

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
NORTHERN PASS TRANSMISSION LINE DRAFT EIS

Public Scoping Hearing  
Colebrook Elementary School  
27 Dumont Street  
Colebrook, New Hampshire 03576  
Saturday, March 19, 2011

1 (Commence at 1:17 p.m.)

2 THE MODERATOR: Thank you all for coming  
3 tonight. So -- thank you for coming here this  
4 afternoon. For those of you who are attending  
5 this meeting for the first time, this process is  
6 put in place to get comments from all of you. The  
7 first part of the discussion is dedicated to  
8 having the maps in the back and having the people  
9 in the back and at this table answer questions  
10 from you.

11 This next section is dedicated almost  
12 exclusively to you guys in this room to give your  
13 comments to us. We're going to start this meeting  
14 a little differently than the others thus far with  
15 opening Pledge of Allegiance.

16 (The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)

17 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Thank you all for  
18 attending. Thank you all for attending. My name  
19 is George Kervitsky, and I am a consultant to the  
20 DOE specifically on these Scoping Meetings. I've  
21 got to review a few basic items here. We'll call  
22 them housekeeping items. You guys probably know  
23 them better than me, but I'm required to make sure

1           that they're all known prior to starting this  
2           meeting.

3                       So we've got three exits in this room.  
4           One on the left and right, one to the back.  
5           Bathrooms. Out towards the main entrance. Safety  
6           things. We've got a lot of wires on the ground --  
7           actually not much -- not that many. So just this  
8           one set of wires on the ground, and they're  
9           significant -- actually they're kind of  
10          insignificant here, but when you're invited up to  
11          speak, we've got -- hey, Chris, could you work on  
12          getting me a few more chairs over here?

13                      MR. LAURENCE: Yeah.

14                      THE MODERATOR: What we've been doing  
15          thus far is having an on deck, so to speak, for  
16          speakers, and what I'll ask is that you go around  
17          from the outside edge and grab one of the -- we're  
18          going to call it four to five chairs for sitting  
19          here, and by doing that, you're helping all of us  
20          make this process as quick as possible.

21                      The approach that we're going to use  
22          is -- and, as I had said, we go through about 15  
23          to 17 names in an hour. I'm going to break it --

1 I'm going to break that into roughly two  
2 sections. One of those sections, being the first  
3 one, about an hour and 15 to an hour and 20  
4 minutes long. Then we'll have a break. And then  
5 we'll start up again, and typically we run a  
6 little bit long on the second one.

7 I get my directions from the court  
8 reporter, so that break is built in there  
9 specifically so that she can rest for a little  
10 bit, and in the event that she needs a break  
11 outside of that one break in the middle, I will  
12 grant her that. Are you all in agreement with  
13 that?

14 UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE:  
15 Yes.

16 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. And just,  
17 again, I'm going to repeat my name. George  
18 Kervitsky. Almost every meeting we've had someone  
19 has come and said I haven't given my name yet, so  
20 you got it twice now.

21 Representing the federal agencies for  
22 permitting authority on the Northern Pass Project,  
23 we have representatives from the Department of

1 Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's  
2 U.S. Forest Service. Representing DOE, we have  
3 Brian Mills, Christopher Laurence. Also  
4 representing DOE as a consultant like myself, we  
5 have Ellen Russell, Dean Lenuik and Allison  
6 Pezzullo. Allison is at the table out front.  
7 Representing the Forest Service, we have Tom  
8 Wagner.

9 We also have a number of people in  
10 today's audience from the New Hampshire  
11 Congressional Delegation. Representing Senator  
12 Ayotte's office, Andy Leach. Representing Senator  
13 Shaheen's office is Chuck Henderson, and  
14 representing Congressman Bass's office, Gene  
15 Chandler.

16 I also have been asked to introduce a  
17 number of local government officials. Larry  
18 Rappaport and Sam Cataldo from the State of New  
19 Hampshire House of Representatives. I am reminded  
20 by Sam to let you guys know that HB 648 will be  
21 retrieved and brought back in committee this  
22 Tuesday. Also, for local government, Al LeBlanc,  
23 Chair of the Board of Selectmen. Do we have Al?

1 I think he'll be here a little bit later. And I  
2 have John Amey, Pittsburg School District. Back  
3 that way.

4 Last, but not least, and it's my pleasure  
5 to announce our court reporter, Debra Mekula, and  
6 she is truly one of the unsung heroes of the  
7 meeting. I'm also told we have Rich McLeod from  
8 the Governor's Office. And, as I was saying,  
9 Debra Mekula is one of the unsung heroes of these  
10 meetings because it's her responsibility to sit  
11 there and capture text associated with your public  
12 comments, and she has also asked me to -- if you  
13 have written comments in your hand that you'd like  
14 to hand off to her to assist her in her  
15 compilation of your comments, that would be  
16 greatly appreciated.

17 Before opening up to your comements, I'd  
18 like to invite up Brian Mills from the U.S.  
19 Department of Energy, which is the lead federal  
20 agency on the NEPA Environmental Impact Statement  
21 process.

22 MR. MILLS: My name is Brian Mills. I  
23 work for the United States Department of Energy.

1 I'm with the Office of Electricity Delivery and  
2 Energy Reliability. I would like to thank you for  
3 taking the time to attend this meeting today.  
4 Your presence and input are vital to a robust  
5 public participation process. This is a Scoping  
6 Meeting which is about listening and learning from  
7 you.

8 The Department of Energy needs to hear  
9 what issues you think we should consider in  
10 conducting our environmental analysis. The reason  
11 we are here is that Northern Pass Transmission is  
12 proposing to construct an international  
13 transmission line and has asked the Department of  
14 Energy for a permit to cross the border.

15 Northern Pass submitted a Presidential  
16 permit application to the Department of Energy in  
17 October, 2010. The Northern Pass proposes to  
18 construct and operate an overhead, high-voltage  
19 direct current or DC electric transmission line.  
20 The line would have a 1,200-megawatt rating and  
21 would start at an alternating current or AC to DC  
22 converter station near Sherbrooke, Quebec,  
23 Canada.

1           From there, it will transmit direct  
2           current to Franklin, New Hampshire where the DC  
3           would be converted to AC. The AC would be  
4           transmitted on a proposed 345-kilovolt line that  
5           would terminate in Deerfield, New Hampshire. In  
6           New Hampshire, the proposed DC transmission line  
7           would run approximately 140 miles from the U.S.  
8           border near the community of Pittsburg to a DC to  
9           AC converter station in Franklin. From the  
10          Franklin converter station to the project terminus  
11          at the existing Public Service Company of New  
12          Hampshire substation in Deerfield, the project  
13          will consist of 40 miles of 345-kilovolt AC  
14          electric transmission line.

15                 Before any facility can be built across  
16                 the U.S. international border, the proponent must  
17                 obtain a Presidential permit from the Department  
18                 of Energy. A Department of Energy Presidential  
19                 permit authorizes a company to construct, operate,  
20                 maintain and connect electric transmission  
21                 facilities at the border.

22                 The Department of Energy is involved in  
23                 this proceeding for one reason. The proposed



1 transmission line would cross the international  
2 border. If this line did not cross the border,  
3 the Department of Energy would not be here. The  
4 Department of Energy has no authority to site this  
5 line. Only the State of New Hampshire has that  
6 authority.

7 The Department of Energy does not convey  
8 the right of eminent domain with its Presidential  
9 permits, nor can the Department of Energy address  
10 the issue of compensation for land that would be  
11 impacted by the Northern Pass Project.

12 Before the Department of Energy can issue  
13 this kind of a permit, we must comply with the  
14 National Environmental Policy Act or NEPA. For  
15 this proposed project, the Department of Energy  
16 has determined the appropriate level of NEPA  
17 analysis to be an Environmental Impact Statement  
18 or EIS. The EIS will analyze the foreseeable  
19 environmental impacts that might flow from  
20 granting the permit. The EIS will also identify  
21 steps that might be needed to mitigate  
22 environmental impact.

23 The other federal agencies involved are

1 the U.S. Forest Service, White Mountain National  
2 Forest, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New  
3 England District. They have permitting authority  
4 for the proposed facilities within their  
5 respective jurisdictions. The Forest Service and  
6 the Corps of Engineers are cooperating agencies  
7 with the Department of Energy in the preparation  
8 of this EIS.

9 We are here to listen and get your  
10 comments and suggestions for the issues we should  
11 be addressing in the EIS. We would also like to  
12 know about any alternate routes for the proposed  
13 project. Once the scoping period closes on  
14 April 12th, 2011, we will get to work in preparing  
15 the Draft EIS. That will take several months.

16 Once the Draft is completed, it will be  
17 posted on our website and distributed to everyone  
18 on the mailing list. If you want to be on the  
19 mailing list, you can sign up here at the table by  
20 the door using the blue postcards or on our  
21 website.

22 There will be at least a 45-day comment  
23 period for you to review the Draft EIS and submit

1           comments. During the comment period on the Draft  
2           EIS, you will be able to submit comments in  
3           writing or by e-mail. We will also hold public  
4           hearings to receive oral comments on the Draft  
5           EIS.

6                         For this meeting, the stenographer is  
7           here to write down what you say during your  
8           comments. Whether you choose to speak or not,  
9           you're invited to send us written comments. All  
10          comments, whether written or oral, are treated the  
11          same and have equal weight. We will accept  
12          comments until April 12th. We will consider  
13          comments submitted after that date to the extent  
14          we can. If you have specific questions about the  
15          project itself, representatives from Northern Pass  
16          are here to discuss them with you. For example,  
17          they can describe the proposed and alternative  
18          routes on the maps that are here.

19                        THE MODERATOR: Thank you, Brian. Before  
20          we get started, I want to go over some ground  
21          rules. We use the ground rules to help keep the  
22          meeting in order and moving quickly. Number one,  
23          respect the speaker. Only one person speaks at a

1 time. Hold all clapping until the end of the  
2 presentation. Same applies to signs, whistling,  
3 anything else.

4           Respect the opinions of your neighbors.  
5 In listening and responding to others, you should  
6 always consider how they would like others to  
7 receive their ideas and suggestions. Respect your  
8 allotted time. We're giving people three minutes  
9 to speak. I understand that many of you would  
10 like to speak longer than that, but certainly, as  
11 you can guess, anybody who has been to other  
12 meetings, even at three minutes the meetings are  
13 quite long. So if you run over that allotted  
14 time, it always impacts other speakers, cleaning  
15 crews and other people, so please keep that in  
16 mind.

17           To help along in the process, I've got  
18 Dean Lenuik, who will be sitting right in this  
19 first row. Hard to miss. He's going to hold up  
20 some signs so that -- you've got three minutes.  
21 After the first two minutes have passed, you'll  
22 see a one-minute sign. And let me be real clear.  
23 We are not starting the clock until you have

1 already stated your name, address and zip code.

2 So at that point in time the ticker starts.

3 After two minutes, you will get that sign  
4 that says one minute left. It's kind of difficult  
5 sometimes, depending upon people's presentation  
6 style, so sometimes they're not looking forward.  
7 Dean will kind of hold that up and try to get your  
8 attention. If I need to, I might identify -- I  
9 don't think you're going to see that, but I might  
10 comment. And then at 30 seconds you get the  
11 yellow sign. And when your three minutes are  
12 completely up, you'll get that what used to be a  
13 red sign until we added some heat to it, and it  
14 will look a lot like other hunting colors in the  
15 room. I didn't realize it was hunting season.

16 But -- um -- and we started -- this  
17 started last night. We hate cutting people off,  
18 but -- um -- I have a 12-year-old daughter who  
19 likes to talk a lot, so it is always tough to stop  
20 her, and I understand how it goes, but if you have  
21 exceeded that three minutes, 30 seconds longer  
22 Dean will make contact -- eye contact with me, and  
23 depending upon where I think you are, if you're

1 wrapping up, I might not say anything, but if it  
2 looks like you still have a couple pages to go, I  
3 might speak up.

4 Limited use of electronic devices. That  
5 really should say no electronic devices. So if  
6 you could take cell phones out of pockets and turn  
7 them off, that would be appreciated. The other  
8 thing that I will state is that both Dean and I  
9 will probably be using a cell phone to help keep  
10 track of time, so don't think that we're using  
11 some different set of rules. We're just trying to  
12 keep an eye on the time. Everyone has an equal  
13 amount of time, and, you know, let's try to stick  
14 to that as best we can.

15 As a matter of process, like I said, I've  
16 got these chairs up here. We're going to try to  
17 make it go as fast as we can but still give you  
18 guys an opportunity to talk and try to fit in as  
19 many people in the best amount of time. So I've  
20 got -- like I said, I've got a list of 43 names.  
21 I think it's up to 45. I will go through that  
22 list. I call that my preregistered list of  
23 speakers.

1                   Then I will open the floor at the end of  
2                   that period to anyone who has listened to those 43  
3                   people speak and has not heard their interests or  
4                   thoughts communicated by others, and I'll open it  
5                   up, the floor, and anyone who hasn't signed up but  
6                   is inspired to speak can come up. They get the  
7                   same amount of time. And then at the end of that,  
8                   anyone who has spoken previously I will give them  
9                   an opportunity to come up if they want to address  
10                  additional comments.

11                  Do those ground rules sound okay with  
12                  everyone?

13                  UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE:  
14                  Um-hum. Yes.

15                  THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Let's get  
16                  started. First five names -- actually six names.  
17                  Al LeBlanc. He didn't acknowledge -- there he  
18                  is. Russ Johnson, Richard Samson, Alan Baker,  
19                  Samuel D. Bird, III, David Darlington. Al, you  
20                  come up here, please. Al LeBlanc.

21                  THE SPEAKER: That was quick. My name is  
22                  Al LeBlanc. I live on Route 145 in Clarksville.  
23                  I am a Selectman for the Town of Clarksville, and

1 I am here representing the Town of Clarksville.  
2 Excuse me. The proposal that Northern Pass has  
3 offered on their map does two things for  
4 Clarksville. On their first and their preferred  
5 route cuts our town in half in a east/westerly  
6 direction. Their second planned route cuts us in  
7 half in a southerly/northerly direction.

8 Based on the public hearings that we've  
9 had in the town -- we've held two different public  
10 hearings for Northern Pass, and in both instances  
11 we've never had anyone speak in favor of this  
12 project from the town. Quite the opposite.  
13 They're adamantly opposed. Many of the people  
14 that speak are obviously physically and visibly  
15 upset.

16 It -- you know, the thought of -- of  
17 cutting the town in half and going down the  
18 direction that they want in their first proposal  
19 runs right along behind one of the most populated  
20 areas in town. The -- whatever amount of money  
21 that they're claiming that we're going to reap as  
22 far as tax revenues and added tax base will soon  
23 be eroded by the overwhelming amount of abatements



1           that will be filed.

2                       I also have some -- I have a written  
3 document from one of the town residents that I'd  
4 like to submit for the record, if I could. And  
5 that's basically all I have.

6                       (Applause.)

7                       THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
8 comments, Al. Our next speaker will be Russ  
9 Johnson.

10                      THE SPEAKER: My name is Russ Johnson, 65  
11 Perry Road in Columbia 03576. Last November after  
12 just being informed of this project at a Columbia  
13 town meeting, I asked the representatives that  
14 were there from Northern Pass to take a clear  
15 message back to their -- their leaders that we,  
16 the people of New Hampshire, northern New  
17 Hampshire, want them to get out and to stay out  
18 and not come back.

19                      Since that time, every town involved in  
20 this process along this corridor has voted either  
21 by majority or unanimously not to have their  
22 project go through our town. A lot of things have  
23 been said. I'd like to boil them down to a few

1 things I'd like to request of you each to look  
2 at.

3 Northern Pass will have to use the rule  
4 of eminent domain to get a corridor through most  
5 North Country properties. Exactly how many  
6 properties will need the use of eminent domain?  
7 How many properties will need a right of way? How  
8 many have existing right of ways, and will any of  
9 those right of ways have to be improved?

10 Northern Pass has not been up-front about  
11 the routes and the use of the towers. Full  
12 disclosure is a must. How many lines will be  
13 carried for both AC and DC power? What is the  
14 proposed use of the right of ways in the future,  
15 and can they be widened? Exact proposed locations  
16 of each tower and tower height at each location  
17 must be submitted with GPS coordinates. All river  
18 and roadway crossings must be identified exactly.

19 Massachusetts and Connecticut and any  
20 other state that's involved in this project need  
21 to match New Hampshire's ability to generate more  
22 power than they use and export power. Before the  
23 United States Government, the Department of

1 Energy, can override the will of the people and  
2 take for -- and call it for public good, the other  
3 states must also show their ability to generate  
4 power within their own states.

5 What is the status of those states?  
6 Where do they stand? How much power can they  
7 generate, and what are their plans for the  
8 future?

9 Northern Pass must submit comprehensive  
10 data on the economic impact their project would  
11 have on the North Country, including retail,  
12 lodging, permanent jobs, manufacturing and  
13 tourism -- all facets of tourism.

14 The DOE needs to study the health impacts  
15 of all lines considered for these towers on  
16 residences, property owners, rivers and road  
17 crossings, deeryards and wildlife.

18 The DOE needs to study the issue of  
19 interference the lines will have on all forms of  
20 communication. In the Mohawk Valley portion of  
21 Columbia, we only have cell and high-speed  
22 Internet service via line-of-sight towers from  
23 Colebrook and Dixville. The Northern Pass towers

1 will pass between those.

2 Prior to any approvals, the cost of  
3 burying the lines must be studied and disclosed to  
4 the North Country, to Franklin, and the cost must  
5 be passed on to the ratepayers that are consuming  
6 the power. If Connecticut uses 80 percent of the  
7 power, then the cost to bury it should be the  
8 burden of the ratepayers in Connecticut by 80  
9 percent. This needs to be a prerequisite study  
10 detailed for all ratepayers on all states  
11 affected.

12 Northern Pass needs to disclose their  
13 studies using other means to get the power to  
14 their customers. Bury it under abandoned railroad  
15 beds, bury it underneath the Connecticut River  
16 such as they're -- Hydro-Quebec is considering  
17 doing for the State of New York down the Hudson  
18 River.

19 How does the consortium project fit into  
20 this? According to a Northeast Utilities  
21 stockholder meeting report, a wind project or  
22 projects is also slated for the Great North  
23 Woods. How will that power be connected to this

1 corridor?

