STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

October 20, 2017 - 9:08 a.m.         DAY 49
49 Donovan Street       Morning Session ONLY
Concord, New Hampshire

{Electronically filed with SEC 11-02-17}

IN RE:   SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-06
NORTHERN PASS TRANSMISSION –
EVERSOURCE; Joint Application of
Northern Pass Transmission LLC and
Public Service 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:

Chmn. Martin Honigberg               Public Utilities Comm.
(Presiding Officer)

Dir. Craig Wright, Designee Dept. of Environ. Serv.
William Oldenburg, Designee Dept. of
Transportation
Patricia Weathersby                Public Member
Rachel Dandeneau                   Alternate Public Member

ALSO PRESENT FOR THE SEC:

Michael J. Iacopino, Esq.  Counsel for SEC
(Brennan, Caron, Lenehan & Iacopino)

Pamela G. Monroe, SEC Administrator

(No Appearances Taken)

COURT REPORTER:  Cynthia Foster, LCR No. 14
## I N D E X

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WITNESS PANEL</th>
<th>BRADLEY J. THOMPSON</th>
<th>PAGE NO.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOHN AMEY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINDY LOU AMEY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DON BILODEAU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIANE BILODEAU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASON BALINT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETTE GUERIN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN HARRIGAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. MARTIN KAUFMAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RODERICK MCALLASTER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Direct Examination by Mr. Iacopino  7
Cross-Examination by Mr. Aslin  11
Cross-Examination by Ms. Pacik  41
Cross-Examination by Ms. Saffo  42
Cross-Examination by Mr. Reimers  45
Cross-Examination by Ms. Menard  46
Cross-Examination by Ms. Bradbury  61
Cross-Examination by Ms. Draper  68
Cross-Examination by Mr. Walker  76

**QUESTIONS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS & SEC COUNSEL BY:**

- Ms. Dandeneau  84
- Ms. Weathersby  90
- Commissioner Bailey  95
- Dir. Wright  97
- Mr. Oldenburg  99
# Index (continued):

**Witness Panel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Witness</th>
<th>Examination by</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALLEN COATES</td>
<td>Direct Examination by Mr. Samson</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Mr. Aslin</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Mr. Reimers</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Mr. Baker</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Ms. Menard</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Ms. Saffo</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-Examination by Mr. Needleman</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Questions from Subcommittee Members & Sec Counsel by:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Weathersby</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner Bailey</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Iacopino</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redirect Examination by Mr. Samson</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXHIBIT ID</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 1</td>
<td>Prefiled Testimony of Roderick McAllaster and E. Martin Kaufman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 128</td>
<td>Letter from Selectboard of Canaan, Vermont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP 354</td>
<td>Letter by Mr. Thompson introducing Video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP 355</td>
<td>Outreach Summary, Clarksville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP 356</td>
<td>Top highest taxpayers in Clarksville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP 357</td>
<td>Outreach Summary, Pittsburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP 358</td>
<td>Top assessed value in Stewartstown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNI1NORTH#1</td>
<td>Prefiled Testimony of Selectmen of Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNI1NORTH#8</td>
<td>Map: Republic of Indian Stream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNI1NORTH#10</td>
<td>Photo: Dedication of Pioneer Trail-Indian Stream Republic at Luther Parker's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marker - 8/23/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNI1NORTH#11</td>
<td>Luther Parker Interactive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
E X H I B I T S (continued)

MUNI1NORTH#12 Luther Parker–Monument Marker on Pioneer Trail 129

MUNI1NORTH#13 EPA Letter of 9/26/2017 130
PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Good morning, everyone. We are resuming the hearing on the Northern Pass Application. We have a lot of witnesses to get through today.

The first Panel that is seated is the Clarksville-Stewartstown Combined Group of Intervenors. They have a video that's going to be shown, and then there's going to be an opportunity to ask questions by Counsel for the Public, other Intervenors, the Applicant, and then the Committee.

Just so people understand what's going to happen, I'm going to go through the order of events for those who aren't regulars here.

Because this group doesn't have a lawyer, Mr. Iacopino is going to go through a few routine questions with the two people on the Panel who prefiled written testimony. Then we're going to show the video. Then we're going to go to opportunity for questions by Counsel for the Public and then the other Intervenors, then the Applicant, then the Committee. So
that's what you're going to see over the next period of time. So would you please swear in the Panel of witnesses.

(Whereupon, Bradley J. Thompson, John Amey, Cindy Lou Amey, Don Bilodeau, Diane Bilodeau, Jason Balint, Bette Guerin, John Harrigan, E. Martin Kaufman and Rod McAllaster were duly sworn by the Court Reporter.)

BRADLEY J. THOMPSON, SWORN

JOHN AMEY, SWORN

CINDY LOU AMEY, SWORN

DON BILODEAU, SWORN

DIANE BILODEAU, SWORN

JASON BALINT, SWORN

BETTE GUERIN, SWORN

JOHN HARRIGAN, SWORN

E. MARTIN KAUFMAN, SWORN

ROD MCALLASTER, SWORN

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. IACOPINO:

Q I'm going to start with Mr. Kaufman up at the far end of the table. I'm going to ask you to go down the table and each of you please identify yourself by telling us your name and
your address, and if you hold a position in your town or in the county government, please tell us that position as well. So let's start with Mr. Kaufman followed by Mr. McAllaster right down the line.

A (Kaufman) I'm going to guess on half of what you said because I'm very hard of hearing, and, frankly, you know, I hope Pam had mentioned to you that -- so I heard part of what you said.

My name is Dr. Kaufman. I live in Stewartstown on Bear Rock Road. I've lived there until, since 1981.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Your name. And where you live.

A (Kaufman) Yes. I heard you. Yes. So it's Stewartstown, and it's Dr. Kaufman.

Q Mr. McAllaster?

A (McAllaster) My name is Roderick McAllaster, and I live in Stewartstown, 380 McAllaster Road.

A (Balint) Jason Balint, 721 Diamond Pond Road, Colebrook, New Hampshire.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) Cindy Lou Amey, 81 Tabor Road, Pittsburg, New Hampshire.

A (John Amey) John Amey, 81 Tabor Road, Pittsburg,
New Hampshire.

A (Harrigan) John Harrigan, 360 South Hill Road, Colebrook.

A (Guerin) Bette Guerin, 27 MacKinnon Road, Colebrook.

A (Diane Bilodeau) Diane Bilodeau, 317 Route 145, Clarksville.

A (Donald Bilodeau) Donald Bilodeau, Route 145, number 317, Clarksville, New Hampshire.

A (Thompson) Brad Thompson, 599 Noyes Road, Stewartstown, New Hampshire.

Q Okay. I'm going to start with you, Mr. McAllaster. It's my understanding that you have filed Prefiled Testimony in this proceeding. Is that correct?

A (McAllaster) Yes.

Q And do you recall the date on which you filed that testimony? Was it November of 2016?

A (McAllaster) It could be.

Q Okay. Did you only file one Prefiled Testimony?

A (McAllaster) Yes.

Q I'm just looking for the exhibit number, and I don't have it handy here, but that Prefiled Testimony that you filed, do you swear that it's
truthful?
A (McAllaster) I suppose so.
Q Okay. And if you were asked the same questions today as you were asked in that Prefiled Testimony, would you answer them the same way?
A (McAllaster) I would hope so.
Q Okay. So you don't have any changes or additions to make to your testimony?
A (McAllaster) No.
Q Okay. Dr. Kaufman, I'm going to ask you the same questions. You filed Prefiled Testimony in this case as well?
A (Kaufman) I did, yes.
Q Okay. And if you were asked those same questions today, would the answers be the same?
A (Kaufman) I think so. I have not memorized that Prefiled Testimony which I gave probably two years ago.
Q And were those answers truthful then and are they truthful now?
A (Kaufman) Yes.
Q Do each of you adopt that testimony as your Direct Testimony in this case? Mr. McAllaster?
A (McAllaster) Yes.
Q  Dr. Kaufman?
A  (Kaufman) Yes.
Q  Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'll note for the record that Mr. Kaufman's testimony is dated November 15th, 2016. I'll also note that Mr. Thompson has also filed testimony, but that's going to be dealt with separately later, probably later today. So now we're going to ask that the video be cued up and played.

("Negative Impacts of the Northern Pass Transmission Line" video played)

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Could we bring the lights back up, please?

MR. IACOPINO: Mr. Chairman, I just want to point out that I didn't have the exhibit number previously for the Prefiled Testimony of Dr. Kaufman and Mr. McAllaster. Those two are part of the document that's been marked as CS 1.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Aslin, do you have questions for the Panel?

MR. ASLIN: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. ASLIN:
Q Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Panel members.

My name is Chris Aslin. I am an Assistant Attorney General, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, and I've been appointed to be Counsel for the Public in this proceeding, and I'm going to ask you a few questions following up on the video testimony that we just reviewed.

I'd like to start with Mr. Thompson just to get a better understanding of the location of your residence in relationship to the proposed Project. You stated earlier that your residence is at 599 Noyes Road; is that correct?

A (Thompson) Correct.

Q All right. And I'm going to show you one of the Project maps. Let me know when that comes up on your screen.

A (Thompson) Got it.

Q This is part of Appellant's Exhibit 201. It is Sheet 11. And this shows, well, Mr. Thompson, can you see that this shows a portion of the Project running along Bear Rock Road in Stewartstown?

A Yes.
Q And on the right-hand side of the screen, well, do you understand that that's an underground portion of the Project?

A (Thompson) Almost all of it is.

Q Okay. So under Bear Rock Road is underground.

A (Thompson) That's correct.

Q On the right-hand side of this sheet, do you see where there's a mark for Transition Station number 4?

A (Thompson) Yes.

Q And that's just by the junction of Bear Rock Road and Heath Road; is that correct?

A (Thompson) Correct.

Q Is your residence shown on this map?

A (Thompson) Yes.

Q Is it the yellow dot, sort of to the right of center at the bottom of the screen coming off the Noyes Road?

A (Thompson) Yes. It is.

Q Okay. Thank you.

Could you please -- let me show you another exhibit. Now I'm showing you what's been marked as Applicant's Exhibit 200. This is part of the Alteration of Terrain map set, and it's Sheet
22.

Looking at this exhibit, can you confirm that this is the same general location of the Project?

A  (Thompson) Yes.

Q  And I don't believe your home is visible on this sheet; is that correct?

A  (Thompson) Correct.

Q  But it would be located off the bottom of the page?

A  (Thompson) Correct.

Q  Looking at this exhibit and just with your knowledge of the landscape, can you explain to the Committee the topography between your home and Bear Rock Road?

A  (Thompson) Elevation wise?

Q  Yes.

A  (Thompson) If I was standing on the front deck of our home, looking down at Bear Rock, I'm probably, I'm guessing, perhaps 100 to 125 feet elevation higher than Bear Rock Road.

Q  So your home is above Bear Rock Road?

A  (Thompson) Yes, it is.

Q  And on the other side of Bear Rock Road where
the line reaches Transition Station 4, can you describe the topography going to the north from Bear Rock Road?

A (Thompson) Still looking down but nowhere near as much of an angle down. From Bear Rock, it's very steep going up and past the transition station.

Q So is Bear Rock Road at the bottom of the vail essentially?

A (Thompson) Well, the east branch of the Mohawk River is the bottom, but it's definitely at the base of Holden hill.

Q Okay.

A (Thompson) What you call a valley. Compared to the hill.

Q Do I understand correctly that from your home you look down towards the valley and then back up across towards Transition Station 4?

A (Thompson) Yes.

Q And is it your understanding that at Transition Station 4 the Project transitions from underground to aboveground?

A (Thompson) Correct.

Q And after Transition 4, does the aboveground
portion of the Project continue on to, I think, what would be the northeast?

A (Thompson) That's correct.

Q Is that up --

A (Thompson) I call it more east.

Q More east. Yes. These Project maps are not all oriented straight north.

A (Thompson) Right.

Q Is that portion of the aboveground line going uphill?

A (Thompson) Somewhat. Yeah. The first couple towers are going uphill quite a bit, and then it levels off as it goes away.

Q Okay. Am I correct based on the testimony and the video that you believe you will have, well, you'll be able to see Transition Station 4 from your home?

A (Thompson) Yes. I will.

Q Thank you. Mr. Kaufman. I'll try to be loud so you can hear me.

A (Kaufman) Yes. Thank you very much.

Q If you can't hear my question, just let me know and I'll try again.

A (Kaufman) Okay.
Q I'd like to ask a similar line of questions to you, Dr. Kaufman. You reside at 714 Bear Rock Road; is that correct?

A (Kaufman) Yes. That's right.

Q And flip back to the other map here. So now we're back on Exhibit 201, Sheet 11, and do you recognize this area along Bear Rock Road?

A (Kaufman) Yes.

Q Can you locate your home on this map?

A (Kaufman) Let me see. You know, off on the right-hand side of the screen as far as you go, you see Bear Rock Road goes down to the lower, toward the lower corner, and Heath Road continues in a direction to the end of the screen. And if you can move this whole thing, I don't know if you can do this, but I'm about, where I live is about, I would say, 3 or 400 feet at the most to the right of the screen. Maybe 50 feet. It's hard to tell when it's, you know, because of the trees.

Q So your home is not on this map.

A (Kaufman) So my home, yeah. My concern --

Q Well, before you go there let me just --

A (Kaufman) But my home is not on the screen.
Q: Okay. Thank you. I will see if you can find the correct page then.

It's a little hard to see here. I believe I just moved in the right direction down the Project.

A: (Kaufman) Rod, can you see the beaver ponds?

Q: Going the wrong way? I'm sorry. Try the other way. Now, this is moving back to the west which I understand is the opposite direction that you wanted me to go. I'll try again. Maybe this will get us where we need to be. So on this sheet which is Sheet 12, Bear Rock Road is running down the bottom left-hand corner?

A: (Kaufman) You know --

Q: And Heath Road is across the street?

A: (Kaufman) This may not be good for your question, but it's good picture for my concern.

Q: Well, right know I just want to establish the location of your home in relationship to the Project.

A: (Thompson) If I can help, the bottom left is Bear Rock Road heading into East Colebrook, and you're right down in the bottom corner just off the --
A (Kaufman) I'm right down where, on the lower left corner where it says Bear Rock Road, it's, the driveway is off where the word says "Bear" is the house would be in there.

Q Okay. So your house is perhaps just off of the map?

A (Kaufman) So it's probably, it's probably off the map, yes.

Q Okay. I think that's sufficient. So you would agree then that your property is not directly on either the underground or the aboveground portion of the Project; is that correct?

A (Kaufman) Could you repeat that?

Q Is your property directly abutting the Project in any way?

A (Kaufman) To the proposed Project?

Q Yes.

A (Kaufman) It depends on how you define my property.

Q Okay.

A (Kaufman) In other words, if you include my easement, then that is, very much is a part, you know, is affected by the proposed line. The easement is part of my property on my deed. So,
yes, I abut, my deed abuts the Northern Pass Project. My house does not except visually.

Q That was going to be my next question. From your home, do you believe you have visual access to the --

A (Kaufman) I'll be seeing --

(Court reporter interruption)

Q We have a transcript so we need to wait our turn so we don't have confusion.

My question was do you believe you have, you will be able to see the Project, the aboveground portion of your Project from your home?

A (Kaufman) I'll be able to see it, yeah. From a number of, from many places actually. From many places. If I can, I mean -- so it's a yes. Can I expand on that little bit?

Q Well, perhaps a little.

A (Kaufman) A little. Just a little bit.

Q If it's about your visibility.

A (Kaufman) You know, when you live up in here, in that area, it's not only your home, it's where you spend your time. So it's where the paddock is for the horses, where the hay is, where, it's
where you spend your time. And on so many
places I look, I'll be looking out at towers.
So that's it.

Q So your concern is not just visibility of the
Project to your home, but to the places that you
spend time in your area.

A (Kaufman) Yes.

Q In the video, and I believe also possibly in
your written testimony?

A (Kaufman) I'm not hearing you.

