

NH SEC vs Kinder Morgan

In a March 8, 2016 article in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript, a Kinder Morgan lawyer suggested that the NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) has no say in regard to the proposed NED pipeline through southern NH. I would like to counter that statement. Part of the SEC's charter is to address "(f) Best practical measures to ensure quality construction that minimizes safety issues." At present KM is not indicating that it is concerned about building a safe pipeline. According to industry standards put forth by the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA), siting the high pressure pipeline adjacent to the High Voltage AC power lines is high risk for separation distance, HVAC current, colocation length, and crossing angle. All pipelines will corrode and require special construction techniques and continual monitoring to protect the pipeline from corrosion. The AC induced currents from the power line interfere with this protection, and will cause its own safety issues and additional induced corrosion. KM representatives have stated that in rural areas, as in southern NH, a thinned wall pipe is used. By collocating with the existing power lines, whose right-of-way is not appropriate for a buried pipeline, even best construction techniques will have difficulty to bury the pipeline without damaging its protective coating. KM is choosing to site the pipeline over Kidder Mountain, across a former Fletcher granite quarry, under the steep rocky gorge of the Souhegan river, and is flaunting their pipeline superiority by doing so. If the NED pipeline is approved, we in NH need to encourage and demand that Governor Hassan and Administrator Pamela Monroe of the SEC do their jobs to ensure a safe pipeline is constructed. They have the authority to require KM adhere to federal regulations for pipeline construction. NH also needs to monitor and verify no shortcuts are being taken. Otherwise, southern NH will be added to Wikipedia's long list of Kinder Morgan owned and operated pipelines that have exploded due to either poor construction or undetected corrosion.

Darrell Scott
632 Sand Pit Road
Mason NH 03048
603-878-1680H
603-801-9141C