2 Northern Pass has made it very clear they  
3 intend to mislead the public. One example is the  
4 improper use and misleading pictures taken from a  
5 private property for private use and using them to  
6 mislead both you and the public. We ask you not  
7 to allow a Presidential permit be granted to any  
8 company connected to the Northern Pass and any  
9 other private venture connected with Hydro-  
10 Quebec. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
13 comments. Our next speaker will be Richard  
14 Samson, and I will call up Julie Moran and Chelsea  
15 Petereit.

16 THE SPEAKER: Mr. Moderator, if I may,  
17 before my time starts, make this token of  
18 appreciation to Mr. Mills, the Army Corps of  
19 Engineers and the United States Forest Service and  
20 you for the very professional and respectful job  
21 that you have done during these hearings.

22 (Applause.)

23 (The speaker holds up a sweatshirt that

1 reads, "Say No to Northern Pass."

2 (Applause.)

3 (The speaker places a bag filled with  
4 sweatshirts under the table by Mr. Mills' feet.)

5 (Applause.)

6 THE SPEAKER: My name is Richard Samson,  
7 804 Piper Hill Road, Stewartstown, New Hampshire  
8 03576. A total of 1,960 people have attended the  
9 first five hearings: 400 at Pembroke, 250 at  
10 Franklin, 320 at Lincoln, 340 at Whitefield, and  
11 650 at Plymouth. Over 200 people have spoken.  
12 This is my third hearing, and at the two previous  
13 hearings I have had one person speak in favor of  
14 this project.

15 Good afternoon, Mr. Mills, the Army Corps  
16 of Engineers, the United States Forest Service,  
17 Senators Shaheen and Ayotte's representatives,  
18 Senator -- Representative Bass, all other public  
19 officials and you, the public. A very warm  
20 welcome to our house. Most importantly, welcome  
21 to everyone else that is here today to express  
22 your views and opinions on this most important and  
23 un-American issue that ever confronted us.

1           This is the third Scoping Hearing that I  
2           have attended and have only heard one person  
3           weakly support this preposterous, billion-dollar,  
4           for-profit scheme.

5           My wife of 47 years and I have raised  
6           three children and have lived in our state here by  
7           choice of ours our entire lives. We live in a  
8           depressed area and state by our own free will. We  
9           serve our country, we work here and exist here.  
10          If you will again indulge me, by our choice.

11          We are not democrat, republican,  
12          independent, conservative or liberal. We are  
13          American. And I emphasize we are all Americans.  
14          I would ask everyone here today to respect the  
15          speakers and their opinions and to think on the  
16          issues brought forth here today.

17          I respectfully ask that you, Mr. Mills,  
18          and the Department of Energy and fellow agencies  
19          restore our confidence in the American system that  
20          we, the people, have our constitutional rights  
21          returned to us, that you respectfully listen to  
22          our requests, concerns and objections and reject  
23          this application as very incomplete.

1 I also respectfully request that the  
2 information gathered at all of the Scoping  
3 Hearings be retained but that a new schedule of  
4 hearings be held with sufficient notice, a  
5 completed application from Northern Pass, and  
6 advanced information such as the DOE, NEPA and  
7 you, a guide to public participation be made  
8 available to the public beforehand if this project  
9 is ever to be considered again.

10 I go on record as fully supporting the  
11 filing that was hand-delivered to you at the  
12 March 17th, 2011 hearing in Whitefield, New  
13 Hampshire by Mr. and Mrs. James G. and Alexandra  
14 M. Dannis.

15 There are two things that you do not mess  
16 with, and this comment is directed directly to  
17 Northern Pass. Number one, a man's family.  
18 Number two, a man's land. And I might add a third  
19 to that, our neighbors' and fellow residents'  
20 land.

21 Again, I respectfully ask that you make  
22 the right decision based on our inalienable rights  
23 guaranteed in our Constitution. Thank you very



1 much.

2 (Applause.)

3 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much,  
4 Mr. Samson. We appreciate the bag that went under  
5 the table. Alan Barker, the next speaker.

6 THE SPEAKER: These are my notes. First,  
7 it's Alan Baker. Alan Robert Baker.

8 THE MODERATOR: You're right. It is.

9 THE SPEAKER: I reside at 481 Meriden  
10 Hill Road in Columbia. Meriden Hill Road in  
11 Columbia is a neighborhood. It is a place where  
12 we have many homes and residences. We have, in  
13 fact, children, grandchildren and great-  
14 grandchildren. We have camps, we have hunting  
15 grounds, we have ATV trails, we have snowmobile  
16 trails. We have the ideal life.

17 This is a map showing three miles of  
18 150-foot right of way that will cross Meriden  
19 Hill. It will cross within 700 feet of a home  
20 that was built in the early 19th Century that  
21 contains the great-grandchildren of a person who  
22 was born in that home when they visit their aunt  
23 and uncle there.

1           It will be visible from Routes 3 and 102,  
2           cultural and scenic byways designated by the  
3           Highway Administration. It will stand guard, if  
4           it is built, over the Connecticut River. It will  
5           leave Columbia when it crosses Meriden Hill Road  
6           and Lyman Brook, and it will climb the shoulder of  
7           Lightning Mountain into Stratford where it will  
8           continue south in the valley of the Connecticut  
9           River, visible from cultural and scenic byways and  
10          highways for another 20 to 25 miles. That's the  
11          proposal.

12           On Meriden Hill alone in that three-mile  
13          section, 60 acres of forest will be lost. That's  
14          a lot of carbon dioxide that those trees would  
15          have taken out of the atmosphere. These are  
16          things that must be studied in the Scoping  
17          Meeting.

18           I also represent others in New Hampshire  
19          whose lands will be similarly affected. I  
20          represent others from Stewartstown, Groveton and  
21          Stratford. I represent 18 individuals on Meriden  
22          Hill, and they have a message for the DOE. Please  
23          make this scoping process meaningful. Please look



1                   THE SPEAKER: I'm glad he didn't say the  
2 Third Bird.

3                   (Laughter.)

4                   THE SPEAKER: I usually don't use that  
5 part. Samuel Bird, 61 Bird Road in Colebrook  
6 03576. First, what we know. We know we're  
7 getting no benefit from this. Mr. Baker talked  
8 about we're not stupid. We know this project will  
9 desecrate the heart and soul of the only resource  
10 that we have left here. Everything else is gone.

11                   We know the primary reason for this  
12 project is so a foreign country, Hydro-Quebec, and  
13 Northern Pass can make huge amounts of money, and  
14 we know that they will use eminent domain to take  
15 the product -- to take the property and the  
16 product they need. We know that part of the state  
17 is being used as a conduit or an extension cord  
18 for Massachusetts and Connecticut. We're in the  
19 way.

20                   We know there is no need for this power  
21 since New Hampshire produces a surplus of power  
22 which it exports. Is it greed? Yes. But it's  
23 not need. We know that once the right of way is

1 established, the North Country will be used as a  
2 permanent artery for more projects in the future.

3           Somebody I read on the Internet said,  
4 "Towers have babies," as this project proves,  
5 since it would use existing right of ways from  
6 Northumberland to Deerfield, and they're going to  
7 be big, big babies.

8           We know there are attempts to change the  
9 laws so Northern Pass can bypass some legal issues  
10 and problems. That's happening in Concord  
11 probably as we speak.

12           We know that the project is being built  
13 for Franklin, New Hampshire and specifically for  
14 customers in Massachusetts and Connecticut because  
15 that's where the people are.

16           We know it's never been absolutely proven  
17 that there are no health risks living near high-  
18 voltage lines. And we know the vast majority of  
19 people living here in the North Country hate this  
20 project.

21           What can be done? Gary Long, the CEO of  
22 the PSNH, as many of you know that name now,  
23 testified at the State House in February that

1 Hydro-Quebec will pay for the building of the  
2 hydrotransmission line. He loves saying this. He  
3 stated that the project will cost Northern Pass or  
4 ratepayers not one single cent. Then he's asked  
5 right away why the line could not be buried  
6 underground. And then he states well, that's too  
7 expensive right after saying that they're not  
8 paying for it anyway. So why should he be  
9 concerned about the expense of Hydro-Quebec?  
10 Hydro-Quebec would own the line.

11 If this project must be built, and nobody  
12 wants it to be built, but a compromise could be to  
13 underground the line at least through the first 40  
14 miles. There's superconductor pipelines that can  
15 be buried in a 25-foot right of way. They offer  
16 every advantage over the antiquated, old-fashioned  
17 hundred-year-old, ugly technology of towers.

18 I don't want to run out of my time, so  
19 I'm going to skip to the end. If Northern Pass  
20 and Hydro-Quebec will not compromise or make any  
21 concessions to this area of the North Country that  
22 is negatively -- very negatively affected the most  
23 and certainly positively affected the least, we

1 would like them to do what is printed on many of  
2 the orange signs that you see around here.

3 So, to conclude, if this is allowed to  
4 happen to this North Country, it would make a  
5 mockery out of the system of laws and whatever is  
6 right or wrong and especially after all these  
7 meetings and these -- these millions and millions  
8 of words that have been stated against this  
9 project.

10 I found a perfect old saying. There is  
11 no right way to do the wrong thing. So please  
12 don't do the wrong thing. Don't let this happen  
13 to us. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for  
16 your comments, Samuel. Next speaker, David  
17 Darlington. Next person called up to the chair is  
18 Gregory Lamm. Laam. Lamm.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE:  
20 L-A-M-B, Lamb.

21 THE MODERATOR: L-A-M-M.

22 THE SPEAKER: I'm David Darlington from  
23 378 Charles Bancroft Highway in Litchfield, New

1 Hampshire. I also own property in Columbia. This  
2 is directly affected by the proposed power line in  
3 my property.

4 I've listened to other meetings and  
5 people here. Seems like from the macro level,  
6 there's almost no reason this project should have  
7 even gotten this far. I would propose, to start  
8 with, that we don't need DOE to do this because  
9 there's two people that could stop it right now.  
10 That's the president, CEO, of the Public Service  
11 of New Hampshire -- kind of a -- maybe a strange  
12 name for that group, speaking of that -- or the  
13 Governor of New Hampshire. Both of them should  
14 have some fiduciary responsibility over this  
15 project.

16 But specifically I'd like to see DOE put  
17 their expertise to work on looking at a number of  
18 specific discrete items versus -- because there  
19 are plenty of macro items that would say there was  
20 no reason for it, but I think we need to have  
21 details that really haven't come out from the  
22 Northern Pass people.

23 Specifically, I'd like to have DOE



1 evaluate the proposed current routing of the  
2 transmission line to determine if an alternate  
3 routing, use an existing power routing from Canada  
4 through Vermont would be preferable from an  
5 ecosystem point of view, its effects on wetlands,  
6 its effects on working forests, mitigation of bird  
7 habitats, economic impacts on the local  
8 communities that rely on the tourism and  
9 recreation as a major part of the economy here.

10 I'd like to see them document -- but we  
11 all know what our leaders have signed off on --  
12 document the total wetlands traversed, the acreage  
13 of the working forest covered by the proposed  
14 right of way and how to mitigate that for the  
15 better part of if this project were to be  
16 continued or modified in any way.

17 I'd like to see them document the total  
18 habitat acreage for animals affected by the  
19 effects of the EMI and noise transmission from the  
20 power line. I'd like to see them document the  
21 existing homes, camps and commercial properties,  
22 what kind of line-of-sight impact there is for  
23 that.

1 I'd like to see them evaluate and  
2 document and how to mitigate the proposed -- from  
3 the transmission line on the recreational  
4 waterways and the tributaries to the Connecticut  
5 River. Specifically, in my -- in my area they're  
6 going through the wetlands, and they're going  
7 through the stream completely.

8 Determine the impact on the existing  
9 property values, how to mitigate that within the  
10 community, how to pay back the communities for  
11 what's lost. And I don't think it's through their  
12 own property tax. I think it should be set up in  
13 a separate endowment.

14 And, fourth, I think I'd like to see what  
15 DOE provisions are for making sure that any right  
16 of ways that were built that would -- um -- could  
17 be -- end up being used as -- um -- for motor  
18 vehicles, creating a dirt bike route for over 100  
19 miles would be open, if there's ways to mitigate  
20 the usage of those types of things. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
23 comments, David. Next speaker, Julie Moran.

1                   THE SPEAKER: I'm Julie Moran, P.O. Box  
2                   447, Colebrook, New Hampshire, and I thank you,  
3                   ladies and gentlemen, for coming. I know the  
4                   people who have been doing this, you must be  
5                   getting tired, but we do appreciate all that  
6                   you're doing.

7                   I have five questions -- five more  
8                   questions. I'm asking DOE to do a thorough  
9                   evaluation of the long-term devaluation of several  
10                  types of towns along the projected line and  
11                  compare them to similar towns if a similar project  
12                  were imposed upon them.

13                  For example, Pittsburg, which is  
14                  beautiful, pristine land with high volumes of  
15                  tourism, a majority of property that are second  
16                  homes, and most of the town on conserved land,  
17                  they currently have no towers. The same thing  
18                  with Sugar Hill, but they currently do have a  
19                  power line going through.

20                  Plymouth, a thriving university town, a  
21                  thriving alternative energy community. I want to  
22                  know how this is going to impact them and what  
23                  they're doing.

1           Ashland has its own municipal power  
2           company, and they can't tap into this line.

3           And Franklin. Franklin is already  
4           completely devaluated. Is that because they  
5           already have a lot of power lines going through  
6           there? Has that been treated as significantly as  
7           to why they're so desperate for this project to go  
8           through? Someone mentioned that they have a  
9           scenic lake, and they have a lot of properties  
10          that are already vacant. Why is that? I'd like  
11          to find out.

12          Another question. Will the DOE obtain a  
13          copy of the town resolutions that state that the  
14          building of the Northern Pass Transmission will  
15          severely and irreversibly disrupt the orderly  
16          economic development of those towns?

17          Will the DOE calculate the cost and money  
18          and time to all of those of us who have spent  
19          hours and hours trying to research what we thought  
20          the Northern Pass already should have researched?  
21          And they should have done their homework ahead of  
22          time. Instead, we suffered all kinds of economic  
23          losses already just to fight this.

1 Will the DOE investigate how the Northern  
2 Pass will impact the branding of New Hampshire as  
3 a tourism destination? This is central. Power  
4 lines crisscrossing the highways is not what sells  
5 New Hampshire to tourists or homebuyers.

6 The pristine view shed and protected  
7 lands are the heart and soul of New Hampshire's  
8 economy and viability.

9 Question five. Will the DOE investigate  
10 why Northern Pass has not proposed using newer  
11 technologies that will protect people, economies  
12 and environments of the land that they intend to  
13 pass through?

14 Number six. Will the DOE investigate  
15 this project for signs that it is fueled by  
16 speculators looking to shut down the competition  
17 before the demand for energy is actually needed?

18 Seven. Will the DOE investigate Northern  
19 Pass's predatory behavior towards New Hampshire  
20 and New England energy markets?

21 I strongly urge DOE to quickly recommend  
22 that the Northern Pass be denied a Presidential  
23 permit. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
3 comments, Julie. Our next speaker, Chelsea  
4 Petereit.

5 THE SPEAKER: Petereit.

6 THE MODERATOR: Petereit.

7 THE SPEAKER: Chelsea Petereit.

8 THE MODERATOR: I apologize to everyone.  
9 I've been butchering names all week, so please  
10 bear with me. By the time I leave I'll have  
11 them.

12 THE SPEAKER: Chelsea Petereit. I live  
13 at 72 McCulloch Road, North Stratford, New  
14 Hampshire 03590.

15 Good afternoon. I've been a seventh and  
16 eighth grade science teacher in Lancaster for 20  
17 years. I'm the better half of my husband, Mark  
18 McCulloch. You've already received a plentiful  
19 list of concerns, both today and at previous  
20 hearings. In fact, I believe you've only heard  
21 concerns.

22 When I -- when my first -- husband and I  
23 first learned about the Northern Pass Project, I

1           talked to my students about it, and I tried to  
2           clearly present both sides of the issue and  
3           clearly state what I knew to be fact and what my  
4           personal opinions were.

5                       My students all know that I am into  
6           conserving energy, recycling, composting and  
7           protecting the environment in general, and we  
8           discussed why I didn't consider this project to be  
9           good for the overall environment.

10                      And most of my students were shocked that  
11           a project of this type is even being considered.  
12           And when I asked them what did they think will  
13           be -- you know, will there be negative impacts  
14           from this, and they're like duh. Of course there  
15           are going to be.

16                      And -- um -- as time passed, I've kept  
17           my students up-to-date on what we've done for  
18           opposition to this project, and I've made it clear  
19           to them that it's important that they are involved  
20           in their local government and vote. And I took  
21           the day off school and went to town meeting, and  
22           we overwhelmingly voted in opposition to the  
23           project.

1                   And I came back, and the kids are like  
2                   yeah, you voted against the project. And I'm like  
3                   yeah, we voted against it in Dalton, in Lancaster  
4                   and everywhere else, and they're like it's done,  
5                   right? Um -- no. And then I told them about the  
6                   results of the overwhelming opposition at the  
7                   Whitefield hearing, and they're like yes, it's  
8                   done now, right? No.

9                   And I just can't seem to explain to them  
10                  that there's no vote that we can take that will  
11                  make this nightmare go away, and they don't  
12                  understand that. And I have a difficult time  
13                  understanding that as well.

14                  My advice, deny the permit now. Withdraw  
15                  your proposal. Save the taxpayers a lot of money  
16                  for a costly, lengthy Environmental Impact  
17                  Statement process. Save the residents of New  
18                  Hampshire a lot of heartache and -- um -- move on  
19                  from there.

20                  Just on a personal note, this project  
21                  will devastate us. So just a quick look at our  
22                  little parcel of paradise. We hike it, we sugar  
23                  it, we hunt on it, we snowshoe it, fish it, enjoy



1           it. We watch the birds and other wildlife and  
2           follow the progression of the seasons. We sit by  
3           our small pond and watch falling stars and the  
4           International Space Station pass overhead and  
5           listen to the chorus of frogs.

