tomorrow to dig into this stuff. Thank you
5 very much.

6 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Baker.

7 MR. BAKER: Thank you. Good
8 afternoon. I'm Alan Robert Baker, Bob Baker.
9 I represent four individual landowners. And
10 I've got just about, for planning purposes,
11 five to ten minutes, depending on the answers,
12 and then I'll be done.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. BAKER:

15 Q. The Job Creation Fund has, what, \$6.8 million
16 yet to fund?

17 A. I believe it's 7.3. So, it's a
18 seven-and-a-half-million-dollar commitment --

19 Q. So it's a little over --

20 A. -- and I believe we've advance-funded \$200,000.
21 So I think it's 7.3 to go.

22 Q. We'll round it off and call it seven.

23 The Forward NH Fund has the full \$200
24 million yet to fund?

1 A. No. There are some advanced commitments there
2 as well.

3 Q. Okay. How much, roughly, in advanced
4 commitments? I know we talked about a
5 \$5 million loan to the Balsams.

6 A. Yes, that's the single largest commitment.
7 But, again, that's a loan. The expectation is
8 it will be returned. Beyond the loan, there's
9 probably less than a million dollars that have
10 been committed to a third party. There is the
11 other commitment to the Public Utility
12 Commission, which is not specific to any one
13 initiative.

14 Q. Did I understand you correctly, that these
15 fundings of both the Job Creation Fund and the
16 Forward NH Fund would not happen until the
17 Project is in service?

18 A. No. The Job Creation Fund commitment is based
19 upon approval of the Project -- so, the
20 certificate being issued. The Forward NH Fund
21 is triggered by Project in service. But in
22 both instances we've made advanced commitments.

23 Q. Okay. Now, what are the major steps or
24 milestones between now and the Forward NH

1 Fund's funding?

2 A. From a project perspective?

3 Q. Yes. You need permits and --

4 A. So, obviously the SEC has to issue the
5 necessary certificate; the Department of Energy
6 ultimately has to issue the federal permit; in
7 Canada, the siting boards, both provincially
8 and at a national level, need to issue their
9 necessary approvals; and then we and our
10 partner will be in a position to move into the
11 construction phase.

12 Q. Will you start construction if you are not
13 successful in your bid into the Massachusetts
14 Request for Proposals?

15 A. So, again, back to the earlier questions. This
16 Project has never been conditioned on the
17 outcome of any one solicitation, whether it's
18 the Massachusetts Request For Proposals or
19 otherwise. Our goal is to essentially have all
20 of our necessary permits by the end of this
21 year and to move into the construction phase in
22 early 2018.

23 Q. I don't think you answered my question.

24 A. Okay.

1 Q. My question is: Is the construction
2 commencement conditioned on the Massachusetts
3 Request For Proposal? You can answer that, I
4 think, "Yes" or "No."

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay. What is it conditioned on under the
7 Transmission Service Agreement, as you
8 understand its terms today?

9 A. I think I just answered this. But both we and
10 our partner, Hydro-Quebec, have to agree to
11 enter into the construction phase.

12 Q. Okay. And what are the major considerations
13 that will affect whether or not you can
14 mutually agree with Hydro-Quebec to start this
15 project?

16 A. We talked about some of them. We need to have
17 all the necessary permits and approvals.
18 Beyond that, you know, it's a joint
19 determination as to whether we're ready to move
20 into construction. Do we have all the
21 necessary contracts in place? Is the design
22 final? Are we ready to execute the Project?
23 Again, we'll have that discussion and make the
24 joint determination.

- 1 Q. You're familiar with the letter agreement that
2 was produced a few weeks ago between Northern
3 Pass and Hydro-Quebec extending the
4 Transmission Services Agreement?
- 5 A. I'm familiar with the letter agreement, but it
6 did not extend the Transmission Service
7 Agreement. The Transmission Service Agreement
8 has always been in full force and effect since
9 originally approved by the FERC. It extended a
10 condition under the TSA.
- 11 Q. Right. And doesn't it refer to "mutual
12 agreement" with respect to the Massachusetts
13 Request for Proposals?
- 14 A. I don't have the details in front of me, but --
- 15 Q. All right. Well, we can look that up.
- 16 A. -- I think it's our condition for going into
17 the construction phase.
- 18 Q. Here's really my last question. This group can
19 --
- 20 A. By the way -- well, it speaks for itself. You
21 apparently have a copy. But I don't believe it
22 refers to the Massachusetts RFP --
- 23 Q. This group --
- 24 A. -- subject to check.

