



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 10, 2011

Timothy L. Timmermann  
Office of Environmental Review  
Environmental Protection Agency  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Dear Mr. Timmermann:

This responds to your June 4, 2011, letter to Brian Mills, in the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, requesting the participation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1 as a cooperating agency in DOE's preparation of the *Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0463). Based on our discussions with DOE staff, our understanding is that you have requested participation based on jurisdiction by law and special expertise (40 CFR 1501.6). We are pleased to include EPA Region 1 as a cooperating agency.

As you know, DOE is considering an application by Northern Pass Transmission, L.L.C. (Northern Pass) for a Presidential Permit to construct an electric transmission line across the U.S. international border in northern New Hampshire. The proposed single circuit 300-kilovolt (kV) high-voltage direct current overhead electric transmission line would cross the U.S.-Canada border into Coos County, New Hampshire, and continue southward for approximately 140 miles to a proposed converter terminal to be constructed in Franklin, New Hampshire, where the electric energy would be converted to alternating current. A proposed 345-kV alternating current line would be built approximately 40 miles to Public Service Company of New Hampshire's existing Deerfield Substation, located in Deerfield, New Hampshire.

Thank you for your scoping comments. Please note that DOE will be announcing a reopening of the scoping period in a *Federal Register* notice to be published next week. We look forward to working with you and your representatives in the preparation of this EIS. Please contact Brian Mills, NEPA Document Manager, by e-mail at [brian.mills@hq.doe.gov](mailto:brian.mills@hq.doe.gov), by phone at 202-586-8267, or by fax at 202-586-8008 concerning preparation of the EIS. For general information on DOE's NEPA process, please contact me at 202-586-4600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Borgstrom".

Carol Borgstrom, Director  
Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance

cc: Anthony Como, Director, Permitting and Siting, DOE  
Brian Mills, NEPA Document Manager, DOE