6                         And then last fall the Northern Pass bomb  
7           hit. From that point on, we've experienced many  
8           sleepless nights and constant worries. The  
9           Northern Pass now occupies our every waking moment  
10          and every conversation we have. I've considered  
11          studying the economic and mental health impacts of  
12          this -- just dealing with the threat of this  
13          project.

14                        Everyone in opposition to this project  
15          has a similar story. We will all lose something  
16          vital to each of us personally, and we're not  
17          being offered anything we want or need in  
18          exchange. We're being told by a hardhearted  
19          company that we must sacrifice our health, our  
20          happiness and our future. Well, we can be hard,  
21          too. We will stand together. We won't budge. We  
22          won't cave in, and we will not sacrifice what we  
23          love. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
3 comments, Chelsea. Our next speaker will be  
4 Richard Harris. I'd like to call up John Lanier,  
5 Lynette Emerson, Donald Bilodeau.

6 THE SPEAKER: I hope through your travels  
7 through the region have given you an opportunity  
8 to appreciate the unique, pristine landscape in  
9 which we live. Thank you for the opportunity to  
10 speak here this afternoon, and I thank you all for  
11 taking the time out from a weekend day to  
12 participate in this.

13 I'm Richard Harris. I live at 239 East  
14 Colebrook Road here in Colebrook, New Hampshire  
15 03576. I work for a region-wide group of  
16 individuals making up the Coos Community Benefits  
17 Alliance. It's been formed to provide communities  
18 decision makers with access to evidence-based  
19 information so that energy projects in the Coos  
20 Region will result in long-term benefits for local  
21 communities and help them sustain their economic  
22 base, natural resources and heritage. This  
23 organization does not endorse or oppose this

1           cause -- any causes, and it maintains neutrality  
2           in all issues.

3                       The guideline that's used is what makes  
4           sense? So let's take a couple of these questions  
5           and apply them to this project.

6                       Conservation. Have any significant  
7           energy conservation measures been made or  
8           implemented by the Department of Energy, the  
9           states supposedly needing this electricity or  
10          power distribution companies to lower the wasted  
11          use of electricity? Cheaper electricity is just  
12          going to produce more consumption, not  
13          conservation.

14                      Have steps been taken to look at ways to  
15          create locally produced sustaining forms of  
16          electrical generation that provide local jobs  
17          within the United States and keep revenues  
18          circulating within the affected communities? If  
19          so, what are they?

20                      Is the technology used to produce  
21          electricity sustainable? Hydro-Quebec uses coal,  
22          gas and nuclear and wind power besides hydro to  
23          produce electricity.

1                   Is this process used acceptable practice  
2                   in the United States? Would flooding vast areas  
3                   of land like is being done in Quebec be legal in  
4                   this country? If this is an unacceptable practice  
5                   in the United States, how can importing  
6                   electricity from such a source be justified?

7                   Considering that this region has four  
8                   distinct seasons, will environmental studies be  
9                   done to take into account specific changes and  
10                  aspects of each of these environmental  
11                  situations?

12                  Need. Has the project been requested and  
13                  required by ISO New England? Is electricity  
14                  needed? Projections of today's electricity  
15                  consumption indicates this new power source will  
16                  not be needed until 2040.

17                  Impact. Has the project -- will this  
18                  project impact communities and counties in the  
19                  regional economy? What serious efforts have been  
20                  made by Northern Pass to show that they will be  
21                  good corporate neighbors in offering a significant  
22                  benefit or help to this region as a token of their  
23                  genuine interest in working together to bring this

1 region -- excuse me -- to bring together the  
2 region toward their goals?

3 In conclusion, I would like to request  
4 the DOE release the proposed scope and outline for  
5 the EIS for public comment before starting work on  
6 the Draft EIS. The proposed use of our valuable  
7 land heritage by Northern Pass is a privilege, not  
8 a right and should not be allowed to be taken  
9 freely.

10 (Applause.)

11 THE MODERATOR: Richard, thank you for  
12 your comments. Our next speaker, Larry  
13 Rappaport. I'd also like to call up Cindy-Lou  
14 Amey.

15 THE SPEAKER: Good afternoon. My name is  
16 Larry Rappaport. I am a New Hampshire State  
17 Representative for Coos District One, which  
18 encompasses Columbia all the way up to Pittsburg,  
19 from the Connecticut River past to Errol.

20 I would like to thank all of you for  
21 coming here to listen to the voices of northern  
22 New Hampshire, specifically our opinion of the  
23 Northern Pass Project.

1           I have several reasons for opposing the  
2 project. One, the immediate impact -- economic  
3 impact is severely negative. There have been no  
4 real estate transactions between the red and the  
5 blue lines, the proposed corridor. New Hampshire  
6 is a power exporter. We can produce 4,000  
7 megawatts, and our average load is 1,250.

8           The State has been emphasizing tourism  
9 for this area and has already expended a  
10 substantial sum of money towards that goal. Do  
11 you think this is going to help tourism? I don't  
12 think so.

13           Our Governor has set a goal of having 25  
14 percent of the power that we use to come from  
15 environmentally friendly, renewable sources by  
16 2025. Well, this project would certainly use  
17 renewable energy. I don't think it's  
18 environmentally friendly.

19           There are several environmentally  
20 friendly power projects in various stages of  
21 development. This proposed project has hurt many  
22 of them. In fact, there are now four biomass  
23 plants contemplating closure due exclusively to

1           this.  If Northeast Utilities wants to become  
2           environmentally friendly, why is it not closing  
3           its coal-fired plants in Bow and in Schiller?  The  
4           Schiller plant.

5                           (Applause.)

6           THE SPEAKER:  And, by the way, there's  
7           three plants there.  There's three boilers.  One  
8           of them is wood-fired.  Yeah, that's  
9           environmentally friendly, but the other two are  
10          coal-fired.

11                          This project would have an adverse effect  
12          on the U.S. balance of payments.  Why does the  
13          preferred route go through northern New Hampshire  
14          when going through Vermont disrupts considerably  
15          fewer lives and would probably cost less?

16                          There is neither U.S. nor New Hampshire  
17          regulation on power produced by Hydro-Quebec, and  
18          it makes the U.S. more dependent on foreign  
19          sources of energy.

20                           (Applause.)

21          THE SPEAKER:  The project -- the project  
22          has not been identified by ISO New England as one  
23          required for either need or reliability, nor has

1           there been any ISO New England process to assess  
2           the impact on the power grid.

3                       I am inexorably opposed to this project.  
4           Hydro-Quebec in Vermont has proven to be  
5           unreliable. I believe it makes no sense for  
6           northern New Hampshire, no sense for New Hampshire  
7           as a state, no sense for New England, and no sense  
8           for the United States. Thank you.

9                       (Applause.)

10                      THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
11           comments, Larry. Our next speaker, Gregory Lamm.  
12           I'd like to call up Robert Martin next.

13                      THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Rappaport.  
14           That, to me, is what America is about. This is a  
15           government provided with the consent of the people  
16           and as he represents the people and what he sees.  
17           My question is where are the rest of the elected  
18           officials? Why aren't they speaking now?

19                      (Applause.)

20                      THE SPEAKER: My name is Gregory Lamm. I  
21           live at 1322 Route 3 in North Stratford, New  
22           Hampshire. Zip code there is 03590. Excuse me.  
23           I'm a little bit scared here talking in front of



1           you folks, but -- and the signs. I wonder if you  
2           held up those signs for the Northern Pass folks  
3           for the past two years while they were speaking to  
4           you. So I would hope that when you do, if you can  
5           just wait until the end because I get distracted  
6           by that. Okay. Thank you.

7                         Who am I? I'm here because, quite  
8           honestly, I'm a little embarrassed. I haven't  
9           been speaking very well on behalf of this, but I'm  
10          here to talk to my grandchildren and my children.  
11          If they said to me grandpa, how did those towers  
12          get here, and what did you do to stop 'em? I need  
13          to speak out.

14                        There are things that people here have  
15          talked about, have identified repeatedly in terms  
16          of what's wrong. I'll just try to say that  
17          environmentally what I deal with are social  
18          environmental issues, and I can assure you, sir,  
19          after 40 years of doing that work, the impact that  
20          these towers will have on our community, on our  
21          families, on our children is severe. There are  
22          many ways to deal with that, but that's not really  
23          the most important issue.

1           The most important issue that I haven't  
2 heard anybody talk about is that we've seen the  
3 energy uses in this country begin to decline over  
4 the past six years. Why is that? Where's all the  
5 jobs? Where's all the factories? Where did they  
6 go? They're not here. That energy consumption is  
7 gone. Now we're seeing a leveling out and a drop  
8 since 2005 by our own government's statistics.

9           We don't want it here because it's going  
10 to ruin my property. It's going to have our  
11 property devalued. It's loud. It's ugly, and  
12 it's permanent for all of us. They'll be there  
13 for as long as everybody in this room is alive,  
14 and they don't help.

15           But the bigger picture -- thank you. The  
16 bigger picture -- the bigger picture is how did we  
17 get to this point? How did it get to the point  
18 where this many people oppose something? How did  
19 it get to the point that a couple of corporations  
20 can have the kind of influence on our democratic  
21 processes so that we go through this kind of a  
22 bit, and my contribution to this is limited to  
23 three minutes with somebody telling me when my

1           seconds are up.

2                           (Applause.)

3                   THE SPEAKER:   What I see is a corporate  
4           control of politicians.  I don't want to shirk  
5           that.  I don't want to dance around that.  I think  
6           it's straight up, and it's honest.  And I want to  
7           know when we begin to talk about what's going on  
8           in this country and what we've lost.

9                   We give people the right to govern as a  
10          result of our consent.  That's the Constitution.  
11          This is not Egypt.  This is not Tunisia.  This is  
12          the United States of America, and we need to stand  
13          up --

14                           (Applause.)

15                   THE SPEAKER:  -- and say no.  We don't  
16          ask for this.  We need to say you govern with our  
17          consent.  And I don't know what you need for  
18          consent, but there's a room full of us citizens  
19          right here, all of us Americans first, not  
20          republican, not democrat.  This is the United  
21          States of America.  Let's keep it free.

22                           (Applause.)

23                   THE MODERATOR:  Thank you for your

1           comments, Gregory. Our next speaker, John Lanier.

2                   THE SPEAKER: How do you follow that? My  
3 name is John Lanier. I live at 825 U.S. Route 3  
4 in Columbia. I've been living there for about  
5 five years. Um -- I owned the property for close  
6 to 30. It's been my dream to get up north for a  
7 long -- for a long time.

8                   Um -- I wrote a letter to DOE, Mr. Mills,  
9 to apply for intervention status back in December,  
10 and I made a few points there that so far I  
11 haven't seen any response to. One of the points I  
12 made was a point that you just heard is that this  
13 whole project is supposed to be in the public  
14 interest, either of the U.S. or New Hampshire.

15                   And my question was if this country is  
16 trying to reduce its reliance on foreign power,  
17 how does this project help us reduce our reliance  
18 on foreign power? And I think if you think back a  
19 few years -- the Province of Quebec and the  
20 Canadians are a good neighbor, but there was a  
21 while there when an English-speaking person up  
22 around Quebec City wasn't regarded very highly.  
23 And not to say that could happen again, but it

1           could happen again, in which case, when the power  
2           supply is being controlled by that entity, who  
3           knows what the future holds?

4                         It -- it -- it's being -- this project is  
5           being advertised as clean and reliable and green.  
6           I fail to understand how it can be green when  
7           several hundred thousand acres have been flooded  
8           in Quebec, and -- um -- the trees that were once  
9           able to capture carbon and store it are now under  
10          water.

11                        One of my other questions was that -- you  
12          know, regarding the application from Northern Pass  
13          to DOE. The -- there are some -- some rules by  
14          which applications are supposed to be submitted,  
15          and under those rules a person who applies for a  
16          permit through DOE is supposed to identify viable  
17          alternatives in that permit application.

18                        And my question was at that time and  
19          still is when do we see the other viable  
20          alternatives? Like no, none of it. No action at  
21          all would be the preferred one, but there are also  
22          alternatives, i.e., going down through Vermont,  
23          and all we've been told so far is that that's not

1 an alternative or putting the power line  
2 underground, and that apparently is "too  
3 expensive," quote, unquote.

4 So I have just a few seconds left. My  
5 property is my legacy to my children. I'm not  
6 directly affected. The line don't pass directly  
7 over me, but I can see it from there. And if the  
8 power line comes down through, my legacy to my  
9 kids is diminished considerably. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
12 comments, John. Our next speaker, Lynette  
13 Emerson. I'd also like to call up John Amey,  
14 Kathy Johnson.

15 THE SPEAKER: My name is Lynette  
16 Emerson. I live at 1233 U.S Route 3, North  
17 Stratford, New Hampshire 03590, and I love my  
18 town.

19 First of all, you said that this was a  
20 line going down through to Franklin for DC power  
21 to be converted to AC and sent to Deerfield. As  
22 first approved, the 703 pages of the Transmission  
23 Service Agreement for Northern Pass, they approved

1 a bi-directional line, whereby they're sending DC  
2 power to Franklin. Franklin has been designed to  
3 be a direct, bi-directional service line, and that  
4 power can then be turned around at Franklin, sent  
5 back to the border and sold in Canada.

6 So all this power coming down through is  
7 not going to be for the New England grid. It is  
8 going to be sold back to the Canadians, and we're  
9 going to be on the shortfall of energy. As all I  
10 have is three minutes, I would rather read what I  
11 would like to say.

12 And, number one, is a study to be done to  
13 determine why Northern Pass Transmission, LLC says  
14 that New Hampshire energy producers of AC power  
15 cannot connect to NPT lines to get their excess  
16 power to market. If NTP can have a bi-directional  
17 line and send AC power back to Quebec to be sold  
18 to the Canadians, why can't some of our power go  
19 along with theirs and be sold in Quebec? Isn't  
20 that how bi-directional lines work?

21 Two, that a study be done on the effect  
22 of the electromagnetic field surrounding these  
23 lines will have on our people and all creatures

1 large and small. We have a vast menagerie of  
2 animals ranging from moose to chipmunks, from  
3 eagles to hummingbirds. Our plants and trees  
4 range from the mighty oak to the jack-in-the-  
5 pulpit. Our ecosystem has to be protected at all  
6 costs.

7 Three, that a study be done on the effect  
8 on our tourism. This state spends many  
9 advertising dollars promoting our tourism.

10 Four, that a study be done of our  
11 wetlands.

12 Five, that a study be done of the impact  
13 of our property values and the future of our  
14 communities. With the threat of Northern Pass  
15 transmission lines traversing our properties, it  
16 has already killed sales, and this won't be a good  
17 market until this is settled.

18 Six, that a study be done on the impact  
19 that proposed property taxation revenue on this  
20 line will have when this is gone due to the  
21 depreciation down the road in a few years.

22 Northumberland just got a request from  
23 the gas pipeline to depreciate their line from a



1 value of 13 million dollars to eight million.  
2 That is a huge cost -- loss of revenue to a town  
3 that is already struggling. All towns along this  
4 proposed route will face the same thing for this  
5 application.

6 Seven, that a study be done as to the  
7 effect that Northern Transmission has caused to  
8 the people whose property they have chosen to ask  
9 our government to take from them for the greed of  
10 a foreign nation. I have certainly had some  
11 sleepless nights over it.

12 Nine, that a study be done on how each  
13 property owner will be made whole by NPT. Why  
14 should we suffer losses as Hydro-Quebec makes  
15 millions at our expense. Study how our  
16 communities will rebound from such destruction of  
17 their assets.

18 Ten, that a study be done as to how much  
19 money Hydro-Quebec will reap by being able to have  
20 the DC power converted and then redirected back to  
21 Quebec for sale to Canadians. Where is the  
22 justice in that move when New Hampshire cannot get  
23 that power to use and possibly get a cheaper rate

1 than we are paying now? What are the benefits to  
2 New Hampshire in a bi-directional line?

3 Eleven, that a study be done on what will  
4 happen if the Canadian Government decides that it  
5 no longer wants to be friendly to us? Will they  
6 stop selling us power? Will they raise the prices  
7 so high that we wish we had found a solution  
8 here? Will we have sold our souls to the devil?  
9 What will we do to remediate our lands should  
10 Canada become unfriendly?

11 The idea is to become independent of  
12 foreign countries for our power and fuels, not add  
13 more countries to the list of countries that  
14 already own us. I have never driven through  
15 Boston or Hartford at night and seen the lights  
16 dimmed, nor in Washington, D.C.

17 Send this company packing, and look back  
18 in the years to come when our countryside is still  
19 beautiful, and we still have our tourists and our  
20 people that fall in love with New Hampshire and  
21 want to buy land here. We may live a simple life  
22 here, but we love it. We may be hillbillies  
23 wearing orange or NIMBY, but why not? This is our

1           own backyard, and we worked hard for it. Keep it  
2           simple, and keep it beautiful.

3                           (Applause.)

4                   THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
5           comments, Lynette. Our next speaker, Donald  
6           Bilodeau.

7                   THE SPEAKER: Donald Bilodeau, Route 145,  
8           Clarksville. Thank you for allowing me to speak.  
9           I would also like to thank Mr. Rappaport for  
10          submitting his House Bill 648 and Mr. Baker for  
11          his help.

12                           (Applause.)

13                   THE SPEAKER: One-hundred-eighty miles of  
14          tower, 135 feet tall, 800 feet apart through this  
15          beautiful state. That's six towers every mile for  
16          a total of 1,080 towers. Generations of people  
17          will have to look at this ugliness in the future.  
18          I hope you will seriously consider this when you  
19          complete your Environmental Impact Statement.  
20          Thank you.

21                           (Applause.)

22                   THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for  
23          your comments, Donald. Next speaker, Cindy-Lou

1 Amey.

2 THE SPEAKER: Cindy-Lou Amey. 81 Tabor  
3 Road, Pittsburg, New Hampshire 03059. Sorry.  
4 Good afternoon, Mr. Mills. Welcome to everyone  
5 who's here, our friends and also to those  
6 Canadians on the other side of the border who are  
7 with us. Bienvenue a nos voisins du Quebec.  
8 L'amitie et le soutien que vous donnez est  
9 apprecie.

10 Mr. Mills, you and your team have a  
11 really tough task. Confidence in the decisions  
12 made by government officials is horribly low. The  
13 perception is that the people may speak but that  
14 the government doesn't have to listen.