1 Q. This group that Mr. Thompson is the
2 spokesperson for, and has been kind enough to
3 let me ask you questions, consists of property
4 owners who are abutters, a few who are
5 non-abutters. Some of them have actually been
6 affected by the plans that Northern Pass has
7 proposed for almost seven years. How much
8 longer should they wait before they make
9 decisions about what to do with their
10 properties?

11 A. I'm not sure what you refer to when you say
12 "affect." But, you know, we're at a point
13 where one way or the other we will have our
14 necessary permits, hopefully by the end of
15 2017. Again, our goal is to be able to move
16 into the construction phase in 2018. And if a
17 landowner is facing a decision along the lines
18 of what you're referring to somewhere -- you
19 know, that's the Project plan.

20 Q. Well, here's a hypothetical for you.

21 A. Sure.

22 Q. What if Northern Pass and Hydro-Quebec are
23 unable to agree on the mutual terms that are
24 going to be required for the TSA to be

1 implemented? To go back to FERC and seek
2 permission for whatever the changes are that
3 you decide mutually will be made?

4 A. Then FERC will review whatever amendment we are
5 seeking and ultimately rule on that.

6 Q. Well, that'll be another milestone, wouldn't
7 it?

8 A. Hypothetically it could be. But, again, our
9 expectation is that we will begin construction
10 in early 2018. That's certainly our goal --

11 Q. I know what --

12 A. -- but subject to the permits being issued.

13 Q. I know what your goal is.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. The question is: How long? What's the outside
16 time period that these landowners should wait
17 before making decisions about what to do with
18 their property?

19 A. I'm not in a position to answer that.

20 Q. Okay. Last question. How long are you
21 expecting the permit that this body might
22 issue, hypothetically in the future, if it
23 decides to do so, how long are you expecting
24 that permit to be good for you and Hydro-Quebec

1 to elect to build this project?

2 A. I'm not aware of any sunseting of the permit
3 or any date certain by which it will become
4 ineffective. That would be in the judgment of
5 the SEC. If they wanted to attach a drop-dead
6 date, if you will, that would be within their
7 discretion, certainly.

8 Q. I have no further questions.

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: The next group
10 is the Dummer, Stark and North Umberland
11 Abutting Property Owners. Attorney Cunningham.

12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Mr. Chair, it's late
13 in the day. I've got to set up.

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Could you get
15 your microphone, please.

16 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Mr. Chairman, it's
17 late in the day and I have to set up. I have
18 exhibits, and I will not take minutes. So why
19 not call it a day.

20 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I'm sorry. Why
21 not what?

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Call it a day from
23 here.

24 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Well, let's see

1 if somebody else is ready to go then.

2 The next group is the
3 Whitefield, Dalton, Bethlehem Abutting Property
4 Owners. Mr. Van Houten, is he here?

5 [No verbal response]

6 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Next group is
7 the Bethlehem to Plymouth Abutting Property
8 Owners. And they've made a request, Mr.
9 Needleman, to split their questioning among
10 three, with two different topics for each. And
11 consistent with the conversation we had a
12 moment ago, as long as they're not overlapping,
13 that's okay. I'm not -- I'm not thrilled with
14 three people for one group, but I understand
15 the request. You?

16 MR. NEEDLEMAN: I understand it as
17 well, and it just makes me nervous as far as
18 overlap. But I guess we'll try and see what
19 happens.

20 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. I
21 think it's fair enough to try and see. If it
22 doesn't work, then we may re-evaluate if
23 another such request is made. So, just to --

24 MR. JUDGE: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Who's speaking?
2 Mr. Judge.

3 MR. JUDGE: From behind the pillar.
4 I have about five minutes and one exhibit. And
5 in the interest of my client and my not having
6 to return, I wonder if we might skip ahead to
7 my questions.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Palmer, is
9 it all right with you if Mr. Judge cuts in
10 front of you?

11 MR. PALMER: I think we have about a
12 half-hour to 45 minutes of questions. So if we
13 started right now, we might be able to get them
14 in before the end of the day. But if he wants
15 to go first, he's welcome to go first.

16 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I'm thinking
17 what might make more sense, then, is to see if
18 there's a couple of other people who would say
19 I only have five minutes, and then we maybe
20 could stack up a few to get us closer to 5:00.
21 So, Mr. Judge has told me five minutes. Mr.
22 Judge has never lied to me before.

23 I have the Bethlehem to Plymouth
24 Non-Abutting Property Owners. Is there anybody

1 here from that group?

