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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

THE NORTHERN PASS TRANSMISSION LINE

PROJECT DRAFT EIS

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

THE MOUNTAIN CLUB ON LOON

90 LOON MOUNTAIN ROAD

LINCOLN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03251

MARCH 16, 2011

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1 MODERATOR: First names. Michael Marino.
2 Campbell McLaren. Karen Payne. Susan
3 Schibanoff.

4 SPEAKER: I think the reason I'm going
5 first is something to do with age before beauty.

6 MODERATOR: That is I believe what I told
7 you. Can you guys hear him?

8 SPEAKER: I'm up here first because it's
9 age before beauty is what they told me.

10 Good evening. My name is Mike Marino, and
11 I live in Holderness, New Hampshire. My wife
12 Lee Ann and I retired five years ago from Long
13 Island, New York -- if you can't tell from my
14 Brooklyn accent, I'm from Long Island, New
15 York -- because we fell in love with your
16 beautiful White Mountains. In the interest of
17 saving time tonight I will not go into detail on
18 how this project as designed will destroy my
19 view, destroy my home value, which is all of my
20 life savings or our life savings. I'm not an
21 electricity expert nor do I know if additional
22 electricity is needed to be added into the grid,
23 but I do know what is right and what is wrong,

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1 and I know that it is wrong to allow a
2 corporation, and in this case a foreign country,
3 to make billions of dollars at the expense of
4 everyday people.

5 If the Northern Pass is allowed to proceed
6 as proposed, our beautiful White Mountains will
7 be scarred forever. Our views will be forever
8 blocked by monstrous 90 to 135 foot steel
9 towers. Our property values will drop
10 drastically, and in many cases our properties
11 will be unsalable. I don't know if it's legally
12 right to expand the right-of-ways or if it's
13 legally right to take property through eminent
14 domain, but I do know that it is morally wrong.
15 Our predecessors did not grant a right-of-way
16 with a vision of 90 to 135 foot towers.

17 Our Governor knows the beauty of this
18 state. Governor Lynch proclaimed March 1st,
19 2011, this year, as White Mountain National
20 Forest Day. And I quote his proclamation of
21 that day. "The White Mountain National Forest
22 remains a great source of pride for all of us
23 here in New Hampshire. It is truly a New

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1 Hampshire and National treasure." I ask the
2 Department of Energy to do the right thing by
3 the citizens of this beautiful state. Let us
4 keep the White Mountains as beautiful as they
5 are for generations to come for they are a
6 national treasure. Let us keep our views. Let
7 us keep our property values high.

8 I ask the Department of Energy to do
9 exactly what Hydro Quebec states on its own
10 website, and I quote. "Remember when you used
11 to sit on the front porch on a beautiful summer
12 evening. Today people like to relax and
13 entertain in the backyard. Imagine your
14 backyard, your street, your entire neighborhood
15 without utility poles or overhead lines.
16 Discover the advantages of undergrounding."
17 Yes, Hydro Quebec, we want to discover the
18 advantages of undergrounding.

19 Mr. Mills, I know your job is to analyze
20 potential routes and their respective impact and
21 to grant a permit to build on the most
22 environmentally acceptable route. I say there
23 are no environmentally acceptable routes in the

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1 State of New Hampshire unless these lines are
2 buried.

3 MODERATOR: Thank you for your comments,
4 Michael. Next speaker, Campbell McLaren.

5 SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you for
6 allowing me to talk. I would like the DOE to
7 investigate, I'm a town health officer,
8 investigate that multiple studies have indicated
9 a two-fold increase in lymphocytic leukemia in
10 children living within 300 feet of power lines,
11 and that many countries and some American states
12 have specific setbacks and for the sake of time
13 I've included the countries and states in my
14 folder for this young lady here. That there are
15 currently several schools along the preferred
16 right-of-way. I'm focusing on the preferred
17 right-of-way because I don't know where the
18 alternate routes are going. The preferred
19 right-of-way has several schools that have parts
20 of the physical plant within 300 feet of the
21 proposed and existing power lines. Within 300
22 feet.

23 That the applicants, Hydro Quebec, should

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1 provide the location of and anticipated magnetic
2 field levels encompassing residences, schools,
3 day-care facilities, youth camps, nursing homes,
4 and public playgrounds within 300 feet of the
5 proposed and existing transmission lines. That
6 extremely low frequency electromagnetic fields
7 are dangerous to humans, and that children are
8 particularly vulnerable to the electromagnetic
9 field of 3 to 4 milligauss for more than four
10 hours a day and we should not be fooled by the
11 fact that extra low frequency electromagnetic
12 fields are safer than high frequency
13 electromagnetic fields like our cell phones and
14 microwaves. The wave is so long that it can be
15 absorbed by our body much more easily and can't
16 be buffered. Those causation cannot be proven
17 with regards to lymphocytic leukemia, there's a
18 strong association and increased statistical
19 significance of an increase in leukemia
20 proximate to high voltage lines. There are many
21 health issues, many other health issues. Adult
22 cancers, behavioral, etc. I could go on and on
23 and can't. Apart from electromagnetic fields,

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1 dirty electricity, the corona effect, all can
2 cause harm to those that are living next to
3 these lines.

4 I would like investigated the potential for
5 health hazards when a high voltage DC line which
6 does not have a great magnetic field is married
7 next to a high voltage AC line which is the
8 proposed or the preferred route of way. There
9 would be an AC next to a DC.

10 That the precautionary principle and
11 prudent avoidance policies are sound tools to
12 make decisions and many countries have used
13 these. We don't have robust scientific
14 evidence, but let's be careful of our children
15 and those living next to these lines and site
16 these lines more than 300 feet away. Already
17 with existing lines we have schools within 300
18 feet.

19 The burden of proof that these lines don't
20 cause cancer should rest with those taking the
21 action. Hydro Quebec, Northeast Utilities,
22 Enstar and the public company, PSNH.

23 That the concerns addressed so far focus on

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1 the so-called preferred line but should also
2 apply to any alternative route. Thank you.

3 MODERATOR: Thank you, Campbell. Karen
4 Payne. Next on deck, Ray Burton, Hawk Metheny.

5 SPEAKER: I'm Karen Payne from Effingham,
6 New Hampshire. 814. I would like to applaud
7 Gary Long of PSNH for emphasizing that this is a
8 "search for a greener energy future". To be
9 considered, green environmental sustainability
10 is a priority. The term sustainable has been
11 defined by a United Nations Commission, the
12 Brundtland Commission, specifically created to
13 address the global concern that accelerating
14 deterioration of natural resources is having
15 consequences for economic and social
16 development. Their definition of sustainable
17 development is "that which meets the needs of
18 the present without compromising the ability of
19 future generations to meet their own needs."

20 I ask the DOE for a rigorous and impartial
21 analysis of whether the electricity generated by
22 Hydro Quebec is green. Hydro Quebec is in the
23 process of diverting a high percentage of one of

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1 the largest rivers in Quebec, the Rupert,
2 through a 200 mile long transfer tunnel. Is
3 this green? Creating artificial reservoirs that
4 cover thousands of square miles and put colossal
5 weight on the land way cannot begin to fathom
6 the results of this. Is this green?

7 Reengineering an area of wilderness the size of
8 New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine and New York
9 combined. Is this green?

10 Senate Bill 118 talks about renewable
11 energy. Let us not be mistaken. Renewable is
12 not always sustainable. Again, I thank Gary
13 Long for his clarification. He sets his sights
14 and ours on meeting long-term energy goals.
15 We're looking to the future. We're looking for
16 far reaching impact. We are looking for
17 sustainable development. Thus I ask the DOE for
18 a rigorous and impartial analysis of where the
19 path of the Northern Pass leads, not in a
20 lifetime that would be considered short to us
21 such as 40 years but for future generations.
22 There's a letter on its way to Governor Lynch
23 from Mr. Potter. Eleven generations in New

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1 Hampshire. What is the impact of losing the
2 natural resources which drew us here and keep us
3 here to raise our families.

4 Sustainability is so critical that it's
5 recognized in many industries. The ag industry,
6 farm to table movement, highlighting
7 minimization of transportation, U.S. Green
8 Building Council with its system to define and
9 measure green buildings. The Leed Rating
10 System. Points rewarded for using regional
11 material, water use reduction, addressing
12 environmental priorities. I ask the DOE for an
13 analysis of Hydro Quebec's carbon footprint, the
14 full footprint from the towers back to Canada
15 and the site work making this possible. And I
16 ask the DOE for an analysis of health impacts.
17 My insurance company rewards for me for keeping
18 fit. Will they be okay with my walking my 30
19 minutes every day with my dog and my grandchild
20 under the lines. How about Nature-Deficit
21 Disorder and The Last Child in the Woods?

22 Here are some of the lifestyle choices I
23 have made. An energy star home, a car that gets

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1 40 miles per gallon, buying items made in
2 America even though they cost more. Light
3 bulbs, programming thermostats and oh, yes, 814,
4 that's the number of kilowatts our solar panels
5 have produced thus far this year. And it is
6 notable that these choices I have made
7 sacrifices and compromises for. It's also
8 notable that they are investments. The solar
9 panels will be paid off in 9.2 years. Return on
10 the investment will be 10.8. Banks will give
11 loans for those projects that will be paid off
12 long off before 40 years and generate energy for
13 longer than 40 years.

14 SPEAKER: Read your sign.

15 SPEAKER: (Karen Payne) Okay. So last
16 request then is an analysis of the end use
17 efficiency and demand side management options.
18 Are the users when they are turning the switches
19 on making the same conscious decisions and use
20 of energy that I am up here. Thank you for
21 considering the alternatives presented and when
22 it's been said and done and the clearest option
23 left standing is removing our trees, our

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1 wilderness and our source of renewal, then I
2 will consider the project as presented. But in
3 closing I'm asking the DOE to consider that some
4 things are priceless and cannot be bought.

5 MODERATOR: Few extra messages here. As
6 far as interrupting during the presentations,
7 try to keep that applause to the end of the
8 speech. Doing so in the middle is only going to
9 cause problems with our timing which is going to
10 make people run long which is then going to make
11 people point out that hey, you need to respect
12 your time so let's just keep that applause until
13 the end if you can. I'd greatly appreciate
14 that.

15 Additionally, with the signs we've got one
16 set of signs here. We can't have signs popping
17 up a lot because you've got a number of people
18 behind you so if you could, even though I see
19 that your colors all match our colors now, try
20 not to put those up again until the end.

21 To the speaker, make sure that, like I am,
22 you're as close to that microphone as you can
23 get. Otherwise, people in the back won't hear

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1 you as well.

2 SPEAKER: My name is Susan Schibanoff. I
3 live at 162 Loop Road, Easton, New Hampshire.
4 03580. I co-own 200 acres of land that the PSNH
5 right-of-way known as X 178 bisects. This same
6 corridor travels through the White Mountain
7 National Forest which is contiguous to our land.
8 I have three brief sets of requests for the DOE
9 tonight. I will submit fuller written testimony
10 by April 12th. I have been writing to Brian
11 every week for the last month so I will continue
12 doing so.