15 The elections last November tell you just  
16 how unhappy we are. Look around this room. It's  
17 filled with people who are concerned; in some  
18 cases, downright frightened about the possibility  
19 of high-voltage transmission lines running through  
20 their hometowns and their backyards.

21 We live and work in an area where climate  
22 is harsh and unpredictable. There are significant  
23 micro-climate changes that occur within the space

1 of 15-minute intervals as you drive north along  
2 Route 3. We deal. We adapt. Engineers who  
3 design the construction of structures in this area  
4 have to take into consideration our severe weather  
5 and our craggy terrain. We deal. We adapt.

6 The raw beauty of our landscape, sweeping  
7 vistas, beautiful sunrises and sunsets, fresh,  
8 clean air, sparkling, clear water, these all  
9 attract visitors from far away who come to play  
10 and stay. We share.

11 The resources that are available to us  
12 within our geographical sphere of influence are  
13 not as varied as they are in more populated  
14 areas. The amount of sweat equity and ingenuity  
15 that it takes in order for our people to make a  
16 living here is significant. We deal, and we  
17 adapt, but it's getting harder and harder.

18 The economics of scale are against us.  
19 And how much longer can we continue to compete to  
20 provide for ourselves? Some of our ills are the  
21 direct result of decisions made by governments --  
22 a government which seems to not -- not to know or  
23 care about the uniqueness of our situation.

1                   At a time when our struggle to survive  
2                   has been sapping our strength and our will, yet  
3                   another threat presents itself. Northern Pass.  
4                   In order for it to exist, for it to transport  
5                   power for the profit and benefit of their  
6                   stockholders, it will need to take from us. That  
7                   will further damage our ability to provide for  
8                   ourselves.

9                   We're afraid to trust that our government  
10                  will hear our concerns and that it will do  
11                  everything that it can to ensure that the research  
12                  and the fact-finding that needs to be done with  
13                  regard to this project is done honestly and with  
14                  due diligence.

15                 And yet here we are gathered in this room  
16                 ready to give you testimony. Whether by our  
17                 silent presence, our written words or by our  
18                 verbal entreaty, we're hoping that your agency is  
19                 different; that you truly mean what you say, that  
20                 you will listen with your mind and hear with your  
21                 heart. But more than that, that you will hold  
22                 yourself honor-bound to do your duty with a level  
23                 of distinction that's not seen anymore.

1                   We've been hearing good things about your  
2 management of these Scoping Hearings. We want to  
3 be able to trust you. Of course we hope that the  
4 construction of the Northern Pass transmission  
5 line never comes to be, but right now it's vitally  
6 important that we be able to trust that this  
7 permitting process will be conducted in an ethical  
8 and unbiased manner.

9                   One important aim of the EIA law is to  
10 improve public involvement in the planning process  
11 of major projects. So why does it seem that in  
12 this particular project the public is persona non  
13 grata with regard to the planning? With respect,  
14 and hope, Cindy-Lou Amey.

15                   (Applause.)

16                   THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
17 comments, Cindy-Lou. Our next speaker will be  
18 Robert Martin, and before you start I've got a few  
19 comments. We are probably about five minutes,  
20 based on my estimate, past that original one hour  
21 and 15-minute mark. I would like to bring three  
22 more -- excuse me -- four more speakers before a  
23 break. Would that be okay with you folks?

1 MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE: Yes.

2 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Hold on a  
3 second. Let me get these names out. David  
4 Dobbins, Daryl Burtnett, Yvonne Nanasi, Katie  
5 Rose.

6 THE SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. As a  
7 prelude to my comments, I'd like you to know that  
8 I am the emergency coordinator for an organization  
9 which by policy prefers that I not represent  
10 them. Nevertheless, I do have the knowledge of  
11 what takes place within that organization. I'm  
12 also the president of one of the two amateur radio  
13 associations in the state, and I do speak on the  
14 behalf of both organizations. Finally, I'm an  
15 Amateur Radio Extra Operator, certified instructor  
16 and also a -- um -- a certified examiner for the  
17 FCC, so I have a little bit of expertise on this  
18 area.

19 My name is Robert R. Martin. I live at  
20 14 Tower Road in Clarksville, New Hampshire.  
21 That's on the Ben Young Hill. I do have -- I'm  
22 going to keep my comments brief, but I have  
23 prepared a [position paper](#) that I will submit to



1 cover the points that I want to make more  
2 comprehensively.

3 One of the under -- um -- spoken about  
4 topics, I believe, in this whole situation is the  
5 fact that everybody's concerned about EMF  
6 radiations, and they seem to forget that power  
7 lines also radiate RFI, radio frequency  
8 wavelengths, and they can be more pervasive.  
9 They're higher energy, and they can go further.  
10 In fact, under the right conditions you cook  
11 chicken with radio frequency. It's called a  
12 microwave. So I think it's an important  
13 consideration for us to have.

14 Ben Young Hill and in fact Clarksville,  
15 you probably don't realize, is a communications  
16 hub for the North Country here. There are -- and  
17 depending on how you count them, between 14 and 17  
18 transmission and receivable services that are on  
19 Ben Young Hill and Holden Hill off behind a little  
20 bit further to the east. These are vital to the  
21 health, safety and well-being of the people in the  
22 North Country. To a lesser degree, there are  
23 similar transmission facilities, public service

1 facilities all the way down the Connecticut River  
2 Valley through the area.

3 My area or bailiwick of concern is all of  
4 Coos County plus the seven towns in the northern  
5 part of Grafton County. That is an area of about  
6 2,000 square miles. It has about 44,000 people.  
7 Between two-thirds and three-quarters of that  
8 population live in the Connecticut River Valley in  
9 a strip probably somewhere between five and 10  
10 miles in from the river.

11 So when we look at this power line, where  
12 it's going, it could not possibly be put in a  
13 worse place in this state. Now, I could -- um --  
14 I think that the point has been made here also  
15 applies to downstate, but from my perspective I'm  
16 going to address only the questions here in  
17 this -- in this part of the area.

18 The principal communications path for the  
19 emergency services, my center, is right down the  
20 Connecticut River Valley, right smack-dab, dead  
21 center down the same path that the power line is.  
22 So that's a concern.

23 We have a number of radio operations in

1           this state. We have Border Patrol. We have  
2           police and safety, fire. We have Fish and Game.  
3           We have amateur radio services. We have CB  
4           operators who use their radios to maintain -- keep  
5           from running into people on the road. We have  
6           ambulance dispatch services. Snowmobilers come up  
7           and use their equipment and carry radios with them  
8           for safety purposes, and the hospitals have a  
9           radio -- a network that also transmits up and down  
10          the Connecticut River valley.

11                        RF frequencies are very, very significant  
12          to us. People say that DC, it is quiet. It may  
13          be quieter than the AC, but -- and let me tell you  
14          RF transmission lines radiate like crazy in bad  
15          weather with wind, rain, sleet and snow, and  
16          emergencies happen under those conditions, so we  
17          find that we're going to have RFI frequency  
18          problems with them.

19                        There's more relative to this topic, but  
20          I won't -- I will close at this time in order to  
21          keep us within the band here. Thank you much. I  
22          appreciate that.

23                                (Applause.)

1                   THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for  
2 your comments, Robert. Our next speaker is John  
3 Amey.

4                   THE SPEAKER: My name is John Amey, 81  
5 Tabor Road, Pittsburg, New Hampshire 03592, and  
6 the lady that mixed up the zip code is my wife,  
7 and I know where to find her.

8                   (Laughter.)

9                   THE SPEAKER: Good afternoon, Mr. Mills.  
10 Thank you for coming to New Hampshire to hear our  
11 story. Written comments alone would never explain  
12 the whole situation that we are facing. My  
13 remarks will touch on some of the social and  
14 economic issues regarding this project.

15                   This is a lot more than a power line that  
16 we don't want, don't need and don't expect to  
17 continue. The people are coming together from  
18 Pittsburg to Concord, from all ages, walks of life  
19 and political persuasions. We've had enough, and  
20 we are defending what is ours.

21                   All of us here today have a sense of  
22 place in our lives. The younger folks are just  
23 learning. Some of us may be new to New Hampshire,

1 but I am proud and privileged to have lived in the  
2 same place, Indian Stream Valley in Pittsburg, for  
3 the last 61 years, and my family has been on that  
4 farm since around 1890 when my great-grandmother  
5 moved there from Clarksville.

6 I have a feel for the valley that is very  
7 strong and valuable. I can know things that  
8 others cannot just because of I've always been  
9 there working the land, watching the seasons come  
10 and go and come back again. I can tell you with  
11 no hesitation that there is no space at my place  
12 for Northern Pass.

13 My place extends far beyond Tabor Road in  
14 Pittsburg to all of New Hampshire. It is my  
15 opinion that 90 percent of the new right of way  
16 for this project will have to be taken by eminent  
17 domain. It will turn into a political bloodbath  
18 in New Hampshire. It will tear friends and  
19 families apart. It will turn neighbor against  
20 neighbor. This is wrong for New Hampshire.

21 And yes, I will admit that the preferred  
22 route in Pittsburg will not cross my property, but  
23 it will cross a neighboring farmer in Pittsburg

1           and then -- and then my sister's farm in  
2           Clarksville. If one of the alternate routes is  
3           used, it will cross Indian Stream Valley, and I  
4           will have to look at it as I farm beside it for  
5           the rest of my life.

6                         In Coos County, this project will travel  
7           right through maple stands in Clarksville,  
8           Columbia and Stratford. The production of maple  
9           syrup in New Hampshire is a very traditional way  
10          of landowners supporting the ownership costs of  
11          that land.

12                        There is no way landowners can adequately  
13          be compensated for loss of a way of life. It does  
14          not matter if it is a sugar place, a Christmas  
15          tree plantation or, in some cases, a beautiful  
16          stand of mixed species being managed as a  
17          certified tree farm. Establishing a one-time  
18          monetary settlement and calling it good for  
19          perpetuity is an insult to the intelligence of  
20          property owners. And all this rape of the  
21          landscape just for the financial gain of  
22          stockholders in a private utility company is  
23          absurd.

1           In no place in the country is the right  
2           of private property closer to the hearts of people  
3           than in New Hampshire. We are here today fighting  
4           to maintain that right. We will not yield to  
5           Northern Pass. Not now. Not ever. The power of  
6           the people will prevail.

7           For all of the above reasons and more, I  
8           urge the Department of Energy to deny the  
9           Presidential permit. Thank you.

10           (Applause.)

11           THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
12           comments, John. Next speaker, David Dobbins.

13           THE SPEAKER: Hello. My name is Dave  
14           Dobbins. My address is 167 Gunstock Hill Road in  
15           Gilford, New Hampshire. None of these -- none of  
16           the proposed primary or alternate routes of this  
17           Northern Pass project touch our property in  
18           Gilford. It does not touch our town at all. I'm  
19           here as a citizen of this state to reaffirm that I  
20           and many others believe this project is not only  
21           bad for the North Country, it's bad for the State  
22           of New Hampshire, and it's bad for our nation as a  
23           whole.

1 (Applause.)

2 THE SPEAKER: I, for one, don't believe  
3 that this project should be allowed in any form.  
4 Any form. And I, with all due respect, don't need  
5 a taxpayer-funded federal study to tell me so.

6 (Applause.)

7 THE SPEAKER: You know, I was so very  
8 pleased that we started this meeting off with the  
9 Pledge of Allegiance. I've had the -- I've had  
10 the great privilege of being at all five of the  
11 previous meetings, these Scoping Meetings, and  
12 this is the first time that's been done. Now, you  
13 know, that might not be a big issue to, you know,  
14 some folks, and many folks might -- might have  
15 even missed that fact all together, but it  
16 bothered me, and I'd like to tell you a little bit  
17 about why.

18 Okay. On that pledge, we pledge  
19 allegiance to this country. Our nation is at  
20 great risk on many fronts. One of them is our  
21 reliance on foreign energy sources to heat our  
22 homes and businesses, operate our means of  
23 transportation and run the remaining industries



1           that are still in this country.

2                       On the basis that turning to a foreign  
3           country for our electrical energy needs does  
4           nothing to further the goal of American energy  
5           independence, economic security and national  
6           security, I ask the DOE to deny the Presidential  
7           permit for this project and to do so as  
8           expediently as possible.

9                       (Applause.)

10                      THE SPEAKER: We acknowledge that it is a  
11           nation under God.

12                      (Applause.)

13                      THE SPEAKER: So whether you subscribe to  
14           the idea of God as an entity, a spirit or a state  
15           of mind --

16                      (Applause.)

17                      THE SPEAKER: -- our Founding Fathers  
18           sure did. Who is not moved by these words in the  
19           Declaration of Independence? We hold these truths  
20           to be self-evident, that all men are created  
21           equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with  
22           certain inalienable rights, that among them these  
23           are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

1 Governments do not grant these rights. They're  
2 given to us by a higher power.

3 Continuing in our pledge with liberty and  
4 justice for all, the Declaration of Independence  
5 continues, and I quote, "That to secure these  
6 rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of  
7 happiness, governments are instituted among men,  
8 deriving their just powers from the consent of the  
9 governed," unquote.

10 Our government at all levels gets their  
11 power from we, the people, under our founding  
12 principles. The only power the government has is  
13 what we give them. By design, our government  
14 exists to serve the people.

15 The lives, liberty and pursuit of  
16 happiness for all the people living anywhere along  
17 the proposed primary or alternate routes are under  
18 a cloud of uncertainty and fear right now.

19 The DOE rightly states that they have no  
20 power of eminent domain in this matter, but the  
21 DOE does have the ability to stop this project in  
22 its tracks so the citizens don't have to face and  
23 fight the eminent domain issue at all.

1           On the basis that this project infringes  
2           on the fundamental rights of life, liberty and the  
3           pursuit of happiness bestowed upon every human  
4           being and secured by the people as a self-  
5           governing body, and on the basis this project is  
6           destructive to the very heart and soul of New  
7           Hampshire and American culture, I ask that the DOE  
8           take action to deny the Presidential permit for  
9           this project and to do so as expediently as  
10          possible. Thank you.

11                           (Applause.)

12           THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
13           comments, David. David went over quite a bit, and  
14           I just want to point out that those original  
15           ground rules that I set and everyone agreed to did  
16           include holding off on clapping until the very  
17           end, so if speakers in the future could try not to  
18           get the crowd to respond to -- to questions or  
19           plain words and speeches, that would be  
20           appreciated. Our next speaker, Daryl Burtnett.

21                           THE SPEAKER: Yes.

22           THE MODERATOR: By the way, before you  
23           start, I'm trying to find out what the deal is

1 with the bell, so.

2 MR. LAURENCE: He's trying to work on it  
3 now.

4 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much.  
5 Thank you, Mike, wherever you are that's working  
6 on that bell.

7 THE SPEAKER: My name is Daryl Burtnett.  
8 I'm the State Director for the Nature Conservancy  
9 here in New Hampshire. I'd like to thank the  
10 members of the panel here for your time today and  
11 listening to the people in the North Country. It  
12 means a lot to all of us.

13 The Nature Conservancy is a private,  
14 nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the  
15 plants, animals and natural communities that  
16 represent the diversity of life on Earth. We do  
17 this by protecting the lands and the waters they  
18 need to survive. Our on-the-ground conservation  
19 work is carried out in all 50 states and in 30  
20 countries with the support of approximately a  
21 million members.

22 To date, we have helped conserve more  
23 than 119 million acres of land and 5,000 river

1 miles around the world. Here in New Hampshire, in  
2 just the last 50 years we have protected -- we  
3 have helped protect 270,000 acres using sound  
4 conservation science and working with a variety of  
5 public and private partners.

6 As a New Hampshire landowner and one of  
7 the state's largest land trusts, we own and manage  
8 30 preserves comprising 25,000 acres of land  
9 throughout the state and hold conservation  
10 easements on more than 37,000 acres. New  
11 Hampshire's wildlife, forests and water resources  
12 are our address and zip code. Technically, I live  
13 in a house in Concord, New Hampshire 03301.

14 Now, much of our most important work here  
15 in New Hampshire has been up in the North Country  
16 and for good reason. When we look at the forest  
17 type that you all live in and that we help protect  
18 up here, the northern property forest, when we  
19 look on the whole planet, and that's looking at  
20 China where it exists and Australia, South  
21 America, this forest that sweeps from Maine to the  
22 Adirondacks, Canada down into New Hampshire, and  
23 we're at the heart of it, stands out as the best,

1 most intact example. We're a globally important  
2 forest here. That's why we're dedicating  
3 ourselves to it.

4 So the stakes are high. The stakes are  
5 high for you, therefore, us. They're really high  
6 for those of us who first and foremost care about  
7 the woods and all the natural and human  
8 communities that call it home.

9 I'm here today to stand with our  
10 neighbors. Our largest preserve, the Vicki  
11 Bunnell Preserve, 20,000 acres of both preserve  
12 core and working forests surrounding it. It is on  
13 one of the alternate routes. Our newest project  
14 in the North Country, the Potter Farm in  
15 Northumberland, is also in the path of one of the  
16 alternate routes.

17 Now, even the most sensitively sited  
18 projects of this kind are going to have an  
19 impact. They come at a cost. There is no free  
20 lunch. The first premise needs to establish  
21 need. We've yet to see a compelling case for need  
22 on this project.

23 Because of the miles of new corridors,

1           because of the scale and intensity of the impact  
2           of this project, we believe that Northern Pass's  
3           costs to the landscape and to the natural and  
4           human communities of the region are simply too  
5           high.

6                         Our recommendation is that DOE do a full  
7           and thorough accounting of the costs and benefits  
8           of all of the recommendations, all of the  
9           alternatives, including, and most importantly, the  
10          alternative that we prefer, the no-action  
11          alternative.

12                        So though we and many others have come  
13          here today before you because the places that we  
14          care most about, yes, our backyard, it's not just  
15          because we believe the Northern Pass Project  
16          shouldn't be in our backyard, we believe it  
17          shouldn't be in anybody's.

18                        (Applause.)

19                        THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
20          comments, Daryl. Our next speaker, Yvonne Nanasi.