2 [No verbal response]

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: The Ashland to
4 Deerfield Non-Abutting Property Owners? You
5 have a couple questions you say?

6 (Court Reporter inquiry)

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I don't know.
8 Who was that? Was that Ms. Crane?

9 MS. QUINN: Quinn.

10 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Quinn.

11 MS. LEE: Excuse me.

12 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Who's speaking?

13 MS. LEE: I have a few. This is Mary
14 Lee from the Ashland to Concord Group.

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Yes, Ms. Lee.

16 MS. LEE: I'm a co-spokesman with
17 Steve Judge. So my exhibit is going to be --

18 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: We can't
19 understand you, Ms. Lee. You need to speak
20 right into the microphone and clearly.

21 MS. LEE: Can you hear me? I'm a
22 co-spokesperson with Steven Judge here for the
23 Ashland to Concord Group, and I have an exhibit
24 that I'd like to show on the ELMO.

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Yeah.

2 MS. LEE: So I don't know how long
3 that will take. That will probably take five
4 or ten minutes.

5 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Oh, okay. So
6 there's -- all right. Here's what we're going
7 to do. We're going to have Mr. Judge and
8 Ms. Lee do their thing, which won't take more
9 than ten minutes, and have Ms. Quinn do her
10 thing, and then we'll call it a day.

11 MS. LEE: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Off the record.

13 (Discussion off the record)

14 CROSS-EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. JUDGE:

16 Q. My name is Steven Judge. I'm a lawyer, and I
17 represent McKenna's Purchase. Where is
18 McKenna's Purchase?

19 A. McKenna's Purchase is in Concord.

20 Q. What is it?

21 A. It's a condominium development.

22 Q. I'd like you to look at Exhibit 6, Page 9, Line
23 15. That's your supplemental testimony.

24 A. Exhibit 6. Which page? I'm sorry.

- 1 Q. Page 9.
- 2 A. Page 9. Yup. Yes. Got it.
- 3 Q. And in that question you are talking about the
4 Guarantee Program; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And in there you describe it as -- I'm looking
7 down about the fifth line -- "properties Mr.
8 Chalmers identified as most likely to see
9 property value impacts"; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And the eligibility criteria in the next line
12 are aligned with Mr. Chalmers' findings?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. You hired Mr. Chalmers? You personally?
- 15 A. Not me personally, but the Company, yes.
- 16 Q. And there's an Attachment L to your exhibit,
17 which I think is Exhibit 40 from Public
18 Counsel.
- 19 A. Yes, that's the Guarantee Program overview.
- 20 Q. Did I hear correctly that you asked for this
21 and Mr. Chalmers designed it?
- 22 A. The Company asked for it, yes, under my
23 direction.
- 24 Q. It's only an overview. Is there a final

1 document?

2 A. Not at this point. This is not something we've
3 had any experience with. We developed a
4 program that is still kind of in development,
5 if you will.

6 Q. Do you believe it accurately describes the
7 program?

8 A. As it stands today, yes.

9 Q. Do you believe the program is fair and
10 reasonable?

11 A. Based upon the views of our expert, yes.

12 Q. I want to delve a little into language because
13 there's a conflict between the document you're
14 looking at and your testimony.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. So we're talking about the likelihood of
17 reduction in value. This document describes it
18 as "an increased likelihood." Do you see that
19 reference?

20 A. No. Oh, yes. In the objective?

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. Yes, I see that.

23 Q. And in your testimony it says "most likely."
24 Are you trying to draw a distinction?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Okay. So we'll go with the "increased
3 likelihood."

4 A. Again, I did not draft this. But I think those
5 are synonymous.

6 Q. Well, you --

7 A. I'm not trying to distinguish them, no.

8 Q. All right. So, Mr. Chalmers' research is
9 determinative; right? It's aligned with Mr.
10 Chalmers' findings?

11 A. Yes, the criteria are aligned with the findings
12 of his study, which is that properties that
13 satisfy those three criteria have an increased
14 likelihood of a diminution in value.

15 Q. Do you believe Mr. Chalmers' research
16 identified all properties with an increased
17 likelihood of reduction in value?

18 A. Yeah, I have not studied that, but, you know,
19 he is an expert in the field. That's the
20 reason we retained him. So I would defer to
21 him.

22 Q. And you would agree that the eligibility is
23 conditioned upon the property having a
24 single-family home?

1 A. Yes. That's Criterion 2b.

2 Q. And you testified earlier that McKenna's
3 Purchase is a condo association.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And Mr. Chalmers made no finding regarding
6 McKenna's Purchase. Do you understand that?