Q I'm sorry. I'll get closer.

In the video and also I think in your
written testimony you indicate that your
proposal would be to bury the line. Is it your
position that it should be buried in the
location of this corridor, the current proposed
Project corridor, or buried somewhere else?

A (Kaufman) I hate to say this, but I just am not
hearing you. Can you speak louder?

Q Yes, I can, at the risk of being too loud for
others. The question was --

A (Kaufman) I hear that.

Q In your testimony, you state that your
preference would be to have the line buried.
A (Kaufman) Yes.

Q My question is buried where? In the existing proposed corridor or somewhere else?

A (Kaufman) The obvious place for, I mean, if it's, if they seriously considered burying it, then they should seriously consider where the best place to bury it. Currently, it seems like a rather illogical, irrational, and unusual place to snake it through and around and under these tiny roads. And so I would leave that up to the experts to find where the best place is to bury it. If they were just going to continue, you know, burying it, then I would say well, go down Heath Road and over to Dixville, but the whole thing is kind of, doesn't make sense to me. I would imagine they would have to find a better route to bury it.

Q Okay. Thank you, Dr. Kaufman.

A (Kaufman) You're welcome.

Q Mr. McAllaster, a few questions for you if you want to grab the mike. I'll go back to the page with your farm. Okay.

Mr. McAllaster, your property, your farm is located along the McAllaster Road near the
junction of Bear Rock Road. Is that correct?
A (McAllaster) That's correct.
Q And I'm showing you Sheet 10 of Applicant's Exhibit 201. Can you identify your farm on this map?
A (McAllaster) Yes. It's where the spots are on McAllaster Road, I guess. It's not very clear, but I assume that's it. Shows the brook. That would be it.
Q So along McAllaster Road there are some gray dots. Do you see those to the left of the road?
A (McAllaster) Yes. I see them.
Q Is that your farm?
A (McAllaster) Yes, it is.
Q Okay. And the property that is shaded green and has, if you can see it, a notation "McAllaster CE," is that the extent of your property?
A (McAllaster) I'm not seeing that.
Q It's very faint so it's hard to see. I can make it larger.

You see to the left of your farm the words "McAllaster CE"?
A (McAllaster) Yes. That's mine.
Q Would you agree with me that the shaded green
rectangle there is your property?

A (McAllaster) Most of it is. I don't think quite all of it is.

Q Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG:

Mr. McAllaster, can you move the business end of that microphone closer to your mouth, please? I don't think the people in the back can hear.

A (McAllaster) Yes. Most of it is.

Q Thank you. Am I correct in assuming that that property has a conservation easement over it?

A (McAllaster) Yes, it does.

Q Okay. Thank you. In the video you testified regarding a daily milk truck?

A (McAllaster) Every other day.

Q Every other day. Okay. Thank you. And also a grain truck?

A (McAllaster) Every two weeks.

Q Every two weeks. Thank you. You anticipated my question.

A (McAllaster) Cattle truck every week.

Q And are those vehicles or deliveries necessary for the operation of your farm?

A (McAllaster) Definitely.
Q  And I believe you stated in the video that there is no other access to your farm for those trucks other than Bear Rock Road; is that correct?

A  (McAllaster) No. Not for those trucks. No. There is a road, a back way out that you can go over with a four-wheeler. Right now in a dry time you might get through it with a four-wheel drive pickup, but it's not possible to put -- these are tractor trailer, two of them. The cattle track is not, but the other two are large vehicles.

Q  And the back way that you're referencing, is that McAllaster Road itself?

A  (McAllaster) Yes. It's a discontinued road.

Q  Okay. Thank you. You reference in the video that your understanding from public meetings early on in the process that there would not be any road closures for Bear Rock Road, has that understanding changed?

A  (McAllaster) Yes. It changed. I mean, I was, myself and other people was concerned over the road issue, and I was, we were told specifically at a meeting at the Outback which is a little saloon below the Spar Restaurant in West
Stewartstown that there would be no road closures, and it was mentioned large trucks like a milk truck, and the individual there stressed that there was going to be digging in the ditch and in the shoulder and using one half of the road for their machinery and their dirt, and the other half would always be open. And if it wasn't, he said they had a large set of grates if they had to dig across the road that they would set in that would even allow a large truck to come over. They said they had it all covered.

Q Thank you, Mr. McAllaster. And my question was has your understanding of that changed at this point?

A (McAllaster) Well, it's changed considerably.

Q What is the source of your information for understanding that there may be road closures?

A (McAllaster) Mr. Thompson informed me that it was brought up at these previous hearings that there would be some pretty long-term closures, especially while the streams are involved which there are three streams fairly close to me, one right at the end of my driveway, that would
require a four- to six-week permanent closure of
my driveway. Nothing in and nothing out.
Including me.
Q And you said a minute ago that it was
Mr. Thompson who provided that information.
A (McAllaster) Yes.
Q Has the Applicant or any of the Applicant's
representatives reached out to you to discuss
potential road closures?
A (McAllaster) No.
Q Are you aware that there's been testimony in
this proceeding from Mr. Johnson, one of the
Applicant's construction experts, that the
Applicant would propose to buy your milk or
arrange for smaller trucks to be used to bring
milk into your property during construction?
A (McAllaster) Well, there are no smaller trucks
that I'm aware of. We only have the one milk
truck now. Rancourt Trucking. It's the biggest
truck you can get that's legal in the highway
department. I mean, it's the longest tractor
trailer that the law will allow because they
have to go a long ways with it. They go with a
big load. It holds 70,000 pounds of milk.
And as far as buying the milk, what are you supposed to feed your cows? The road runs both ways. You've to get your milk out and you've got to get the feed in, and all the feed that I cut for winter has to come in. Everything at home, that whole green area except for a little bit, is all open pasture, and that lasts about 8 weeks in the spring and then you've got to feed them. And I never stop feeding grain. And I buy my grain from Poulin Grain in Newport, Vermont, and that comes sometimes in a ten-wheeler, but most usually with a tractor trailer.

Q Okay. But has the Applicant reached out to you to discuss this?

A (McAllaster) No. They haven't.

Q They have not.

A (McAllaster) No.

Q Are you aware through Mr. Thompson or otherwise that there has been a proposal for a business loss mitigation program to compensate business owners for losses due to the Project construction?

A (McAllaster) No.
Q  You've had no outreach from the Applicant about that either?
A  (McAllaster) No.
Q  So at this moment, do you have any understanding of how the Applicant may propose to assist you with construction impacts to your property?
A  (McAllaster) Nothing.
Q  Okay. Thank you, Mr. McAllaster.

And just for the record, I forgot to mention that Mr. Johnson's testimony was Day 43 in the Morning Session transcript at page 23 to 24.

I'd like to turn to Mr. and Mrs. Bilodeau. Good morning?
A  (Don Bilodeau) Can you hear me?
Q  I can. Yes.
A  (Don Bilodeau) Or us, I'm sorry.
Q  I can hear you. Mr. Bilodeau, your residence is located in Colebrook; is that correct? Did I hear that right?
A  (Don Bilodeau) Clarksville.
Q  Clarksville. I'm sorry. And on what street do you reside?
A  (Don Bilodeau) Route 145, number 317. Corner of
145 and Wiswell Road.

Q Great. So let me see if I can find the map for you. I believe it is --

A (Don Bilodeau) Sheet 4 of 189.

Q All right. I've come to Sheet 4 in Applicant's Exhibit 201, and is your property located on this map?

A (Don Bilodeau) No.

Q Okay. I see Route 145 on the right-hand side of the sheet. Is your property to the north?

A (Don Bilodeau) You might go up to the north.

Q Okay. Let's see if we can find that. Is that better or did I go the wrong direction?

A (Don Bilodeau) No. Okay. Go to the left. Is that 145? There it is. Keep going a little more.

Q That's as far as this one goes to the left.

A (Don Bilodeau) Well, you want to see a little more than that. That's my property you see there, and the lower left-hand corner that purple line that's my property line. About 1500 feet and I am an abutter. That's Northern Pass in the lower portion, and that other view you chose 145 and Wiswell Road, that's my property.
That's 25 acres there.

Q Okay. So help me out a little bit. Are you referring to the property to the west of Route 145 that has a label of 10274?

A (Don Bilodeau) That is correct.

Q And is that yellow dot in that property your home?

A (Don Bilodeau) The little yellow dot is, yes. Right?

A (Diane Bilodeau) Correct.

Q And that for the record is Sheet 4 A of Applicant's Exhibit 201.

A (Don Bilodeau) Can you go a little more to the left?

Q That's what I was just going to try and do.

A (Don Bilodeau) Then you'll see all the towers.

Q Right.

A (Don Bilodeau) No. That's not it. Go down some more.

Q Well, hold on, Mr. Bilodeau. This is showing the transition station that is along Wiswell Road. Do you see that at the top?

A (Don Bilodeau) That is correct.

Q And is it your understanding that at that
Transition Station that the aboveground portion of the line is coming in from the west?

A (Don Bilodeau) Correct.

Q And it's going underground at that location and then moving towards Wiswell Road?

A (Don Bilodeau) Correct.

Q Away from Wiswell Road towards Route 145?

A (Don Bilodeau) That is correct.

Q On this map your property is not shown, but is it roughly the center of the page and above what's shown here?

A (Don Bilodeau) No. No. Where the transition station is, my house is just above that.

Q Okay. Thank you.

Is it your understanding then that you'll have, the Transition Station itself will be visible from your house?

A (Don Bilodeau) I believe so. It's hard to tell with the leaves on the trees right now, but I believe so, and once the leaves fall, I believe we'll see the Transition Station.

Q And is it your understanding that you will or will not be able to see the aboveground structures moving to the west from your
property?

A (Don Bilodeau) Oh, I'll see at least 6 or 7. It's hard to tell because it's, the topography is up and down, but I'm sure it will be at least 6 or 7, and then the, of course, the Transition Station as well.

Q Okay. Thank you. Ms. Bilodeau, in the video you reference a neighboring property that will have visibility of the Transition Station.

A (Diane Bilodeau) Yes, I did.

Q Are you able to locate that on those maps?

A (Don Bilodeau) Go back to the other one, you will.

A (Diane Bilodeau) Yes. I can see it.

Q Okay. Could you point me in the direction?

A (Diane Bilodeau) It's just below us, and it's to the west. It's the other yellow dot in the lower left corner. I can just about see it. Yes.

Q This property just on the edge of the page?

A (Diane Bilodeau) Yes. It is.

Q Okay. Thank you. And again, that is Sheet 4 A of Applicant's Exhibit 201.

Mr. Balint, am I pronouncing that
A (Balint) Close enough.

Q All right. Feel free to correct me if I get it wrong.

Do I understand correctly that you are not an abutter to the Project?

A (Balint) Correct.

Q And your home is located in Colebrook?

A (Balint) Yes.

Q And I forgot where it is, but what's the address of your home?

A (Balint) 721 Diamond Pond Road.

Q Diamond Pond Road. Let's see. We'll go back. Okay.

So looking here at Applicant's Exhibit 201, Sheet 13, I see Diamond Pond Road on the right-hand side of the sheet. Do you see that?

A (Balint) Yes.

Q And the transmission line here is aboveground moving from left to right?

A (Balint) Correct.

Q Is your property to the bottom of this view which is generally south but not quite south?

A (Balint) No. I'm up here.
Q So you're above the crossing or sorry, between the crossing of the power lines of Diamond Pond Road and Coleman State Park?
A (Balint) Correct.
A (Thompson) No. That's Heath Road coming up.
A (Balint) Correct. I'm sorry.
Q So you want to correct that? You're actually to the south of this crossing?
A (Balint) Yes. I would be on the lower right.
Q Okay. But not on this sheet?
A (Balint) Correct.
Q Do you know approximately how far your house is from the crossing of the project over Diamond Pond Road?
A (Balint) As the crow flies, it would be about a half a mile.
Q Okay. Is it your understanding that you will have -- I think in the video you testify that you will have visibility of the Project as it moves up over Sugar Hill?
A (Balint) Very much so.
Q In the video you also reference concern about noise from the power lines?
A (Balint) Correct.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q</th>
<th>I'm assuming you don't believe you will hear the power line noise from your home?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Balint) I'm not assuming anything with this.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Okay. So you don't know.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Balint) No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Thank you. Mr. Harrigan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) Good morning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Good morning. Am I correct that you also are not a direct abutter to the Project?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) I'm sorry. I didn't get that.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Sorry. I'll try again. Am I correct that your property does not directly abut the Project?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) Oh, correct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Is your property located in Colebrook?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) It is.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>And I think you said earlier it was on South Hill Road?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) Right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Approximately how far from the Project corridor is your home?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(Harrigan) Well, as everybody's crow flies, maybe three or four air miles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Okay. Three or four miles. Do you believe that you will have visibility of the Project from</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
your home?

A (Harrigan) Oh, I know I don't.

Q Okay. That's fine. And your testimony in the video was -- to the extent you're testifying in the video about concerns of the visibility of the Project, then is your concern with visibility from roadways and other places that you visit frequently in the area?

A (Harrigan) Absolutely.

Q How long have you been a resident of Colebrook?

A (Harrigan) Well, I've been on the planet for 70 years, and most of those 70 were in Colebrook.

Q Thank you. Mr. and Mrs. Amey.

A (John Amey) Good morning.

Q Good morning. And I believe if I have it right that your property is also not directly abutting the Project; is that correct?

A (John Amey) That's correct.

Q And Tabor Road is somewhat to the north of the Project line; is that right?

A (John Amey) That's correct.

Q And approximately how far from the Project is your property?

A (John Amey) Three miles.
Q And do you understand that you will or will not have visibility of the Project from your farm?
A (John Amey) I absolutely will because half of the property that I farm is in Vermont, and the only way I can get to my home from there is Old Canaan Road, and every time I go by the state line, I will see the tower, the transition station, and if I'm on the southwest corner of my woodland looking towards Canaan, I will look down on it because that elevation is roughly 2000 feet, and I'll be looking out at the line where it crosses the Starlings' property and down on to the transition station.
Q Okay. Thank you very much.
A (Guerin) I'm doing well. Thank you.
Q In the video you were testifying in your capacity as the owner of Fiddleheads; is that correct?
A (Guerin) That's correct.
Q And is Fiddleheads located in Clarksville?
A (Guerin) No. It's on Main Street in Colebrook.
Q Colebrook. I'm sorry.
And if I understand your testimony, it regards concerns with impacts to tourism and the local businesses; is that fair?

A (Guerin) That's fair to say because I don't look at it as how it's going to affect me as an individual. I think more community. More area.

Q Am I correct that the Project will not be visible from downtown Colebrook?

A (Guerin) To my understanding at this point, no, but as I stated in the video the people that come to our area, the first and foremost thing they come for is the visual grandeur and beauty of the roads.

Q Thank you. And I think you communicated that very well in the video so I won't get into it further here.

A (Guerin) Thank you.

MR. ASLIN: The remainder of my questions are for Mr. Thompson that came from his testimony on behalf of the combined parties. I can save that for when he's back on the stand or I can ask him now, Mr. Chairman. It's your call.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Well, I had
thought that what we would do was deal with Mr. Thompson's written testimony separately, although it may be more efficient to deal with it all at once. Mr. Needleman, do you have an opinion on that?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: I think it's your call. We may have a bunch of separate questions for Mr. Thompson, and I'm not sure everyone would want to sit up there, but it's up to you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: That is what I was thinking. So Mr. Thompson is going to have an encore performance a little later, I think.

MR. ASLIN: Very good. Lucky Mr. Thompson. In that case, Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions. Thank you?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Thank you, Mr. Aslin. What other Intervenors have questions for this Panel? I see Mr. Reimers, I see Ms. Pacik, I see Ms. Menard and I see a hand but not a face associated with it. Oh, okay. Thank you. So Deerfield, two different Deerfield groups have questions. Is that what's going to happen, Ms. Menard? Ms. Draper I see.
Anybody else? Ms. Saffo has questions. All right.