21                        THE SPEAKER: Yes. Thank you. I'm the  
22          North Country Field Service Representative of the  
23          New Hampshire Preservation Alliance. The

1 Alliance's main office is in Concord 03302, and I  
2 am a resident of Stewartstown 03597.

3 We appreciate this opportunity to provide  
4 input into this process. We are a nonprofit,  
5 membership-based, statewide organization committed  
6 to the preservation of historic buildings,  
7 landscapes and communities through education,  
8 advocacy and resources.

9 Through a partnership agreement, we also  
10 represent the National Trust for Historic  
11 Preservation with these comments. The  
12 Preservation Alliance and the National Trust have  
13 three major issues to convey based on the current  
14 federal requirements for evaluating historic  
15 properties.

16 First, the identification and assessment  
17 of historic resources must be comprehensive and  
18 complete. Because only a small percentage of the  
19 historic resources eligible for the National  
20 Register of Historic Places in the North Country  
21 have been previously evaluated, we want to  
22 emphasize that the requirement of a comprehensive  
23 identification inventory is likely to reveal many



1 more properties that meet this threshold.

2 Furthermore, our advisors have suggested  
3 to us that in order to appropriately assess the  
4 adverse impacts on historic properties, the  
5 inventory survey needs to include the area for at  
6 least one-half mile on either side of the proposed  
7 routes and those within sight of the transmission  
8 line. In some areas, a half-mile may not be  
9 enough to fully evaluate visual impact.

10 We understand that what we are asking is  
11 complex and an extensive task, but it is essential  
12 for meeting the terms of significant and for  
13 understanding the impacts of the project.

14 Second, the identification and survey  
15 process cannot be limited to individual  
16 structures. The context of these individual  
17 properties and cultural landscapes that they are  
18 part of need to be considered as well. It will be  
19 important to ensure that the survey process is  
20 based on the guidance from the National Park  
21 Service under National Register Bulletin Number  
22 30.

23 We strongly urge that the National

1 Register criteria of integrity, that is, the  
2 ability of a property to convey its significance  
3 based on its location, design, setting, feeling  
4 and association be taken into consideration in  
5 determining the significant adverse impacts and  
6 mitigation.

7 For example, the properties on Meriden  
8 Hill that you heard about from Bob Baker, the  
9 Indian Stream Valley that the Ameys are interested  
10 in, Route 145 in Clarksville, all of these are  
11 significant historic landscapes that the sum of  
12 the parts are more than the individual pieces in  
13 some places.

14 Third, the EIS for the transmission line  
15 will also include consideration of impacts as  
16 required by Section 106 of the National Historic  
17 Preservation Act. We highlight for your  
18 consideration that Section 106 criteria for  
19 assessing adverse impact includes changes in  
20 character of the property's use or setting,  
21 introduction of incompatible visual, atmospheric  
22 or audible elements, potential for neglect and  
23 deterioration due to the lessening of the

1 property's value, and transfer, lease or sale of  
2 historic properties without adequate preservation  
3 restrictions.

4 Once these adverse effects have been  
5 identified, the goal of the Section 106  
6 consultation is to seek alternatives and  
7 modifications.

8 On behalf of the New Hampshire  
9 Preservation Alliance and the National Trust, we  
10 look forward to participating actively in the  
11 review and consultation for this project as we  
12 move forward with this important study. Thank you  
13 for your consideration of these concerns.

14 (Applause.)

15 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for  
16 your comments, Yvonne. Our next speaker, Katie  
17 Rose.

18 THE SPEAKER: Thank you. I'm Katie Rose,  
19 born and raised in the North Country, but I'm from  
20 Whitefield, and I was overwhelmed to hear -- all  
21 the way up here seeing all the signs and feeling  
22 the energy of you guys. I am so thankful. And  
23 I'm so proud to sing this song for you.

1                   South of the Canada border, east of  
2 Vermont countryside some kind of natural beauty,  
3 and people came far and wide to view the majesty  
4 of the land, one place untouched by human hands.  
5 And those that called it home were tougher than  
6 the granite stone.

7                   But something came out of the darkness,  
8 something of a dangerous kind trying to pass  
9 legislation to run some high-voltage power lines  
10 with no concern for the local man whose great-  
11 grandfather had worked that land. The number one  
12 priority was the profit of the company.

13                   So live free or die, my friend. Live  
14 free or die. This is the message that we send.  
15 Live free or die.

16                   Ads and propaganda littered with half-  
17 truths and lies. Anyone else might have been  
18 fooled, but countryfolk can survive. They  
19 wouldn't stand for the NPT depreciating their  
20 property and making their children unhealthy so  
21 more people could waste electricity.

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

1 free or die.

2 It's a sad story of oppression by a  
3 powerful entity, but it's more about the human  
4 spirit and people standing up for what they  
5 believe. And when our children are all grown and  
6 having kids of their own, they'll be thinking back  
7 to you and me and the spirit that kept them free.

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

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause. Standing ovation.)

14 THE MODERATOR: Katie Rose, thank you for  
15 your comments. Before the break and before a lot  
16 of you run out of the room, I want to thank the  
17 Town of Colebrook for having us here this  
18 afternoon and providing these great facilities.  
19 Go Mohawk Pride. I want to thank Mike for all his  
20 efforts this morning getting this room ready for  
21 the meeting and also for finally taking care of  
22 that bell.

23 MR. LAURENCE: It ended at 2:55 anyway.

1                   THE MODERATOR:  And thank all of you for  
2                   your hospitality and civility today and throughout  
3                   this whole week, and you're welcome to your  
4                   15-minute break.

5                   (Break taken at 3:08 p.m.)

6                   (Resume at 3:27 p.m.)

7                   THE MODERATOR:  Your next speaker is Bill  
8                   Schomburg.

9                   THE SPEAKER:  My name is Bill Schomburg.  
10                  378 Meriden Hill, Columbia, New Hampshire 03590.  
11                  I want to share with you a statement from an  
12                  organization called the Carbon Coalition.  I was  
13                  asking them about the low-carbon aspects of the  
14                  Northern Pass Project.  How do I reconcile my  
15                  desire for low carbon with my opposition to  
16                  Canadian hydrotransmission?

17                  The head of the Carbon Coalition said,  
18                  and I quote him, "What New Hampshire must have is  
19                  a smart energy policy."  And I want to repeat  
20                  that.  A smart energy policy.  Is it smart to rely  
21                  on a monopoly for New Hampshire's energy needs?  
22                  Is it smart to rely on a foreign government for  
23                  our energy?  Is it smart to jeopardize our

1 independent New Hampshire energy producers?

2 Is it smart to increase our trade  
3 deficit? American money heading out of America.  
4 Is it smart to allow a foreign government to take  
5 our land and homes and way of life, our heritage?  
6 Is it smart to allow a transmission line right of  
7 way which can expand in the future, taking more  
8 land, more homes, erecting more towers, on and on  
9 at the whim of a foreign power?

10 Is it smart to erect towers along the  
11 established tourism byways of Route 145, Route 3,  
12 Route 26 and Vermont 102? Is it smart to depress  
13 our real estate market? Is it smart to impede the  
14 building of second homes and camps along the  
15 transmission route? Is it smart to rely on a  
16 hydro project which has been identified on  
17 WikiLeaks as a terrorist target? Is it smart to  
18 rely on 19th Century technology rather than on  
19 innovation?

20 Is any of this smart or are we that  
21 stupid? I think our opposition to Northern Pass  
22 is based on the stupidity of the scheme. Who in  
23 their right mind would vote to rely on a foreign

1 monopoly which will contribute to the deficit and  
2 jeopardize local projects like biomass, hydro,  
3 wind, solar, geothermal, et cetera?

4 My opposition to this project is based on  
5 the fact that the homes and land of my neighbors  
6 will be taken. Every person who votes for the  
7 Northern Pass votes to have my neighbors' property  
8 taken against their will. How can we turn our  
9 back on the North Country neighbors?

10 I attended the PSNH dog and pony show,  
11 and I felt the anger and shock and disappointment  
12 of our people. And there was another emotion  
13 which smoldered beneath their dismay, and that  
14 emotion was shame. The people were ashamed of the  
15 political leadership or lack of leadership which  
16 allows this to happen, ashamed that our government  
17 was not stopping it, ashamed that New Hampshire  
18 had turned its back on this crime, ashamed of  
19 politicians who allowed the taking of New  
20 Hampshire land and heritage.

21 I helped at the Farm and Forest Expo in  
22 Manchester and for two days at the Snowdeo, and  
23 people there could not understand what was going



1 on with our politicians. "How could this be,"  
2 they said. How can they take our land? And I  
3 heard someone say, "What part of no don't they  
4 understand?" This might be right on target. What  
5 part of no don't they understand?

6 Let me finish with a quote from the  
7 Bible. "Hold fast to that which is good." Our  
8 way of life is good. Our heritage, our mountains,  
9 rivers, mountains, woodlands and our people are  
10 good. Hold fast to the good. Don't sell out.  
11 Don't give up. We will fight for the good, and  
12 Northern Pass will never take us down.

13 (Applause.)

14 THE MODERATOR: Unfortunately the  
15 moderator left all of his tools up here. Again,  
16 some more instructions on time. Dean's up here,  
17 and thus far he has been flashing the cards. I'm  
18 now going to ask him when it gets to the wrap-up,  
19 to hold it, and when he approaches 30 seconds  
20 over, he is to stand up with that sign. Thank  
21 you.

22 THE SPEAKER: My name is Mark McCulloch,  
23 72 McCulloch Road, North Stratford, New

1 Hampshire. Good afternoon. My wife, Chelsea, and  
2 I are directly affected landowners who own 70  
3 acres in North Stratford, New Hampshire where we  
4 have lived for the past 24 years.

5 I was born and raised in Lancaster, New  
6 Hampshire and met Chelsea at Keene State College  
7 in Keene, New Hampshire. We met rock climbing at  
8 a college-sponsored club called LIVE, Learning in  
9 a Vigorous Environment. We were taught many  
10 outdoor skills by an amazing instructor named  
11 Keith King.

12 Our love for the outdoors and nature is  
13 much greater than that of the Northern Pass  
14 membership, I am sure. Keith King taught us the  
15 basics of backpacking, rock climbing, white water  
16 canoeing and winter camping, which we continued to  
17 do for many years to follow in the White Mountains  
18 of New Hampshire and all over the United States.

19 Chelsea and I have paddled the entire  
20 length, approximately 480 miles, of the  
21 Connecticut River and have hiked the 270-mile Long  
22 Trail through the Green Mountains of Vermont, as  
23 Bill Schomburg and his son in the audience -- Bill

1 just spoke -- has also done.

2 I personally have had the opportunity to  
3 climb to the top of North America, Denali, or some  
4 refer to it as Mount McKinley in Alaska, which is  
5 23,320 feet. I've also successfully rock climbed  
6 a 3,000-foot wall called El Capitan and the 2,000-  
7 foot wall of Half Dome, both in Yosemite Valley in  
8 California. Climbing the Nose Route of El Capitan  
9 was the most exhilarating and terrifying climb  
10 I've ever experienced, but my good friend, Brad  
11 Walker, and I, after five days, safely made it to  
12 the top of this beautiful wall.

13 So now Chelsea and I, along with many  
14 other landowners, are now up against an even more  
15 terrifying wall called the Northern Pass as it's  
16 going to butcher our property and slice the middle  
17 of our beautiful New Hampshire.

18 We personally are going to get the  
19 incredible opportunity to sell Northern Pass a  
20 150-foot clear-cut -- oh, yeah. I mean right of  
21 way through the middle of our Mystical Mountain  
22 maple sugaring operation. I don't know if the  
23 Northern Pass and the DOE realize this, but maple

1           syrup comes from maple trees, and it's bad  
2           business to cut down your maple trees. Maple  
3           sugaring using a wood-fired evaporator, by the  
4           way, is using a renewable energy source, just like  
5           the biomass plants that Northeast Utilities wants  
6           to shut down.

7                         This sugaring business is a significant  
8           part of our livelihood and will become more  
9           significant in the future. We're sure that other  
10          affected landowners across the state will also  
11          have their economic livelihoods similarly impacted  
12          forever if this disastrous project is approved.

13                        New Hampshire is already a power  
14          exporter, so who's the power for? It is for the  
15          people of Massachusetts and Connecticut. So  
16          instead of being encouraged to conserve power,  
17          which we personally have always tried very hard to  
18          do, they will have the freedom to waste any --  
19          waste any that they want while we in New Hampshire  
20          are being forced to give up our freedom to live  
21          our lives the way we choose and to no longer be  
22          able to conservatively use our land the way we  
23          want to.

1                   Yeah, it's about eminent domain. It's a  
2                   serious problem when a company can take your  
3                   property against your will and make a profit for  
4                   themselves and their stockholders. Speaking of  
5                   stockholders, we got to wondering if we might  
6                   unknowingly have Northeast Utility stock within  
7                   our retirement fund and realized, to our  
8                   embarrassment, that we did. So, with the help of  
9                   our financial advisor, we quickly fixed that  
10                  problem and dumped our Northeast Utility stock,  
11                  and now our environmental conscience is clear as  
12                  we oppose the Northern Pass Project. I bet it  
13                  would send a clear message if all the people  
14                  opposing this project with IRAs did the same  
15                  thing.

16                 So Northeast Utilities, Hydro-Quebec are  
17                 going to have to forcefully take our property and  
18                 the property of the majority of the innocent New  
19                 Hampshire citizens against their will. Does the  
20                 DOE consider this a positive social impact?

21                 There does appear to be a few positive  
22                 cultural impacts from this disastrous project.  
23                 The people of New Hampshire have had to pull

1 together in opposition and have become much better  
2 public speakers, activists, protesters and  
3 painters.

4 THE MODERATOR: You are 30 seconds over.

5 THE SPEAKER: We have -- I'll finish up.  
6 We have become accomplished painters of orange  
7 protest signs. You may have seen these signs  
8 multiplying along the length of New Hampshire.  
9 They are signs of protest against the Northern  
10 Pass, in case you educated individuals from the  
11 DOE haven't noticed.

12 Oh, yeah. Another key point. We have  
13 learned that wearing hunter's orange is no longer  
14 just for hunting season alone, as we're sure  
15 you've clearly seen at all the previous hearings.  
16 Thank you for this great idea, Julie Moran.

17 Last -- last paragraph. Now, I would  
18 like to thank the DOE for the entire three minutes  
19 we, the directly affected landowners, have been  
20 given to protect our property. I'm completely  
21 insulted by this and think that this is nothing  
22 but a Northern Pass and DOE joke.

23 I want to also thank those corrupt

1 individuals in Concord involved in tabling the  
2 eminent domain House Bill until 2012. I would  
3 also like to thank our spineless Governor Lynch  
4 who has been hiding ever since he publicly  
5 announced his support of this great green and  
6 economically beneficial project. I hope you also  
7 begin to sleep poorly as we affected landowners  
8 do. Let your guilty conscience keep you awake --

9 THE MODERATOR: You are way over.

10 THE SPEAKER: -- with worry every night  
11 because it should. All you folks opposing the  
12 Northern Pass, I would like to say with all my  
13 heart you are my heroes, and I have great respect  
14 for you. Thank you.

15 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. The moderator  
16 recognizes the passion associated with the topics  
17 and does not like cutting people off. Our next  
18 speaker, Charles Young. Charles, I got your  
19 promise? Three?

20 THE SPEAKER: I promise I'll be very  
21 brief. At this time I would like to defer my  
22 remaining three minutes to a representative from  
23 Northern Pass and let them offer us an alternative

1 other than an alternate route to be considered.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. MCCULLOCK: Thanks for covering for  
4 some of my time.

5 (Laughter.)

6 THE MODERATOR: I am alerted to the fact  
7 that the sheet that you signed up does not allow  
8 you to defer time to other speakers. I apologize.

9 THE SPEAKER: Well, thank you. They said  
10 everything we expected. Maybe it's because this  
11 time our backs were turned.

12 (Applause.)

13 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Next speaker,  
14 Jim Dannis. Three minutes, please. I'd also like  
15 to call up Peter Riviere, Aaron Schomburg, Dawn  
16 Eskew, Mark Carrigan. And actually that last one  
17 I'm not certain of. It's tough to read. Lance  
18 Stewart from Stafford, New Hampshire.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE:  
20 Stratford.

21 THE MODERATOR: Stratford.

22 THE SPEAKER: My name is Jim Dannis. I  
23 live at 123 McGinty Road in Dalton, New



1 Hampshire. Rick Samson said it better than I can,  
2 which is you don't mess with the people's land.  
3 I'd like to spend my remaining two and a half  
4 minutes talking very briefly about eminent  
5 domain.

6 The only way this project can go forward  
7 is with a massive use of eminent domain. And John  
8 Amey said, based on the people he knows, 90  
9 percent of those of you in this room, 90 percent  
10 will not sell out to Northern Pass. Ninety  
11 percent will stand tall and stand firm and say  
12 this project should not proceed.

13 I think it's very important that we all  
14 make that moral commitment to each other. I drove  
15 up here today from the very southern part of Coos  
16 County in Dalton because I wanted to make to all  
17 of you in this room my personal commitment. I  
18 care most deeply about my personal integrity.  
19 What I say I do. Sandy and I will not let these  
20 transmission lines cross our land without a  
21 final fight.

22 (Applause.)

23 THE SPEAKER: We will spend the resources

1           we have to make good on that promise. Northern  
2           Pass has drawn the line of 1.4 miles across our  
3           land. We will use every resource available to us  
4           to stop these transmission lines. We stand with  
5           you, and now I would ask every speaker who comes  
6           up after me to make the same moral commitment. I  
7           want you to stand tall to your neighbors in front  
8           of a public group and promise you will fight  
9           this. Thank you.

10                   THE MODERATOR: Thank you. The next  
11           speaker -- our next speaker is Roland Cotnoir.

12                   THE SPEAKER: Very good.

13                   THE MODERATOR: And hold on one second.  
14           I just noticed that I have two Charles Youngs, a  
15           Charles Young, P.O. Box 326 --

16                   CHARLES YOUNG: That's me.

17                   THE MODERATOR: That's you. And a  
18           Charles Young, P.O. Box 52.

19                   CHARLES YOUNG: That's the other one.

20                   THE MODERATOR: Okay. Then you are  
21           called up.

22                   THE SPEAKER: My name is Roland Cotnoir.  
23           I live at 123 Cotnoir Drive here in Colebrook, New

1 Hampshire 03576. And I hope to heck that I don't  
2 have to change my address to 123 Northern Pass  
3 Way.

4 My wife and I have spent the past four  
5 years working and building the place that we now  
6 live. We worked real hard as a young couple. We  
7 brought our family here because of what it was.  
8 We came here accidentally, and we fell in love  
9 with the place. The focus, the view, the valley,  
10 it's everything that was just what we've been  
11 looking for.