7 A. I do not understand that. I don't know whether
8 he separately opined as to condominium
9 complexes or McKenna's Purchase in particular.

10 Q. Subject to check, let's assume that he made no
11 findings regarding McKenna's Purchase.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Assuming economic harm from the Project
14 crossing the condo association, encumbered by
15 an easement, where the residence is within 100
16 feet and increased structure visibility, your
17 testimony gives no comfort whatsoever to
18 McKenna's Purchase. This program does not
19 apply to them?

20 A. This program does not apply. But we have made
21 significant design enhancements in and around
22 the McKenna's Purchase area to mitigate
23 impacts. You know, I'm aware that we
24 reconfigured the right-of-way. We lowered

1 structure heights. We have committed to
2 building physical berms adjacent to that
3 property, and also vegetative screening. All
4 of those are significant mitigation measures to
5 reduce visual impacts.

6 Q. None of those are something that would take
7 care of economic harm, are they?

8 A. They certainly would mitigate visual impacts.
9 You know, I guess relatedly, potential economic
10 harm, I guess, maybe.

11 Q. I mean, I asked you to assume there was
12 visibility in the hypothetical. If there is
13 visibility, under this criteria it does not
14 apply to McKenna's Purchase.

15 A. It does not apply to McKenna's Purchase. This
16 is targeted towards single-family homes based
17 upon Mr. Chalmers' study. That's correct.

18 Q. I understand that. But this is your proposal.

19 A. This is my proposal based upon his study.

20 Q. There is no other proposal that deals with
21 condos.

22 A. Not that I'm aware of.

23 Q. McKenna's Purchase is out of luck.

24 A. No. Again, I think we've taken very

1 significant steps --

2 Q. In terms of this particular program, it does
3 not apply to McKenna's Purchase.

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. Thank you. That's all I have.

6 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Lee.

7 Off the record.

8 (Pause in proceedings)

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Now we're going
10 to go back on the record.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MS. LEE:

13 Q. This is Mary Lee from Northfield, intervenor,
14 and I'm part of the Ashland to Concord Group.
15 And I had filed prefiled testimony, which is
16 one of my exhibits. And I live in a very
17 remote area where there's a lot of lines next
18 to a right-of-way. So when I go out to my
19 mailbox, I walk two-tenths of a mile out, and
20 if I look behind me, I see about a dozen lines
21 all in a line, just like this, parallel. And
22 when I return with my mail, I walk back up my
23 driveway and I go under, along a parallel line
24 of the power lines, H-frame, as well as

1 monopoles, all wooden. A couple of them are
2 laminated and they've been upgraded. It says
3 "Danger" on those.

4 So, as part of my prefiled testimony, I
5 had mentioned I was quite concerned with health
6 and safety. Extremely concerned. Because when
7 I walk under them, sometimes under the -- I
8 believe it's the H-frame -- I can hear a buzz.
9 Now, the monopole that's been upgraded says
10 "Danger." So I believe it.

11 I've also seen explosions of the
12 old-fashioned ceramic insulators. I don't know
13 how they occur. I've never seen a bird hit
14 them but --

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Lee, this is
16 your opportunity to ask a question of Mr.
17 Quinlan. That's what you should be doing right
18 now.

19 MS. LEE: Okay. Thank you.

20 BY MS. LEE:

21 Q. I'm going to ask you the question. If there is
22 quite a concern over emission, the
23 electromagnetic emissions -- and I found some
24 research to substantiate that there is quite a

1 lot of harm due to the fact of electromagnetic
2 emissions -- have you thought of also the
3 design of putting more lines with the 345? You
4 put the lattice tower in the middle, so you're
5 increasing the amount of EMF, I believe,
6 because it's going to go to 345 in Northfield.
7 It's going to be 115 on the west side, 115 on
8 the east side, and in the middle will be a 345.
9 So you've increased a lot of the factor of the
10 electromagnetic transmission as a harm and
11 safety and health issue.

12 The other thing I'm concerned with --

13 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Well, is that a
14 question?

15 MS. LEE: Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: What, then, is
17 the question?

18 MS. LEE: My question is regarding
19 safety and health.

20 BY MS. LEE:

21 Q. If you put that much power where we already
22 have a narrow corridor, and it hasn't been
23 described as being widened as a negotiation
24 when this line was first proposed, at one of

1 the scoping meetings there was a discussion of,
2 Listen, folks, would you like this line to go
3 higher with an existing width of 25 to 250, or
4 would you like it to go wider with shorter
5 lines?

