



January 30, 2014

Ms. Patricia Hoffman, Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0800

Re: New Hampshire Northern Pass Presidential Permit

Dear Assistant Secretary Hoffman:

I am aware of the recent letter you received from members of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation requesting that the agency prepare a "preliminary report" detailing the alternatives to the route proposed by Northern Pass that DOE will study during its environmental impact statement (EIS) process.

Northern Pass supports the request that DOE identify the alternatives that it will evaluate in the Draft EIS. The public commented extensively during the scoping period, offering a wide variety of views about potential alternatives for the Project. To help assure the public that the environmental review that DOE has underway will be as robust as it can be, Northern Pass believes it would be desirable for DOE to disclose the alternatives that it intends to evaluate and to ensure that the range of alternatives considered fairly reflects the comments submitted by New Hampshire citizens and other interested parties. Only in that way can the EIS adequately evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of the alternatives.

We believe our proposed route is a sensible one that is respectful of the land and its neighbors and that will provide significant benefit to New Hampshire and New England consumers. Various alternatives have been proposed, and we believe an evaluation of the merits of these options, along with the economic implications of each, will be helpful as the permitting process moves forward. We look forward to DOE addressing those alternatives, and we expect to offer comments on DOE's analysis in response to the Draft EIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry Fortier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerry Fortier, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC
Project Director

cc:

Brian Mills, Senior Planning Advisor Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DOE

Kelly Ayotte, U.S. Senator

Jeanne Shaheen, U.S. Senator

Ann McLane Kuster, Member of Congress

Carol Shea-Porter, Member of Congress