13 First, responding to comments made in
14 Franklin last night at the Scoping Meeting. I
15 ask the DOE to apply the principle do no harm
16 for this private merchant transmission project.
17 ISO-New England has not requested it. There is
18 no current need and no demonstrable future need
19 for this power, just vague predictions by
20 Northern Pass that we might need it. Franklin
21 may stand to gain. The rest of the affected
22 towns in New Hampshire will suffer economic
23 damage that the DOE should investigate.

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1 I ask the DOE to investigate the source of
2 the power from Hydro Quebec. Franklin town
3 officials repeatedly called it clean and green
4 last night. The USEPA does not classify big
5 hydro as clean and green. In fact, the U.S.
6 outlaws the kind of projects that is Hydro
7 Quebec builds. And buying more power from Hydro
8 Quebec encourages further degradation of the
9 environment that affects us all.

10 Second, concerning the placement of this
11 private, for-profit unnecessary transmission
12 line through the White Mountain National Forest
13 and over the Appalachian Trail. I ask the DOE
14 to examine the decibel level of the noise
15 emitted by HVDC wires which are known to make a
16 roaring sound. The current AC wires on the X
17 178 line emit no sound. Any new noise pollution
18 produced by the DC line whatsoever is
19 inconsistent with the direction of the most
20 recent Forest Plan of 2005 which continues to
21 disallow ATVs because they interfere with
22 peaceful and quiet enjoyment of federal land.

23 The USFS has prioritized quiet as a

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1 vanishing resource. I ask the DOE to undertake
2 a full-scale, professional, independent visual
3 analysis of 135 foot or higher towers in the
4 White Mountain National Forest because the
5 current AC line runs down the centerline of the
6 150 foot special use easement, X 178, I ask the
7 DOE to insist upon the disclosure of Northern
8 Pass's plans for fitting a second line alongside
9 or possibly over the current AC line.

10 Regardless of whether the towers are 90
11 feet or 180 feet, the visual degradation they
12 cause is inconsistent with the 2005 Forest Plan
13 which affirms the importance of "high quality
14 scenery and a natural appearing landscape to
15 both tourism and the enhancement of people's
16 physical and psychological well-being."

17 I have further comments to make. If
18 there's time in followup, I'll be back. Thank
19 you.

20 MODERATOR: Thank you, Susan. Next
21 speaker, Ray Burton. Next on deck, Roy Stever,
22 Newcomb Stillwell.

23 SPEAKER: It's my honor to appear here as

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1 one of your elected public officials. I'm in my
2 33rd year of representing 98 towns and four
3 cities in the northern part of the State of New
4 Hampshire. You find District 1 by making one
5 fold at the bottom of the map. 250,000 people.
6 It's the land I know, and it's the land I love.
7 December 27, after considerable thought on this
8 project, I concluded and stated publicly that it
9 wasn't something that was a good idea for
10 northern New Hampshire. Now, you know, when all
11 the studying is done and all the consultants
12 have had their day, studied and listened to
13 everybody, they will conclude that this is not
14 needed and not wanted, but prior to that, I'm
15 going to write a public letter to Christian
16 Brousseau and Gary Long and I'm going to invite
17 other elected officials, some of their
18 representatives are here tonight, to join me in
19 that letter and say folks, it's time to fold
20 your tent and go home. And that will be done
21 within a week. Thank you.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you, Ray. Next speaker,
23 Hawk Metheny. Next on deck, Kenneth Kimball.

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1 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is Hawk
2 Metheny, and I serve as the New England Regional
3 Director with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.
4 We work in cooperation with federal and state
5 agencies and the 31 trail clubs in the
6 maintenance, management and protection of the
7 Appalachian Trail, also known as the AT.

8 The AT runs 2,181 miles from Georgia to
9 Maine, and that's our nation's first and
10 foremost National Scenic Trail as designated by
11 Congress through the 1968 National Scenic Trails
12 Act. Our New England office is based in
13 Vermont, responsible for the section of trail in
14 Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New
15 Hampshire and Maine.

16 Here in New Hampshire the AT has a
17 southwest to northeast alignment and runs for
18 approximately 160 miles from Hanover to Gorham.
19 Since the proposed Northern Pass DC transmission
20 line would run virtually north to south from the
21 Canadian border to Franklin, it would have to
22 cross the Appalachian Trail somewhere. It's
23 because of this fact and our concerns about the

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1 impact this project would have on the trail's
2 natural scenic cultural and recreational
3 resources and the associated primitive
4 experience these resources provide to thousands
5 of visitors to the AT here in New Hampshire, ATC
6 has filed as an Intervenor in the Northern Pass
7 project.

8 We have performed assessments in the
9 proposed Kinsman Range Crossing, the alternate
10 route at Route 25 A and we have identified a
11 potential third crossing at Route 25 C where
12 there currently exists a large transmission line
13 right-of-way. All three crossings should be
14 thoroughly analyzed in the EIS since all three
15 crossings of the Trail are in fact on federal
16 land. While the proposed route is deep in the
17 interior of the White Mountain National Forest
18 Proclamation Boundary, the alternate route
19 identified by the developer at Route 25 A also
20 crosses an approximately 1000-foot-wide corridor
21 protected lane initially acquired by the
22 National Park Service and now administered by
23 the White Mountain National Forest and ATC in

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1 cooperation with our local trail clubs. The
2 same is true for the Route 25 C crossing. Any
3 of the three crossings require a special use
4 permit from the White Mountain National Forest
5 supervisor. Or, actually, any crossing of the
6 AT in New Hampshire except for a few spots.

7 ATC has a policy on utility crossings of
8 Appalachian Trail management which states the
9 following. Proposed development represents the
10 only prudent and feasible alternative to meet an
11 overriding public need as demonstrated in the
12 thorough and detailed analysis of alternatives.
13 Any new impacts associated with the proposed
14 development shall coincide with existing major
15 impacts of the trail experience. Any proposed
16 development of linear facilities should be
17 limited to a single crossing of the Appalachian
18 Trail corridor and any adverse impacts of
19 proposed development shall be sufficiently
20 mitigated so as to result in no net loss of
21 recreational values or the quality of
22 recreational experience provided by the
23 Appalachian Trail. Further, the proposed

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1 development should avoid any Forest Service,
2 semi-primitive or designated back country areas
3 such as in the Kinsman Range.

4 In closing, we will continue to work
5 closely with the White Mountain National Forest
6 and DOE through the EIS process. We'll file a
7 final official position regarding this project
8 based on the results of the EIS. We strongly
9 urge the Department of Energy to perform a
10 thorough and detailed analysis of all possible
11 alternatives including a comprehensive viewshed
12 analysis, also including the no action
13 alternative.

14 At a break or after I welcome questions
15 from the audience about this project and its
16 crossing the Appalachian Trail. Thank you.

17 MODERATOR: Thank you, Hawk. Next speaker,
18 Roy Stever. Next up on deck, Fred Brownson.

19 SPEAKER: Good evening. Thank you very
20 much for the opportunity to speak this evening.
21 Okay. So where am I coming from. I'm Roy
22 Stever. In the '60s, as a student, I became
23 quite concerned about what I was seeing,

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1 misbehavior of large corporate interests.
2 Earned a bachelor's and a master's in national
3 resource management at about the time that the
4 Act that draws us together tonight came into
5 being. I have an MBA from McGill in Montreal
6 where I first learned of Crown corporations and
7 the absolute power that they wield, that we have
8 no such similar organization in the U.S. I have
9 a 26-year career in the global manufacturing
10 company. Very proud of that. Retired as a Vice
11 President. And I'm currently an adjunct faculty
12 member at Plymouth State University in the
13 College of Business Administration. I am a
14 member of the Forest Society, the AMC, the
15 Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Ammonoosuc
16 Conservation Trust, and so should you be. I'm a
17 member of the New England 4,000-footer Club
18 which means I like to climb mountains. I'm a
19 resident with my wife of Easton, New Hampshire.
20 We own 160 acres on the slopes of Kinsman
21 Mountain abutting the National Forest within the
22 Proclamation Boundary. We are very happy there,
23 live a simple life like many people in this

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1 room, cut, split all of our own firewood and
2 have made an adjustment to an energy efficient
3 life.

4 I mention all of these things because it
5 shapes the way I feel deeply about Northern
6 Pass. I oppose Northern Pass. I believe it is
7 a private, profit-laden insult to our heritage
8 of New Hampshire and also to the Weeks Act, the
9 100-year-old Weeks Act. For reasons that have
10 already been covered, I will not go into my full
11 prepared comments, but I would like to add to
12 Campbell McLaren's concerns around health that
13 for the students in my School District, in
14 Bethlehem, they attend Profile School and a
15 student entering in the 7th grade might expect
16 to spend as many as 7,500 to 10,000 hours in
17 close proximity to this line.

18 I have three requests regarding the town of
19 Easton. I think the town of Easton would be, as
20 many towns up and down the line, very badly
21 impacted by the visual aspects of the line, and
22 I'm asking for visual studies of that. I have
23 three statements that are in regards to the

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1 National Forest viewed from valley vistas as
2 well as mountaintop or prominence vistas. I
3 think this needs to be understood, and I believe
4 that if any of the five million visits that
5 people make to the forest every year were
6 conscious of just how big these structures are,
7 13 stories, that there would be an even bigger
8 outcry. So I see I'm out of time. I may speak
9 later, but I really encourage that we reaffirm
10 another 100 years of the Weeks Act and the
11 values that we really hold most dear here in New
12 Hampshire. Thank you.

13 MODERATOR: Thank you, Roy. Our next
14 speaker, Newcomb Stillwell. Next on deck, Linda
15 Brownson.

16 SPEAKER: Hello. I'm Newcomb Stillwell.
17 Can everybody hear me okay? I just wanted to
18 start by saying about something I think many of
19 us share about our first speaker. Welcome to
20 New England. I've never heard a New York voice
21 I liked as much. Those were great remarks. I
22 hope you'll stay a long time. I also, thinking
23 about the greenness of this project, some of the

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1 remarks that the best thing I heard about it was
2 that building this thing would be kind of like
3 flooding the Grand Canyon in and congratulating
4 ourselves on sending green power to Los Angeles.

5 Anyway, I want to really think, I've spoken
6 to several of the folks from the DOE this
7 evening, and I want to thank you guys for coming
8 all the way up here. I know many of you
9 traveled from Washington, D.C. which is a long
10 way, and I can fully expect that night after
11 night of listening to thousands of angry people
12 was probably not what why you went into Public
13 Service, but it's really important what you're
14 doing, and we really, really appreciate it.

15 My family owns a farm in Sugar Hill, New
16 Hampshire, and the farmhouse was built in 1812.
17 And it has beautiful porch that looks over the
18 little valley that Sugar Hill, the town of about
19 350 people, homesteads, mostly occupies. And
20 right now from that porch you can't see the
21 power line because it's low enough to be blocked
22 by the trees. And throughout most of the town
23 except for a couple of pastures you really can't

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1 much see the power lines unless you're right
2 under them.