6 So my question is: When you increase it
7 with the narrow corridor, there's concern for
8 falling over when a line is next to trees. I
9 know there's a clearing.

10 So my concern with health and safety also
11 is to ask you: Have you thought of factors
12 regarding security besides the EMF, which is
13 something I would walk under every single day
14 going in and out? Is there safety and health
15 concern when you mitigate or avoid or --

16 A. When you say "security," are you referring to
17 physical security or EMF? There's a lot --

18 Q. It could be both because it's aligned to health
19 and safety --

20 A. Sure.

21 Q. -- and is a public interest. It's got to
22 relate to me and anybody who's a homeowner who
23 has an abutting property where you're walking
24 under it or alongside of it every single day.

1 When you go home you're going under it, next to
2 it.

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: So, Ms. Lee,
4 your question, then, is what has Mr. Quinlan
5 thought about doing related to both physical
6 security --

7 MS. LEE: Yes.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: -- and EMF in
9 situations such as yours. Is that -- let's
10 let -- why don't we let him answer that
11 question, okay.

12 A. So, on, I'll say physical security or safety,
13 you're correct. There are code requirements
14 that specify separation distances. It's called
15 the National Electric Safety Code. And our
16 design is certainly in full compliance with
17 that code, the so-called NESC. So that is for
18 starters. It's true that the width of the
19 right-of-way is intended to ensure that we
20 don't have transmission outages caused by trees
21 falling onto our lines. That's certainly the
22 goal of the vegetation management program that
23 we talked about earlier today. We tried to
24 clear these rights-of-way periodically to

1 ensure that risk is minimized. So we're
2 certainly mindful of the safety impacts that
3 you're raising and a potential for
4 interruptions.

5 As far as EMF -- and I'm not an expert in
6 this area, but I've encountered this question
7 in many prior instances -- I think if you look
8 at the body of research out there, there
9 doesn't appear to be a material linkage between
10 that phenomenon and health affects. But,
11 again, I'm not a doctor or expert. I know Dr.
12 Bailey is our expert on EMF effects, and he has
13 a report that was submitted to the SEC in that
14 regard. So, you know, I believe the conclusion
15 of that report is that those effects are not
16 material. They're very inconsequential, if you
17 will. And I will defer specific questions
18 about EMF to Dr. Bailey in particular.

19 Q. Well, I know I've read some of the reports --

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. -- and included it as part of my documents and
22 exhibits as research. And I know you could
23 spend a lot of hours looking --

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- for pros and cons. And I guess I think
2 there's a principle called "Precautionary
3 Principle," and I would want to be safer than
4 not.

5 A. Sure.

6 Q. And I'm also concerned because one of my group
7 members in my group is very concerned about the
8 security aspects if you go higher and you're
9 adding to the configuration. Right now, I
10 understand that every four to five years you
11 would clear the trees that have a potential of
12 falling onto the lines. And I know that
13 Northern Pass proposes to build one of the west
14 side lines closer to my yard and my buffer of
15 trees --

16 A. In the existing right-of-way?

17 Q. In the existing right-of-way.

18 And I really want to correct the record
19 and have everyone know, just because you have
20 an existing right-of-way doesn't give you the
21 right to do whatever you want, because right
22 now --

23 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Lee, if you
24 have a question for Mr. Quinlan, please ask him

1 a question.

2 MS. LEE: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: You'll have an
4 opportunity. I believe you're listed as a
5 witness later on?

6 MS. LEE: Yes.

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I believe you
8 have prefiled testimony, and you'll be allowed
9 to offer that.

10 MS. LEE: Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Please, if you
12 have questions for Mr. Quinlan, now is the time
13 to ask him questions.

14 MS. LEE: All right.

15 BY MS. LEE:

16 Q. Mr. Quinlan, stop me if I made a declarative
17 sentence. Would you -- is there a plan for
18 security -- let's say as part of construction
19 you're putting extra power, 345, in the towers
20 in the middle. Right now you're just simply
21 clearcut between 15 to 20 feet so that any
22 potential trees at the edge of the right-of-way
23 do not fall. And I was told by one of the crew
24 members -- is it true that if you put the

1 replacement pole, the monopole that's going to
2 replace the 115 line, that's a wooden one
3 that's going to be removed, you replace it with
4 a steel monopole, he explained that there are
5 three hangers that go into the line towards the
6 center of the right-of-way, the corridor, so
7 therefore everything will fall towards the
8 center; is that right?