I have this order here. Looks like Ms. Pacik. You'd be first.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. PACIK:

Q I have a question for Mr. McAllaster.

   During the questions from Counsel for the Public, you were asked about a potential purchase of the milk that you have from Northern Pass, and I understand from your response that there's a truck that comes to your property every other day. How many customers do you have?

A (McAllaster) I just sell my milk to Agri-Mark and then they either process it in their Cabot plant or they have contracts and they resell it to other plants. Right now the load that I'm on is going to Concord and is sold to the Hood plant, and it's bottled for fluid milk.

Q Do you have a commitment to supply a certain amount of milk?

A (McAllaster) No. I don't.

Q Okay. Do you have any concerns that if you're
not able to have your milk delivered to that
customer that they may seek another supplier?
A (McAllaster) They could perhaps drop me. I
don't know what they would do. The hauler
doesn't seem too impressed of having to go
around. Part of the time they could possibly go
around 20 miles out of their way. They have a
pretty tight schedule in the trucks.
Q Okay. Thank you. Nothing else.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Saffo?
MS. SAFFO: Yes. Hello, Mr. McAllaster,
I'm over here.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. SAFFO:
Q I have a quick question for you. The meeting,
it said you were, looked like at a restaurant
called the Saloon?
A (McAllaster) No. It was the Spar Restaurant.
The meeting was actually in the Outback Pub
which is a little saloon under the restaurant.
Q Okay.
A (McAllaster) It's a little bar. I just called
it a saloon.
Q No, no, no. I just was referring to it. Was
that a formal public hearing?
A (McAllaster) Yes, it was.
Q So that was recorded and so forth?
A (McAllaster) It should have been, I guess.
Q And Northern Pass was present for it?
A (McAllaster) Yes. They had a panel of experts there. The one I spoke with or listened to speaking to somebody else was their expert on highways and what was going to happen with the road project.
Q And so you attended this public hearing to learn about what was going to happen in your --
A (McAllaster) Yeah, I was concerned about the road issue.
Q And I don't want you to reiterate what you said earlier just because that isn't the purpose of cross, but you left that meeting with the understanding from Northern Pass that the road would not be closed.
A (McAllaster) That's right. No permanent road closures. They said one lane would always be open.
Q And they also outlined a plan for if having to go under the road? With the grates? There was
a grate discussion, I thought you said?

A  (McAllaster) Pardon?

Q  I thought you said they had a discussion about grates.

A  (McAllaster) Yes. They said they had a large grate that if they needed to dig up the whole road, cross the road, they had a large grate they could set in place that even a large tractor trailer could drive over. They said there'd be no problem.

Q  So just like that you were told no problems with the road getting through?

A  (McAllaster) Yes.

Q  Do you remember when that hearing was?

A  (McAllaster) It was when the proposed route was, you know, shortly after the proposed route was released. You know, I don't know. It's been a while. It must have been in, good three years ago. Anyway.

Q  And then after receiving those representations, nobody corrected those representations to you when the plans changed or something?

A  (McAllaster) No.

Q  And you learned about it indirectly from
Mr. Thompson?

A (McAllaster) Yes.

Q Has Northern Pass ever contacted you to correct the misunderstandings?

A (McAllaster) No.

Q Thank you. No further questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Reimers?

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. REIMERS:

Q Good morning. My name is Jason Reimers, and I represent the Forest Society.

I just have two questions. Mr. Harrigan, in the video I didn't quite catch what you said. You mentioned something about the North Country or New Hampshire being used as a doormat. What did you mean by that?

A (Harrigan) Well, basically I view this Project as nothing more than using New Hampshire as a pipeline, an extension cord to get Hydro-Quebec's power, which it desperately needs to sell, to the markets in the greater New York City area, and New Hampshire is simply in the way. That's the way it's been since the project was proposed, and nothing has changed.
Q Mr. McAllaster, when Sam Johnson of the Northern Pass testified, he mentioned the possibility of purchasing your milk, that the Project purchasing your milk and either delivering it to another establishment or disposing of it. How do you feel about the possibility of your milk simply being disposed of?

A (McAllaster) Well, it's kind of counterproductive, I think. You know, we're trying to produce milk to feed people. To get a living. A simple living. And it's work to produce it, and you don't really feel like dumping it. But if I don't get feed in to feed them, you won't be dumping a whole lot.

Q Thank you.

A (McAllaster) So I don't really think that's a good idea.

Q Okay. Thank you. No further questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard?

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. MENARD:

Q Good morning, members of the Committee.

Thank you all for coming here this morning.

My name is Jeanne Menard, and I am a member of
the Deerfield Abutter group, and all of my questions, of which are about five, pertain to real estate values. Your own property values. And the first question for purposes of the court reporter, it might be easier for you, this is a yes or no question, and it might be easier for you to state your name before giving the answer, if that would be helpful.

Are you an expert about your property and the existing view from your property? So if you could each state your name and say yes or no.

MR. WALKER: Objection.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard, what do you mean?

MS. MENARD: I would like for them to be able to offer an opinion about their property value impacts from Northern Pass Transmission, and I'm going to be tying in some recent testimony from Mr. Chalmers and then coming back to that question. And it is important. I think --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I understand what you're trying to do, but the first question you asked isn't going to get you where you want
to end up.

MS. MENARD: May I explain?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Are they an expert on property valuation? I'm not sure any of them are.

MS. MENARD: No. I'm asking them specifically if they're an expert about their own property. Yesterday it was very clear that it was important whether or not the witness was an expert.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I believe the exchange with Mr. Pappas made it very clear that having special expertise is not necessary for someone to give an opinion about valuation of their property. You've asked questions of a number of other Intervenor witnesses about what they thought would happen to their property and they were all allowed to answer.

MS. MENARD: Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: You're talking about a very specific instance having to do with a very specific area of scientific expertise, and you don't want to pick a fight where you don't need one, Ms. Menard.
MS. MENARD: Well, thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: If you want to ask them their opinion about what's going to happen to their real estate values, they're all going to be free to answer that question.

MS. MENARD: I appreciate the clarification. I wanted to make certain it was established regarding their ability to offer an opinion about their property values. So thank you.

MR. BALINT: I have an opinion.

MS. MENARD: Can you hold off and we can come back if there's any opportunity for summary comments.

BY MS. MENARD:

Q So do you agree that the Northern Pass Transmission Project effect to your property value may be caused by an aboveground line, a transition station or a buried line. So the question is I'm wanting to have you view the Project, your view of the Project may be different from your neighbor's view of the Project. So once again, do you agree that the Northern Pass Project effect to your property
value may be caused by one of these three items?

And again, logistically, how we answer, if we want to have one person speak for the group that may be appropriate or maybe --

A (Thompson) I guess that's me. Repeat the question, please.

Q Would you agree that the Northern Pass Project effect to your property value may be caused by an aboveground line, a transition station, or a buried line?

A (Thompson) I agree.

Q Did I leave out any Project component as far as infrastructure that may cause property devaluation or do you think that that covers it?

A (Thompson) Perhaps access road construction would be another aspect.

Q Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Chalmers is the Applicant's real estate expert, and he testified on July 31st, page 47, line 20, that there may be a dozen or so properties for which the Project will result in a change in visibility. And he goes on to say on page 76, that even if the houses had clear visibility of the line, if they were beyond the
hundred foot mark, there would not be any market impact due to the Project. And I do have transcripts if anyone would like to refer to them.

So final two questions. Do you agree with Mr. Chalmers' New Hampshire real estate market research conclusions that if Northern Pass Transmission was located 100 feet beyond from your property that there would be no -- and property meaning house in this case -- that there would be no market value impact to your property, yes or no? And I'm going to read the question again.

Do you agree with Mr. Chalmers' New Hampshire real estate market research conclusion that if Northern Pass Transmission was located beyond 100 feet of your house that there will be no market value impact to your property? Yes or no.

A (Thompson) I'm Brad Thompson, and I disagree.

A (Don Bilodeau) I also disagree with that report. That's a little ridiculous. Hundred feet.

A (Diane Bilodeau) Diane Bilodeau, and I disagree.

A (Guerin) Bette Guerin, and I disagree.
A (Harrigan) No problem. I'm not an abutter.
A (Cindy Lou Amey) Cindy Lou Amy. I disagree.
A (Balint) Jason Balint. I disagree.
A (McAllaster) Roderick McAllaster, and I definitely disagree.
A (Kaufman) Dr. Kaufman, and I definitely disagree.

Q If you disagree with Mr. Chalmers' conclusion, in your opinion what is the specific cause of the property value devaluation, and I'm --

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Maybe you weren't finished. Why don't you finish what you were going to say. I expect there's an objection, and then we'll deal with it. So why don't you finish what you were going to say.

MS. MENARD: I'm going to ask that you be brief. Is there something specific, for example, many of you, we've already heard and saw in your beautiful, beautiful video most of your concerns about a view impact. So that would be an example of a cause of your property devaluation.
PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Everybody wait. Mr. Needleman.

MR. NEEDLEMAN: It wasn't in their Prefiled Testimony to the effect they filed any, and I'm not sure they have a basis to be offering an opinion.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard?

MS. MENARD: I believe, and, again, this goes back to my very first question, the basis of any opinions of property owners is based on their personal expertise of what they value in their property, and value is more than perception, and this is an opportunity to find out exactly.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: You would agree that valuation of property is a thing that experts do, right?

MS. MENARD: Correct.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: So understanding that, that there may be limited strength of a nonexpert's opinion about value, but someone who does know their own property, I'm going to overrule the objection and allow them to answer.
Does anybody over there remember the question?

MS. MENARD: Can you, for all of our benefits, you made a very fine point and I want to make sure that there's a distinction, that we understand the distinction of what you've just made in terms of how it is going to impact the proceeding?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I don't know that it has any impact on the proceeding. Literally. I honestly don't know.

MS. MENARD: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: But there's a difference between a layperson's opinion and an expert's opinion which I think you understand that.

MS. MENARD: Yes.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: And you're asking a bunch of individuals who have some knowledge and expertise of a sort about their own properties. You've asked them for their opinions. And we're going to hear their opinions about the reason or reasons for why they think it will have a negative effect on
their property values.

MS. MENARD: Thank you.

A (Thompson) Brad Thompson. My wife and I bought our property in 2007 for distinct reasons. Natural beauty, the aesthetics, the quietness, the views. We value that very, very highly, and we are convinced that a lot of that is going to be totally disrupted permanently, decrease in value a lot more than just monetarily. Thank you.

A (Don Bilodeau) Donald Bilodeau. I built my home there on 145 31 years ago, and it's just beautiful. I'm not an expert, and I don't think anyone here is an expert. But it just takes just common sense here. I mean, we're going to be looking at least 7 or 8 towers. Just common sense. Imagine what that's going to look like.

A (Diane Bilodeau) Diane Bilodeau. And I live on 145 also, and I've been there 31 years. And I have to say above my driveway all different times of the year there are people stopping to take pictures of the view from our property so yes, does it have an impact? Yes.

A (Guerin) Bette Guerin. Just in my opinion if I
was someone seeking a home in that area and saw
a ginormous tower in their backyard, it wouldn't
compel me to purchase it.

A (Harrigan) John Harrigan. While I'm not an
abutter with my personal property, this Project
would affect the greater Colebrook/Pittsburg
area, the entire northern end of Coos County,
the countryside as I know it and as the tourism
industry knows it. Everything that happens
there has a ripple effect on property values,
and on, of course, tax rates. So do I think it
will have an effect on property values? Yes.
Absolutely, I do think it will. I've seen it
happen elsewhere. So we're all in this thing
together, and it's a bad, it's a bad mark on the
landscape, and I can't see how it could ever
help and I can see many ways where it will hurt.

A (John Amey) I'm going to share my time or give
it, rather, to my wife.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) Cindy Lou Amey. 81 Tabor Road,
Pittsburg. We have the Indian Stream Valley
Farms that you saw earlier in the video. During
Moose Festival Weekend which is always the
fourth Saturday in August, there's a large
influx of individuals coming, we call it from
down below, that visit our property as well as
many other northern New Hampshire communities.
There's events scheduled on our farm we have a
day at the farm, and then in the evening we have
a concert under the stars. The whole event is
free of charge to all those that visit with us.

We have had measurable and observable
instances over the last 12 years where we have
run this event where we observe people come on
to the property, they look down the valley, they
look at the surrounding hillsides, and you watch
their shoulders come down and the stress seems
to pour out of them. It is such an impact on
us, and that's why we continue to do it because
that energy, that joy that they seem to express
comes back at us, and so we do it over and over
again. That to me is something we can observe
and we can attest to. And it happens over and
over again. Thank you.

A (Balint) Jason Balint, 721 Diamond Pond Road.
Could you confirm that the real estate expert
testified to 100-foot rule or was it 150?

MS. MENARD: No. It was 100.
A (Balint) 100. Then I guess it's fair that I take a stab at it.

   My wife's a successful realtor. We own the camp together on Diamond Pond Road, and the fact of the matter is is when you introduce a power line of this size where there isn't one on a purchased right-of-way, there isn't a right-of-way that existed before, this is a large chunk of land that was purchased for a very large amount of money to put this line on, it is going to have an effect. Period.

   MS. MENARD: Thank you.

A (McAllaster) Roderick McAllaster, 380 McAllaster Road in Stewartstown. Where I actually live, I won't be able to see towers because I'm kind of on the buried portion, but I do have property that will see the towers, and I use fields of some of my neighbors and other people that, especially one individual that bought a large portion of land and he's got some tremendous views, and it will ruin his land. He'll be seeing it for a long ways. And I just wouldn't wish that on anybody.

A (Kaufman) Dr. Kaufman from Stewartstown. There
are two major impacts that I'm concerned about. One is certainly the view, but it's also, along with that is that there will be a corridor on which the towers go that, yes, I do see from many aspects of where I live. But in that corridor used to be a family with two kids, and the husband made his living with computers and that allowed them to live there. Another neighbor, who is also gone, used a computer for a living, and it seemed to me that what was beginning to happen during this transition from many dairy farms to the future was that this is a remote area, but it's accessible through the computer and through internet, and that that family was bought out by Northern Pass. The kids are gone, the woman was working as a teacher in town, and the husband was making his living on the land through the computer. That corridor now that exists is naked of people living there.

So it really, it really has destroyed already the area as a community. What it's going to be, it's going to be a dead zone of this power line that goes through instead of
people living there and working there. And yes, that impacts, that's going to impact my property tremendously. People won't see it as a place to actually live. Maybe plant something so they can get on a four-wheeler. The other thing I just --

Q Actually, I am going to ask that we wrap this up.

A (Kaufman) Okay.

Q I appreciate your answers, and thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Thank you, Ms. Menard. Ms. Bradbury?

MS. MENARD: Her questions are going to be for Mr. Thompson later today. During the construction. I'll confirm.

MS. BRADBURY: I have some questions for, a few for the Panel and I have a couple more for Mr. Thompson alone.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I don't think the stenographer can hear you, Ms. Bradbury, because you're not talking in a microphone.

MS. BRADBURY: I have a few questions for the Panel, and then a couple of questions for
Mr. Thompson alone.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Are the questions for Mr. Thompson based on his Prefiled Testimony?

MS. BRADBURY: Based on his Prefiled Testimony, based on what we have learned during the trial as evidence in the transcript.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: So he's going to be back and so that that round of questions you'll do later, but you have questions for the Panel?

MS. BRADBURY: Yes. Just a few.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Okay. Come on down.

The only other person I have is Ms. Draper. Was there anybody else? All right.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. BRADBURY:

Q Good morning. I am Jo Anne Bradbury. I'm from Deerfield. Just a few questions for the Panel. We heard testimony from the experts that certain local roads will be closed to all traffic, and I would like to know what the impact of those roads closures on the timing and
access of emergency vehicles to your homes.

Dr. Kaufman?

A (Kaufman) Well, I'm 82 years old, but I'm still practicing part-time, and I intend to for another year or two anyway, and I'm not going to be able to get to work if they close that road. There's only one way out in the winter especially.

Q My question is specifically as to the ability of emergency vehicles.