3 But if these new towers are built the
4 dominant feature of the landscape of this little
5 town is going to be these power lines.
6 Everywhere you stand in the town pretty much
7 except for part on the Franconia side is going
8 to be looking at these power lines. And as I
9 understand it, the EIS is supposed to take into
10 account, analyze the environmental, social,
11 cultural and economic impacts of this project.
12 And thinking about this in the context of Sugar
13 Hill, and thinking about what this probably
14 means for all the other towns up and down the
15 line, I wanted to make a couple of comments that
16 I hope will be helpful to you guys in putting
17 together your report.

18 I don't, I'm very concerned about whether
19 the process as outlined is adequate to really
20 consider these characteristics of each of the
21 places that are going to be impacted by it. The
22 number of months that are going to be taken and
23 the length of the process it's just, I wish, I

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1 hope that you will in writing your report
2 specifically consider whether adequate time and
3 attention has been devoted to those impacts on
4 each of the towns along the way because it's
5 just unimaginable to me that you could really
6 assess those for each of these towns in the time
7 period allotted.

8 I'd like to support the proposal that the
9 Conservation Law Foundation put out which is
10 that you first draft your scoping proposal
11 before you draft the EIS and the people could
12 comment on the proposed scope because of the
13 complexity of the task in front of you. And
14 finally, I don't know whether part of your plan
15 includes having people from the DOE actually
16 visit each of the towns along the way and go
17 with a town official and see exactly where the
18 power line is and what its effect is on the
19 surrounding countryside and all of these
20 characteristics, because I think doing so would
21 be necessary to adequately assess it. Thank
22 you.

23 MODERATOR: Thank you. Next speaker,

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1 Kenneth Kimball. Next on deck, Katie Rose.

2 SPEAKER: I'm Kenneth Kimball, Director of
3 Research for the Appalachian Mountain Club. The
4 AMC is a nonprofit organization with over
5 100,000 members, 10,000 who live in the State of
6 New Hampshire, and most of our members are what
7 make up New Hampshire's tourist economy. The
8 AMC maintains over 108 miles of the Appalachian
9 National Scenic Trail in the White Mountain
10 National Forest, and this project would directly
11 intersect and negatively the impact the AT as
12 Hawk previously described. This year the White
13 Mountain National Forest will be celebrating the
14 hundredth anniversary of the Weeks Act that
15 created the White Mountain National Forest. The
16 proposed project would further scar ten miles of
17 the National Forest. When setting aside public
18 lands for their outstanding ecological, visual
19 and recreational resources, the intent was not
20 to resolve large scale infrastructure
21 right-of-ways. Permitting the project as
22 proposed would be the most inappropriate way to
23 celebrate the centennial anniversary of the

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1 Weeks Act.

2 For the record, the AMC believes the
3 application is substantively incomplete and this
4 project should not have moved into the EIS
5 scoping phase. The application fails to
6 describe the resources to be impacted even
7 though it acknowledges that Northern Pass
8 collected considerable site specific resource
9 data. Instead, the application guards that
10 information in off-limits mode and in less than
11 four pages provides only nonspecific generic
12 topic listings. The application also has an
13 obligation to describe the proposed mitigation
14 for project impacts. Similar to the dearth of
15 information on resources impacted, proposed
16 mitigation is absent in the application. Surely
17 the applicant did not believe its proposed
18 project was without sufficient impact that
19 mitigation was unnecessary. With no substantive
20 environmental and mitigation information in the
21 application, though it exists, the public is
22 strongly disadvantaged in the EIS Scoping
23 Process.

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1 Relative to cumulative impacts, the spacial
2 boundaries for cumulative analysis required in
3 the EIS should go beyond the site specific
4 impacts of the transmission corridor itself.
5 The application claims that the project will
6 provide clean, low carbon hydroelectric power
7 from Canada. If such benefit is acknowledged in
8 the EIS, it requires across-the-border analysis
9 of the actual power source. For geographic
10 parity, the EIS should also then describe the
11 negative impacts of these hydroelectric dams on
12 the Canadian river ecosystems. The 2,179-mile
13 Appalachian Trail is cumulatively being impacted
14 and graded by wind power projects and other
15 utility corridors and this cumulative impact
16 should also be looked at on the AT.

17 I won't go through some of the things that
18 we believe that should be analyzed but for
19 alternatives we believe that the no action
20 alternative should include what the ecological,
21 visual and social impacts would be without the
22 project. It also should take a look at how the
23 \$1.1 billion invested in energy conservation and

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1 efficiency correspondingly would impact the
2 regional job market to implement reduced air
3 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions and the
4 U.S. foreign trade deficit. It should also look
5 at burying the transmission lines and upgrading
6 the high transmission capacity of the existing
7 DC line that goes through Vermont and New
8 Hampshire.

9 Finally as the previous speaker just
10 mentioned, the AMC also supports requests that
11 after this public scoping period but before DOE
12 initiates its EIS analysis, that DOE issue an
13 EIS Scoping Document for public review on the
14 key elements it intends to analyze and how and
15 which alternatives will be analyzed. Thank you.

16 MODERATOR: Thank you. Next speaker, Fred
17 Brownson. Next on deck, Kelley Monahan.

18 SPEAKER: Fred Brownson. Wentworth, New
19 Hampshire. 251 Cape Moonshine Road. 03282.
20 It's a pleasure to be able to speak this
21 evening, and I'd like to pick up some threads
22 that have been woven through the earlier
23 conversations about how green is green and

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1 challenge DOE to truly examine the impact of
2 sequential transmission lines coming into the
3 U.S. over years and years and years on the
4 removal of forests, the rerouting of rivers, the
5 dramatic change in the landscape of Canada with
6 a global impact of removing carbon absorbing
7 forests and replacing them with the rotting
8 debris that emit carbon and maybe even some
9 methane gas. The net annual continuing forever,
10 our lives, our children's lives and our
11 grandchildren's lives of the removal of those
12 forests on net carbon emissions, I believe, if
13 studied carefully will demonstrate a dramatic
14 negative impact from this project, and this
15 project then has to be taken in the context of a
16 series of projects that have come along to feed
17 our gluttony for energy. In a way the Canadian
18 border is being violated as the Mexican border
19 is. Our gluttony for drugs has created a
20 massive problem in Mexico with crime and you all
21 know what's going on down there. Our gluttony
22 for energy is taking millions of acres of
23 Canadian timberland out of production as a

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1 carbon absorber. There's no way to turn back
2 what we've done historically, but there is a
3 time to say the environmental impact of this
4 sequence of transmission lines to carry Canadian
5 hydropower to America has got to come to an end.
6 You can only stop it once, and we have the
7 opportunity to do it now.

8 So I challenge DOE to carefully and
9 thoroughly examine the scale of forest removed
10 and the environmental impact of the loss of that
11 carbon sink in the rotting timber swamps and the
12 like that are returning carbon to the
13 atmosphere. Thank you.

14 MODERATOR: Thank you, Fred. Linda
15 Brownson. Next on deck, David Dobbins.

16 SPEAKER: Good evening everyone. I'm Linda
17 Brownson of Wentworth. Same address as the
18 previous speaker. I have numerous issues with
19 the Northern Pass, but I'm picking one given the
20 time constraint that I haven't heard addressed
21 given that everyone else is doing such a good
22 job with the other issues, and that is I'm going
23 to speak for wildlife. First I'll look at the

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1 birds.

2 Breeding bird surveys have indicated that
3 we live, we, the forests of New Hampshire and
4 northern New England, are home to some of the
5 highest concentrations of neotropical migratory
6 birds in the country, and we are lucky. All of
7 us are lucky. Every spring and summer we see
8 the bright reds and the yellows and the greens
9 of the tropics in these birds that come and
10 visit us to breed in our forests, and the
11 presence of these birds is evidence that we do
12 have the largest concentration in the whole
13 continental U.S. and this is a globally
14 important resource. It's not just regional.
15 It's in our hemisphere.

16 The Audubon Society has done studies that
17 show the number of breeding birds in the U.S.
18 and I know this is a long ways to look, but the
19 red areas in the top is the very highest
20 concentration, and, in fact, they've even gone
21 further than that. They've identified what they
22 call super blocks, and the super blocks are the
23 very best of the best areas for these breeding

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1 birds and that is Grafton County, New Hampshire,
2 and Orange County, Vermont. These are the two
3 highest ones.

4 So another thing is the Wildlife Action
5 Plan. I don't know how many are familiar with
6 that, but this was mandated by Congress back in
7 2003 for every state had to come up with a
8 Wildlife Action Plan, and this was to identify
9 critical habitat for wildlife and threatened
10 species and endangered species so that we could
11 conserve these habitats so that our wildlife
12 species do not become threatened or endangered.
13 Right now we have 24 species that are state
14 threatened and 14 that are endangered in the
15 state. This map here with the pink areas shows
16 the highest quality habitat in New Hampshire. I
17 know you can't see that very well, but you can
18 go online and see it in the Wildlife Action Plan
19 and these paths, these transmission lines just
20 will go through great areas of this. I would
21 like to make sure that the impact of these
22 transmission lines in the right-of-ways are
23 investigated thoroughly as it relates to our

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1 treasured wildlife species in New Hampshire.

2 Thank you.

3 MODERATOR: Thank you, Linda. Next
4 speaker. Katie Rose.

5 SPEAKER: I hope you'll forgive me. I
6 prepared a song, and I just hope it doesn't run
7 too far over the 3-minute slot.

8 I'm Katie Rose. I was born and raised and
9 I'm a resident of the North Country.
10 Whitefield. And this is my song.

11 (Singing) South of the Canada border, east
12 of Vermont countryside, some kind of natural
13 beauty and people came far and wide to view the
14 majesty of the land, one place untouched by
15 human hands, and those that called it home were
16 tougher than a granite stone.

17 But something came out of the darkness,
18 something of a dangerous kind, trying to pass
19 legislation to run some high voltage power lines
20 with no concern for the local man whose great
21 grandfather had worked that land and number one
22 priority was the profit of the company.

23 So live free or die, my friend. Live free

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1 or die. This is the message that we send. Live
2 free or die.

3 Ads and propaganda lettered with
4 half-truths and lies. Anyone else might have
5 been fooled but country folk can survive. They
6 wouldn't stand for the NPT, depreciating their
7 property, and making their children unhealthy so
8 more people could waste electricity.

9 So live free or die, my friend. Live free
10 or die. This is the message that we send. Live
11 free or die.

12 It's a sad story of oppression by a
13 powerful entity, but it's more about the human
14 spirit and people standing up for what they
15 believe. And when our children are all grown
16 and having kids of their own they'll be thinking
17 back to you and me and the spirit that kept them
18 free.