9 A. So you're talking about a monopole structure on
10 the edge --

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. I'm not familiar with the particular structure
13 you're referring to. But a monopole structure
14 on the edge of a right-of-way --

15 Q. Yes.

16 A. -- the conductors would tend to be inbound,
17 which means on the right-of-way -- or on the --

18 Q. Towards the center.

19 A. -- towards the center line as opposed to
20 towards the tree line, if you will, yes.

21 Q. Yes. So that's one change that may or may not
22 be safer --

23 A. Well, it is safer for exactly the reason you
24 articulated, which is, if, for whatever the

1 reason, the structure were to fail, it would
2 fall into the right-of-way as opposed to off
3 the right-of-way.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. But there are separation distances that we try
6 to maintain to that tree line. Obviously,
7 we're not going to go beyond our right-of-way,
8 which is kind of our legal authority to clear
9 to the edge of the right-of-way. But we do
10 want to ensure that the potential for trees
11 falling into our infrastructure is minimized.

12 Q. All right. Thank you.

13 MS. LEE: May I have Taras do my
14 animation of the fall line?

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I'm sorry? I
16 don't understand what you're planning on doing.

17 MS. LEE: Excuse me. I have an
18 exhibit here as part of my presentation.

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Is there
20 something you want to show Mr. Quinlan?

21 MS. LEE: Mr. Quinlan. A
22 security-related question because they're
23 building up another lattice-work tower 345 --

24 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I'm sorry,

1 Ms. Lee. What is it you want to show him?

2 MS. LEE: I want to show him the
3 animation of the towers falling in and what
4 happens.

5 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Why don't you
6 pull that up, because it looks like you're
7 going to need to re-sign in to release your
8 computer.

9 MS. LEE: Okay.

10 (Pause in proceedings)

11 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right. Is
12 this what you want him to see?

13 MS. LEE: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: What is your
15 question for Mr. Quinlan about what he has in
16 front of him?

17 MS. LEE: May I show the animation?

18 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Sure.

19 MS. LEE: In order for it to be
20 effective as --

21 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Whatever you
22 want to show him, show him.

23 MS. LEE: Okay. Thank you.

24 Taras, would you show me how

1 to --

2 MR. KUCMAN: Mr. Honigberg, if you
3 don't mind, I can --

4 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Let's go off the
5 record for a second.

6 (Discussion off the record)

7 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Now we're on the
8 record.

9 MS. LEE: I'm going to show this
10 animation. Are you looking at the page that
11 says "Northern Pass existing"? I can't see the
12 screen. Are you all looking at Page 1?

13 [Affirmative response]

14 MS. LEE: Okay. If you look at this,
15 it says -- yes. This is the existing, and it's
16 been on the schematics that I have as a
17 property owner from the Northern Pass
18 Transmission folks. And it has a delineation
19 of the existing line, and there's a fall zone
20 that I'm concerned about because it's going to
21 fall toward my house and was assured that the
22 Northern Pass, as it's proposed, it has the
23 existing wooden H-frame, 115-kilovolt service.
24 They're going to remove the pole, and then

1 they're replacing it 45 feet out toward my
2 house, toward my yard, toward my water well,
3 and the monopole is erected out of the existing
4 wooden H-frame by 45 feet over. Now, the new
5 HQ 345-kilovolt is going to be in the middle.
6 The view is from Concord facing north, so this
7 is pretty much the view you would see. If
8 there's a storm or if there's arcing, if
9 there's more power from the 345, that little
10 flash could be an explosion. And this is kind
11 of real to me. It's not fantasy --

12 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Okay. So what's
13 your question for Mr. Quinlan?

14 BY MS. LEE:

15 Q. My question to Mr. Quinlan. Clear and present
16 danger, is there one if you're crowding my
17 right-of-way? It's 250 -- this example is from
18 Concord, and this is 225. Mine I guess is 225
19 or 250 along the right-of-way; is that right?

20 A. I'm not familiar with this particular
21 right-of-way section. But you're talking about
22 right-of-way width is 250?

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. Okay. And where is your home? Your home is to

1 the --

2 Q. It's Northfield.

3 A. No, I know. It's to the east?

4 Q. The one on the left that would fall, the
5 hanger --

6 A. It's falling away from your home? Is that --

7 Q. It's toward -- it would be toward the center.

8 A. Correct. Away from your home.

9 Q. You're clearing -- you're looking at the left
10 where it falls. It's going to be going toward
11 my yard, my well and my buffer zone. They've
12 been clearing in the past with the existing
13 structures 20 to 25 feet. So, now when you
14 build all this stuff and it falls toward the
15 center, as I understand it, when you have three
16 hangers, the weight of it carries it toward the
17 center of the corridor; is that right?