A (Kaufman) Yes, I'm talking about me in my car going on an emergency to look after a patient as well as an ambulance coming in and looking after us.

Q (Kaufman) Thank you. Mr. McAllaster?

A (McAllaster) Yes. That's a quite a concern. I mean, in my case, when they do the stream by my drive, if I have a 4- to 6-week complete closure there, there will be no ambulance, no fire, no mail, no anything.

And another thing that I have a problem with is I've got two grandchildren that for at least part of the Project won't be able to go to school. I don't know what the answer is to
that. But they're 9 and 12 years old. Kind of young to drop out.

A (Balint) No impact on me.

Q No impact. Ms. Amey. Mr. Amey?

A (John Amey) No impact.

Q Mr. Harrigan?

A (Harrigan) No impact.

Q None?

A (Harrigan) No.

Q Uh-huh. Ms. Guerin?

A (Guerin) No impact.

Q No impact on you?

A (Diane Bilodeau) No impact.

A (Don Bilodeau) No impact.

Q Mr. Thompson?

A (Thompson) It's believe it's definitely a general concern for all residents on Bear Rock Road, North Hill and Old County Road. We've had testimony and I think serious communication between the two Fire Departments and the 45th Parallel Ambulance Service where they know how to get to any particular residence if there's an emergency, and it doesn't have to be somebody old like Marty or I. It could be, you know,
somebody working on the farm or whatever. But it's a serious concern and it definitely has been addressed and I certainly hopeful it will work out.

We're covered in Clarksville and Stewartstown by the Canaan Fire Department for part of it and the Colebrook Fire Department for the other. They're both from my house 10 or 11 miles away, dirt roads, and it's a better part of a 20-minute ride when conditions are good. The ambulance service is north on Route 3 of Colebrook, and it's probably 13 or 14 miles away.

So it's an issue anyway and it's going to get a lot worse. Nature of the beast is skinny roads, there's times when something will be in the a way and an emergency vehicle just won't get through.

Q Thank you.

A (Harrigan) If I could interject? I forgot to mention something. Is it okay to mention it?

Q Mr. Harrigan. Yes.

A (Harrigan) John Harrigan. South Hill Road, Colebrook. We do have recreational trails that
go through this very area. Major snowmobile artery. Also during the rest of the time, the warm months, so-called, off-road vehicles or OHRVs. So with the injury rate as what it is, which is often the subject of a lot of news stories after a weekend, the ability of rescue people to get into the end of Bear Rock Road and the specific area where Brad Thompson and Daryl live and where the Kaufmans live is very much an issue.

Q Okay. All right. Okay. We've learned from the Applicant's expert testimony thus far or I guess that's over in the trial, do any of you have an opinion whether the Northern Pass benefits the welfare of the population of your individual towns?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Bradbury?

MS. BRADBURY: Welfare of the population is an important factor for the Committee to consider, and these people live and work and worship in these towns, and they are the best experts as to what these towns are going to be like.
PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: And that really was the subject of their video. I mean, if you got anything from that video, that's what you got, isn't it?

MS. BRADBURY: Oh, I got many things from the video.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: But that was clearly, included in what they were talking about is what you just asked about, is it not?

MS. BRADBURY: Okay. Yes. I think it's pretty clear what their opinion of the --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: So I'm going to sustain the objection and ask you to move on.

MS. BRADBURY: Okay. Move on.

BY MS. BRADBURY:

Q With respect to testimony from Mr. Quinlan early in the trial, when he testified about the claims process, he described what they were offering the homeowners, correct? Are you familiar, members of the Panel, from discussions about the trial? That there was testimony about the claims process for homeowners?

A (Thompson) There was. Quite a while ago.

Q Yes. It was a while ago. That was back in
April. And Mr. Quinlan admitted that only nine homes qualified for that claims process. Were any of you any of the nine homeowners that would qualify for that claims process?

A (Thompson) No.
A (Don Bilodeau) No.
A (Diane Bilodeau) No.
A (Guerin) No.
A (Harrigan) No.
A (John Amey) No.
A (Balint) No.

Q Since this hearing began, have any of you had any compensation or any offer from Eversource personnel?

A (Thompson) No.
A (Don Bilodeau) Absolutely not. I've never seen an Eversource personnel.
A (Diane Bilodeau) No.
A (Guerin) No.
A (Harrigan) No.
A (John Amey) No.
A (Balint) No.
A (McAllaster) No.

A (Kaufman) No.

Q Do you view the proposed claims process as fair and reasonable compensation to those impacted by the Project?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection.

MS. BRADBURY: I'll withdraw it.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Thank you.

MS. BRADBURY: That's all I have for the Panel. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Draper?

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. DRAPER:

Q Good morning. I'm Gretchen Draper and I represent, I'm part of a team of people that represent the Pemigewasset River Local River Advisory Committee, and as we were, as I was listening this morning, I realized you folks have been involved in this for a long time. So I'm wondering when and how did each of you learn about Northern Pass? Start with Mr. Thompson maybe and just?

A (Thompson) My first recollection was the original announcement, I think it was in 2010,
that they were going to run down the Connecticut River Valley with a new power line.

Q Was that newspaper or television or something else? It was media; is that right?

A (Thompson) It might have initially been word of mouth, but I'm sure it didn't take me long to find a newspaper.

Q Thank you.

A (Don Bilodeau) Donald Bilodeau. I heard about this, we had a get-together for a funeral, Mr. Dan Lefebvre, who used to own the Eagle's Nest. Diane and I were at the spa, and it was brought up then. It was October of 2010. And one of the local folks said there was a power line going to go in, and they said oh, it's going to be very soon, two or three years anyway, and it will be done. And at that time I said, you know, it was Kathy Keezer. I said Kathy, I'll bet you that thing won't go through for ten years. And guess what, we're up to 7, almost 8.

A (Guerin) I think I first heard about it probably in the same time period, about 2010, reading an article in the newspaper. Was bowled over by
it. I just couldn't believe, and I just remember having this reaction of just this lump in my throat my heart racing thinking God, no, please don't do this to this area. Its just too pristine. There's not many areas left like what we have.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Draper, why do we need to know when folks first heard about it?

MS. DRAPER: I think that I want, my reasoning is I'd like the SEC to realize how long people have been involved in activities in opposition to Northern Pass.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: You think that's not sufficiently in the record already?

MS. DRAPER: Not for these folks. I'm interested, I have two more questions. I'm interested in when and how people found out about it.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: We're getting that, and what else are you interested in?

MS. DRAPER: I'm interested in whether or not they found out before Renewable Properties began buying up land or after.
PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Do they know that?

MS. DRAPER: I don't know. I mean, this is a small community. If people started --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: And why is that relevant?

MS. DRAPER: It's relevant because I'm always concerned about how Northern Pass or Eversource communicates with people about things that are very important.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: And what is the relevance to this proceeding about what elements of the SEC's statute and rules does that go to?

MS. DRAPER: I would say it goes to in the public interest. It goes into orderly development. So if you hear about your neighbor being offered $7,000,000 for their property, and then you hear about this line coming through, I think you have lots of questions about that.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: All right. We're going to let you continue with this, and ask you to ask the witnesses to be brief.

MS. DRAPER: Yes. Okay.
A (Guerin) I just have one additional comment to make. My whole mindset and my concern is not on an individual basis. It never has been. I'm not one of these --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm sorry. The question is when did you hear about it, and she wants to know the circumstances in which you heard about it. That's the only question pending right now.

A (Guerin) I answered that question. I'll pass it along.

Q Thank you.

A (Harrigan) John Harrigan. I first heard about this Project in the newsroom of the Coos County Democrat in Lancaster. Founded in 1838.

Q Thank you.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) We were looking at the local newspaper. I think, I don't know if it was the Sentinel or the Chronicle. The very first thing we ever saw was there was a big picture on the front page of our farm, and on the bottom it said starting at the Amey farm. That's the first we ever heard or knew anything about it, and it already had been in process. Nobody has
contacted us.

Q Thank you.

A (Balint) I learned about it when the chess game started for buying the land they needed to create the right-of-way to get up over the back side of Sugar Hill, and then I also learned about it when I heard Mr. McAllaster's statement that his roots go deeper than Northern Pass's pockets.

A (McAllaster) The first I knew of it I saw it in the news in the Sentinel. They had a map.

A (Kaufman) I think that's how I saw it also, on the news in the Sentinel.

Q Thank you very much. I think my question about Renewable Properties has been answered by when you called it the chess game.

My next question has to do with what kind of, I'm looking for things that you folks have done to build public interest, to build, to share knowledge up your way about your opposition you had. When was the first meeting with Northern Pass? That was mentioned earlier. One person can answer that. That was the meeting at the Outback and the Spar? Was that
very soon after the --

A (Cindy Lou Amey) That wasn't the first one.

A (John Amey) No.

Q It wasn't the first one. Okay. What was the first one?

A (Cindy Lou Amey) The one at the Colebrook Elementary, right?

A (Kaufman) I think it was in the school. It was in the school gymnasium back in 2010.

Q And was that organized by Northern Pass?

A (Kaufman) yes.

Q And then I'm was wondering if you folks have done parades or fairs or fundraisers? I know there was an article in Yankee magazine.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) Several.

Q Several. Several articles.

What else have you done in your area to object to this Project?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. Relevance.

MS. DRAPER: The relevance that I see again is that this has been a very active community, and in fact they have in fact, they have contacted people in Quebec, done Hands Across The Border. If there's a group of people that's
been more --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: That's well beyond the scope of their video and their testimony.

MS. DRAPER: Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm going to sustain the objection and ask you to move to something else.

MS. DRAPER: All right.

BY MS. DRAPER:

Q Where do you think you've had the most influence in things like talking to people? And I'm saying influence because I'm very interested in whether you feel like you've been heard or you feel heard by the Northern Pass Project?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Draper?

MS. DRAPER: I guess what I'm trying to find out is with people who are as far away from Concord, I mean we have Mr. Thompson who comes down regularly, how do people make their concerns known? They write letters which I know some of these folks have done. But in their own community, how do they, do they feel like
they've --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm sorry, Ms. Draper. It's beyond the video, it's beyond their testimony. So I'm going to sustain the objection.

MS. DRAPER: All right. Well. Thank you very much, folks.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I have no other Intervenors who indicated that they had questions for this Panel so seeing no hands, Mr. Needleman, Mr. Walker, do you have questions for the Panel?

MR. WALKER: Just a few minutes.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. WALKER:

Q Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Jeremy Walker. I'm an attorney for the Applicant, and the bulk of my questions are for Mr. Thompson, but before I get to Mr. Thompson quickly, Mr. McAllaster, is it correct that Northern Pass, the Project has reached out to you both by letters and by phone calls trying to set up a meeting with you to discuss your concerns?
A (McAllaster) No. I've heard from nobody concerning my concerns.

Q You haven't heard from anybody from the Project with regard to arranging a meeting to talk about your concerns?

A (McAllaster) No.

Q You have not received letters?

A (McAllaster) No.

Q How about phone calls from representatives from the Project?

A (McAllaster) No.

Q Would it surprise you if Northern Pass still would like to meet with you to discuss your concerns?

A (McAllaster) Nothing surprises me concerning Northern Pass.

Q Well, then after you're done testifying today, would you agree to sit down with Northern Pass and arrange a time to have a meeting to discuss your concerns?

A (McAllaster) Sure.

Q You would?

A (McAllaster) Oh, sure.

Q Thank you. Mr. Thompson, with regard to the
video, and, Dawn, if you could put up Applicant Exhibit 354, please. And that's just your letter, Mr. Thompson, where you describe the purpose of the video. I can tell you what it says. I mean, I just want to you to acknowledge, you've provided this video with the intention of providing the SEC, the Committee, with a guided tour of the proposed Project route from Pittsburg into Dixville; is that right?

A (Thompson) I would say that was one of the two reasons, main reasons, yes.

Q So when I think of "guided tour" when I saw your letter I was thinking a guided tour of where it starts, the proposed route, all the way from Pittsburg in through Dixville, but now having looked at your video, it's not quite that, right? I mean, in fact it starts with a picture, and it's labeled Stewartstown. So you're not starting right at the beginning of the route.

A (Thompson) Short of walking the whole route, including the overhead part, with a camera, I don't think it would be very effective because it's wooded.
Q Okay.

A (Thompson) And I think the video is a very good cross-section of the terrain, of the aesthetics, of the natural beauty of the hills, the mountain, the rivers, the brooks. Very indicative of the land.

Q Right. But I just want to make clear for this Committee what it is. So we actually go from Stewartstown, and I think the next section was to Ms. Guerin's store in Colebrook which she acknowledged the route does not go through Colebrook, right?

A (Thompson) Correct.

Q And also there is some landscape footage that's shown with no description. So the video is showing some landscape, but there's really no description of where that is in the video. Is that right?

A (Thompson) That's not -- yes, that's true.

Q Okay. And in fact, there's some aerial footage shown in the video of Lake Francis which is a very nice lake up in your area.

A (Thompson) Correct.

Q And that lake is beyond three miles from the
proposed corridor; would you agree with that?

A  (Thompson) That is true.

Q  Okay. In fact, it extends probably 6, 7 miles out beyond the corridor?

A  (Thompson) Definitely.

Q  Have you reviewed the visibility or the hypothetical visibility maps that were provided by Mr. DeWan in this case?

A  (Thompson) Some.

Q  Have you seen the one that shows Lake Francis as not having visibility or hypothetically not having visibility of the proposed corridor?

A  (Thompson) I don't think I've seen it, but I can agree with you.

Q  Okay. So you've included Lake Francis as showing just the nice area, nice lake up in that area, but it's not really a guided tour of the route?

A  (Thompson) That part isn't, but it definitely speaks to the second point of the video.

Q  Okay. We can get to that. I can talk with you about that.

The video itself, was that created with a drone?
A (Thompson) Correct.

Q And who did that? Who is responsible for producing the video?

A (Thompson) A professional photographer from Jackson, New Hampshire, named Tim Shellmer, who is here in the hall today.

Q I take it Mr. Shellmer is not a visual impact assessment expert in any way? He doesn't do those things? Or do you know? If you don't know, that's fine.

A (Thompson) I don't know.

Q Do you know what heights it was filled at with the drone?

A (Thompson) I don't think it was documented, and the answer is a number of heights.

Q Okay. It's a bird's-eye view essentially, right? It provides a bird's-eye view to the Committee?

A (Thompson) Yes.

Q Are you aware with the Site Evaluation Committee rules with regard to Visual Impact Assessments and how those are to be presented?

A (Thompson) I tried to understand some of it. That's concerning distances? And from public
locations and so on?

Q  Sure.

A  (Thompson) Yup.

Q  And also it requires a Visual Impact Assessment to give a characterization of the view from a typical viewer's perspective. You would agree that this video from a drone is not that. I mean, that's not the typical viewer's --

A  (Thompson) Not necessarily. No. I will not agree with that.

Q  Well, the typical viewer of the proposed Project is not looking at it from a drone. You would agree with that?

A  (Thompson) No, but you can get the same look in many cases from a hillside.

Q  I take it, though, that ultimately you're not offering this video as a Visual Impact Assessment under the Site Evaluation Committee rules?

A  (Thompson) I don't think that was the intent.

Q  Nothing further. Thank you. I'm sorry. One more question.

Just going to follow up on a couple questions for Mr. McAllaster. You mentioned
earlier that you have not received any letters or communications from the Project, and Mr. Needleman has just brought to my attention a couple of letters that were addressed to you from the Project, and I want to ask you if that refreshes your recollection about having received some letters from the Project.

A (McAllaster) No. I don't recall seeing these.

Q Okay.

MS. DANDENEAU: I'm sorry. Can we see those on the ELMO also?

MR. WALKER: Yes, we'll put these up on the ELMO.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. McAllaster, will you hand those over, please?

BY MR. WALKER:

Q For the record, there are two letters. One of them is dated December 10, 2014, to Roderick and Donna McAllaster, and the second one is October 2, 2017, to Rod and Donna McAllaster. And I understand you don't recall receiving these letters?