19 So live free or die, my friend. Live free
20 or die. This is the message that we send. Live
21 free or die, my friend. Live free or die. This
22 is the message that we send.

23 MODERATOR: Thank you, Katie, for your

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1 comment.

2 Next speaker, I don't believe will be
3 singing. Kelley Monahan, Register of Deeds,
4 Grafton County.

5 SPEAKER: Well, that's one tough act to
6 follow. My name is Kelley Monahan, and I'm the
7 Register of Deeds for Grafton County. I'm also
8 a property owner in Orford, but I'll wear that
9 hat on Sunday in North Haverhill. Today as an
10 elected county official I'll speak in reference
11 to the certain reduction of property value
12 county-wide that will be a result of this
13 project moving forward. Whether it's the
14 preferred route or the alternate route it is
15 most certain that there will be a devastating
16 impact on what is now a pristine part of our
17 country. The lower value will result in lower
18 percentage of transfer tax. A reduction of
19 revenue that both Concord and Grafton County
20 rely upon. Grafton County was recently chosen
21 by Progressive Farmer magazine as the fourth
22 most desirable county east of the Mississippi in
23 which to farm. There are many factors involved

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1 in this ranking. The value of our views is ever
2 increasing to the point where the individual
3 towns have become collecting view tax. People
4 from all over the world come here for the raw
5 beauty that our countryside offers. Finally on
6 a personal note, one of the reasons I chose New
7 Hampshire to raise my three sons 13 years ago
8 was the spirit of self-sufficiency that is so
9 deeply ingrained as a New Hampshire value. This
10 project is a direct assault on that spirit. We
11 don't need you. We don't want you. Thank you.

12 MODERATOR: Thank you. Our next speaker is
13 David Dobbins. Next on deck, Joel Bourssa.
14 Kathy Oliver.

15 SPEAKER: Okay. Hi. Good evening, folks.
16 My name is indeed Dave Dobbins. I live in
17 Gilford, New Hampshire, and would also like to
18 become an adopted son of Ray Burton. I think
19 Ray's got the right idea on this, and I, in my
20 dreams what you're about to do is actually
21 successful and this process comes to an end.
22 Okay.

23 Tonight because we are limited to very

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1 specific things that we can do here I would like
2 to direct the Department of Energy to the
3 Presidential permit itself. There's a section
4 in the Presidential permit. It's Section 4.4,
5 and it's entitled "no action alternative," and
6 it turns out this is my favorite section of the
7 whole document.

8 Statement number 1. I want you to examine
9 every single statement in the session. There's
10 really only a couple of paragraphs in it.
11 Tonight, of course, I only have time to review
12 the first two sentences in it, but let's start
13 with statement number one. "The no action
14 alternative of not constructing the project
15 would eliminate the project's direct impacts to
16 environmental, historical, and cultural
17 resources in the area along the preferred
18 route."

19 They've been looking for common ground. I
20 think we found some. I think we couldn't agree
21 more. We could not agree more with that
22 statement in their permit application, and I ask
23 that on that basis alone the DOE exercise the no

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1 action alternative and deny this Presidential
2 permit.

3 Statement number two. "However, that would
4 be at the expense of losing the project's
5 capacity for delivering 1200 megawatts of clean,
6 low carbon power and achieving the policy
7 objective of improving fuel diversity." I have
8 three points for the DOE to examine on this one.
9 One, in an area in which there's already excess
10 capacity, just because a conceptual project can
11 deliver a certain capacity does not warrant that
12 it be built. Two, study the clean low carbon
13 claim in light of the methods employed by Hydro
14 Quebec to create their power source and in light
15 of the fact that Hydro Quebec would never be
16 allowed to create such power sources within the
17 United States. And number 3, study the current
18 fuel sources within New Hampshire which include
19 biomass, wind, solar, hydro, natural gas, coal,
20 nuclear and megawatts, fuel conservation and
21 efficiency measures. New Hampshire meets the
22 policy objective of fuel diversity. I direct
23 the DOE to examine other New England states and

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1 ensure that each is meeting the diversity policy
2 objectives.

3 Most of the rest of the section 4 entitled
4 no action goes on to say that if this project is
5 not in place, then other more disruptive
6 projects such as new power plants or other
7 transmission lines would need to be built and of
8 course all these new plants and transmission
9 lines would need to be done to meet greenhouse
10 gas reduction requirements and the need to
11 develop sources of cleaner low carbon renewal
12 power and the need to reduce our reliance on
13 fossil fuel would still exist.

14 So I say to the DOE, we do not agree that
15 other equally disruptive transmission lines and
16 power plants would have to be built if the
17 Northern Pass does not come in and wreck the
18 place. I say to DOE that New Hampshire is
19 already well on its way to the production of
20 real renewable low carbon energy and reducing
21 our reliance on fossil fuels without the
22 Northern Pass project. Thank you.

23 MODERATOR: Thank you, David. Next

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1 speaker, Joel Bourssa.

2 SPEAKER: Thank you. Hello. I am the
3 Chairman of the Selectboard in the town of
4 Woodstock which is along the preferred route. I
5 am President of the local Chamber of Commerce,
6 and I'm also an abutter along the preferred
7 route. You've heard from a lot of people with a
8 lot of good thoughts, but I'm really here to
9 talk about the character of our town and what it
10 can do to the character of our town.

11 As an abutter, we have an association.
12 It's called the Lost Valley Association just off
13 of Route 175. There's several people in the
14 room from that association. I've seen them
15 around, and it goes right through us. Right
16 next to us. I've lived up there for 17 years.
17 I see people in the room that have lived up
18 there longer than me, and we don't want that to
19 change. I want to talk a little bit about the
20 route through town just to put real terms how
21 it's going to go through the town of Woodstock.
22 Woodstock is located on 86 percent National
23 Forest. All the population lives in the other

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1 14 percent. The lines would come in over Bog
2 Pond, a beautiful area up on the base of Indian
3 Head really. It would come down over the hill
4 past our development. It would cross Route 112
5 which is a National Scenic Byway even going
6 west. Most people think it's just going east
7 but going west on is a National Scenic Byway.
8 Continue through the rather wilderness area and
9 cross over Route 3 in Woodstock, where it would
10 cross a couple of residences and be in sight of
11 a lot more. And then would cross the
12 Pemigewasset River where any day in the summer
13 you'll see hundreds of kayaks going down and
14 people swimming in the river and enjoying
15 everything the river has. It would go right
16 across that. And then it's going to go up the
17 hill next to an attraction, a zip line
18 attraction, and next to the KOA campground. I
19 know Darlene Godbout is in the room here who
20 owns that, and I don't think that's a nice thing
21 to have next to your campground or your
22 attraction. It's going to continue on across
23 Route 175 and then down into Thornton. It's

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1 passing real people's homes, real people's
2 property, real people's businesses and
3 livelihoods and our whole town, town of
4 Woodstock, is based on the character of its
5 people and the character of our small town life.
6 We're opposed to it, and it needs to stop.

7 MODERATOR: Thank you, Joel. In case you
8 haven't noticed I haven't been adding people to
9 the on deck circle. We're going to stick with
10 our original plan for a break at 7:45. So our
11 final speaker in this session is Kathy Oliver.

12 SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is Kathy
13 Oliver. I'm a resident of Campton, New
14 Hampshire. For 35 years I've been grateful to
15 call the White Mountains my home, and I'm here
16 tonight to voice my strong opposition to the
17 project. This beautiful state is in danger of
18 being changed forever. The Northern Pass has
19 petitioned for use of the White Mountain
20 National Forest, again, just as we've celebrated
21 the Centennial of the Weeks Act. To propose the
22 desecration your unique natural areas seems a
23 mission of disrespect. It is our duty to

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1 preserve and protect our great and irreplaceable
2 asset. The applicants who expect us to
3 sacrifice our most valued possession have proven
4 they're neither sensitive to our environment,
5 our way of life and clearly they're not a friend
6 to our communities.

7 I am alarmed by the loophole in our state
8 law that might allow a corporate entity to lay
9 claim to private property. Sadly, we are here
10 to fight a powerful private enterprise who are
11 attempting to perform a home invasion. And I
12 would like to mention that last week two bills
13 were introduced that would change the language
14 of private law to exclude a private large scale
15 transmission line from seeking eminent domain.
16 House bill 648 and 649 have both been tabled for
17 further review, and it's my personal feeling
18 that the outcome of these hearings may have been
19 directly influenced by conduct violations both
20 prior to and during the testimony. Very
21 disappointing.

22 As I am concerned about the scope of future
23 development, I ask the DOE to address the

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1 following. The potential hazards that may be
2 posed to flora, fauna and to the health of those
3 living within close proximity of the power
4 lines, to determine the impact that would be
5 created when gaining access to widen
6 right-of-ways, and if chemicals might be used to
7 defoliate and prevent the regrowth of
8 vegetation. To examine the level of dangerous
9 emissions that would radiate from these
10 particular high tension lines and how noise
11 pollution would affect wildlife and those who
12 would literally live with the constant hum and
13 clanking. According to the Campton Conservation
14 Committee, runoff from disturbed soils is listed
15 as the main threat to water quality. As Campton
16 sits atop a valuable aquifer, one of the highest
17 in quality and quantity, I ask that the DOE
18 research how this might negatively impact this
19 water source.

20 Finally, I understand that Governor Lynch
21 has a task force who in an effort to reduce
22 carbon emissions had 67 recommended actions, one
23 of these was importing hydroelectric power from

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1 Canada to New England. I am curious to know
2 what the remaining 66 possibilities might be.
3 Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and I
4 will be submitting additional comments to you in
5 writing. Thank you.

6 MODERATOR: Thank you very much, Kathy.
7 Before I allow you to break, I just want to toss
8 out the names of the next three speakers that
9 will speak after the break. Michael Leon,
10 Steven Sabre. 90 Tunnel Brook Road. And
11 Beverly Hall. We're going to take a break until
12 8:00.

13 RECESS TAKEN

14 MODERATOR: I'm going to call another name
15 because Beverly Hall has to leave so the third
16 person on the on deck circle is Ann Marie
17 O'Neill. Our next speaker is Michael Leon.
18 Take your seats. Those of you who have been
19 standing in the back there may be some open
20 seats available. Whole pack of them right here.
21 When we have the break, there's a tendency of
22 people to leave. Since there's no coats, books,
23 papers, hats or anything else on those seats,

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1 I'd assume they're free. Ladies and gentlemen,
2 Michael Leon.