18 A. Yes, away from your home. Yes.

19 Q. So you have two now, two 115, on the left and
20 on the right. It would be on the west and on
21 the east falling in toward the higher tower.
22 How do you prevent that from happening? And
23 that's a security risk, because if you have a
24 very cold day, you have --

1 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Whoa, whoa,
2 whoa. Stop, stop, stop. You just asked him a
3 question.

4 MS. LEE: Yes.

5 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: How do you
6 prevent this? Stop. You stop. You asked that
7 question. He's now going to answer that
8 question.

9 MS. LEE: Yes.

10 A. How do we present the -- prevent the event from
11 occurring or the security risk?

12 BY MS. LEE:

13 Q. The security risk.

14 A. What's the security risk there?

15 Q. The security risk is you have more of the
16 infrastructure going up. You have more
17 threats. And we do live in a atmosphere of
18 security risks. And this last page --

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right.
20 We're going to shut this screen down for just a
21 minute. Can you turn the screen off, please?

22 This is not your turn to
23 testify, okay. If you have questions for Mr.
24 Quinlan, you need to ask them.

1 MS. LEE: Okay.

2 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: You showed him a
3 moving drawing --

4 MS. LEE: Yes.

5 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: -- that had a
6 lot of words on it. And you want to know how
7 to -- how the Company proposes to prevent that
8 from happening; right?

9 MS. LEE: Yes. Right. Thank you.

10 A. Several ways. One is to ensure we comply fully
11 with the National Electric Safety Code, which
12 is the separation of those structures from each
13 other.

14 Secondly, we ensure that we have ample
15 clearance on the right-of-way to prevent trees
16 from coming down on the conductors, which would
17 then cause those structures potentially to be
18 impacted.

19 Third, in the design of the structures
20 themselves, they're a very robust design. So
21 we design for severe weather to prevent
22 structures from collapsing in the first
23 instance.

24 So, all of those steps are security

1 measures or safety -- I'll say safety measures
2 to ensure that the system is reliable and we
3 don't end up with customer interruptions, and
4 is safe. So there are many design requirements
5 that are intended to prevent the types of
6 things you're talking about from occurring.

7 Q. What about security threats? That last page
8 was about two incidents --

9 A. Security in which regard?

10 Q. As far as terrorism threats perhaps, because
11 you're putting more structures that could come
12 down, that are more vulnerable because there's
13 more infrastructure.

14 A. Like domestic terror or --

15 Q. Domestic or otherwise.

16 A. -- terrorism in general?

17 As a general matter, the nation's
18 transmission infrastructure is not
19 terrorism-proof, if you will. There are
20 certain assets that are critical, you know,
21 certain substations that have a heightened
22 level of security, because if they were lost,
23 something very significant would happen to the
24 grid, meaning, you know, we wouldn't be able to

1 serve the needs of our customers. But for the
2 vast majority of the transmission lines
3 themselves, there's no particular security
4 measures that we take. Whether it's, you know,
5 security patrols or camera monitoring, we don't
6 do that generally as an industry for
7 transmission lines. It's the critical assets
8 themselves, as defined by NERC, the North
9 American Reliability Council, that have this
10 heightened level of physical security. This is
11 a very significant incident -- question from a
12 physical security and cyber security
13 perspective. But those measures are generally
14 in the substations. They don't pertain to
15 transmission lines, whether they're above
16 ground or underground. And as you know, an
17 underground event or a fault presents a bigger
18 challenge than an overhead event like this. An
19 overhead event, we can see it, we can identify
20 it, we can repair it quickly. An underground
21 outage is far more difficult, if that's what
22 you're referring to.

23 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Lee, do you
24 have any other questions for Mr. Quinlan?

1 Q. You've answered them. Thank you.

2 A. Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Ms. Quinn, is it
4 your preference to do this right now, or would
5 you prefer to come back tomorrow and do this?

6 MS. QUINN: I'm not able to be here
7 tomorrow. I have one question.

8 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Go for it.

9 MS. QUINN: Thank you.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

11 BY MS. QUINN:

12 Q. Hi, Mr. Quinlan. My name is Maureen Quinn. I
13 live in Deerfield. I'm part of the Ashland to
14 Deerfield Non-Abutters Group.

15 A. Good afternoon.

16 Q. I have just one question for you. I had
17 submitted in the exhibits a table which
18 converts the magnetic fields expressed in the
19 Application from milligauss to microtesla so
20 that they would be more comparable to the ways
21 that magnetic fields are expressed in the
22 medical literature and studies that have been
23 done around childhood leukemia. So I would
24 encourage you to look at that table.