A (McAllaster) I don't recall seeing them, and I
certainly would recall if a member of the team had contacted me. And I've had no contact from anybody.

Q  But after you're done here today you will talk with somebody from the team and arrange a time to meet with them?

A  (McAllaster) Yes.

Q  Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG:  All right.

Now you're done, Mr. Walker?

MR. WALKER:  Yes. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG:  Do members of the Committee have questions for the Panel? I'll start down there with Ms. Dandeneau.

QUESTIONS BY MS. DANDENEAU:

Q  Good morning, folks. I think the bulk of my questions are for Mr. and Mrs. Amey and Mr. McAllaster. So Mr. and Mrs. Amey, I'll start with you guys. I just wanted to get some clarification on the impact of the proposed Project on your property. People had asked you some questions about where it was relative to your property and your views of it from your property, and so I just wanted to confirm.
You're not abutters which I think we've confirmed that already, but can you see the Project from your house or your barns or the proposed Project?

A (John Amey) No. We will not see the Project from our home. But in the beginning we were in direct line of sight of Alternative A, and we have not received a piece of paper that says that Alternative A is forever off the books. And we know that it might just not be off the books because we know a person in Canada who bought land in particular thinking he was going to sell to Northern Pass which would line up with Alternative A, and so we're cautious about giving up rights to things that we know the background of.

Q Okay.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) There are places on the property though, it's an extensive piece of property, where we would see those and including the location of the concert that we have.

Q All right. And Mr. Amey, you mentioned using property over the border in Vermont. Are you haying?
A (John Amey) Yes. I have 95 acres of tillable acreage that I rent in Vermont, and there has been word, unofficial but in the paper, that Old Canaan Road will be closed for extensive periods of time. As we know, the state of New Hampshire still struggling with the bridge across the Connecticut into Beecher Falls. So I could possibly be looking at going to West Stewartstown to get to Pittsburg from Canaan.

Q Okay.

A (John Amey) That is one issue.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) And the percentage of the hay that we get overall is significant.

A (John Amey) Yes. About 50 percent of the hay that I cut is in Vermont.

Q Okay.

A (John Amey) And if Old Canaan Road is closed for extended periods of time, I would have to go south to get north.

Q So you'll still be able to access that property. It will just take you longer to get there and back.

A (John Amey) Absolutely.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) Almost 45 minutes to an hour
just to get there one way with farm equipment.

Q With farm equipment. Okay. From your property
on -- by Indian Stream?

A (John Amey) Tabor Road.

Q Okay. Thank you. I was also curious if there's
any other farm-related income that might be
impacted by construction-related issues to the
Project. So we've heard Mr. McAllaster talk
about milk pickup, grain deliveries. Is there
anything like that that falls into, like I said,
farm-related income for you guys that would be
impacted?

A (John Amey) Not in our case.

Q All right. Thank you.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) As long as Route 3 when they do
the transition they go underneath to, as long as
that road there is still open.

Q Passable?

A (Cindy Lou Amey) That's where our grain trucks,
you know, it's not as severe as what would
happen to him, but the milk truck does the same
thing for us, our grain, as well as, you know,
service vehicles, you know, if Route 3 is still
completely open and they don't send them over
145, some of those trucks, that wouldn't be good.

Q Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

Mr. McAllaster, I had a couple of clarification questions for you also. You've mentioned the milk truck that comes to pick up milk from your farm every other day and grain trucks and other delivery vehicles. Do you have an estimated amount of money or income that you collect from each of those milk pickups that occur every other day?

A (McAllaster) Well, no. Not really. That varies depending on how much milk I'm producing at the time and what the price of milk is at the time because it varies pretty drastically sometimes.

Q Okay. So do you have an overall estimation if, say, a milk pickup truck were not able to get to your farm for a 4- to 6-week time period, how would that impact you in terms of your income from your milk pickup?

A (McAllaster) It would kind of knock a hole in my income. But even more than that, it's hard to predict it. There's a lot of other aspects involved. I mean, if you can't get feed in,
then your cows don't produce, and if they don't produce for any period of time, they dry up, and then they won't produce.

Q  Right.

A  (McAllaster) Even when you can get feed in. And if I can get everything in that I cut, then I can't winter them. You know, even if they don't produce, they need food to live during the winter.

Q  Sure. So do you have a thought as to a minimum amount of time that your farm could not have access in and out with some of the things that just mentioned where it would be sort of like a tipping point that if it was like just 2 or 3 days you could probably bounce back from that, but if it was like 10 to 15 days you might start to see impacts in terms of your cows' milk production having to dry some of your cows up?

A  (McAllaster) Well, they'll dry up on their own if they don't get food. They're funny that way.

Q  So do you have sort of a day to week time frame?

A  (McAllaster) Well, if I don't -- I go two weeks with the grain truck.

Q  Okay?
A (McAllaster) Approximately.
Q Okay.
A (McAllaster) So if I had the bins full when they closed the road, I could keep them milking for two weeks.
Q Okay.
A (McAllaster) If I had enough roughage in to go with it.
Q The time of year. Sure. Okay. Sorry. Did somebody else say something?
A (Cindy Lou Amey) But his milk wouldn't go out.
A (McAllaster) No, it wouldn't go out.
A (Cindy Lou Amey) So he could keep the cows in milk, but then he doesn't get the income from the milk.
Q Sure. Excellent. Thank you very much for that clarification. I'm all set.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Weathersby.

QUESTIONS BY MS. WEAVERSBY:

Q Mr. McAllaster, welcome to the land below the notches. On the letters that were purportedly mailed to you, I think it had the address of 384 McAllaster Road. Is that your mailing address?
A (McAllaster) No. That's not my address.

Q What is your mailing address?

A (McAllaster) 380 McAllaster Road. Stewartstown. 03576.

Q Okay. Concerning your farm, do you have others that work with you at the farm?

A (McAllaster) My son and his family.

Q And is he paid by you for his work?

A (McAllaster) We all live off from it.

Q Does your son and his family, do they live on the farm as well? Or do they have to commute?

A (McAllaster) Well, he's got a home that he's built one mile down the road. Down Bear Rock Road.

Q So will construction of the Northern Pass Project affect his ability to get to the farm to assist with the work?

A (McAllaster) Well, he won't drive with a vehicle. I mean, he'll have to come with some other means.

Q And he works with you year-round?

A (McAllaster) Yes.

Q Ms. Guerin. Do you have any employees at Fiddleheads?
A (Guerin) I have one part-time employee.
Q And are you open year-round as well?
A (Guerin) I am.
Q And what effect, if any, do you expect this Project will have on, first, your employee?
A Well, it's basically to me a ripple effect. If you have something that takes away from the tourists wanting to come up, then if it affects my business, I may have to let someone go and try to do it on my own.
Q So you're expecting your business then to perhaps lose income.
A (Guerin) Well, it just seems that it would be a ripple effect. People come up to our region for a numbers of reasons, but the basic fundamental thing is the scenic beauty. Can't stress that enough.
Q Mr. Kaufman, when I think Counsel for the Public was talking with you earlier, I thought I heard you say something about an easement.
A (Kaufman) Yes.
Q Do you have an easement to use other property or what did you mean by that?
A (Kaufman) Yes. When I bought the property, it
came with a spring, and the spring now is on Northern Pass land. It's a mile away from the house. And there's an easement in the deed that includes a spring and what they call aqueduct rights, and that goes right through Northern Pass. It goes right, it goes within a few yards of the number 4 transition area.

So that's enormous concern to us because it's 200 feet above the height of our house and all of our land approximately, and so when I built the barn and I built the house and I built other buildings that are expensive, the way the water gets to everywhere is, it's gravity. And that line, by the way, was put in at the turn of the century so it's been there for well over a hundred years, and so I, obviously, replaced it.

I talked about this in one of the meetings in several of the meetings over the years and Northern Pass did send somebody out. They sent two people, nice people. They both agreed that they're not experts, but they said that they generally kind of know about springs, sort of, I mean they were not experts. And they agreed that when they start blasting at the transition
area that it's conceivable that it could affect
the water that gets up into that spring.

Q Okay. I'm going to stop you because I was just
curious right now --

A (Kaufman) So that's the concern.

Q -- about the easement. So it sounds like you
have an easement to access the spring as well
as --

A (Kaufman) And maintain it.

Q -- and maintain it and you have a right to the
water that comes through the property.

A (Kaufman) That's right.

Q And that easement is on land that is presently
owned by --

A (Kaufman) That now is owned by Northern Pass.

Q -- Northern Pass.

A (Kaufman) Right.

Q Okay. Is the water that comes from that the
source of your drinking water?

A (Kaufman) Yes. That's my drinking water, the
it's the horse's drinking water, it's my
neighbor's drinking water. It goes to more than
my house. It goes to Dr. Learner's house and
Weinstein. So what I'm saying is that if that
spring is knocked out, then water stops for all of us, and to put a well, to put a half dozen wells in would, you know, it's just not practical. I wouldn't have built the way I built if I didn't have gravity-fed water.

Q Okay. Thank you very much. I have nothing further.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Commissioner Bailey?

QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER BAILEY:

Q Thank you. Good morning. Mr. McAllaster, is it possible for you to stockpile grain?

A (McAllaster) I don't know. The shelf life on it isn't that long really. It will get moldy. Humidity affects it, especially if it's in the summertime, and I don't have a space to stockpile it that's adequate. You know. You can't put it outdoors.

Q Okay. So you have to have --

A (McAllaster) It would take a lot, I mean, it would cost a lot of money, too.

Q So you have to have delivery of grain every two weeks.

A (McAllaster) Yeah. That's pretty much standard
for every farmer.

Q Okay.

A (McAllaster) The check comes over two weeks, and it goes back out to the grain company every two weeks. That's the way it works.

Q Thank you.

A (Cindy Lou Amey) It's very efficient.

Q Mr. Harrigan, you testified that there would be absolutely no benefits if this Project were built. Do you remember that testimony?

A (Harrigan) No. I don't think I said that there would be no benefits. I don't recall saying that.

Q Okay.

A (Harrigan) Certainly would be benefits to people that are involved in the construction. Certainly would be tax revenues to the town on a descending basis. But no, I don't recall saying that there will be no benefits. I think there will be no long-term benefits. I think that this is an arrow aimed at the very heart of New Hampshire, and I have felt that from day one.

Q So what you think is that the benefits don't outweigh the impacts?
A (Harrigan) Absolutely not. I don't see how anybody who has been up to the North Country and driven around and taken in the scenery and felt the difference between that and the southern tier could possibly sit by and let this thing happen. I don't think that the Governor or other decision makers really understand the scope of this Project. What a monstrous thing it is.

Q Okay. Thank you. I have nothing further.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Wright?

QUESTIONS BY DIR. WRIGHT:

Q Good morning, folks. Craig Wright with the Department of Environmental Services. Welcome down to the southern part of the state.

Mr. McAllaster, just a couple of questions for you. You'd mentioned the grain truck and the milk truck. Did you mention a third truck that you regularly have access to?

A (McAllaster) Cattle truck.

Q And that is to move, obviously, cattle in and out?

A (McAllaster) No. It's to pick up beef calves, bull calves, maybe a beef cow. Almost every
week you've got something to go and if it's
going to go, you want to it to go because then
you don't have to feed it.

Q So that's a regular activity?
A (McAllaster) Well, it is for me in the
summertime.

Q And for you as well, Amey's, as well? And just
frame of reference, I'm a guy who buys milk by
the gallon. You said the truck holds 70,000
pounds.

A (McAllaster) Close to it.

Q And you have it do pickup every other day. How
much do you deliver every other day in terms of
poundage or gallonage?

A (McAllaster) Our high point is in the 8,000s.
I've never quite been able to get to nine. But
during the summer, you no, we average 6 or 7
probably. We're a small farm.

Q Almost a full truck every other day?
A (McAllaster) Oh, no. No, no, no. 70,000. 6 or
7,000.

Q So about, okay. I get it now.
A (McAllaster) We're the smallest producer on the
route pretty near.
Q Thank you. That clarifies it in my mind. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Oldenburg?

QUESTIONS BY MR. OLDENBURG:

Q Thank you. I just have a few questions and thank you for coming down.

So I think from what I've heard, you're all opposed to the overhead section. I see a lot of heads shaking. So nobody disagrees with that, right? So we've heard a lot of "bury the line."

So if the line was buried from Canada all the way through the new right-of-way which would take it down through past Diamond Pond which I think is the limits of what this Panel's area covers, if that was buried but it was buried under the proposed corridor, so that would in my mind would mean there would still be trees cut and there would be a corridor that the line would be in, but it wouldn't have towers or lines that you would see and wouldn't have the Transition Stations, would you, how many of you would still be opposed to that?

Okay. So I see probably half of you. So
if it was buried under a new route, say under
the roads, recognizing Mr. McAllaster has the
issue and there would probably be more issue,
would folks still be opposed to --
A (Kaufman) Which road?
Q I don't know. A road. Roads. A series of
roads. But that would offer different issues
but you wouldn't have that cut. You wouldn't
see that on the land but there would be
construction issues. Would folks be opposed to
that as well?
A (Guerin) Can I just make a comment?
Q Yes.
A (Guerin) For me personally, the reason why I
can't answer that is because it's not enough for
me to say it's not going to impact me or my
area. It's going to impact others all along the
route, and it would be selfish for me to say I
don't care what you do beyond where I live
because that whole area I consider my home, and
those are my neighbors. So I can't answer that
in that realm.
Q Thank you, yes, and that's sort of the
hypothetical question that I ask is a tough one
because you don't know where the route would be. But what I'm trying to assess is the opposition to the Project. Is it strictly overhead or is it I'm opposed to the Project, period, no matter where it is?

A (Kaufman) For me it depends on the road, on the route. Under the ground, and then on the route. And then I would not be opposed to it.

A (Thompson) I'm opposed totally to the Project. In any fashion.

A (Harrigan) I would echo that. I would like to see Northern Pass fold up its tents and go home. If it has to be, it should go down an existing right-of-way. Route 3 jumps out and beckons in the winds. Think of the jobs that that would create. Nobody wants to talk about that. But that's the most logical route actually. Or one of the most logical routes right down Route 3. But as far as the new right-of-way is concerned, that's nearly 40 miles of brand-new, carved-out swath through a beautiful landscape. Sort of like asking you already have one scar on your face, do you want another one. Well, we don't even have the first one.
(Cindy Lou Amey) My husband and I have traveled to Canada and attended meetings up there for people that are concerned on that side of the border which our land just about meets the border. They're having difficulties along the same route. The other thing that's been difficult, and I guess answers to your question as to whether we're opposed, period, or not is the fact that there's been a lot of miscommunications on both sides of the border, an awful lot, and it appears that there's been efforts to kind of keep the little people busy at each other, the French against us and vice-versa. The bottom line is siting the route properly, if it had been done correctly right from the start, as far as approaching and being really up front about everything rather than all the way it's been done, there probably could have been some compromises worked out that would have been beneficial to more than just the stakeholders, the shareholders. And so it's difficult to answer your question in a very straightforward manner when there are so many pieces to consider.
Q That's very fair. Thank you. Anybody? That's all the questions I have.

A (Balint) The only thing I can say is if it's gone on for 7 years, it can't really be a good idea.

Q That's all the questions I have.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I understand that Mr. Iacopino has no questions. I have no new questions for you, but since you're not represented by counsel, one of the things that happens when witnesses are done, having been questioned by everybody, you'd have an opportunity to be asked redirect questions by your lawyer. So here's what they would ask you.

Generally, they would be specific, but I'm going to ask it to you generally. In light of the questions you were asked here today by Mr. Aslin, Ms. Pacik, Ms. Saffo, Mr. Reimers, Ms. Menard, Ms. Bradbury, Ms. Draper, Mr. Walker or any members of the Subcommittee, is there anything you feel you want to say in response or to further clarify some answer to one of the questions asked of you today. Anyone at all? I see no one grabbing a microphone or raising his
or her hand.