3 SPEAKER: Good evening everyone. My name
4 is Michael Leon. My family and I live in
5 Thornton, New Hampshire. Due to the fact that
6 in a few months my wife and I are opening up a
7 General Store in Thornton, we actually would
8 benefit from the temporary increase in
9 construction workers. After all, as one of the
10 PSNH public relations employees said so smugly
11 at the Campton meeting a few weeks ago,
12 "construction workers drink a lot of coffee".
13 But I'm not here to talk about my increased
14 coffee sales as my property value plummets. I
15 am here to talk about public safety issues
16 concerning the installation of these 135-foot
17 carriers of electricity and their effects on
18 human beings living below and around them. As
19 much as PSNH would have us believe to the
20 contrary, human beings are part of the
21 environment. I would like to read into the
22 record probably just one recent article due to
23 time constraints concerning the possible

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1 constraints of electromagnetic field exposure
2 which these towers would surely subject New
3 Hampshire citizens to. The internet's an
4 amazing thing. I grabbed this off after doing
5 a lot of research. This is in April of 2007.
6 Growing evidence of power line dangers.
7 Evidence of a link between power lines and
8 children, childhood leukemia is growing. Some
9 scientists believe the cables can cause other
10 cancers as well as raise the risk of
11 miscarriage. In 2002 a report from the
12 California Department of Health Services
13 concluded there was a possible connection
14 between exposure to electromagnetic fields and
15 higher risk of child leukemia, adult brain
16 cancer, motor neuron disease and miscarriage.
17 All three of the scientists who carried out the
18 study said such fields could cause increased
19 risk of suicide while one of them said it seems
20 to raise the risk of adult leukemia. The report
21 said people exposed to magnetic fields in and
22 around their homes experienced disruption of the
23 nocturnal production of anti-cancer hormone

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1 melatonin, increasing their risk. The results
2 were interpreted as meaning that one in 20
3 pregnant women exposed to strong electromagnetic
4 fields could be at risk of miscarriage.

5 In 2005 a study by Oxford University's
6 childhood cancer research group said children
7 living within 220 yards of an overhead power
8 line had a 70 percent greater risk of falling
9 victim to leukemia. For those living between
10 220 and 660 yards away, the risk is 20 percent
11 higher, according to the researchers who looked
12 at the cases of more than 29,000 children with
13 cancer between 1962 and 1995. The report
14 concluded there is an association between
15 childhood leukemia and proximity of home address
16 at birth to high voltage powers lines. The
17 apparent risk extends to a greater distance than
18 would have been expected from previous studies.
19 The report, part funded by National Grid,
20 concluded that about 5 of the 400 or so cases of
21 leukemia diagnosed each year in England and
22 Wales could be linked to power lines. Other
23 scientists interpreting the same data said as

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1 many as 60 cases a year could be explained this
2 way.

3 Briefly, there was a report in a survey in
4 England about a 400 kilovolt power line and it
5 fits and I can't read the whole report but as
6 far as females go they had a control group and I
7 just want to give you some of the minor points.
8 Total number of questionnaires returned was 67.
9 Within the 50 meters of the power line 25 people
10 reported depression. Outside of that, 11.
11 Within 50 meters of the power line 43 people
12 reported headaches. Outside, 32. Within 50
13 meters of the power line, 30 reported insomnia,
14 outside 21. Gastrointestinal problems within 50
15 meters of a power line, 31. Outside in the
16 control group 12. Within 50 meters of a power
17 line, miscarriages, 18. Outside, only one.
18 Within the power lines four instances of breast
19 cancer, outside one.

20 In closing, I just would like to say that
21 many years ago the tobacco companies were
22 telling us that smoking was not harmful to our
23 health. And look what has transpired years

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1 later. Do we have to wait for the future to see
2 what effect these powers lines have on us and
3 our children? Does the Department of Energy
4 want to be responsible for the consequences? I
5 ask the Department of Energy why is not burying
6 them a viable alternative. Isn't the price of a
7 life worth it?

8 MODERATOR: Thank you, Michael. Next
9 speaker, Steven Sabre.

10 SPEAKER: Correct. Next time I won't have
11 the chicken sign my name.

12 MODERATOR: Next on deck, Leona Roussel.

13 SPEAKER: My name is Steve Sabre. I'm from
14 Easton, New Hampshire, though I spent most of my
15 life in North Woodstock so the power line is
16 going to impact both of the towns that I truly
17 love. I'd like to keep my proposal really brief
18 here and just address the recreation and
19 economic impact of Northern Pass on the North
20 Country. We're standing right now in the
21 outdoor hub of New England. The White Mountain
22 National Forest is one of the most heavily
23 utilized National Forests in the country. Over

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1 70 million people are within a day's drive of
2 this region. Tourists, leaf peepers,
3 photographers and back country users all enjoy
4 the unspoiled beauty of this area. Tourism is
5 the economic engine of the North Country that
6 directly or indirectly provides jobs for the
7 majority of its residents. There are signs
8 welcoming these millions of visitors to the
9 region. In the future will tourists traveling
10 up the Pemi Valley be greeted with a warm
11 bienvenue or with skeletons, spider webs and
12 scars? 130-foot hulking steel skeletons, a
13 spider web of wires and 180-mile scar across the
14 land will not be a very inviting signpost to
15 attract people to come and enjoy the unspoiled
16 beauty of the Whites and beyond. Northern Pass
17 as proposed will negatively impact the economy,
18 environment, recreational opportunities, and the
19 quality of life for all within the region. And
20 I'll submit these along with others I've
21 submitted online. Thank you.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you, Steven. Our next
23 speaker, Ann Marie O'Neill. Next on deck, Ken

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1 Chapman.

2 SPEAKER: I'm one of those neighbors that
3 Joe Bourssa mentioned. We have a home at Lost
4 Valley, and we've been there 40 years. It's a
5 part-time residence but my whole family fell in
6 love with this area. I want to point out one
7 thing. How did we get in this mess at Lost
8 Valley? Every lawyer who did a title search
9 when a piece of property was passed missed the
10 right-of-way. We never knew a thing about it
11 until people from the power company were flying
12 over the power line, I suppose figuring out how
13 much pesticide they need or whatever they use to
14 kill everything, how much of that they were
15 going to need that summer, and they noticed two
16 foundations being built right on the
17 right-of-way. We knew nothing about it. Thank
18 you to the lawyers.

19 You know, I hate to be a not in my
20 backyard, and Canada has been a very good
21 neighbor of ours, and I'm sure always will be,
22 but I do have feelings about a big company from
23 a foreign land coming through and scarring our

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1 treasured White Mountains. I also question
2 whether or not this project will create a lot of
3 jobs. I highly doubt it. I would assume that
4 to be cost effective they'll bring in crews who
5 are used to erecting those towers and who are
6 used to handling those wires that they're going
7 to string on the towers, and I don't think it's
8 going to be local people doing that. Yes,
9 they'll buy coffee and yes, they may stay in the
10 motels, but there aren't going to be any lasting
11 jobs.

12 I also wondered if this company is a
13 for-profit company, are those of us who are
14 going to be scarred by it, are we going to get
15 some stock in that company? What's going to
16 happen to us? Our property values are going to
17 fall to the bottom, and the home that has been
18 the heart of my family will be practically
19 worthless. I'll submit a few things. Thank
20 you.

21 MODERATOR: Thank you, Ann Marie. Leona
22 Roussel? Is there a Leona in the room? Ken
23 Chapman.

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1 SPEAKER: Thank you. I assure you I am not
2 Leona.

3 MODERATOR: One second before you start
4 speaking, I have nobody on my on deck circle so
5 Jeff Klaubert, Michele Noyes, Randy Farwell.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, Ken Chapman.

7 SPEAKER: Thank you. I am the moderator of
8 the town of Woodstock. I am a transplanted
9 southerner. I come from Atlanta, Georgia, but I
10 have lived here for 40 years by choice. I came
11 up here with no job, and I have found
12 sustenance, I found romance, I have found what
13 many things we are seeking. I want to go on
14 record as testifying that the town of Woodstock
15 at our town meeting two weeks and a day ago
16 voted unanimously to oppose this project, and to
17 do whatever we can as the only reason I'm here
18 now to tell that you we are concerned about the
19 impact on our economy, on our health, and
20 well-being, and on our home value and the value
21 of our community. I would say 99 percent of the
22 jobs that we offer in our community are related
23 to tourism. I owned a business that was related

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1 to tourism and dealing with tourists. And I am
2 certainly concerned when five days of rain can
3 make a difference between whether a business
4 makes or breaks the bank, and what a terrible
5 scar across the landscape will do for long-term
6 effect in our community.

7 I hope that the Department of Energy will
8 have the courage to stop a project like this in
9 its tracks and refuse the Presidential permit,
10 and I would urge everyone in this room to not
11 just speak, not just listen, but write those
12 letters, make your voices heard. Town meeting
13 is a wonderful thing, and I've been moderator
14 for over 35 years in a town. And it is
15 democracy in action and one of the very few
16 places where the people vote and speak direct to
17 one another and make their voices heard. We
18 must continue that tradition and make our voices
19 heard on all levels of this project including
20 our own state legislature that may not know what
21 we really think. Thank you.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you, Ken. Next speaker,
23 Jeff Klaubert.

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1 SPEAKER: Thank you very much for the
2 opportunity to speak and I have to say wow.
3 Thank you to everyone who spoke so far and
4 probably coming up much better prepared than I
5 am and I'm incredibly impressed and to the
6 artist with the amazing song, thank you very
7 much. That was just terrific. I actually would
8 like to make some points as well. Some of these
9 have already been stated but thankfully a couple
10 of them haven't. First of all, I will start
11 with those most important to me and that is any
12 discussion or issues around eminent domain and
13 taking of land, I want to make sure that there's
14 ironclad legislation. I know there's a couple
15 bills out now that would speak to what I'm
16 saying here so I would be in support of them
17 although I need to study them, but we should
18 make sure there's ironclad legislation that
19 prevents the taking of any of our land for the
20 benefit of a foreign company or any for profit
21 company, especially when it's serving needs that
22 are primarily out of state. I believe New
23 Hampshire has an excess of power so whether or

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1 not PSNH is going to buy this power is
2 irrelevant. We don't need it and the people
3 don't want it. So the markets and people that
4 will most utilize this power should take these
5 lands, should take these lines, should not go
6 through lands where they don't need the power
7 and don't want the power. That's point number
8 one or maybe point number 2. Secondly, the
9 issue of creating jobs, yeah, might be some
10 temporary jobs but another gentleman's point or
11 another woman's point there won't be many
12 long-term jobs. Why don't we instead look at
13 increasing our power generation capacity here in
14 the U.S. instead of relying on foreign power
15 from foreign companies and look at renewable
16 clean power here in the U.S. which would create
17 permanent jobs, and by the way, in New Hampshire
18 apparently we have plenty of power and we have
19 plenty of diversity of power so those markets
20 outside of New Hampshire that want this power,
21 they should create their own and it should be
22 renewable and should create permanent jobs for
23 U.S. citizens here in the U.S.

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1 With regard to property values, I think
2 there should be ironclad legislation that will
3 compensate all the people who will be impacted,
4 most importantly the property owners, but also
5 everyone in the community for the economic value
6 suffered, and it should be, the compensation
7 should be as if the lines weren't there, and it
8 should not only be for now but for perpetuity,
9 too, because you're not going to remove these
10 lines. Very important point.