1 Are you aware that the levels of the
2 magnetic fields, the increases that will be
3 proposed if Northern Pass is built in the
4 southern portion of the Project where it's
5 alternating current, for the most part, every
6 segment -- that information is provided for in
7 this table -- the levels at 300 feet on either
8 side of the towers that's beyond the
9 right-of-way are levels that are higher than
10 those associated with 1.7 to 2.0 increased risk
11 of childhood leukemia?

12 A. I am not, no. Again, that's a question better
13 posed to our expert, Dr. Bailey.

14 Q. I just thought that that would be information
15 that you should know.

16 A. I was not aware of that.

17 Q. Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. IACOPINO: Ms. Quinn, do you know
19 which exhibit it is that that table you just
20 referenced is in?

21 MS. QUINN: It's the Ashland to
22 Deerfield Non-Abutters Exhibit 25.

23 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: All right.
24 That's going to be it for questioning for

1 today. When we come back tomorrow morning, is
2 it -- it's my understanding we're going to pick
3 right up where we're leaving off with Mr.
4 Quinlan; correct?

5 All right. And let's decide now
6 what order we want to go. Mr. Cunningham, you
7 seem to indicate that you have some setup you
8 need to do. Why don't you go first tomorrow
9 morning. So you'll be in place, ready to hit
10 the ground running when we turn the lights on,
11 all right.

12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'll need that
13 time --

14 (Court Reporter inquiry)

15 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I don't know
16 what he said. If you don't talk into the
17 microphone when it's on, we can't hear you.

18 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'm sorry. I will
19 need that time before you open the record. As
20 not being technically inclined, I'm sure I'll
21 get help.

22 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Off the record.

23 (Discussion off the record.)

24 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: So, Mr.

1 Cunningham, you'll be ready to go when we are
2 ready to go.

3 Mr. Palmer's group, which
4 includes Dr. McLaren and Mr. Lakes, will go
5 next, and then whoever else that we haven't
6 called or hasn't -- we haven't gotten to yet.
7 Then the Committee members. I know a number of
8 Committee members have questions for Mr.
9 Quinlan. Then the Applicant will have an
10 opportunity to redirect after that.

11 Yes, Mr. Whitley.

12 MR. WHITLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 I don't know if it's possible to get an
14 estimate of the timing of what it will take to
15 complete Mr. Quinlan's testimony here. Just
16 trying to plan out for whether the panel
17 scheduled for tomorrow will go forward and
18 perhaps at what time.

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: I would never
20 promise anything. But it sounds like, based on
21 what people have represented, that we should
22 finish up with Mr. Quinlan in time to start the
23 panel tomorrow. I heard probably a total of an
24 hour, maybe an hour and 15 minutes from the

1 people who haven't asked questions yet, not
2 including the Committee members. The Committee
3 members will ask questions, but it won't be
4 hours and hours. So that's my best guess.

5 Ms. Menard.

6 MS. MENARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
7 Deerfield Abutters would be estimating no more
8 than a half an hour for our questions.

9 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Okay. While
10 we're do doing it, Mr. Palmer, any idea as to
11 how long you and your cohorts need?

12 MR. PALMER: I think roughly a
13 half-hour, 45 minutes.

14 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Mr. Cunningham?

15 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Half an hour.

16 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Is there anybody
17 else --

18 MR. ROTH: Mr. Chairman.

19 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Yes, Mr. Roth.

20 MR. ROTH: I don't know whether
21 others may have designs on a confidential
22 session tomorrow, but you might want to factor
23 that in as well.

24 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Do people have

1 designs on a confidential session?

2 MR. ROTH: We do not, but others may.

3 CHAIRMAN HONIGBERG: Doesn't sound
4 like it. I don't see anybody jumping up.
5 Everybody followed Mr. Pappas's lead of using
6 the non-confidential portions of the exhibits.
7 But, yes, clearly, we'll do that if we need to
8 do that. That's not a problem. But it does
9 sound like we're going to get to everything we
10 need to get to by the middle of the day, and
11 the next panel will probably be midday, early
12 afternoon.

13 Anything else? All right.
14 We're adjourned for the day. Thank you all.

15 (Whereupon Day 1 Afternoon Session
16 adjourned at 5:19 p.m.)

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DAY 1 - AFTERNOON SESSION ONLY - April 13, 2017
SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-06 NORTHERN PASS TRANSMISSION, LLC ADJUDICATORY HEARING

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