A (Kaufman) You now, the woman who I think was trying to get at something that was not so clearly expressed and that is the impact that this whole process has had on the community, and it's been very negative in terms of turning people against each other, and there's a very large group that stays together, but it's been an incredibly divisive experience, painfully divisive experience, that some people just kind of nod their head and don't seem to care. I think we do.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Amey?

A (Cindy Lou Amey) One of the reasons why this video was created is because the sheer magnitude of printed material that you would have to peruse in order to make an informed decision regarding the siting of this issue is huge. As a retired teacher, if I had presented that kind of, there was a bookcase full of stuff to, my students, their eyes would have glazed over. We hoped that giving you a piece of information in a visual sense which we know as teachers works better than trying, some
hands-on, would be helpful, and that really was the intention of this Committee.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Okay. I'm not sure if that's related to any question you were asked today, but is there anything further that people feel they want to say that's related to what you were asked here today?

A (Cindy Lou Amey) Excuse me, sir, but it was related because you brought up the point as to why, first of all, the first and second reasoning for this video. And the second reasoning had to do with impacts and providing you with that opportunity. You have been up north?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: This is actually our opportunity to ask you questions. That's one of the parts of this process. The answer to the question is yes. But Mr. Balint? You have something you wants to say?

A (Balint) I just want to clarify the comments about the drone. The drone video was very accurate. I was there as were everybody here. The drone took off from the ground. So it showed you a real life experience of what you're...
going to see from the ground up. It's no different than any of the other photographs that were shown.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Someone else is grabbing the microphone. Yes, Ms. Bilodeau?

A (Diane Bilodeau) Yes. I would like to address the drone, the video with the drone. It was said that it was just a big overview of the country up there. Actually, some of it was taken directly from my deck, our deck, that viewed into Canada and into Vermont, and that is up also where the line would be coming through so some of that was done right from the ground.

A (Don Bilodeau) Could I add to that?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Sure.

A (Don Bilodeau) It was said that the drone really didn't give you a good view because it was too high or whatever and yadda, yadda, but as Diane said, we're at 1800 feet and that drone went right straight out. So I could, I'm going to see numerous towers. So even at that height, I think that the video did a good job.

A (Balint) The drone took off from my deck.

A (Don Bilodeau) Correct.
A (Guerin) And I think it's important to, what all these folks said, is that when you're in that area and the roads are undulating back and forth, you get to the height of the land and that's the amazing thing that we're try to convey. You see that gorgeous scenery in front of you. You don't see towers. You don't see high rises. All you see is trees and in little clearings, little homes, and so it's hard for someone who hasn't, if you haven't gone there and ridden the roads, the drone actually gave a good depiction of how it feels to get up on the height of the land on a road or outside your deck or on your driveway and look at that beautiful expanse that goes for miles and miles and miles, and that's what's going to be impacted tremendously.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Anyone else? All right. Seeing none, thank you for coming. Thank the Panel for its testimony. We're going to take a break for 15 minutes.

(Recess taken 11:31 - 11:45 a.m.)
PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: We expected to see three people on the witness stand, but I see only two, and I'm sure that will be explained momentarily. Would you please swear the witnesses in.

(Whereupon, Stephen Ellis and Allen Coates were duly sworn by the Court Reporter.)

STEPHEN ELLIS, SWORN

ALLEN COATES, SWORN

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I understand Commissioner Samson is going to go through the Prefiled Testimony and get that into the record for us. Commissioner Samson, you may proceed.

MR. SAMSON: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. SAMSON:

Q Would each of you two witnesses please identify yourself by telling the Subcommittee your name, your address, and your position, please?

A (Ellis) Steve Ellis. 121 Camp Otter Road, and I'm representing the three towns, more specifically Pittsburg.

Q Thank you.
A (Coates) Allen Coates, 194 Bishop Brook Road, Stewartstown. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Q And the third Selectman, Ray DeMaio, from Clarksville asked to be excused this morning because he had medical procedures that he could not change.

Did you both file Prefiled Direct Testimony on December 16th of 2016?

A (Ellis) Yes.

A (Coates) Yes.

Q That testimony has been entered as exhibits MUNI1NORTH #1. Do you have any changes to make to that testimony?

A (Ellis) No.

A (Coates) No.

Q If asked the same questions today would you give the same answers as November 15th, 2016?

A (Coates) Yes.

A (Ellis) Yes.

Q Do you have that Prefiled Testimony as your testimony today?

A (Coates) Yes.

A (Ellis) Did we adopt it?
Q: Do you. Would you adopt it?
A: (Ellis) Yes. Do I. Yes.
Q: Okay. Thank you. The Panel is available for cross-examination at this time.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Thank you, Commissioner Samson. You have questions, Mr. Aslin?

MR. ASLIN: Yes, I do. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: While Mr. Aslin is coming up, who else is going to have questions for this Panel? Just quickly. I see Mr. Reimers, I see Mr. Baker. Okay.

Mr. Aslin, you may proceed.

MR. ASLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. ASLIN:

Q: Good morning, gentlemen. My name is Chris Aslin. I'm an Assistant Attorney General and have been appointed as Counsel for the Public in this proceeding. Just a few questions to follow up on your Direct Prefiled Testimony.

First, you are filing your testimony as members of the Boards of Selectmen for the two towns here represented. Is your participation
here on behalf of the Board of Selectmen or is it in your individual capacity?

A (Ellis) I'm here on behalf of the Board of Selectmen in Pittsburg. And Allen is, in fact, he is a Selectman in the town of Stewartstown.

Q Okay. Thank you. Mr. Ellis, are you a former member of the Board of Selectmen?

A (Ellis) I am.

Q So you've been authored to speak for the board?

A (Ellis) I have.

Q Thank you. And how long were you a member of the Board of Selectmen in Pittsburg?

A (Ellis) Six years.

Q Mr. Coates, how long you have been serving on the board in Stewartstown?

A (Coates) Almost 12.

Q Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Coates, if you could move a little closer to your microphone, it will be better for the folks in the back.

A (Coates) Okay.

Q In your Prefiled Testimony, you reference town votes that were made in the 2011 time frame.
And there's a reference to Appendix A which I didn't actually see at least on the SEC's webpage. Are you aware of whether that Appendix that has the actual votes has been submitted to the Committee?

A (Ellis) I thought that it was, but I have not confirmed that.

Q Okay. To the extent it hasn't, we'll ask you to do that, but I'm seeing nods from the Committee that they have it so I think it's there.

The town votes, as I understand it from the testimony, were in opposition to the Project, and I wanted to clarify whether it has language, there's one, sorry, the Clarksville town vote is quoted in the testimony; is that correct?

A (Ellis) Correct.

Q And it states that the town is opposed to aboveground installation of the Project. Is that correct?

A (Ellis) That's correct.

Q And the testimony references that the towns of Pittsburg and Stewartstown had similar resolutions, and without the benefit of having the copy of those, can you just indicate whether
it was also those towns' position that the aboveground portion was opposed but buried would not be opposed?

A (Ellis) Allen, you want to get that?

A (Coates) Yes. I have the Annual Reports from years '11 and '12. If you give me just a half a second here.

Q Take as much time as you need.

A (Coates) Okay. In 11th Annual Report, to see if the town would vote to register and disseminate to all concerns its objection, opposition, and commitment to stop the construction project of any portion of the 1200 megawatt high voltage direct current transmission line. It's basically the aboveground.

And in Article Seventh of 2012, it specifically states more along the line of Clarksville that it will not be allowed overhead.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm sorry, Mr. Aslin. I'm going to have to interrupt you for just a second. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record)

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm sorry,
Mr. Aslin. You may continue.

BY MR. ASLIN:

Q So thank you, Mr. Coates. If I heard your answer correctly, the original 2011 Stewartstown resolution was in opposition to the project, and then did you say that in 2012 there was a separate resolution that was more specific?

A (Coates) Yes. There was another. It got specific that there would be no, Northern Pass would not be allowed in overhead.

Q Thank you.

A (Coates) No more overhead transmission lines is basically what it was. No new overhead transmission lines.

Q Okay. Thank you. Since the 2011 and 2012 resolutions, have there been any additional town resolutions related to Northern Pass in any of the three towns?

A (Coates) Not in Stewartstown.

A (Ellis) No.

Q Okay. And have there been resolutions brought forward that were not approved regarding Northern Pass?

A (Ellis) In Pittsburg, we did the following year
have a resolution come before us, and there was concern about some of the language in it, and so it was tabled permanently, and no action was taken.

Q Okay. Thank you. Today is it your understanding that the position of the townspeople in Pittsburg, Stewartstown and Clarksville remains consistent with the resolutions that have been passed by the town?

A (Ellis) Yes. In Pittsburg it was a simple vote that happened, I think, in '11 where a citizen asked the Selectmen to oppose the Project. There was conversation about the Project, and then it was a simple hand vote, and my recollection is everyone voted against it except for one person.

Q Thank you. Mr. Coates, anything to add on that point?

A (Coates) No.

Q Okay. In your testimony you also raised the issue of control over municipal roads. Is that correct?

A (Ellis) Correct. For some of the towns.

Pittsburg does not have that issue. The wires
are going to be coming in overhead entirely and no roads will be affected.

Q On page 2 of the testimony there's a statement that Northern Pass has never requested permission from the towns for use of those municipal roads. Is that still the case today?

A (Coates) In Stewartstown it is. Steve is authorized, if I can make a point, Steve was authorized to speak for all three towns so those questions. I'm here as Stewartstown Selectman and not authorized to speak really for Clarksville and Pittsburg.

Q Okay. Thank you for that clarification. So Mr. Coates, you just testified that there has not been subsequent request by Northern Pass for access to the roads?

A (Coates) Correct.

Q From the local. Are you aware of requests regarding the opportunity to conduct archeological surveys within the right-of-ways of locally controlled roads?

A (Coates) Yes, sir.

Q And has Northern Pass made requests for that, more limited access to the right-of-way?
Q: What has been the town's position in response to those requests?

A: (Coates) We haven't signed the agreement to allow it.

Q: When you say you haven't allowed the agreement, has the Board of Selectmen voted not to take action or has it just in process still?

A: (Coates) No. Not going to, we're not going to sign the agreement. It was proposed to us.

Q: So to the extent that you've, in your Prefiled Testimony you're saying that there has not been a request. That testimony is referring to a request to build within the right-of-way and not a request to conduct archeological surveys; is that correct?

A: (Coates) We've been asked to sign two different agreements, both in regard to doing archeological studies within our town roads. We have refused to sign both of those agreements.

Q: Okay. Thank you both. I have no further questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Who else had questions? Mr. Reimers?
CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. REIMERS:

Q  Good afternoon. My name is Jason Reimers. I
represent the Forest Society, and I just have a
few questions.

   Throughout the hearings, we've heard about
the various economic activities in Pittsburg,
Clarksville and Stewartstown. Currently, how
does the importance of manufacturing and
forestry compare with the second home and
tourism economies in your town?

A  (Ellis) The tourism economy is by far the
largest area that keeps our towns afloat, not
only from people visiting our town, but what
happens many times is that people come and visit
our town, decide to buy some land and build
houses for retirement. That keeps our
carpenters and plumbers and electricians at work
pretty diligently.

   As an example, I asked one contractor last
year what percentage of your new homes are from
folks outside the town versus inside the town
and he said 100 percent. So that has to do with
getting people up there, enjoying such things as
snowmobiling. We're the largest snowmobile club in New England. We have over 200 miles of groomed trails. We're part of the Ride the Wild ATV section so we get a lot of people up there. We have tremendous trophy fishing in the Connecticut River. We have folks visiting there. So clearly tourism plays a huge, huge part in our survival, and anything that could adversely effect that is very concerning to us.

Q And I asked about manufacturing and forestry. How would you compare the economic importance of those two activities compared to tourism?

A (Ellis) Forestry, we do get some timber tax from that. And clearly there is that activity going on. And what was the other one? I'm sorry?

Q Manufacturing.

A (Ellis) There's virtually no business in Pittsburg that has any manufacturing. It's just, the reality is, you know, we live on the Canadian border, and for a business to come in and settle in Pittsburg, it's just, it's just economically not feasible because of the shipping costs, et cetera.

Q You would agree that if the Northern Pass is
constructed, it would bring increased property
tax revenue to your towns, wouldn't you?

A  (Ellis) Yes.

Q  Is it your opinion that maintaining the existing
conditions is more important to your town's
economies than the increased property taxes?

A  (Ellis) Absolutely. No question.

Q  Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. BAKER:

Q  Good morning.

A  (Ellis) Morning.

A  (Coates) Morning.

Q  As you know, I'm Bob Baker. I represent four
landowners, two of whom have properties in
Stewartstown. I'd like to just clear up one
question that was asked by Public Counsel, and
that is whether or not you have submitted the
actual resolutions in Stewartstown.

Calling your attention to the screen, this
is from an exhibit that my clients put in
earlier. CS 97 was a letter that was sent by
the town of Stewartstown to the Premier of Quebec back in May of 2012. You were not on the Board at that time, is that correct, Mr. Coates?

A (Coates) In 2012?

Q Right.

A (Coates) I was on the Board.

Q Did you sign this letter? I'll go to the signature page.

A (Coates) No. I was just going to read it for a little while. Yes, I did.

Q There it is in the middle. Yes. And to that letter, did you attach a copy of the resolution that was voted on by the town of Stewartstown?

A (Coates) I believe we did, yes.

Q Is that the resolution on page 3 of Exhibit CS 97?

A (Coates) Yes.

Q And is the bolded highlighted provision of the resolution the directive that is governing your activities here today?

A (Coates) Yes.

Q Now, I know that the town received a response from the Province of Quebec which I have in front of you now which is CS 98, a brief letter
saying that you would hear further from the Province of Quebec with respect to the town's concerns?

A (Coates) Yes.

Q Did you ever hear anything further?

A (Coates) I'm not sure.

Q Do you recall receiving anything in response to this?

A (Coates) I'm sorry?

Q Do you recall receiving anything?

A (Coates) No, I don't. Because I don't recall, doesn't mean that we didn't.

Q Okay. So the answer is you don't know whether --

A (Coates) I don't know.

Q Okay. Exactly.

Now, Mr. Ellis, the town of Pittsburg has an area highlighted on its website called the Indian Stream Republic.

A (Ellis) Correct.

Q You're familiar with that?

A (Ellis) I am.

Q You're familiar with the town website and the Historical Society?
A (Ellis) Yes.

Q Right? Earlier in these proceedings the Applicant produced an expert witness who said that she had not evaluated the Indian Stream Republic for historical significance and whether or not the Project would have an adverse impact. Do you have opinion as whether or not the Project would have an adverse impact on the area involved with the Indian Stream Republic?

A (Ellis) It would definitely have an adverse effect for many reasons. If I could elaborate?

Q Please do.

A (Ellis) Let me give you a little history on the Indian Stream Republic. In 1783, the Treaty of Paris ended the Revolutionary War, and it also set up the boundaries between the British Empire and the United States. It was a bit ambiguous exactly what river they were referring to that separated the two countries. The British Empire thought it was the Connecticut River which pushed it further east and gave them more land. United States said no, it's clearly Halls Stream.

The inhabitants within that area between
Indian Stream and Perry Stream were taxed twice by the two separate nations. It lasted for years, and finally in 1832 they said we've had enough, and they formed their own sovereign nation with its own charter, with its own legislature, and they elected their first President Luther Parker. It remained a sovereign nation until about 1836 when the militia from the State of New Hampshire came in and took it over. In 1840 it was incorporated into the town of Pittsburg, and in 1842 it was memorialized in the Webster-Ashburton Treaty.

We talk about this with our children in school. If you think about it, how many places in the country can say at one time this territory was its own sovereign nation. So it's very important to us. We use it as a marketing device. As you come into the town, you'll see welcome to Pittsburg, Home of the Indian Stream Republic, 1832 to 1840.