11 And if you must consider it, consider
12 burying the lines and why is this going through
13 New Hampshire? We don't need the power so send
14 it to someone else and I would ask have other
15 places denied it? Has Vermont denied it? Has
16 the Hudson Valley denied it? I don't know, but
17 I would look into that. It probably already
18 has. So I think with that I've made all my
19 points so I'll yield the floor and I thank you.

20 MODERATOR: Thank you very much, Jeff.
21 Next speaker. Michele Noyes. Added to the on
22 deck circle, Randy Farwell, John O'Neil, Robert
23 Matheson.

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1 MODERATOR: My name is Michele Noyes. I
2 live on Route 175 in Thornton, New Hampshire.
3 And you're all going to go on a really quick
4 journey with me. More times than I can count
5 I've traveled to the Province of Quebec. I have
6 gone there since I was a young teenager, mostly
7 as tourist. I spent most of my time vacationing
8 in the old section of Quebec City. I park the
9 car, and then I walk or bike my way through the
10 many small roads, alleys and the pathways along
11 the St. Lawrence River. I sat down many a time
12 at the outdoor cafes enjoying the history,
13 scenery, architecture, culture and the way of
14 life they so carefully preserve there. If
15 you've ever been there, you know just how
16 special it is and you know exactly what I mean.

17 If Hydro Quebec planned to erect high
18 voltage DC towers in Old Quebec City, I can
19 assure you that the people who live there, work
20 there and own businesses there, would not roll
21 over and play dead. And I can guarantee you it
22 would not only be the NIMBYs, as some
23 disparagingly say, who would be in an uproar

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1 over this. Why should people in New Hampshire
2 who cherish our own history, beauty, scenery and
3 way of life, culture, and industry, tourism
4 being one of them, not be able to preserve what
5 we have. We live, work and play here. It is
6 our environment. If Hydro Quebec erected HVDC
7 towers in Old Quebec City, I know I would not
8 travel there anymore. The very reason I would
9 go there would be lost. The very same thing
10 will happen to the areas where the towers hit
11 New Hampshire. People will go elsewhere to find
12 what they are looking for. It is not a fear.
13 It is a reality. Can you do a study on that?

14 MODERATOR: Thank you, Michele. Randy
15 Farwell.

16 SPEAKER: I have no prepared statement. I
17 have submitted some statements online. I am a
18 tourism operator here in the region. Guy that
19 Joel spoke of. I'm the zip line canopy tour,
20 ecotour operator on 300 acres of private terrain
21 in Woodstock that the power line runs right
22 through. I know they have an easement, and I'm
23 all good with that because I don't want to tell

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1 them what they can do with their property any
2 more than they can tell me what I can do with
3 mine, but I'm here to tell you that as an
4 American and a taxpayer here, I don't think it's
5 right for us to be relying on foreign power.
6 Canada is great. Aye? I love the place.
7 Nothing against them but haven't we learned
8 anything as Americans about relying on foreign
9 power. Number one.

10 Number two, I've heard a lot of sort of
11 back and forth about whether or not this would
12 actually impact tourism, and I am hear to tell
13 you without a doubt that my operation has been,
14 thankfully, quite a successful operation, thanks
15 to hard work of myself and my employees which
16 are many in this region, and we bring a lot of
17 visitors here. A lot. Thousands. And we pay
18 thousands of dollars in taxes.

19 We are an ecotourism operator. The reason
20 they come here you know is to see this beautiful
21 region, these mountains that we have a zip line
22 canopy tour where they fly from tree to tree to
23 check out the trees and have this unique

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1 perspective on this wonderful region. A few
2 years ago I tried to put a billboard up on the
3 side of the highway and they just about hung me.
4 Literally. So for me to stand back and go okay,
5 well, to run down through 140 miles of this part
6 of the state with these towers and this power
7 sure doesn't seem right.

8 So I will tell you that I appreciate you
9 guys' time studying this. I know it's
10 thankless. And I know people stand up here and,
11 you know, it's tough so I appreciate that. But
12 I will tell you I am the face of tourism or one
13 of them here in town, and we definitely are
14 going to be negatively impacted. I mean the
15 very reason people come here is to see this
16 unspoiled region and to experience our operation
17 which is really pristine and really unique. And
18 because of the wonderful town of Woodstock's
19 sort of no zoning and live free or die and come
20 in and do this, and open arms to operators like
21 myself that's why I'm here.

22 So let's not -- it's foreign power. It's
23 going to kill a lot of tourism. We pay a lot of

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1 taxes already. The whole thing about job
2 increase, well, there's going to be a lot of
3 jobs lost. It will all but shut us down. I
4 really don't think people are going to come here
5 to view these behemoth things coming right down
6 through our property. They say that burying
7 them is not cost effective. They are a
8 for-profit industry so bury it or move them or
9 basically the best thing would be not to put
10 them here because a lot of what's happening,
11 too, is the threat of this is making people pull
12 back biomass projects, wind power projects, it's
13 stopping our local renewable efforts, and if
14 anybody is going to make money sending power
15 down through New Hampshire it ought to be the
16 good old people of New Hampshire. Thank you.

17 MODERATOR: Thank you, Randy. Next
18 speaker, John O'Neil.

19 SPEAKER: Can we switch around?

20 MODERATOR: Luckily, he's not the last one
21 so yes, that's fine.

22 SPEAKER: I'm Bob Matheson. I live in
23 Woodstock, New Hampshire. 03262. And I just

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1 wanted to get up and say a few things. One of
2 the things that I don't feel really has been
3 addressed is the job situation. You know,
4 they're coming down and saying this is going to
5 create 1200 jobs here locally. Some of you may
6 know that I was a state rep and I sat on the
7 Science, Technology and Energy Committee down
8 there at the State House and we did a lot to try
9 to create green jobs here with power production
10 here in the state. There has been State money
11 spent to help bring this development along. And
12 I have a real concern about this power line
13 stealing our export market. Currently we export
14 power out of the State of New Hampshire and with
15 this new 1200 megawatt line coming down into our
16 market areas of Connecticut and Massachusetts,
17 what happens to all the time and effort that we
18 have spent as a state to develop our own energy
19 sources? Green energy sources, good energy
20 jobs. And I have a very big concern about what
21 may happen to the people who are employed.
22 Leominster Wind, for example, Noble Wind, some
23 of the things that have just come in in the last

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1 few years. Noble with its phase 1 of a Phase 3
2 wind project. We may never see the other two
3 phases because of this power line.

4 The other thing I wanted to say about Hydro
5 Quebec is Quebec has a variety of energy
6 sources. It's not all just hydro. And how do
7 we know coming from a foreign country exactly
8 who's producing this energy or what type of
9 energy this is. This is basically just coming
10 over a line in a power line and how do we know
11 where this power is coming from. They're
12 touting it as green energy and touting it as job
13 producing and I don't see that at all so I'll
14 just wrap up with that. Thank you.

15 MODERATOR: Thank you very much, Robert.
16 Our next speaker is John O'Neil. Next on deck,
17 S. Tyler Durham.

18 SPEAKER: Six seconds to get to the podium
19 and two minutes and 54 left. My name is John
20 O'Neil. I'm an environmental engineer from
21 Hollis, New Hampshire. I originally come from
22 up in the North Country so it's good to be back
23 up here today. I saw and we've heard from Ray

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1 Burton today and I applaud Ray as having the
2 foresight to come out against this thing right
3 now. We have a lot of political representatives
4 here tonight, and they're going to be reporting
5 back to their bosses. Remember, we're really
6 their bosses. If they can't get on the right
7 side of this issue, they need to get out of
8 office. That's the first thing.

9 Katie Rose sang a wonderful song tonight,
10 and she sang about corporate profit versus New
11 Hampshire's life blood. Fred Brownson mentioned
12 about gluttony. Well, that's what it really
13 comes down to folks. And it's not gluttony,
14 it's greed. Northern Pass whether they're out
15 of Wall Street and Manchester, New Hampshire or
16 whether they're out of Canada is here for one
17 reason. Greed. Money. That's why these power
18 lines are going up in the air. Our politicians
19 can go back to Concord and they can legislate
20 the stuff goes underground, under water, or
21 doesn't get approved in this state period. Say
22 it. Let it roll off your tongue. Underground,
23 under water or unapproved. Go ahead. You're a

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1 rep. Underground, under water or unapproved.
2 One more time. Underground, under water or
3 unapproved. Tell these guys. Underground,
4 under water or unapproved. Period. That's
5 right. I remember having -- 40 seconds.

6 I remember this 25 years ago. It was
7 summarily rejected back then. We walked away
8 from this. I don't know if you all remember
9 this, but I come from a little further up north,
10 and the folks there were good enough to give me
11 scholarships to go to college for environmental
12 and civil engineering. This is a behemoth
13 project. \$16,000,000 used for the grease to get
14 this pushed through the state of New Hampshire.
15 This is pure averse and greed, it does not
16 belong in this state and it needs to be
17 rejected. Period.

18 MODERATOR: Next speaker. S. Tyler Durham.

19 SPEAKER: Good evening. If I don't use the
20 microphone, can you still hear me? Okay. I
21 wasn't planning to come here and speak. I was
22 planning to listen which I did, and I heard a
23 lot of good things. One was someone mentioned

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1 that there was a New Hampshire town meeting
2 where people voted unanimously to fight this.
3 How many of you have been to a New Hampshire
4 town meeting? How many of you have seen
5 unanimous things happen there? New Hampshire is
6 an independent state of independent people. At
7 town meeting, those in favor? Yay. Those
8 opposed? The one guy. Nay. Every town has
9 one. The fact that there people are uniting
10 against this, that's pretty significant. And
11 some of us have traveled very far away. Some of
12 us have lived here for a long time, but there's
13 something about this place that's very special.
14 I've been fortunate to travel. I come back
15 here. And I just ask the people who are making
16 the decisions about this to consider, when
17 you're weighing the costs and benefits, just
18 remember your time here. And as you're
19 traveling throughout these small towns, there's,
20 you know, it's very sentimental, sappy,
21 whatever. Charm. Okay? In New Hampshire it's
22 something -- it's here. And maybe you don't
23 realize it until it's gone. And unfortunately,

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1 in a lot of different parts of this country and
2 the world, it's gone. But we still have it
3 here, and it would be nice to keep it. And so
4 please just consider that. The things that
5 you've seen as you drive around, the people
6 you've met, the people who have spoken. Thank
7 you.

8 MODERATOR: Thank you, Tyler. That
9 concludes our list of speakers that were signed
10 up.

11 I'm going to go through a list that were
12 that on the first call weren't here and then
13 after that, I'll go to comments from the group
14 for people who weren't signed up. So the names
15 that I have, Harry Hintlian. Come on up.
16 Raymond D'Amante. Richard Samson. Leona
17 Russell. Anyone named Leona? Is that Harry?