12 We found an old, abandoned house, and her  
13 and I, we worked, like I said, for four years to  
14 build it to what the place that we now call home.  
15 And now I hear that a company is going to come by,  
16 and they're going to destroy our dream. This is  
17 where -- this is the place that we had hoped to  
18 retire peacefully with a 360-degree view that we  
19 bought, that we paid for. We didn't ask for help  
20 from anybody. We did it on our own.

21 Now this is going to be completely --  
22 completely destroy it. We even had made our place  
23 into a trust because our four children want to

1           stay there. The house is not going to be sold.  
2           It's going to stay in our family. Our grandkids  
3           and great-grandkids, they love our place, and it's  
4           ours. And we want to keep it that way. But now  
5           our dreams are going to be gone, probably gone  
6           forever.

7                        I -- um -- I'm going to cut my speech  
8           very, very quick. I'm going to simply say I  
9           agreed with all the previous speakers here that  
10          are against this. Everything that they said, I  
11          agree with. And one thing -- I'll add a few more  
12          things. Maybe -- when they say green power, yes,  
13          I agree it is green power. It's green-dollar  
14          power that is traveling. That's what it is.  
15          That's the only green in this project that I can  
16          see. And when they say, also, let's not be fooled  
17          by all the nice-colored brochures that they're  
18          sending us. This is pure propaganda, folks.  
19          Nobody is this happy. Everybody --

20                        (Applause.)

21                        THE SPEAKER: I even had the moose here.  
22          Even the moose is laughing. You know, as you say  
23          now that we're going to create jobs. We're going

1 to create jobs, yes. Twelve hundred jobs. I've  
2 got a different word for it. We're not creating  
3 jobs. We're engaging -- or we're hiring  
4 terrorists. You don't need to fly an airplane  
5 into buildings to destroy stuff. If you hire and  
6 you pay 1,200 people to come in with bulldozers  
7 and destroy my property, I call this a form of  
8 terrorism. Folks, don't let them do it. And I  
9 agree with the previous speaker. Over my dead  
10 body.

11 (Screaming and applause.)

12 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
13 comments. Just so you know, you have until  
14 April 12th. April 12th to submit written  
15 comments. Our next speaker, Peter Riviere, when  
16 you are ready.

17 THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Peter Riviere,  
18 One Mt. Prospect Road, Lancaster 03584. I'm going  
19 to change the tone a little bit. First, I want to  
20 welcome you to the headwaters of the Indian Stream  
21 Republic. The Northern Pass revolution began  
22 here, and I'm thankful to see that your visit in  
23 Plymouth was -- showed you that the rebellion

1 really is a statewide rebellion, and it ain't just  
2 us hicks up here that are agin it. This is a  
3 statewide effort and statewide opposition.

4 Um -- secondly, I want to say that we're  
5 pretty much on the defense. We're having to react  
6 to whatever kind of nonsense we hear coming down  
7 the stream. We have to react to legislative  
8 gamuts and the people's policy in Concord, and I  
9 want to change the tables a little bit and say  
10 that there's a way to be proactive and provide for  
11 ourselves with electricity and heat and locally  
12 gotten, and that's by looking at combined heat and  
13 power systems.

14 They're doing that in Colebrook. There's  
15 a group looking in Lancaster. Um -- this isn't a  
16 foreign-implanted idea. It's a native idea. It's  
17 really the basis by which all the renewable solar  
18 and wind power energy is generated because you  
19 burn some substance, fossil fuels, coal, oil,  
20 uranium, and basically you use a 19th Century  
21 technology, which is to heat water to boiling  
22 temperature or higher, making steam. The steam  
23 drives the turbine, and you produce power

1 basically wasting two-thirds of the fuel that you  
2 started with because all those systems, whether  
3 it's the Schiller plant, the Bow plant or your  
4 biomass plants, are 25 to 35 percent efficient.

5 If you were to do that locally in smaller  
6 municipally-operated systems, you could reach 80  
7 to 90 percent efficiency. You could produce your  
8 own electricity. You could produce your own  
9 heat. You could be paying your neighbors to  
10 harvest, chip, haul and operate those systems.

11 So I'm recommending that we take kind of  
12 a proactive look, capture this moment to look at  
13 your future. And do you really want to see Public  
14 Service and NSTAR and Hydro-Quebec in your face  
15 again? I mean, you know, if we waited a few days,  
16 we could have had this on April Fool's Day, and we  
17 could all go back to bed, and we could all say  
18 it's just a bad dream. But it's real, and I would  
19 like folks to think about ways that they can be  
20 self-reliant, that they can be self-sufficient,  
21 that they can improve the local economy.

22 All of this is being done. I believe the  
23 Audubon Society has got a biomass system. Hell,

1 even the State House is heated with a biomass  
2 system. You would think with all that hot air  
3 they wouldn't need any supplemental power, but  
4 they do. So, you know, I want you to support the  
5 Colebrook system and think about alternative ways  
6 that we can provide for our needs locally. Keep  
7 the money here. Help your neighbors. Help  
8 yourselves. Thank you.

9 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
10 comments, Peter. Next speaker, Aaron Schomburg.

11 THE SPEAKER: Thank you. My name is  
12 Aaron Schomburg. I live at 233 Carter Road,  
13 Princeton, New Jersey. I'd like to say I drove  
14 eight and a half hours to be here, but I didn't.  
15 I didn't really know about the meeting until last  
16 night. My brother and I were up on Mount Adams,  
17 and we spent the night at Gray Knob. And I felt  
18 great this morning. He turned to me, and he said,  
19 "Hey, I think there's a meeting in Colebrook."

20 So we quickly got up and ate some oatmeal  
21 on the trail, and I apologize to my mom and all of  
22 you for looking a mess, but -- um -- you know, I  
23 thought it was important to be here and share a



1 perspective from someone who grew up here and  
2 moved away and regrets a lot.

3 I -- I work at a school down there, and  
4 every once in a while -- every year actually I  
5 bring students up here, and one year we did a  
6 stewardship week. Kids actually paid money to  
7 come up here, work and maintain trails in the  
8 White Mountains and paid money to do that. We  
9 were doing those paths a few years ago, and the  
10 kids were looking a little tired, a little grumpy,  
11 as kids get, you know, when they don't have enough  
12 sugar and things.

13 So we put the tools down in the woods,  
14 and we went up above tree line, and we broke out  
15 the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and sat on  
16 a rock, and this wonderful girl, you know, 16  
17 years old maybe, she turned to me and she said,  
18 "You know, Mr. Schomburg, I get it now. I get  
19 it. I didn't get it when I was working down there  
20 cleaning that path, but now, boy, I see it." And  
21 -- um -- that's a special thing. And I bring my  
22 kids up here so they get it.

23 And -- um -- I want to invite you

1           folks -- you don't have your hiking boots with  
2           you. I'll give you mine. You can have the jacket  
3           off my back, and I'll bring you up here, and maybe  
4           you'll get it.

5                           (Applause.)

6           THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
7           comments, Aaron. Next speaker, Mark Carnigan.

8           THE SPEAKER: We just went over that just  
9           a second ago. You had it right then.

10          THE MODERATOR: I wasn't certain that I  
11          had it right, so if you don't mind.

12          THE SPEAKER: So what were the options?

13          THE MODERATOR: Never mind.

14          THE SPEAKER: My name is Mark Garrigan,  
15          and I live here in the North Country, Route 3,  
16          03590, Stratford. The property where I reside and  
17          maple sugar has a big line through it drawn by  
18          Nothern Pass severing it in half.

19                        I have a Bachelor's of Science in  
20          environmental science, and I've been an  
21          environmental educator at the middle, high school  
22          and college levels. I'll cut to the chase.

23                        Why, Mr. Mills, have you invited Northern

1 Pass as special guests here to all of these  
2 Scoping Meetings? At the meeting the other night  
3 in Whitefield, I found it surreal to walk past  
4 reps from Northern Pass with all their maps and  
5 brochures. There were no seats, so I was left to  
6 stand in the back and be crowded in by NP reps  
7 standing in the aisle in an intimidating manner to  
8 folks as they passed by.

9 No one person had anything to say to them  
10 but to give them a once-over, if you will. I  
11 witnessed this all evening. Arrogance was so  
12 profound that a woman with a DEO staff ID tag came  
13 over to a man wearing a Northern Pass ID tag and  
14 asked him if he would be joining her later after  
15 the meeting.

16 Their presence simply elevates the level  
17 of shame, disgust, fear and confusion of this  
18 process. Does anyone here also feel this way?  
19 Has anybody felt that?

20 (Applause.)

21 THE SPEAKER: Do any of you really have  
22 sincere questions for Northern Pass even though  
23 this process was not originally designed for

1           them? Do any of you really care to go over to the  
2           Northern Pass people here and go over the route  
3           that they wish to take through your property and  
4           through your entire state?

5                           (Applause.)

6           THE SPEAKER: At the citizen taxpayer  
7           expense, you, Mr. Mills, and the DOE have invited  
8           Northern Pass as special guests to our process.  
9           This is very strange. And I'm having a very  
10          difficult time trying to understand it. You  
11          should have realized this is not the time and  
12          place for their maps and propaganda.

13                        So now I respectfully ask you and your  
14          moderator, at the very least, in the act of saving  
15          some integrity to this process, reduce some of the  
16          strangeness and surrealness. Give us a sense of  
17          comfort to the democratic process and direct the  
18          Northern Pass people to quietly and willingly  
19          relocate their signs and maps outside the building  
20          to their cars and then return, if they wish, to  
21          take a seat and attend this meeting.

22                        If they need help, myself and some others  
23          will quietly and peacefully assist them. It

1           should take just a few minutes, and then we can go  
2           on with the meeting. It would be greatly  
3           appreciated and mean a lot to us, to the process  
4           if you are able to facilitate this simple  
5           request. Thank you very much.

6                           (Applause.)

7                           (The reporter asks the speaker for his  
8           written notes as he was interrupted repeatedly by  
9           the applause of the audience.)

10                           (The speaker adamantly refuses.)

11                           THE COURT REPORTER: Hello. My name is  
12           Debra Mekula. I think you've seen me here  
13           writing. I'm writing as hard and as fast as I  
14           can. I'm asking you for your written comments so  
15           when I go home and work all through the evening so  
16           that in the next four days I can get all these  
17           words uploaded to Mr. Mills so he can put them on  
18           the website so that everyone can read them  
19           wherever they are located it will be complete. My  
20           job is to get every single word that you and  
21           everyone else has said. If you don't give me your  
22           paper, and there's a word or two I misheard or  
23           maybe didn't hear because people were

1           applauding when they were told to wait until the  
2           end, but they decided to applaud anyway and clap  
3           out the words that you said, so I don't have the  
4           two or three words over there, and you refuse to  
5           give me your paper so I can get every word.

6                   MR. STEPANIAN: Mr. Moderator, we didn't  
7           come here to be scolded by this woman.

8                   THE COURT REPORTER: I'm not scolding.

9                   MR. STEPANIAN: You certainly are, and I  
10          take offense to your attitude. You're being paid  
11          to be here and do this, correct?

12                   THE COURT REPORTER: That's right.

13                   (Simultaneous multiple speakers.)

14                   UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Simmer down, Scott.

15                   UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Do the best job you can  
16          do.

17                   UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Cool it.

18                   UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We're about to have our  
19          land taken away.

20                   UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.

21                   THE MODERATOR: Okay. The moderator made  
22          an error. I apologize for that. We're all  
23          passionate about the subject, and we believe

1           strongly. Okay. So let's try to keep cool. I do  
2 apologize. I apologize on behalf of Debra, and I  
3 apologize on behalf of our next speaker who we're  
4 interrupting some of his time, too. Do you wish  
5 to give her your papers that you spoke with?

6           MR. GARRIGAN: I don't care to have this  
7 on the Internet. This is just ad libbed. This is  
8 just my presentation. I'll present something by  
9 the deadline that we have, April -- what was the  
10 date? Twelve. April 12. I don't -- there were  
11 others that didn't -- there were many others that  
12 didn't hand in their paper.

13           THE MODERATOR: That may be true.

14           MR. STEPANIAN: Maybe the DOE should have  
15 made that specifically clear to us in the first  
16 place.

17           UNKNOWN SPEAKER: They did.

18           THE MODERATOR: Charles, you've got three  
19 minutes.

20           THE SPEAKER: Yes. Hi. I'm Charles  
21 Young. I live at P.O. Box 320. I mean I live at  
22 One High Street -- no.

23           THE MODERATOR: Take your time.

1                   THE SPEAKER: P.O. Box 326, Colebrook,  
2                   New Hampshire 03576. And I do work up where Kathy  
3                   and Russ Johnson live. We make bits for the  
4                   horses, and every time I go up there I don't want  
5                   to see those stupid towers go through that because  
6                   it makes me cry. And I can't even sleep at night,  
7                   so I want to say stop. I wish they would stop  
8                   putting that Northern Pass. I wish we could just  
9                   kick their ass. I'm sorry. But I wish we did  
10                  that. And -- um -- so I can't sleep at night.  
11                  And I agree with Lamm -- Greg Lamm. I agree what  
12                  he said. I agree with what everybody says. So  
13                  everybody should be buying orange sweatshirts and  
14                  everything else. We should stop the Northern  
15                  Pass.

16                                   (Applause.)

17                  THE SPEAKER: And if the towers go  
18                  through, it's going to hurt the environment, and  
19                  we don't want that. Thanks.

20                                   (Applause.)

21                  THE MODERATOR: Thank you, Charles.

22                  THE SPEAKER: How did I do?

23                  THE MODERATOR: You did well, my friend.



1 In all the excitement I forgot to fill up my  
2 chairs, and I apologize for that. Next speaker,  
3 Scott Stepanian. Mike Platt, Martin Kaufman,  
4 Diane Watson, Bruce Latham, Ryan Correnty.

5 THE SPEAKER: My name is Scott Richard  
6 Stepanian. I reside on Columbia Road in the Town  
7 of Columbia, New Hampshire 03576. For the past 20  
8 years, I've dedicated my life to protecting the  
9 citizens in this area from harm. I personally see  
10 the Northern Pass Project as the most dangerous  
11 time to come to New Hampshire in my career. I  
12 must say I was very apprehensive that I am right  
13 now speaking to you today about this project. I  
14 know very little about environmental issues, and I  
15 know even less about electrical transmission  
16 lines.

17 I did realize today that the environment  
18 is exactly what is around us and what surrounds  
19 me. And this is how I feel the project will  
20 impact me and my family.

21 First, economically, the project will  
22 negatively affect my real estate investment. I've  
23 invested significantly in my property, and through

1 no fault of my own my property values will be  
2 depreciated if this project is allowed. My wife  
3 works in the real estate field and has already  
4 experienced negative effects due to the project.  
5 Will Northern Pass reimburse me for my financial  
6 losses?

7 My family also will suffer the loss of  
8 enjoyment on our land. My property will have a  
9 significant view of the Northern Pass lines once  
10 constructed. We will no longer be able to enjoy  
11 the scenic view which I pay taxes for. I would  
12 respectfully request that the Department of Energy  
13 require Northern Pass to have an independent study  
14 to research the negative financial impact that  
15 affects lanowners and the communities involving  
16 real estate properties value depreciation.

17 I am troubled over our elected officials  
18 and Public Service of New Hampshire and Hydro-  
19 Quebec officials believing that destroying -- the  
20 belief that destroying the region's way of life is  
21 even a feasible project. I believe that this  
22 project is about corporate profits only with no  
23 real consideration on how it will negatively

1           affect the New Hampshire citizens harmed by  
2           Northern Pass Project.

3                       After all, it is the individual citizen  
4           left to deal with the results of bad policy. I do  
5           not think one single Northern Pass representative  
6           will be living under these lines. And I remind  
7           the Department of Energy that the United States  
8           Government was established by the people for the  
9           people. Thank you.

10                       (Applause.)

11                       THE MODERATOR: Scott, thank you for your  
12           comments. Our next speaker, Martin Kaufman.

13                       THE SPEAKER: This is not an easy thing  
14           to do in 180 seconds, but I'll give it a try. My  
15           name is Dr. Kaufman. Martin Kaufman. I've been  
16           practicing in the North Country for the past 30  
17           years. I live at 714 -- is that the preamble?  
18           714 Bear Rock Road in Stewartstown.

19                       What I want to do is talk for a minute  
20           about the treatment about health effects, and  
21           if -- with particular attention to Mr. Mills.  
22           The -- there is a great deal of concern, as you  
23           are aware, I'm sure, about an increased risk of

1 cancer in children who are exposed to transmission  
2 lines. The transmission line is scheduled to pass  
3 close to the Kenneth Poor Museum which coordinates  
4 activities with the schools, and this is a great  
5 concern for us.

6 Secondly, from a physician's perspective,  
7 different people have different sensitivities and  
8 susceptibilities to environmental effects.  
9 Ionized air particles, such as exist in the corona  
10 of high-voltage direct current lines, has been  
11 studied in a number of places, including the  
12 University of Jerusalem, and shown to have an  
13 effect on neurotransmitters which affect mood. It  
14 is reasonable to assume that people who have Post-  
15 Traumatic Stress Disorder, recurring depression,  
16 anxiety disorders and who live close to the  
17 transmission lines will be more likely to become  
18 symptomatic.

19 There are two principles that physicians  
20 attempt to abide by. One is a precautionary  
21 principle, and the other is a preavoidance  
22 principle which essentially say that if you want  
23 to do no harm to susceptible people, the

1 responsibility lies, in this case, with the  
2 transmission line company to show that it's safe.  
3 And it's prudent to not put the transmission line  
4 close to schools, close to homes and close to  
5 people.