We also have a relationship currently which developed recently with our friends from Canada. One of our marketing strategies was to try to get people down from Canada to visit our town,
and, obviously, help the economy. There is a trail called the Pioneer Trail in Canada which is about 27 municipalities, and what you would do is you would go into that town and they would have a pioneer silhouette with two audios, one in French, one in English, and you can sit down and you could learn about the history of that town. We're the first town in the United States to add on the Pioneer Trail. So if you want to complete it, you've got to come to Pittsburg. And our pioneer is Luther Parker, President of the Indian Stream Republic.

We've also worked with them in getting a grant from the Neil and Louise Tillotson, grant from New Hampshire Charitable in Concord, and we were awarded about a $200,000 grant to start to put kiosks throughout our town talking about the Indian Stream Republic, and we're in the midst of determining what those should look like now and where it should be. So it's not only a piece of history that has been in effect, untouched for 175 years, but it's also something that we teach our children and it's also something that we use heavily to market our town.
to get people in to enjoy our beautiful town.

Q  Now, are you familiar with where the Northern Pass proposes to build its transmission line through the southwest corner of Pittsburg?

A  (Ellis) I am.

Q  There's a map in front of you showing you, I guess, this has been marked Municipal Exhibit number 8. Does this duplicate the map that's on the town website for showing where the Indian Stream Republic is located?

A  (Ellis) I believe that it does, but that's an accurate map.

Q  The 20 towers that the Northern Pass plans to build, are they within the boundary of the Indian Stream Republic in the southwest corner of your town?

A  (Ellis) Absolutely.

Q  They run from Halls Stream to the Connecticut River over a piece of terrain that is quite high over the Connecticut River?

A  (Ellis) That is correct.

Q  How will that impact the view of the Indian Stream Republic as you approach Pittsburg from the west or the south?
(Ellis) Well, right now we have a beautiful entrance into our town. You cross over the Connecticut River, and you come into our town and it's just great riding into our village, and the Connecticut River is on the right-hand side. Those towers are going to be seen miles away before you start coming into our town. So that's the first visual impact you're going to have concerning our town. So that clearly concerns us that that could adversely affect people coming in and enjoying our town.

Q Now, I'm looking at MUNI1NORTH Exhibit 10. I guess this was just filed by the town recently; is that correct?

A (Ellis) I'm not too sure what it is.

Q I'll put it on the screen.

A (Ellis) Yes. That's a picture, when we dedicated the Luther Parker monument in our park. We were surrounded by people from the Historical Society. That's David Covell at the bottom who's our President who really spearheaded this effort with our friends from Canada. And the other picture on top is folks from the town and folks from Canada that came
over for the dedication.

Q Do you recall approximately when these photographs were taken?

A (Ellis) I would suspect it was spring.

Q Of this year?

A (Ellis) Yes.

Q Okay. Could you tell the Committee what Muni Exhibit #11 represents?

A (Ellis) Sure. That's a plaque on the silhouette that we have in the park, and that's a map of the Indian Stream Republic. Luther Parker is our guy as far as the pioneer within our town, and as we can recall he was also the first President of the Indian Stream Republic. And you can sit down on some granite benches, and you can hit one of those two buttons. I hit English because I can understand that. But anybody coming down from Canada that wants to complete the Pioneer Trail can sit there and hear in French what our history is and specifically on the Indian Stream Republic.

MR. IACOPINO: I want to point out for the record that the exhibits you're referring to are actually Muni Group #1 as opposed to the Joint
Muni exhibits just so that the record is clear.

MR. BAKER: Yes. Thank you. That's my error. MUNI1 #11, I believe, is what we have been looking at, and I'm going to put up now MUNI1 #12.

A (Ellis) So that is the silhouette of Luther Parker, and this is typical of all of the towns when you visit them on the Pioneer Trail. This is what you have. You have the silhouette, you have the box that I just referred to and all of them are in French and English.

Q Just briefly, has the Pioneer Trail also memorialized Neil Tillotson?

A (Ellis) They have. They just did that a couple of weeks ago. He was memorialized in, I think it was Hereford or maybe East Hereford.

Q Showing you what has been marked as CS 103, this is a multi-page letter from the North Country Council addressed to the Department of Energy and the Site Evaluation Committee. This has been copied from the Site Evaluation Committee website comment section. Have you seen this letter before?

A (Ellis) I have.
Q  And are you familiar with the position that the
North Country Council has taken on the Northern
Pass Project?
A  (Ellis) I am.
Q  What is that, sir? What's your understanding?
A  (Ellis) They're suggesting that they bury it
from Pittsburg down to Whitefield in its
entirety.
Q  Okay. There has also been a recent development
the end of September of this year where the
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1 wrote a letter to the US Army Corps.
Are you familiar with that letter? I'm going to
put it up so you can see it.
A  (Ellis) I am.
Q  For the record, I believe MUNI1 Exhibit 13
duplicates another exhibit, and I just couldn't
find it, that the Applicants filed at the
request of the Committee. And I don't know if
we need the reference to that exhibit number,
but am I correct in that that that's already
been filed by the Applicants?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Needlemann, do you know?
MR. NEEDLEMAN: I think you requested that we file it, and I'm pretty sure we did.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Whether it is or not, there's enough of a record here we that we all know what we're talking about.

MR. BAKER: Right.

BY MR. BAKER:

Q I'm going to turn the page on this exhibit just for a second. Actually, strike that. I'll leave it.

Are you familiar with what the USEPA District 1 has recommended to the Army Corps of Engineers?

A (Ellis) Yes. I believe they were the ones that recommended burial from Pittsburg to Whitefield, but they both recommended significant burials.

Q And do you recall the route that the EPA recommended burial?

A (Ellis) Yes. Down the Route 3 corridor.

Q Now, if Route 3, of course, doesn't come to the border between Pittsburg and Canada, does it?

A (Ellis) No.

Q How would you get the closest route from Pittsburg to Route 3 in New Hampshire?
A (Ellis) Well, my suggestion would be, and I think it's been talked about, that this is buried through Canaan, Vermont, and then that would lead over to Route 3.

Q Do you know if there's been any discussions between Northern Pass and Canaan, Vermont, with respect to using that short stretch of road in Canaan, Vermont, to get to Route 3 from East Hereford?

A (Ellis) I know that a letter was written to them, and within that content of that letter they said we'd, in effect, like to sit down and chat with you. That's the letter. About potentially coming through our town. And it's my understanding that they have not heard a response back.

Q The letter that you were referring to is on the screen in front of you; is that correct?

A (Ellis) That's correct.

Q What's on the screen, for the record, is an exhibit that has just been marked CS 128. And it will be put up on ShareFile. I'll represent to the Committee that this comes from the Committee's website, again, the comment letter
section, and it was apparently submitted by the Selectmen of or the Selectboard of Canaan, Vermont, and you've seen this letter before, Mr. Ellis?

A (Ellis) I have.

Q I'm not sure if you can read the last paragraph at the bottom of page 2 on the letter. With reference to that, what's your understanding of what the Selectboard of Canaan was asking or stating in this letter that it wrote to Northern Pass and other officials and to this Committee?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. Relevance.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: This paragraph, and I'll make an offer of proof, will state, I think it states that, and, again, we can read it, we can all read it, that the Town of Canaan is open to discussions with Northern Pass with respect to the use of its roads to bring this Project down from the Canadian border to Route 3 on the shortest possible underground route.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: An alternative that is not before the Site Evaluation Committee, and I'm not sure is
something we can consider.

MR. BAKER: Well, I think that you can consider it in conjunction with the EPA letter which is in evidence suggesting the Route 3 corridor be used all the way to Whitefield. This would make it possible to bring the Project quickly into that road without having to disturb areas that were not in an already existing corridor.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: What is it you want to ask of Mr. Ellis who is not from Canaan about what Canaan is doing?

MR. BAKER: I'm going to ask him the ultimate question which is would this solve most of your concerns for the town of Pittsburg if that route was picked.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Go ahead. You can ask that question.

A (Ellis) Absolutely.

Q How about you, Mr. Coates? Would this solve the problems that Stewartstown feels it's faced, and especially in light of the directive that the town is under from the voters from the 2011/2012 time period?
A (Coates) Without a doubt.

Q I'm sorry?

A (Coates) Without a doubt.

Q Thank you. I have no further questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Aslin?

MR. ASLIN: Just for the record, the EPA letter was Applicant's Exhibit 224A.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Thank you. I had no other Intervenors who indicated they needed to ask questions of this Panel.

ADMINISTRATOR MONROE: Jeanne Menard.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard?

MS. MENARD: May I ask one followup question, please?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: By all means. Just make sure they know where you are.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. MENARD:

Q Jeanne Menard on behalf of Deerfield Abutters.

You were asked earlier about property tax benefits, and there's been a lot of testimony the last few months about the potential benefits of the Forward NH Fund and potential jobs during...
construction. Even with those potential benefits, are your towns still opposed to the Project?

A (Ellis) Yes.

A (Coates) Our town's opposed to the Project coming in overhead. Yes. They are.

Q Okay. Can you explain why?

A (Coates) I'll speak for Stewartstown.

Q Can you speak into the microphone, please?

A (Coates) Yes.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard, isn't that what their testimony is?

MS. MENARD: Well, I thought it was important for, I would like to better understand the reasoning behind that.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Is there something in the Prefiled Testimony that's not clear?

MS. MENARD: It wasn't clear to me, sir.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I think you need to be more specific. What in the Prefiled Testimony do you need clarification of? Because it is apparent that the Prefiled Testimony expresses opposition to the Project as it's
proposed. So I'm not sure what it is you want clarified.

MS. MENARD: Just the reasons why the benefits are not obvious or they're not benefits to these particular towns.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Okay. I think you asked about the Forward NH Plan.

MS. MENARD: Correct.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: And they responded regarding the Forward NH plan. Is there something else you want to ask about?

MS. MENARD: The job construction.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: If you have a question about that, go ahead.

MS. MENARD: I was just hoping to get a clarification as to whether even though there are potential jobs that it's not offset.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: That's a different question.

MS. MENARD: I'm sorry if I wasn't clear originally.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: If you want to, I think what you want, I know what she wants to ask, but what she can ask which is consistent
with the question she asked about the Forward NH Plan is assuming that this Project brought in jobs during the construction period, would that in any way change the towns' perspective positions regarding the Project?

A (Coates) Speaking for the town of Stewartstown, I have to abide by the Article in 2012. So I know at a meeting or two that I attended, several meetings, that the job opportunities is going to be available in the North Country, and it didn't have any effect in changing their idea that that line had to be buried.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Ellis?

A (Coates) That's all I can talk about.

A (Ellis) We looked at the long-term benefit, and we just didn't think any short-term jobs that may be created, not knowing in fact who would be hired for those jobs would change our minds so the answer has not changed.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Menard?

MS. MENARD: Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Any other Intervenors that I missed? Yes. Ms. Saffo?

MS. SAFFO: Can I ask one followup question
to that line?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: You didn't need to tell me what it was about. But you can ask a question, and we'll see if it's a good one.

MS. SAFFO: Thank you.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. SAFFO:

Q Have you heard that the order of who's going to be hired has switched? Is that familiar to you?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Ms. Saffo, I don't think people can hear you well. Just speak directly into the microphone and we'll be good.

Q Okay. So previously there had been an understanding that the hiring of people for this Project would be New Hampshire union, then New Hampshire nonunion and then Massachusetts union. But we've since learned that that's been switched to New Hampshire union, Massachusetts union, and then New Hampshire nonunion. In your area, do you think there's a lot of New Hampshire union people looking for work?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. I think that
mischaracterizes the record.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I'm a little concerned that it does, Ms. Saffo.

MS. SAFFO: Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I mean the question itself was okay, but it was the preliminaries that were a little bit off so do you want to try the question without the prelude?

BY MS. SAFFO:

Q Why don't I just skip the prelude and just say are you aware of many New Hampshire union individuals in your area looking for work?

A (Coates) No.

A (Ellis) Obviously, I don't know everybody in town, but I'm not aware of anybody.

Q Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Anyone else? Mr. Needleman, do you have questions for the Panel? I'll take that as a yes.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. NEEDLEMAN:

Q Mr. Ellis and Mr. Coates, my name is Barry Needleman. I'm an attorney representing the
Applicants in this matter, and I wanted to start, Mr. Ellis with you, asking a couple of questions.

Dawn, could we put up Applicant's Exhibit 357, please? And if you could take a look at that on your screen, Mr. Ellis, and they are going to be a couple of pages that will come up. I think there's a third page which we'll put up in a moment. This is a summary of the outreach efforts that the Applicants have engaged in in the town of Pittsburg. It includes things like open houses, public information sessions, letters sent to town officials, meetings that have occurred with other officials, and I wanted to ask whether this summary based on a quick review is consistent with your knowledge of this topic?

A (Ellis) It is not.

Q And why is that?

A (Ellis) There's too many things that appears to have been said that I don't agree with.

Q Do you have personal knowledge of each one of those issues?

A (Ellis) No.
Q: Is it possible that these things could have occurred and you weren't personally aware of them?

A: (Ellis) It's possible.

Q: Okay. Are you also aware that in addition to what's on this summary there have been outreach efforts in Pittsburg with individuals in the community?

A: (Ellis) No.

Q: I want to direct your attention to the bottom of the first page. There is a bullet there that notes that on March 14th, 2017, Northern Pass sent the town a letter asking if it would be interested in a discussion about a stipulation or a Memorandum of Understanding. Do you have knowledge of that?

A: (Ellis) I do not.

Q: So if you look on page 2, there was a followup on May 16th, 2017, about this issue. Then it also indicates that on August 15th, 2017, a meeting occurred with the Town Administrator and the Chair of the Selectboard to discuss the MOU. I understand that you're not currently a Selectman there. Do you have any knowledge of...
these meetings?

A (Ellis) I don't.

Q My understanding is that as we sit here today
the town of Pittsburg is still considering the
MOU. Do you have any knowledge of that?

A (Ellis) I don't.

Q I'm going to ask you some questions, Mr. Ellis,
about Clarksville.

Well, actually, Dawn, is there a third
page? All right. I just didn't want that to
not be in the record, and these will all be
submitted.

I want to try to ask you, Mr. Ellis, some
questions about Clarksville. I understand
you're here on behalf of all three towns. If
you can't answer them, just let me know.

A (Ellis) Okay.

Q I'm going to call up Applicant's Exhibit 355.
Again, a summary. I'm going to gather that you
probably have no personal knowledge of this
summary of meetings in Clarksville; is that
right?

A (Ellis) I do not.

Q Okay. Is it also fair to say then that you
don't have any knowledge of the March 14th, 2017, letter sent to Clarksville inquiry about an MOU?

A (Ellis) I know that Clarksville was sent several letters and that they were not going to sign them, but I don't know if it was an MOU or not.

Q And I'm talking about the MOU. I'm not talking about the archeological information.

A (Ellis) Fair enough.

Q Do you have any knowledge about an MOU request for Clarksville?

A (Ellis) No, I don't.

Q Mr. Coates, I'll just ask you. Do you have any knowledge of that?

A (Coates) For Stewartstown or for Clarksville?

Q For Clarksville.

A (Coates) No.

Q My understanding is that Clarksville indicated it was not interested in having a discussion about an MOU. Do you know anything about that?

Coats?

A (Ellis) Me?

Q Mr. Ellis.

A (Ellis) I'm not aware of that.
Q: Given that the town is not interested in discussing an MOU, I'm wondering, Mr. Ellis, since Mr. DeMaio is not here, if you'd be willing to check with Mr. DeMaio and see whether the town would still be interested in having discussions with the Project about ways that impacts could be minimized if the Committee granted a Certificate, even if they don't want to have a discussion about an MOU; is that something you could do?

A: (Ellis) Yes. I can talk to him. I'm sure.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Before we leave that subject, how are we going to close the loop on that followup?

Q: I would ask, Mr. Ellis and I, I think, have talked at least once before. I would ask you if you could, whatever the answer is, if you could let me know.

A: (Ellis) No problem.

Q: Thank you.

A: (Ellis) I'll call you.

Q: Sounds good.