18 SPEAKER: Yes. That's right.

19 MODERATOR: Welcome, Harry.

20 SPEAKER: Thank you. My name is Harry
21 Hintlian. I'm from Massachusetts but that
22 shouldn't make any difference. I feel like I'm
23 a New Hampshire resident. I had property up

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1 here for 40 years. My property is in Woodstock.
2 I own 102 acres right near, next to Randy
3 Farwell's office that's Alpine Adventures
4 property, and you know I sit here in amazement.
5 I just found out about this project about three
6 or four weeks ago. But the amazement is that
7 this has gone this far. How a project like this
8 could even get this far in this area is
9 unbelievable.

10 You know for at least a century our
11 forefathers have been trying to protect this
12 entire area. First with Franconia Notch State
13 Park and then the National Forest, and it was
14 done so that we wouldn't have the type of
15 destruction that's going to happen if this
16 Northern Pass project goes through. Back in
17 1903, the Congress of the United States decided
18 that it would protect these areas that had been
19 pillaged by lumber barons and so they created
20 the National Forest and then I don't know if it
21 was the same time or slightly before or after
22 that they created the Franconia State Park, and
23 it's not like we're the first generation that's

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1 appreciated this magnificent beauty. All our
2 forefathers for two centuries they have
3 appreciated the beauty of this area, especially
4 Franconia Notch which is a symbol of the state.
5 The Man in the Mountain is the symbol of the
6 state and we've done everything to protect this
7 area. We have 500 foot conservation corridors
8 along the Pemi. We have incredible regulations
9 by the Department of Environmental Services.
10 You can't even touch a trickle or move it in one
11 direction if it flows downhill and it's water.
12 And we do all this to protect this area and now
13 this incredible monster, these huge towers come
14 through and would wreck everything that we
15 basically have tried to protect. The gateway to
16 Franconia Notch. It's not only the Notch. It's
17 all this area is beautiful from Plymouth west,
18 this is a magnificent area. Our forefathers
19 would be turning in their graves. They're
20 probably turning in their graves right now just
21 thinking of what's going on.

22 So what are we teaching our children by,
23 what's the legacy that we would leave them if

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1 this was allowed to go through. Our forefathers
2 left a legacy of the beauty of this beautiful
3 gateway, and we would be leaving them the legacy
4 of 135-foot steel towers. And what do we teach
5 our kids? What kind of lesson are we teaching
6 them to protect the environment? To protect the
7 visual beauty of this area that we've tried so
8 hard to protect through the centuries, and then
9 all of a sudden destroy it like this? It
10 doesn't make sense. So I'm against this project
11 for historical reasons, for aesthetic seasons,
12 for environmental, visual and environmental
13 pollution and it's everything that we've valued
14 and treasured for a century or two centuries,
15 this is nothing new, this idea to protect our
16 beauty, but this would destroy it for sure.
17 Thank you very much.

18 MODERATOR: Thank you, Harry. Richard
19 Samson? Or was that a no show? Okay. As we
20 have done each night after all of the prelisted
21 speakers have had an opportunity, we open it up
22 to people in the audience who heard things or
23 haven't heard the particular item that they

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1 wanted to hear spoken about. So I'm going to
2 open it up now. Can I see a show of hands?
3 Anybody else that wants to speak? Come on up.
4 Anybody else?

5 AUDIENCE: Can have I a comment? In
6 closing I would like to hear from Katie one more
7 time.

8 MODERATOR: Katie, if she wishes to, can
9 come up after we go through anybody who hasn't
10 spoken.

11 AUDIENCE: Are you taking followups yet?

12 MODERATOR: Right now I'm still going for
13 people who haven't yet spoken. So can I see any
14 other hands? Okay. Anybody else who is going
15 to do a second? I've got three chairs here. So
16 Susan, John, Katie? Come up.

17 State your name, address, zip code.

18 SPEAKER: Thank you. My name is Carl
19 Lehner. I live in Holderness. 03245. And my
20 point is that the cable burial option has really
21 not been studied, but it needs to be. The
22 proponents of the Northern Pass project claim
23 that the cost of burying this wire is too

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1 expensive compared to the cost of hanging them
2 off the tall towers. The implication is that
3 they have studied that option and found it too
4 expensive but that implication is incorrect. At
5 a February 15, 2011 meeting in Plymouth, New
6 Hampshire, where Gary Long of PSNH and Christian
7 Brosseau of Hydro Quebec Energy Services U.S.
8 presented the Northern Pass point of view, they
9 were quoted as explaining that burying the
10 transmission line would be four to ten times as
11 expensive and also incur additional operating
12 costs making it, "prohibitively expensive".
13 Well, how do they know this? They obviously
14 have no idea what the underground option would
15 cost because if they did, they'd have a better
16 idea than four to ten times the difference.
17 They obviously have not researched this question
18 when it's a factor of 2.5 difference between the
19 two estimates. I'd be skeptical of believing
20 any number they provide because they obviously
21 haven't looked at that option at all. The
22 Northern Pass proponents are trying to mislead
23 us when they say the cost of burial is too

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1 expensive because they do not know. They must
2 be required to do a proper study of this option
3 rather than dismissing it as impractical. It
4 may be cheaper than the above ground option if
5 they do a proper analysis. Given meetings like
6 this, it may be in the end their only option.
7 This is another unfortunate example of the
8 Northern Pass proponents providing either
9 misleading statements or outright falsehoods in
10 order to make people believe that their option
11 is the best alternative. Given the track record
12 to date, I think it's inappropriate to believe
13 much, if any, of their propaganda. Thank you.

14 MODERATOR: Thank you. Susan? You're
15 next.

16 SPEAKER: (Susan Schibanoff) This will
17 simply conclude my earlier comments and of
18 course I now have something to add. Of course.

19 Third and last, I ask the DOE to include
20 and investigate the no build options for the
21 reasons that I have already given. I ask the
22 DOE to include alternative routes and designs
23 including undergrounding the lines along public

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1 highways, rail beds, et cetera, for the reasons
2 I have already given. I ask the DOE to release
3 a proposed scope and outline for the EIS for
4 public comment before preparation of the Draft
5 EIS begins in earnest, rather than publishing
6 just a summary of the scoping comments as
7 apparently is planned. I ask the DOE finally to
8 conduct a rigorous world class analysis of all
9 of the impacts of the project. Northern Pass is
10 being called a once in a lifetime opportunity.
11 I heard that fairly often last night in
12 Franklin. That word opportunity has different
13 resonances for different people. Let's make
14 sure we are dead certain about the full range of
15 its impacts. There won't be a second chance.
16 We can't do it over if it's a disaster. Your
17 responsibility to get it right for the first
18 time is enormous. We trust you. Thank you for
19 listening and I have one final part that I'd
20 like to read here.

21 I'm going to call this the honor roll of
22 towns in New Hampshire that have taken a stand
23 on Northern Pass. Everyone who took a stand is

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1 against it. I will now read a list of the towns
2 who voted against Northern Pass in town meetings
3 last week. Bath, Bethlehem, Bridgewater,
4 Campton, Chichester, Clarksville, Colebrook,
5 Columbia, Dalton, my home town of Easton,
6 Effingham, Haverhill, Holderness, Jefferson,
7 Lancaster, Landaff, Lincoln, Littleton,
8 Northumberland, Orford, Pembroke, Pittsburg,
9 Stewartstown, Stratford, Sugar Hill, Thornton,
10 Wentworth, Woodstock.

11 MODERATOR: Thank you, Susan. Now we've
12 got two popular people over here.

13 AUDIENCE: I don't want to compete with
14 them, but I do have a small point.

15 MODERATOR: Okay. What I was going to say
16 is if there's anybody else who hasn't spoken yet
17 that would like to come up, show a hand right
18 now. One. Come on up. No public comments from
19 over here? Center section? Last chance. This
20 is going to be the last call so --

21 SPEAKER: My name is Jaime Saxe. I live in
22 North Woodstock. 03262. Sorry. I hadn't
23 planned on coming up here but just listening to

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1 everyone talk and I'm hearing about the
2 environment, the health, you know, I'm in the
3 tourist industry as are most of us that live in
4 the area and a big part of it is hearing about
5 the charm and I'm just thinking about back to
6 the Old Man in the Mountain fell and the
7 devastation that we felt and Old Man in the
8 Mountain, very close to my heart, and you know,
9 we recovered from that. We persevered. And I
10 don't know if this happened and went through if
11 we could persevere again. We don't want it.
12 Why is it here? That's it. Thank you.

13 MODERATOR: I want to make sure that the
14 stenographer got your information.

15 SPEAKER: Hi. My name is Heather McLean.
16 I live in Campton. This is really
17 nerve-wracking. I wasn't going to speak, but I
18 just couldn't help myself so along -- I live in
19 Campton. Our house will have a view, a direct
20 view over the Owls Nest which is another
21 business that would be a casualty of this
22 Northern Pass so I'll see the Northern Pass, but
23 speaking more for people who are really directly

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1 affected, my heart goes out to them, and I want
2 to bring up the fact that the Northern Pass when
3 I spoke to the gentleman from the DOE somewhere
4 in here he mentioned that -- that wasn't you.
5 It was somebody else. But I asked if the
6 psychological impact was important in your
7 study, and he seemed to think it was not quite
8 so important as endangered animals and birds and
9 things like that which is all very important,
10 but as you've gotten from a feel from this
11 meeting that psychosocial impact is huge in this
12 area along with the tourism. I think those are,
13 I think it's an area you really need to study
14 and look at because people are deeply
15 emotionally affected by this whole thing and
16 will be for a long time.

17 And also the fact that the PSNH is very
18 concerned about their cost for burying the line
19 or for where their preferred route is. Their
20 cost is very important and they've mentioned
21 very often that this is cost prohibitive and
22 that's cost prohibitive, but our cost has not
23 been considered, and I want that to be noted,

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1 that the Northern Pass has considered their cost
2 more important than ours. Thanks.

3 SPEAKER: Hello. So my name is Margaret
4 Dufresne. I live in Woodstock. 03262. I don't
5 quite have anything prepared, but I felt my
6 voice is just as good as anyone's. You know,
7 yeah, yeah, I'm a NIMBY, I don't want it in my
8 backyard, I don't want it at all for every
9 reason listed should be good enough.
10 Environmental, health hazard, tourist industry,
11 economics. We're going to be crippled so what's
12 left? So not only do I not want this in my
13 backyard, I don't want it in my town, I don't
14 want it in your town. I don't even want it in
15 the state or hey, how about the country? You
16 can stay over there where you are. And I ask
17 you guys to deny them completely. Thanks.

18 MODERATOR: Thank you very much.

19 SPEAKER: (Roy Stever) I just had two
20 things that I was looking over my notes that I
21 will really feel badly if I went home without
22 having said and the first regards fire. It's
23 one thing that I do worry about where we're

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1 situated on the side of the mountain and what do
2 we do in a dry season with wildfire in a remote
3 section of the Pemi of the National Forest.
4 Pemi District. I do know that I was told by a
5 wetlands engineer that when the existing line
6 was charged originally there were fires that
7 ensued, small brush fires but wildfire is a
8 concern.