6 Thirdly, if the company is in denial and  
7 refuses even to recognize that there may be a  
8 problem, should the scope of the EIS include an  
9 analysis of the integrity, the honesty, the  
10 openness, the transparency, the social-mindedness  
11 of a company like Northeast Utilities and the  
12 Provincial Government of Quebec since they would  
13 have enormous influence over our lives if this  
14 line happens? No less certainly is demanded of a  
15 physician who requests privileges to treat people  
16 in the community.

17 Fourth, with the remaining few seconds of  
18 allotted time, I'd like to contrast two  
19 approaches. The United States proposes to add  
20 3,000 miles of new transmission lines at a cost of  
21 about 200 billion dollars over the next few years  
22 to bring renewable energy primarily from the west  
23 and southwest in spite of New Hampshire

1           questioning whether Hydro-Quebec should be  
2           considered renewable energy at all.

3                         Northeast Utilities partnering with the  
4           Provincial Government of Quebec is pushing for  
5           this transmission line in an incredibly  
6           adversarial manner, having been less than truthful  
7           for years to State Legislators, and are in total  
8           denial of any health risks. Even to this day, we  
9           don't really know if their plan is to have a high-  
10          voltage direct current line in the north or  
11          ultimately a combination of high-voltage direct  
12          current and a high-voltage alternating current on  
13          the same structure. People simply do not trust  
14          this company.

15                        In contrast, Europe proposes similar  
16          construction of transmission lines at a similar  
17          cost for renewable from North Africa and the  
18          Atlantic Ocean. The Netherlands, as an example,  
19          acknowledging the health concerns, have teamed up  
20          with a Dutch research company, KEMA, in an attempt  
21          to address the problem.

22                        In closing, in 1982, when a similar  
23          transmission line was being proposed along a

1 similar New Hampshire route, the DOE came. We  
2 spoke with them, and the result was the HVDC, a  
3 high-voltage direct current line, that's located  
4 far from people, from northern Vermont to Monroe,  
5 New Hampshire. Why then are we even discussing  
6 this line now? Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 THE MODERATOR: Our next speaker is Diane  
9 Watson. I'd also like to call up Matt Schomburg,  
10 Peter Flynn, James Davis, Rob Soucy.

11 THE SPEAKER: I'm Diane B. Watson, 396  
12 East High Street, Manchester, New Hampshire, and,  
13 I'm proud to say, 126 Gray Road, Columbia, New  
14 Hampshire.

15 As a Presidential intervenor, I join the  
16 Motion to submit -- that was submitted to the DOE  
17 on March 17th requesting the DOE suspend the  
18 application of Northern Pass and reconsider it  
19 when it's complete. Northern Pass has not  
20 fulfilled its responsibility of providing full and  
21 timely disclosure of their plans to DOE or the  
22 public. By doing so, they have precluded the  
23 public's ability to participate knowledgeably and

1 fully in the process.

2 In my opinion, Northern Pass has launched  
3 a campaign of dissimulation from the start. The  
4 very first map produced by Northern Pass was an  
5 old map. It didn't match any topo in existence.  
6 And I could read a couple. But it's impossible to  
7 discern at what point the proposed line crossed  
8 Gray Road. They removed all the structures from  
9 the maps, too. According to this, nobody lives  
10 here.

11 Incidentally, in case you're interested  
12 in how -- you know, we did solve the mystery, and  
13 we discovered that they are proposing to have this  
14 line within 300 feet of the side of my house and  
15 300 feet of my back deck. That is their preferred  
16 route.

17 There's a lack of direct notification of  
18 people who are in harm's way of this proposed  
19 line. There are neighborhoods in Concord that  
20 still don't know the potential impact of this  
21 project on them. I can tell Northern Pass I've  
22 taken care of some of that notification for them  
23 because I knocked on people's doors and told



1           them.

2                           (Applause.)

3                   THE SPEAKER:   It's been a media blitz  
4           designed to divide and conquer and make it seem  
5           like a North Country problem so they can  
6           marginalize and cut us off from the concerns of  
7           the rest of the state.

8                   As recently as March 17th, in an op-ed by  
9           Gary Long in the "Union Leader," he still states  
10          that the new right of ways are the 40 miles of the  
11          North Country, and this is simply not true.  The  
12          preferred route in Concord needs new right of  
13          ways.  I stated this publicly in a hearing in  
14          Concord, and I was told by Northern Pass  
15          representatives that I was confused and probably  
16          didn't have the right map.

17                   Mr. Long continued in his op-ed that the  
18          project is using existing right of ways, but  
19          portions of these right of ways need expansion.  
20          If you need 65 more feet from my lawn, it's not  
21          existing.  Just yesterday I learned that Northern  
22          Pass plans to put two lines through the White  
23          National -- White Mountain National Forest, an AC

1           and a DC. To do this within 150-foot right of  
2           way, they must move the AC line, reinstall it,  
3           then build the DC line, all within sensitive  
4           wetlands areas near Bog Pond on Kinsman Ridge. I  
5           didn't read about that in the paper.

6                        This is a democracy. It should be based  
7           on notification, accurate information and informed  
8           discussion. It should not be based on a marketing  
9           plan and a strategic blitz designed to silence the  
10          people's voice. We're shouting foul because  
11          there's a whole flock of it flying over.

12                       The DOE, an agency of the people's  
13          government, needs to halt this application and  
14          demand that Northern Pass play by the rules, the  
15          DOE demand the rights of the people are  
16          protected.

17                        (Applause.)

18                       THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
19          comments, Diane. Our next speaker, Bruce Latham.

20                       THE SPEAKER: Start your clock. First  
21          off, I want to thank you and apologize that none  
22          of us have volunteered to take you on a ride  
23          through the beautiful North Country. My wife and

1 I would like to do that after this meeting. We're  
2 not always this vicious. It's only when people  
3 threaten our property.

4 I'm part Native American, and I think we  
5 did a better job when we had the property. I'm  
6 also a Latter Day Saint who believes that the  
7 Constitution of the United States was inspired by  
8 God and that from the Constitution our liberties  
9 have been granted by God, not elected officials.

10 Their responsibility is to protect those  
11 liberties and corresponding rights. Eminent  
12 domain was established originally as a means to  
13 maintain life-sustaining resources such as food  
14 and shelter for the U.S. Military in the event of  
15 war.

16 My credentials. I'm board certified as a  
17 family practice doctor and take care of  
18 approximately a fourth of the people you see in  
19 this area right now. I do make house calls, as  
20 you see on my business card. So I get out into  
21 the country to see these people and can say that,  
22 as you can feel, there's some emotion here as a  
23 result of what's been going on, and it's affected

1 people. As Roland Cotnoir and his wife live along  
2 this power line, she just recently had a pacemaker  
3 implanted. This will affect her directly. So I  
4 care for the people up here.

5 I live in Colebrook. I'm a former  
6 instructor for the Federal Emergency Management  
7 Agency at the National Emergency Training Center  
8 in Emmitsburg, Maryland. I'm a deputy emergency  
9 manager here in Colebrook and former emergency  
10 management for Virginia as a regional hazardous  
11 materials coordinator for the state. I also  
12 functioned as a regional fire coordinator for  
13 Florida right after 911, in which we had to look  
14 at the potential for disasters as a result of  
15 terrorism.

16 After reporting the possibility of taking  
17 out of a power plant in the area of Port Saint  
18 John, within 30 minutes I had two sheriff's  
19 deputies at my door wondering where I came from.  
20 Being brown-haired and brown -- green eyes, I  
21 wasn't from there. One of the things we did  
22 notice, however, is it would take no more than  
23 some black powder and equipment that you can get

1 from a local hardware store to take out a step-up  
2 transformer, and it would put that power plant out  
3 of commission for approximately nine months  
4 because those transformers are not off the shelf.  
5 We considered mitigation, preparedness response,  
6 and recovery.

7 I think we need to look at the same  
8 areas. There's an area only 10 miles from us here  
9 where the proposed line goes through close to the  
10 border, close to the guard station of the United  
11 States near the Border Patrol. I looked also at  
12 this area. I talked with the manager of the  
13 wildlife refuge who is a Representative of the  
14 United States, and in fact is a property owner  
15 there, and he said, "We're not going to give them  
16 any more property. They have 150 foot." I  
17 presume that the United States Government can  
18 speak for the citizens and say we're not going to  
19 give them any more property.

20 This is a good land that's been kissed by  
21 the Lord, an area of beauty unsurpassed anywhere  
22 else in the region of New England. He put it  
23 here, and we would ask that you leave it alone.

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 THE MODERATOR: The next speaker, Matt  
4 Schomburg.

5 THE SPEAKER: My name is Lynn Currency.  
6 I live at 6 Braeside Road, Pittsburg, New  
7 Hampshire 03592. And I purchased my house in May  
8 of 1999 after discovering this majestic area -- um  
9 -- it was just what the doctor ordered for me.  
10 There is serenity, the peacefulness, the beautiful  
11 landscape, the pristine landscape -- um -- I can't  
12 imagine that there are two many jewels like this  
13 left in the United States, left in New Hampshire.  
14 And millions of people have come to see it.  
15 Millions of people will be coming to see it. And  
16 what will we tell them when it has been destroyed  
17 with -- and we have allowed this to happen?

18 I appeal to you as Americans. I grew up  
19 in New Jersey, and there are lots of buildings and  
20 structures that are mind-numbing, and there are  
21 fewer and fewer places that any American or anyone  
22 around the world can go to get in touch with  
23 themselves and breathe fresh air and see a

1 landscape that is not intruded upon by manmade  
2 structures.

3 It is vitally important that people have  
4 a place they can go where they can replenish  
5 themselves, and we keep destroying these areas.  
6 Well, I think that we really need to say  
7 absolutely not for this gem of an area. It was  
8 created by God. It's just phenomenal, and I've  
9 never seen anything like it in my life.

10 And I have traveled a lot, and I was in  
11 sales, and I took my -- the money that I had, and  
12 I put it down. Everything that I have is in my  
13 home. And I invite people -- when  
14 telecommunications people call me to solicit, I  
15 tell them about this area. I tell them to go to  
16 the Lopstick Lodge website because she's got some  
17 beautiful pictures of what this area looks like,  
18 and I say you have got to come up here and look at  
19 it.

20 So I know I have told hundreds and  
21 hundreds of people to come up and take a look at  
22 this area, and I -- I would hate to see that we  
23 have allowed it to become just another New

1 Jersey. And, believe me, there are some beautiful  
2 areas in New Jersey, but they're getting smaller  
3 and smaller.

4 So I say from New Jersey, living now as a  
5 New Hampshire resident year-round, and I have  
6 since '99, it's hard, you know. I have a very  
7 sloping driveway. I have mud roads, and -- but I  
8 have acclimated myself, and I try to keep my 12  
9 and a half acres as pristine as possible. I want  
10 to encourage the wildlife. I am proud of my  
11 property. So those people who have come here for  
12 years and years can come and enjoy the land like I  
13 did. So thank you very much.

14 (Applause.)

15 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much. Our  
16 next speaker, Matt Schomburg. I'd also like to  
17 call up a Jules Robinson, Kathy Johnson and Carol  
18 Coulombe.

19 THE SPEAKER: My name is Matthew  
20 Schomburg. 917 Milan Road, Milan, New Hampshire  
21 03588. I was born here in Colebrook, New  
22 Hampshire in the hospital in Colebrook, lived here  
23 all my life. I grew up canoeing the Connecticut



1 River, Connecticut Lake, South Pond. I've hunted  
2 on the hill, hiked in the White Mountain National  
3 Forest. I feel very lucky growing up here in the  
4 Great North Woods. This is a great state. We're  
5 very lucky.

6 I hope for future generations the people  
7 that are going to grow up here will be as lucky.  
8 My dad always said actions speaks more than words,  
9 so I do not talk much, but today I am because this  
10 is very important. I hope we are going to be good  
11 stewards to our land for the future generations.  
12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Next speaker,  
15 Peter Flynn.

16 THE SPEAKER: Good afternoon. My name is  
17 Peter Flynn. I live on Wheeler Road in Hollis,  
18 New Hampshire. My wife and I came up here today  
19 to support our northern neighbors. We own  
20 property in North Haverhill, a sizeable piece of  
21 farmland that is right in the path of the  
22 alternate route.

23 We also would like to represent the

1 farmer friends that we have that sugar and dairy  
2 farm and plant vegetables. It will affect  
3 probably four or five pristine farm properties,  
4 and -- um -- they broke their backs to pick the  
5 rocks from those fields.

6 I wrote a letter that I'm going to send  
7 to the legislators, and I've already sent it to  
8 the Governor. I'll just read the letter, and that  
9 will be simple enough.

10 To the authority having jurisdiction  
11 overseeing the proposal called Northern Pass  
12 Project, I'm strongly against this project from  
13 moving forward. As a landowner in the path of one  
14 of the alternate routes, it will adversely affect  
15 the physical environment, wetlands and wildlife.

16 It undermines all of the work that Ducks  
17 Unlimited, the Nature Conservancy, the Society for  
18 Protection of New Hampshire Forests, Audubon  
19 Society and any other land stewardship  
20 organization.

21 It adversely affects timber rights,  
22 mineral rights, land use, right of passage,  
23 wildlife management, open space stewardship and

1 land values.

2 This project will most certainly  
3 negatively impact the social, economic and overall  
4 well-being of the residents in this area and the  
5 areas being disrupted. This also includes the  
6 visitors to New Hampshire, which a large portion  
7 of our economy is based on.

8 After reviewing the information provided  
9 by PSNH and DOE, I believe there is no upside or  
10 value generated for the people or wildlife  
11 inhabiting this state. Please do everything  
12 within your power to prevent this project from  
13 being approved. Respectfully, Peter Flynn.

14 (Applause.)

15 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Thank you for  
16 your comments, Peter. Next speaker, Jim Davis.

17 THE MODERATOR: My name is James Davis.  
18 I'm from Columbia, New Hampshire on Marshall Hill  
19 Road 03576. And I didn't even know about this  
20 meeting until my wife mentioned it this morning  
21 when I got up this morning. She said, "Oh,  
22 there's a meeting at one o'clock." And I was  
23 actually hoping to hear the Northern Pass people

1 and their justification for this Pass.

2 All their brochures I've listened and  
3 read do not justify it. They've told me oh, it's  
4 going to be good for your taxpayers. It's going  
5 to provide jobs, but those in itself does not  
6 justify what they want to do.

7 I'd like to tell you a little bit about  
8 myself. My wife and I moved up here about 10,  
9 maybe 11 years ago after hitting the moose  
10 lottery, and we fell in love with this area. And  
11 I want to continue to love this area. I'm a vet  
12 of two wars. I went to Vietnam, and I went to  
13 Desert Storm, and I have fought in those wars, and  
14 I'm deeply patriotic. I love my country.

15 And my question is that right now there's  
16 laws on the books that says they cannot take  
17 property by eminent domain for -- for power  
18 companies even in the public interest. Why are we  
19 even here? Why is there even a question that this  
20 power line comes through?

21 I respect Northern -- the Quebec Electric  
22 Company and their desire to -- to make money. I  
23 mean that is what our country is based on, free

1           enterprise. But you need to do it within the law  
2           and not change the law to suit you.

3                       I know that everybody here -- and I've  
4           heard a lot of emotions, and there is a lot of --  
5           and emotions are racing high, but we have to get  
6           beyond these emotions and get to the -- to the  
7           base problem. Is it legal? I say no. Is it  
8           necessary? I say no. Is it in the public  
9           interest? Absolutely not.

10                     I -- I have racked my brain to try to  
11           figure out how I can justify allowing these people  
12           to do what they do, because I am not the type of  
13           person that says not in my backyard. And if  
14           you're saying no to the Pass just because you  
15           don't want it in your backyard, it's the wrong  
16           attitude. You've got to say why it's necessary,  
17           and they have not shown that to me.

18                     Personally, I'm glad that they're here so  
19           I can face them face-to-face and look them in the  
20           eye and say show me. They can't do it. They  
21           haven't done it. Don't tell me it's going to be  
22           good for the jobs. We'll find the jobs. We have  
23           the -- we have the American spirit. We can

1 overcome any problem that we have.

2 I -- I love you all. I hope we -- we can  
3 send this message to our legislators and our  
4 Governor to make sure that the -- um -- Pass does  
5 not happen, that the permit is not given. Thank  
6 you.

7 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
8 comments. Our next speaker, Rob Soucy.

9 THE SPEAKER: Soucy. My name is Bob  
10 Soucy. I live at 89 Oaks Road on Marshall Hill in  
11 Columbia. I'm one of the local family doctors  
12 here, and myself and Dr. Kaufman and Dr. Latham  
13 and Dr. McLaren have looked for a lot of the  
14 health effects, and the biggest problem we found  
15 is there hasn't been enough research.

16 We have a wonderful experiment going on  
17 less than 20 miles from here, and that experiment  
18 is the biggest DC line going, and it goes through  
19 wetlands. And there are health effects of these  
20 that we study very easily by studying amphibians,  
21 not chipmunks but studying amphibians. They don't  
22 move as far, and they are very, very susceptible  
23 to the environment around them.

1           So with that, since we don't know the  
2           effects of DC lines, we haven't looked that well.  
3           We do know that people under the lines do -- kids  
4           suffer leukemia. There's some evidence out there  
5           that cows will not maintain a pregnancy under the  
6           power lines. I think these are effects that need  
7           to be studied.

8           And, as you gather from the people here,  
9           they feel that maybe that people at Northern Pass  
10          who are public relations and engineers have been  
11          fettered with a task that maybe they will get by  
12          this group of people here, which is not the case.  
13          So I would respectfully ask the Department of  
14          Energy to ask the Northern Pass, a good group of  
15          engineers, to hire out the cost of maybe hiring  
16          university people who are amphibian experts to see  
17          what the experiment 20 miles away has done to that  
18          particular population as a way of judging what it  
19          might do to some of the people within a certain  
20          range, and this is very easy to do.

21          I would ask that they hire out the costs  
22          and figure out what it would cost to expand the  
23          right of way over in Vermont, the existing 2,000-

1 megawatt line. It's there. They have not been  
2 asked to do that yet, and I think the Department  
3 of Energy is certainly within its ability to ask  
4 those people to do that. And I would ask that  
5 some -- the Department of Energy, maybe at worst  
6 case, ask the EPA to come up here and look at the  
7 problem. And, with that, I thank you very much  
8 for you all coming out.