Mr. Coates, couple of questions for you, sir. I want to put up Applicant's Exhibit 145

{SEC 2015-06} [Day 49/Morning Session ONLY] {10-20-17}
which is the Outreach Summary for the town of Stewartstown and give you a chance to take a look at it. And I'll ask you, Mr. Coates, is this generally consistent with your knowledge about this topic?

A (Coates) It very well could be.

Q If you could speak up a little, please, sir?

A (Coates) It very well could be.

Q Are you also aware that in addition to the information present on here there have been outreach efforts by the Project to individuals in Stewartstown?

A (Coates) Yes.

Q At the bottom of page 1 of this Outreach Summary, this also indicates that Northern Pass contacted Stewartstown to inquire about the town's interest in entering into an MOU on March 14th. Do you see that?

A (Coates) Yes, sir.

Q It's my understanding that the town of Stewartstown indicated that it does not have an interest in having that discussion. Is that correct?

A (Coates) Yes, sir.
Q And I'll ask you the same question, and you can
get back to me if you want as well.

Understanding that the town does not want
to talk about an MOU, would the town still be
willing to discuss with Northern Pass ways that
impacts in the community could be minimized if
the Committee were to grant a certificate? And
if you would prefer to get back to me on that,
that's fine also.

A (Coates) Okay. Thanks.

Q I'll ask you to do the same thing. Could you
just let me know by phone or email?

A (Coates) Give me your phone number.

Q I will do that right after we're done.

A (Ellis) How quickly would you like that answer?

Q Whatever pace you can get it done.

A (Ellis) Thank you.

Q So let me move to a different topic.

Q On page 2 of your Joint Testimony, you both
stated or you all stated that, quote, we have
concerns that the Project as proposed will
adversely affect the orderly development of our
region. And I'll direct it to you, Mr. Ellis,
and you can certainly weigh in if you'd like,
Mr. Coates.

Sir, were you aware of the things that the Site Evaluation Committee needs to consider with respect to orderly development? Things like land use, employment, and the economy of the region?

A (Ellis) The technical stuff, no.

Q Did either of you have the chance to listen to or review the testimony of someone named Allen Bouthillier?

A (Ellis) I have not.

Q Do you know Mr. Bouthillier?

A (Ellis) I don't.

Q Were you aware that he's operated an excavation company and a sand and gravel business in Lancaster for 33 years?

A (Ellis) Am I aware of that? No.

Q Did you know that Mr. Bouthillier testified that he thought the Project would provide additional work opportunities for him and his employees and would increase business to surrounding restaurants, lodging establishments, establishments and other businesses? Did you know about that testimony?
A (Ellis) I was not aware of it, but I don't agree with it.

Q He also said that the Project might offer opportunities for other people to get started in business and create new businesses. I assume you were not aware of that testimony?

A (Ellis) I was not.

Q So having in mind Mr. Bouthillier's view, do you think that it's reasonable to conclude that these same types of things might happen in your three communities during the Project's construction?

A (Ellis) I think the general opinion in our community is those are short-term opportunities, and we are looking long-term so we don't think that those are long-term benefits if in fact construction is going to adversely affect our landscape which could adversely affect our economy.

Q I want to pull up Applicant's Exhibit number 1, Appendix 44, Dawn.

And just to orient the two of you, there's an expert we have in this case named Dr. Lisa Shapiro who has provided testimony on tax
impacts in various communities, and this is from Page 12, Figure 6 of her report. And Mr. Ellis, if you can locate Pittsburg on here. It's right at the top. Were you aware that -- first of all, have you seen this before?

A (Ellis) I don't believe that I have.

Q Were you aware that Dr. Shapiro offered the opinion that if the Project were built, the tax base would increase by about 4.3 percent in Pittsburg?

A (Ellis) I knew there was going to be a slight increase.

Q Were you also aware that she testified that she expected the property taxes in the first year for Pittsburg would be about $108,000?

A (Ellis) I thought it was around 90 but 108 is close enough.

Q I'm going to ask you about Clarksville, too, and again, if you can answer, please do. Looking quickly at Clarksville on the chart, the impacts there are, according to Dr. Shapiro, there would be a 60.5 percent increase in the tax base and in that last column it indicates that over 37 percent of the taxes in town would be paid by
Northern Pass. Were you aware of that?

A (Ellis) That particular number, no.

Q I'm going to call up another exhibit. Well, actually, Dawn, let's go to Applicant's Exhibit 356.

While we're doing that, Ms. Shapiro calculated that Northern Pass would pay about $139,000 in property taxes in the first year in Clarksville. I take it you weren't aware of that?

A (Ellis) No.

Q Okay. So this exhibit shows the top 25 highest taxpayers in Clarksville. Is this something you've seen before?

A (Ellis) No.

Q This is, I think, for the 2016/2017 tax year. Were you aware that if Northern Pass were constructed and paid the property taxes that Ms. Shapiro was talking about that it would be paying more in taxes than the top 20 taxpayers in Clarksville combined?

A (Ellis) I was not aware of that.

Q And then, Mr. Coates, just a couple of questions for you.
I want to go back to that other exhibit if we could, Dawn. Let's focus on Stewartstown. Mr. Coates, is it correct according to this chart that the local property tax base in year 1, if the Project were constructed, would increase by 81 percent?

A (Coates) I knew it was going to increase. We haven't had you folks give us these figures as far as I know. I don't remember the 81.1 percent. I do know that it was a considerable increase.

Q On the far side of that chart, that means that Northern Pass's share of the tax base in Stewartstown would be almost 45 percent; is that right?

A (Coates) Yes. I knew that was going to increase, though, but I don't remember 44.8.

Q So that effectively means that for taxpayers in Stewartstown, they could get their tax bill cut almost in half if all the money were put into that; is that right?

A (Coates) If those figures are correct, I guess, yes, sir.

Q I think Dr. Shapiro provided information saying
that the assessed value of the infrastructure from Northern Pass in Stewartstown would be close to $70 million. Does that sound right?

A (Coates) It was considerable. Yes, sir.

Q So I just want to show you Exhibit 358. And this is the list of the top 25 taxpayers. It's a little bit different than the last one because it's not taxes paid. It's expressed in terms of assessed value. Have you seen this before?

A (Coates) I've seen probably most of those figures, not written 1 through 25 before.

Q Okay. I added all these figures together of the top 25 taxpayers, and would it surprise you that Northern Pass's assessed value would be more than twice as much as the top 25 payers combined?

A (Coates) Would it surprise -- yeah, I guess.

Q So you would agree with me that that would be a significant influx of money into the community of Stewartstown?

A (Coates) Yes, sir.

Q Thank you. I don't have anything further.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: All right.

Members of the Committee. Any questions for
QUESTIONS BY MS. WEATHERSBY:

Q Good afternoon, gentlemen.

When we were talking about the resolutions you indicated that Pittsburg had tabled a resolution? Was that resolution that did not get voted on, was that in favor of or in opposition to the Project?

A (Ellis) It was in opposition.

Q And, again, in those resolutions, it seemed as though the -- let me back up.

You talked here today about the primary concern being the effects on tourism in the area, but in the Stewartstown resolution it was also noted that there was opposition due to health concerns. Is that still a concern of the people of Stewartstown?

A (Coates) It would be health concerns because of the closing of any roads and so forth during the process of building when people would be left stranded in their residence. I think the McAllasters brought it up and so forth out in Bear Rock country.
Q Thank you. And the Clarksville resolution stated that that town was also opposed due to a decline in its property values. Do either of you know whether that is still a concern of the people of Clarksville?
A (Ellis) I am not aware of that.
Q Okay. I have nothing further.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Commissioner Bailey?

QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER BAILEY:

Q Mr. Ellis, you stated that maintaining tourism is absolutely more important than increased tax revenue. Do you remember that?
A (Ellis) Yes.
Q When you said that, were you speaking on behalf of town of Pittsburg or all three towns?
A (Ellis) I'll just say for the town of Pittsburg.
Q Okay. Thank you. That's all I have.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Iacopino?
MR. IACOPINO: Thank you.

QUESTIONS BY MR. IACOPINO:

Q Gentlemen, in your Joint Prefiled Testimony, you reference the use of your roads for utilities, and I just wanted to ask for each town. I
understand your concern about the Application of the statute. That's a legal issue. I'm not asking you about that. But in each of your towns, do you have any type of regulations, whether it be ordinances or other regulations regarding the burying of utilities in town roads?

A (Coates) Stewartstown does not.

Q Do you know if Pittsburg or Clarksville do?

A (Ellis) I don't believe Pittsburg or Clarksville have that.

Q Okay. This is going to sound like an odd question, I guess, but does your Highway Department or Road Agent, has he put out any kind of guidance for construction in the right-of-way as far as you know?

A (Coates) Town of Stewartstown goes by what goes on in the right-of-way, we are governed by state RSAs. Disturbing the surface of the highway, emergency situations when we close down a road or when we can't close down a road. It's all governed by RSA. Our Road Agents came up with those RSAs, and we confront any violations of the RSAs.
Q But you have nothing separate other than the state laws is what you're saying?

A (Coates) Correct.

Q Do you know if there are any, if the Committee were to grant the Application, do you know if there are any conditions that any of the three towns may wish to see with respect to underground construction?

A (Coates) Speaking for the town of Stewartstown, we will have to, we'll revert back to what the RSA says about disturbing the surface of our road and where that authority lies.

Q Okay. And Mr. Ellis, do you know if Clarksville or Pittsburg has any conditions that they would suggest to the Committee if the Committee were inclined to grant the Application to allow the Application for construction in the roads in those towns?

A (Ellis) Pittsburg has no issue with roads because everything is going overhead. The way that the Road Agent works, as Allen said, he has to comply with certain state rules and regs. And if there's going to be a project within the town, that's normally brought before the Board.
of Selectmen prior to that being done, and if there's any concern about what he's doing, that's going to be voiced by the Board of Selectmen. But in my six years there, I can't think of one issue that was a real issue that we would have to challenge them on doing something.

Q Okay. Well, thank you.
A (Ellis) Thank you.
A (Coates) Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I think the only thing left to do is to give you an opportunity to add anything you feel -- is Mr. Samson in a position to do that?

MR. IACOPINO: I understood he was going to.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Commissioner Samson, are you in a position to offer these witnesses a brief redirect? Off the record.

(Discussion off the record)

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Commissioner Samson, you may proceed.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. SAMSON:

Q I'm a little bit confused, I might say, and Mr.
Iacopino and Pam have tried to direct me in the direction that I should go. As you are well aware, I'm also an Intervenor in this case. I also did submit Prefiled Testimony, withdrew it, thought I resubmitted it, not sure if it was withdrawn, lost or whatever. So my questions will be the notes that I have taken today if that is okay.

I guess my first question to the two gentlemen would be are either of you aware that Dr. Shapiro that was referred to earlier is not only a paid consultant for this Project but has been a lobbyist for a number of years for PSNH, now Eversource?

A (Ellis) I'm not aware of that.

A (Coates) No, sir.

Q Okay.

A (Coates) I take that back. We were told, the attorney right here told us who he was. That's the first I really knew of who he was. You introduced him when you drew up that chart, correct?

Q Okay. Yes. Okay. Thank you.

Are either one of you aware that Public
Service Company or Eversource has filed over 50 requests for abatements on utilities against a number of small municipalities in Coos County; Stewartstown and Pittsburg being two of those municipalities?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chair, I think this is beyond the scope of the questioning.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Samson?

MR. SAMSON: I'll withdraw that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

MR. SAMSON: As a side note, Mr. Iacopino, I think your reference to Pittsburg being a small part of the state was in reference to the Project?

MR. IACOPINO: My reference was to the very small area in Pittsburg where it goes underground. That's why I said small part.

MR. SAMSON: Because I'm sure you're not aware that Pittsburg is the largest township east of the Mississippi River.

MR. IACOPINO: That was not what I was trying to ask about.

MR. SAMSON: Okay. Thank you.
Mr. Coates, are you aware of any overhead transmission lines currently in the town of Stewartstown?

No.

Mr. Ellis, the same for Pittsburg?

No.

Are you aware or do you know if there ever have been transmission lines in either Pittsburg or Stewartstown?

You're referring to other than those on a telephone pole?

No, I'm referring to the big lines. Not the distributions that goes to the houses and businesses.

I have no knowledge of that.

Mr. Coates?

The lines that come out over the added gray place or what? What are you classifying them as?

May I explain the difference between the transmission and distribution, Mr. Chairman?

I don't think so.

No. That's fine.
A (Coates) Okay.

Q Let me rephrase the question, if I may. Are you aware of any big lines that go north of Stewartstown through Pittsburg and or Clarksville?

A (Coates) No.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Mr. Chair, I think we're beyond the scope of the questioning again.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: The purpose of redirect is on the questions that these gentlemen were asked today.

MR. SAMSON: Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: By Mr. Aslin, Mr. Reimers, Mr. Baker, Ms. Menard, et cetera, and then Mr. Needleman, and the Committee. That's the purpose of redirect to give you or them an opportunity to clarify or expand on something that the witnesses needed to deal with or you felt they needed to deal with from that round of questioning. Okay?

MR. SAMSON: Okay. Thank you.

Q Do you, Mr. Coates, know of any contractors in the Stewartstown/Clarksville area, not including
Pittsburg, that are in the excavation business that was referred to earlier in your questioning about AB Excavating in Lancaster?

Q There are no contractors in Stewartstown or Clarksville in the excavation business?

A Oh, yes. There are. Yes.

Q Okay. Thank you. And in Pittsburg, Mr. Ellis, do we have contractors there as well?

A We do.

Q Do you know if the Applicant has questioned any of those contractors in Stewartstown, Clarksville or Pittsburg?

A I'm not aware of that.

A I'm not aware.

Q So you're not aware that the Applicant has questioned anybody in the most affected area of the Project?

A No.

Q Okay.

MR. SAMSON: I think that's all the redirect that I have, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: All right.

Thank you, Commissioner Samson. We are then --
MS. SAFFO: Excuse me?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Yes, Ms. Saffo?

MS. SAFFO: One question on redirect?

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: These are not your witnesses.

MS. SAFFO: I realize that.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: If you were going to be allowed to ask a question, what would it be?

MS. SAFFO: So I think the withdrawn question by Mr. Samson regarding the abatements was, the objection should have been overruled because Mr. Needleman specifically discussed tax values. So I think a question on tax values and abatement is more than reasonable, and so I felt that that would be the question I would ask.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Just a moment.

(Discussion off the record)

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: I don't think so, Ms. Saffo. If you were allowed to ask that question, what do you think the answer would be if you'd like to make an offer of proof?
MS. SAFFO: I think Mr. Samson obviously presented the question and had the information on it. I'm presuming based on his question that there was abatements. It's just a situation where there was an objection, and this is where we have a lot of pro se people who aren't attorneys, there wasn't a response to the objection. There wasn't a ruling on the objection. It was something that --

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: The question was withdrawn. I understand, I understand the difference and lawyers may behave differently, but a lot of lawyers have been withdrawing questions in response to objections so it couldn't surprise anyone when it happens. I'm going to not allow the question. You've preserved the issue to the extent it needs to be reserved.

MS. SAFFO: Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER HONIGBERG: Gentlemen, thank you for your testimony. You're done now, and we're going to break for lunch and return at two o'clock.

A (Ellis) Thank you.
A (Coates) Thank you for your patience.

(Lunch recess taken at 1:02 p.m. and concludes the Day 49 Morning Session. The hearing continues under separate cover in the transcript noted as Day 49 Afternoon Session ONLY.)
CERTIFICATE

I, Cynthia Foster, Registered Professional Reporter and Licensed Court Reporter, duly authorized to practice Shorthand Court Reporting in the State of New Hampshire, hereby certify that the foregoing pages are a true and accurate transcription of my stenographic notes of the hearing for use in the matter indicated on the title sheet, as to which a transcript was duly ordered;

I further certify that I am neither attorney nor counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action in which this transcript was produced, and further that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in this action.

Dated at West Lebanon, New Hampshire, this 30th day of October, 2017.

___________________________
Cynthia Foster, LCR