9 The last is, incredibly, I didn't hear
10 anybody, and maybe I didn't hear it, talk about
11 bats. We have an old barn. We have a great
12 colony of bats that live in that barn. They're
13 welcome to stay, but we all know that bats are
14 beleaguered, and we need to think carefully
15 about how we are allowing them to coexist with
16 us if I am thinking about echolocation and
17 energy emitted and noise and the confusion that
18 they may present to our friends particularly at
19 a time when they cross these lines on the way to
20 spend their winters wherever they go. Thank you
21 very much.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you for your comments.

23 Excuse me one second before you run away. Hold

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1 on. That was Roy Stever.

2 SPEAKER: (Hawk Metheny) Hello again. I
3 was the voice for the Appalachian Trail earlier
4 and I made comment earlier about viewshed
5 impacts, and I just wanted to clarify that the
6 impact wouldn't just be at the crossing of the
7 Appalachian Trail. That the analysis should be
8 done from a series of peaks where the line would
9 be visible from. Starting from the south going
10 to the north that would be Smarts Mountain, Mt.
11 Cube, Mt. Moosilauke, South Kinsman, all the
12 peaks in Franconia Ridge, Liberty, Little
13 Haystack, Lincoln and Lafayette, and Mt.
14 Garfield. So I'd like to see or we would like
15 to see full and comprehensive viewshed impacts
16 from all of those peaks. Thank you.

17 MODERATOR: Thank you very much. My on
18 deck circle, if there's no one that hasn't
19 spoken yet I've been reminded numerous times
20 about the Democratic approach to things in New
21 Hampshire so I figured the person with the most
22 applause will end up going dead last and we'll
23 figure out their order based on that. So how

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1 does that sound? Okay. David Dobbins, all of
2 you who want him to speak, clap your hands.
3 John O'Neil, clap your hands. That's almost a
4 tie. I may need help with that. Katie Rose.
5 Okay. So Katie Rose definitely goes last.

6 Now the battle is between David and John.
7 Flip a coin. Anybody got one with the Man in
8 the Mountain head? Better yet, I'm going to let
9 this kid right here who sat the whole time come
10 on up. Come on up. Take a look at those two
11 guys and tell me which one is going first.

12 AUDIENCE: The guy in the red.

13 MODERATOR: Thank you very much. That was
14 not democratic in any way. I apologize for
15 that. Our third to last speaker, David Dobbins.
16 I know you didn't want to go after Katie.

17 SPEAKER: (David Dobbins) I sure didn't.
18 Thank you very much. When I got up and said
19 hello to you folks and told I was from Gilford,
20 I wanted to point out that the town of Gilford
21 isn't affected by these, by these power lines
22 directly at all. None of the primary paths,
23 none of the four or 500 alternate paths. We're

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1 fortunate enough they don't hit our town, but
2 that doesn't mean we don't care deeply about the
3 State of New Hampshire. There's also, when we
4 took that break, I happened to be talking with
5 someone, I'm not even sure of her name, but she
6 brought up a point and I'd like to pursue that
7 for a moment because in all of the meetings that
8 I've been to about this I haven't heard it
9 brought up. And I'd like to if I could, could I
10 ask the members of the department a question?

11 MR. MILLS: Just make your comment.

12 SPEAKER: (David Dobbins) I'll make a
13 comment then. I'm going to guess at all these
14 wonderful things that we're asking of the
15 Department of Energy to perform for us, if
16 anyone has kept track of them at all, thank
17 goodness they're keeping track of them, there's
18 probably more than 100 specific tasks that
19 they've been given. Several of them are
20 extensive studies that really would require
21 years, years, of course, unless there were tens
22 of thousands of federal employees in the
23 Department of Energy that could end up working

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1 on this in some fashion. So my comment about it
2 is this. I'm not a member of the Tea Party or
3 Republican party or anything like that but
4 recently our nation sent a very strong message
5 across the country and it had to do with
6 spending that is completely out of control and
7 you know as kind of a practical New Hampshire
8 person, and a businessman here in the state of
9 New Hampshire, it's really tough to imagine the
10 amount of money that is going to be spent
11 studying the multiple facets of this issue when
12 thousands of intelligent, good and decent people
13 already know that this project should not come
14 through New Hampshire. I want to exhort every
15 one of you when you're thinking about this,
16 someone said it before and I can't impress upon
17 it enough, contact every member of the political
18 parties that we have in our state, every
19 representative, every state senator, the
20 governor, our senators and the congressional
21 people at the national level. Someone somewhere
22 has got to stop this before we spend -- I'm
23 going to guess that the people at the Department

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1 of Energy make more than the average salary of
2 us folks here in New Hampshire. I'm thinking
3 there's going to be one tremendous amount of
4 money spent on it that doesn't need to be if
5 someone somewhere could just take a sensible
6 look at this and stop it on the very merits of
7 it is simply not needed. Thank you.

8 MODERATOR: Thank you, Dave. Runner up,
9 John O'Neil. We actually give three minutes
10 from the time you start. We don't charge you
11 for the run up.

12 SPEAKER: (John O'Neil) This brings me to
13 my point, my final point here. Three words for
14 you besides greed is good. Class action
15 lawsuit. Okay? Class action lawsuit. It
16 extends beyond, this is something that needs to
17 be in the record. This is how serious we are
18 because this is hard ball. This is a federal
19 level permit and then we go to a state level.
20 There's five important people at the state
21 level. Everybody that has property taken is
22 going to be compensated. Reject it. Say it's
23 not enough. Go to the State Board of Land and

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1 Tax Appeals. Two people make a decision whether
2 this is right or wrong. They're not paying you
3 enough. Period. They're not paying everybody
4 as Heather McLean said who is going to
5 compensate us for our business, for 135-foot
6 towers that should be underground or under
7 water? They shouldn't be going through the life
8 blood as Katie Rose has sung for us so
9 eloquently of New Hampshire. It just is not
10 right. This needs to be exorbitant. We're
11 talking tobacco settlement exorbitant. We're
12 talking painful, expensive, so much so that they
13 want to bury these lines, that that's the only
14 thing that they can do with these things or they
15 can go elsewhere. That's the message that we
16 need to send to them. We need to think of this
17 in advance. Our elected officials that are
18 hanging back in the wings letting this go
19 through the public process, this is the process,
20 happens all the time, it's going to continue,
21 but when this comes to our ball court and this
22 is our ball game there's five important people
23 in our state and elected officials know this.

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1 They know that the five people on the state Site
2 Selection Committee are paramountly important.
3 They are God, if you believe in such. There's
4 two people that can pay you for this, that can
5 make this painful, exorbitant, tobacco
6 settlement exorbitant to the Northern Pass.
7 Greed is good. Use it. Jujitsu. This does not
8 belong in our state unless it's underground or
9 under water. Thank you.

10 MODERATOR: Thank you, John. Since the
11 Democratic process has Katie going last that
12 means I give my comments next. Round of
13 applause for all the speakers tonight. Thank
14 you very much on their behalf. I want to review
15 the -- by the way, thank you for all the great
16 hospitality. We really appreciate it. I want
17 to go through the list of places where we will
18 be before we leave the state. Whitefield, New
19 Hampshire, at the Mountainview Grand Hotel, the
20 Presidential Room. I'm hoping it's bigger than
21 this. That's Thursday, March 17th. No, wait.
22 Yes. That's right. St Patrick's Day. Who
23 scheduled these things? Plymouth, New

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1 Hampshire. Plymouth State University, the
2 Silver Center. That's Friday, the 18th. Six to
3 9 if you're not doing anything special on
4 Friday. Come out and see us again. Colebrook
5 New Hampshire at the elementary school, 1 to 4
6 p.m. on Saturday, the 19th, and Haverhill.
7 Sunday, the 20th from 1 to 4 at the Cooperative
8 Middle school, and that's it. You can continue
9 to follow this process via the website which
10 is --

11 MR. MILLS: northernpasseis.us.

12 MODERATOR: Thank you, Brian. Everybody
13 knows where that website is? And you can
14 continue to provide comments up until April
15 12th. Brian, are your comments on the web?

16 MR. MILLS: Not yet.

17 MODERATOR: We'll make sure that we get
18 those up as part of the process of adding
19 materials that you can guys can look at. And
20 last but not least, Katie Rose.

21 AUDIENCE: Can I ask a question while Kate
22 is setting up? You guys have a, you must have a
23 publicity department. Is there any way to make

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1 sure that notices of these meetings, Scoping
2 Meetings, get placed in the local papers?
3 Because we're finding a lot of people don't know
4 about this, and if you just go through the
5 various towns and in the local newspapers, it
6 will be very helpful.

7 AUDIENCE: Do you have anything scheduled
8 for the summertime when our towns really fill
9 up? No. Okay. This is a very hard time for a
10 lot of people to get out.

11 SPEAKER: (Katie Rose) I want to add one
12 more thing to what everybody's been talking
13 about. It's my opinion that burying the
14 Northern Pass is like Band-Aiding a bullet
15 wound. So no means no.

16 (Singing) South of the Canada border, east
17 of Vermont countryside, some kind of natural
18 beauty, and people came far and wide to view the
19 majesty of the land, one place untouched by
20 human hand, and those that called it home were
21 tougher than a granite stone.

22 But something came out of the darkness,
23 something of a dangerous kind, trying to pass

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1 legislation to run some high voltage power lines
2 with no concern for the local man whose great
3 grandfather had worked that land. The number
4 one priority was the profit of the company.

5 So live free or die, my friend. Live free
6 or die. This is the message that we send. Live
7 free or die.

8 Ads and propaganda littered with
9 half-truths and lies, anyone else might have
10 been fooled but country folk can survive. They
11 wouldn't stand for the NPT depreciating their
12 property, and making their children unhealthy so
13 more people could waste electricity. So live
14 free or die, my friend. Live free or die. Live
15 free.

16 This is the message that we send. Live
17 free or die. It's a sad story of oppression by
18 a powerful entity. But it's more about the
19 human spirit and people standing up for what
20 they believe and when our children are all grown
21 and having kids of their own, they'll be
22 thinking back to you and me and the spirit that
23 kept them free.

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1 So live free or die, my friend. Live free
2 or die. This is the message that we send. Live
3 free or die, my friend. Live free or die. This
4 is the message that we send.

5 MODERATOR: Again, thank you all very much.
6 You can mark the time. We adjourn the meeting.
7 Thank you.

8 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 P.M.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Cynthia Foster, Licensed Court Reporter for the State of New Hampshire, hereby certify that on March 16, 2011, I took public comment at the Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Draft EIS Public Scoping Meeting at Lincoln, New Hampshire;

That the foregoing testimony was taken by me in Shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me, and pages 2 through 94, inclusive, comprise a full, true and correct transcription of my verbatim stenographic notes of the public comment;

Dated at West Lebanon, New Hampshire, this 19th day of March, 2011.

Cynthia Foster, LCR

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