9 THE MODERATOR: Thank for your comments,  
10 Rob. Next speaker, Jules Robinson. I'd also like  
11 to call up a Charles Wiley or Willey.

12 THE SPEAKER: I'm Jules Robinson from  
13 2320 Halls Stream Road, Pittsburg, New Hampshire  
14 03592. And I don't want to take any more than a  
15 minute to make up for the people that used more  
16 than their three minutes. All I have to say is on  
17 everything there is side effects.

18 You take pills. You have side effects.  
19 If you people remember 10 years ago, we had the  
20 ice storm. What did it cause? A lot of side  
21 effects. And recently in Japan we have nuclear  
22 reactors that are causing side effects. We have  
23 radioactive that's in the air, and you people go



1 on from there. If you want the side effects, vote  
2 for the Northern Pass. If you don't, say too  
3 bad.

4 (Applause.)

5 THE MODERATOR: Our next speaker, Carol  
6 Coulombe.

7 THE SPEAKER: Here I come. I won't take  
8 any phone calls, and it will be Northern Pass.  
9 But, as you all know my name, I own property up on  
10 Wiswell Road in Clarksville, New Hampshire, and I  
11 also caretake the Homer homestead which is a  
12 sizeable property at the bottom of West Road.

13 So, in speaking for about 150 acres of  
14 land, I say that there is a lot of endangered  
15 species on that land. We have our family of local  
16 timber wolves that people call hoyt dogs, but they  
17 are endangered species under federal law. There  
18 are endangered salamanders. If the doctor wishes  
19 to have someone come study them, you're welcome on  
20 our property. And we have endangered owls, all  
21 kinds of different endangered birds. We even have  
22 endangered bees because, my God, after they have  
23 swarmed my property, they don't want to leave.

1           They love it up there.

2                       I myself can speak passionatley about the  
3           land lost to an individual or a state. The State  
4           of New Hampshire did not back me and my husband up  
5           when we lost 125 acres down in Berlin, New  
6           Hampshire. It was taken from us. So I feel very  
7           passionately about that. We had to relocate to  
8           Clarksville, New Hampshire, and this set us back,  
9           you know, financially for the rest of our lives.

10                      My husband is now terminally ill, and  
11           he's being told he might lose another parcel of  
12           land. And I mean where are we going to go? Are  
13           we going to go live in Canada? We've gone to the  
14           very top of New Hampshire. We can go no further.  
15           This is it. Maybe we'll have to relocate to  
16           another state.

17                      But I mean the social impact of it, I am  
18           living proof that power lines are dangerous. I  
19           worked in the Bridges Mill on a construction  
20           site. I was an environmental -- I worked with --  
21           um -- an environmental outfit, and their name was  
22           Four Daniels. They hired me as a laborer, and  
23           being a woman, being at the bottom of the totem

1 pole on a construction site that was mainly male,  
2 I was hired, you know, under, you know, a law that  
3 says they have to hire so many minorities. Women  
4 were considered a minority, so I got in.

5 I was the only one on a site with over  
6 500 men, but to put that bluntly I was pregnant at  
7 the time. I didn't know. I was early in my  
8 pregnancy. They stuck me underneath the power  
9 lines. Very big power lines that would go into  
10 the mill. I worked there for about two and a half  
11 months, and I miscarried. Then a few years down  
12 the road I was told that I had fibromyalgia, which  
13 is a nervous disorder of the nervous system and  
14 the muscles. I struggle each day to walk and to  
15 do chores and to take care of my dying husband and  
16 our small farm.

17 We do have a few animals that we try to  
18 take care of, and it's just -- the economic impact  
19 on myself has been unbelievable. And -- um -- we  
20 have a huge bill that we cannot pay, and we owe  
21 the money to Public Service, so I mean I should be  
22 nice to Public Service, but I think that as of the  
23 spring we're off the grid. I'm going to make the

1 ultimate sacrifice, and I'm getting off the grid.  
2 I don't like the 6,000-dollar bill they sent me.

3 So I'm not going to support Public  
4 Service anymore, and I'm not going to support the  
5 Northern Pass. And I feel very emotional and  
6 passionate about the environmental impact, the  
7 health impacts, and -- um -- according to the  
8 National Environmental Policy Act right here, the  
9 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will have to come in  
10 on this one because Clarksville is basically a  
11 marginal environment.

12 It is mostly wetlands, and if you cut too  
13 many trees, we get runoff. On the road that I  
14 live on right now, I cannot travel. I got here an  
15 hour late because my road is a mud slide. And I  
16 just barely got out of there by the skin of my  
17 teeth. So cut some more trees, you know. I mean  
18 that's what's going to happen. The land is going  
19 to wash away. And we can't afford to have this  
20 Northern Pass through. It's just not  
21 environmentally friendly.

22 I have a pond on my property, and there's  
23 endangered turtles, beavers, salamanders. There's

1 all kinds of endangered ducks that come in every  
2 year. Many endangered species live on my property  
3 and Mr. Homer's, the property that I caretake. We  
4 have a lot of nice wildlife that we intend to  
5 protect. We intend to keep our trees, and we  
6 don't want to be fried under these lines. I've  
7 suffered enough and so have all my neighbors.

8 So God help us all because I don't feel  
9 that New Hampshire is a democracy anymore. I  
10 think we're living in a communist state. So  
11 please, Concord, prove me wrong. Are we still a  
12 democracy or have we become a communist state?  
13 Let me know now because it looks like they're  
14 forcing us to go to war with Canada, which I  
15 really don't want to do, but if I have to sit  
16 there at the border and stop them from coming in,  
17 I will do so. The fight is there.

18 (Applause.)

19 THE MODERATOR. Carol, thank you for your  
20 comments. Our next speaker and our final of the  
21 preregistered speakers, Charles Williams.

22 THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Do you need the  
23 address? I filled it out on the form.

1           THE MODERATOR: I have it.

2           THE SPEAKER: You've got it. This  
3 project is absolutely insane. There's no way that  
4 I could support it. And I can't believe that  
5 they're considering putting a major power line  
6 down through northern New Hampshire. They did  
7 that in Vermont about -- between 15 and 20 years  
8 ago because I was intimately involved with that  
9 power line as a wildlife biologist.

10           I'm responsible for their being 52  
11 wildlife fishery crossings along that line to try  
12 to mitigate the wildlife impact because there's  
13 substantial wildlife in there. And the fact that  
14 they would consider not only bisecting Essex  
15 County in Vermont, which they did, one of the most  
16 scenic areas in Vermont, but to do it in northern  
17 New Hampshire, I'm just incredulous at that.

18           If the line is so sorely needed, and I  
19 seriously doubt that, what would make much more  
20 sense would be to lay it beside the existing line  
21 in Vermont. Now, this isn't backyard syndrome.  
22 We have our old family farm out in East Colebrook,  
23 100 acres. It's been in the family for 200

1 years. This will pass within a mile of the old  
2 family farm. We'll see it. Everybody that lives  
3 in East Colebrook will see it just as they will in  
4 Clarksville and everyplace else. But this really  
5 hasn't got to do with backyard. I don't want it  
6 in my backyard. Put it in somebody else's  
7 backyard. It just makes sense if it has to go  
8 through, to lay it beside the existing line in  
9 Vermont.

10 I also can't believe that they're routing  
11 this line so close to residences. That boggles my  
12 mind. In Vermont when they put it down through,  
13 it passed by two residences. Two residences in 52  
14 miles, and one was a camp. One of those  
15 residences really is a camp, and it's been boarded  
16 up for ever since I can remember, so it's not even  
17 being used.

18 They went to great lengths to avoid  
19 residences because, of course, there are health  
20 impacts. I mean there's stuff coming off of the  
21 lines. I have a friend that's a professional  
22 wildlife photographer. He fried two electronic  
23 cameras because of photographing underneath the

1 line. There are far more reasons not to route  
2 this through northern New Hampshire than reasons  
3 for doing it.

4 And I -- as I said, if it has to be  
5 routed, then it makes sense to do it in Vermont.  
6 If they say they can't do it, they did it before.  
7 There's no reason why they can't do it again, and  
8 it would take less of a right of way to do it.

9 (Applause.)

10 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much,  
11 Charles, for your comments. I stated at the  
12 begining once we completed through our list of  
13 preregistered speakers, I would give those  
14 speakers in the audience who had not preregistered  
15 an opportunity to speak. I see a hand up. You  
16 would like to speak?

17 THE SPEAKER: Yes.

18 THE MODERATOR: Come on up. Anyone else  
19 in the audience who would like to speak who has  
20 not had an opportunity to speak thus far? Hands  
21 up. Anybody else? Come up. You haven't spoken?

22 THE SPEAKER: No, I have not.

23 THE MODERATOR: At this particular



1            juncture we're looking only for those who have not  
2            yet spoken. Each one will be given the allotted  
3            time, same as everyone else, which is three  
4            minutes. The same rules apply. Thank you. Your  
5            name. Name, address, zip code.

6            THE SPEAKER: My name is Haven Haynes,  
7            Jr. I live at 73 East Street in Beecher Falls,  
8            Vermont 05902. I'm speaking on behalf of my  
9            parents who have a farm in East Colebrook. Um --  
10           it's -- they'll be able to see the towers from  
11           their place, and the farm is -- we're in the third  
12           generation on the farm. Most of us are veterans  
13           and serve in law enforcement. We take an oath to  
14           uphold and defend the Constitution of the United  
15           States of America. And basically taking  
16           somebody's land without -- for a price of business  
17           is no grounds to take the land.

18           In New York, they managed to put 388  
19           miles underground in New York, but they can't put  
20           50 miles underground in New Hampshire? It just  
21           seems to me that 388 miles must be cheaper to put  
22           underground in New York than it is in New  
23           Hampshire.

1           The -- I was reading in the paper this  
2 week, and they had -- they're offering large sums  
3 of money to the towns to get things pushed  
4 through. I mean are they just trying to buy the  
5 towns off? And putting this mark right down  
6 through the middle of the state is just dividing  
7 communities, and you're going to make it so that  
8 oh, you're on the east side. You're on the west  
9 side, and this -- it just doesn't make sense.

10           We've recently had a real estate office  
11 in town close because of the lack of business  
12 because of this coming through. Um -- this  
13 State -- the State's pushing it through. The  
14 Governor came out supporting this wholeheartedly  
15 after he got elected, of course. And now they're  
16 trying to close all our rest areas in the northern  
17 part of the state. Is this the State's way of  
18 punishing us in the northern part of the state for  
19 fighting this whole situation?

20           I mean it needs to be looked at. And  
21 basically just the way that the whole project has  
22 been presented, everything was kept quiet, and  
23 then all of a sudden it comes out by November and

1 December, and -- and just -- it just caught  
2 everybody on the blind side in the communities.  
3 And there's really -- there's no transparency so  
4 that everything is out in the open.

5 And I think that's what the BCE -- yeah,  
6 what you need to look at is the transparency on  
7 the politicians that are supporting this and the  
8 politicians that got money from this group for  
9 their campaigns. That needs to be looked at  
10 because if those people get campaign money from  
11 them, they should be recused from voting on this  
12 project at all.

13 And basically parting words for the  
14 Northern Pass. You were looking out for number  
15 one. You did it for the mighty dollar. But when  
16 you messed with northern New Hampshire, you ended  
17 up stepping in number two.

18 THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
19 comments. We do appreciate it.

20 THE MODERATOR: Next speaker. Name,  
21 address, zip code.

22 THE SPEAKER: Pamela Gray Frizzell.  
23 Colebrook, New Hampshire. 83 Colby Street 03576.

1 I feel that home sales, second home sales,  
2 construction, renovation projects are slowing down  
3 due to the uncertainty of the power line. I am  
4 concerned that our lending institutions and  
5 companies and businesses that we are trying to  
6 attract are also feeling this same uncertainty.

7 Tax benefits. I don't feel it very  
8 likely that we will have any benefit when we  
9 consider the devalued properties and also the very  
10 real probability that Public Service of New  
11 Hampshire and Hydro-Quebec will request  
12 abatements, as they have in our neighboring towns  
13 of Groveton and Littleton in the thousands and  
14 millions of dollars.

15 Health effects. Whether anyone has  
16 really found any physical connection to power  
17 lines or not, I can stand here today and say with  
18 100 percent certainty that it affects my mental  
19 health and well-being, which is every bit as  
20 important as a physical well-being.

21 This morning I was searching the Web  
22 looking at different properties for a young man  
23 who is interested in looking to buy his first

1 home. Beautiful home on Meriden Hill, but due to  
2 the power line we skipped over it immediately and  
3 started looking in Vermont.

4 I would ask to consider from those who  
5 have the authority to make -- kill this project,  
6 please kill it forever. This project does not  
7 belong in New Hampshire or Vermont or Maine or in  
8 any state in the United States of America. Thank  
9 you.

10 THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for  
11 your comments. Do you have anything to hand off?  
12 If you could, if you could just today, full name,  
13 address, zip code. Just in case. Now, it's that  
14 time we get to where I do open the floor to people  
15 who have already spoken. I think I have one  
16 person who has identified. Anybody else? Two  
17 people. Anyone else who has already spoken and  
18 would like to speak again? Are you two going to  
19 come up? The floor is yours.

20 THE SPEAKER: I thank you for the floor  
21 again, and I'm going to give you my name again.  
22 It's Carol Coulombe, and I live in Clarksville,  
23 New Hampshire on Foskett Drive, which is off

1 Wiswell Road, and also 54 West Road.

2 And the thing that I want to emphasize  
3 the most about this whole thing with the Northern  
4 Pass is that the health effects are there. They  
5 have medical evidence to prove that these power  
6 lines are detrimental to our health. And if the  
7 State of New Hampshire is willing to pay  
8 everybody's medical bills after these lines have  
9 been put in, then maybe they should reconsider  
10 because right now they can't even give us enough  
11 money to keep my husband going. You know what I'm  
12 saying?

13 There's no more money in the coffers of  
14 the State of New Hampshire to pay for people's  
15 medical care. New Hampshire is financially busted  
16 because of the medical problems. So if they think  
17 that they're going to raise revenue by creating  
18 more health problems for people, I think they  
19 should reconsider it. Reconsider it.

20 THE MODERATOR: If you can hold on for  
21 one second. One of the original rules was that  
22 when someone has the microphone, they were the  
23 speaker. I think we're all okay if people decide

1 to walk out on one another, but the one thing that  
2 we got to uphold is that we do it quietly.

3 THE SPEAKER: I thank you. All threats  
4 aside, even if the Italian Mafia did come in, what  
5 could they do? New Hampshire is more corrupt than  
6 any Mafia than I've ever known. How are you going  
7 to fight a democratic state that doesn't even  
8 consider the health of its people? I mean how  
9 could they allow such a thing?

10 The environmental impacts are immense.  
11 The health problems are astronomical. Why else  
12 would two doctors stand here at the podium and  
13 speak? I mean look into it. I have all the paper  
14 work if anybody would like copies of what I have  
15 copied. The proof is there. It's not safe.

16 And as far as putting it underground, I  
17 don't think that would be good for the environment  
18 either. I think they would have to dig up a few  
19 salamanders and turtles and things like that. So  
20 I don't think the nature wants to be disturbed  
21 either.

22 If they could do something like -- more  
23 reasonable like put in a bunch of windmills and

1           paint them green so that they're environmentally  
2           friendly, they could still provide Connecticut  
3           with the power they need. I mean why not put it  
4           in Connecticut? Put up a bunch of windmills.

5                        I don't understand why they want to cut  
6           the state in half and pit people against people  
7           and, you know, destroy families, lives, people's  
8           homes. I've already lost a home. I know what it  
9           feels like. They wanted to put a prison in  
10          Berlin, so they rubbed out a few people. We were  
11          the last of the farmers down there. I'm living  
12          proof that, you know, people can lose their land.  
13          Eminent domain or not, they'll find zoning laws or  
14          something else to throw at you.

15                       You need to fight for what you believe in  
16          and what you want. What you want to keep is the  
17          beauty that surrounds this area. I mean, it's --  
18          New Hampshire is a beautiful state. Don't let  
19          them take it away from you. And that's all I  
20          have.

21                                (Applause.)

22                        THE MODERATOR: Thank you for your  
23          comments, Carol. Charles.



1                   THE SPEAKER: Yes, I do agree with what  
2 Carol did say. So everyone go buy their shirts  
3 and hats and let's do this.

4                   (The speaker turns his back to the  
5 audience and displays the slogan, "Let's Boot the  
6 Northern Pass ASAP.")

7                   (Applause.)

8                   THE MODERATOR: Thank for the comic  
9 relief, Charles. Out of respect for the speakers,  
10 I'd like to have a round of applause from those of  
11 you who are left.

12                   (Applause.)

13                   THE MODERATOR: As you know, we have one  
14 more meeting remaining. That will be the meeting  
15 at Haverhill tomorrow. Cooperative Middle School  
16 from one to four. You can continue to follow the  
17 process on the website, [www.northernpasseis.us](http://www.northernpasseis.us).

18                   I thank you tremendously for your  
19 hospitality and for those of you who helped us get  
20 this meeting back under control. Thanks to  
21 Officer Brendon McKay for being here and a round  
22 of applause for all of you for contributing to  
23 this process. This meeting is adjourned.

(Adjourned at 5:00 p.m.)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23

**C E R T I F I C A T E**

1  
2 I, Debra L. Mekula, a Licensed Court  
3 Reporter and Justice of the Peace of the State of  
4 New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the  
5 foregoing, to the best of my knowledge, skill and  
6 ability, is a true and accurate transcript of my  
7 stenographic notes of the Northern Pass  
8 Transmission Line Draft EIS Public Scoping  
9 Hearing, taken at the place and under the  
10 circumstances present on the date hereinbefore set  
11 forth.

12 I further certify that I am neither attorney  
13 or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any  
14 of the parties to the action in which this  
15 hearing was taken, and further that I am not a  
16 relative or employee of any agent or consultant  
17 employed in this case, nor am I financially  
18 interested in this action.  
19  
20

21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Debra L. Mekula, LCR, RMR  
23 Licensed Court Reporter  
Registered Merit Reporter  
N.H. LCR No. 26 (RSA 310-A)