

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**The Northern Pass Transmission Line Project**  
**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

**Notice of Public Hearing**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 CFR §§1500-1508), and the DOE NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR §1021).

The U.S. Forest Service – White Mountain National Forest (USFS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District (USACE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1 (EPA), and the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning (NHOEP) are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

The draft EIS addresses potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, the no action alternative, and the range of reasonable alternatives.

DOE invites public and agency comment on the draft EIS. The document is available online at <http://www.northernpasseis.us/>.

Copies of the draft EIS are also available at a number of public libraries and town halls (a list of locations is found here: [http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/DraftEIS\\_Hard\\_Copy\\_Locations.pdf](http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/DraftEIS_Hard_Copy_Locations.pdf)) and can be obtained from Mr. Brian Mills at the contact information given below.

DOE will conduct public hearings to receive comments on the draft EIS at the following locations commencing at the times identified:

- Concord:           Tuesday October 6, 2015, 6:00 p.m.  
                          Grappone Conference Center  
                          Granite Ballroom  
                          70 Constitution Avenue  
                          Concord, NH 03301
- Whitefield:        Wednesday October 7, 2015, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
                          Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa  
                          Presidential Room  
                          101 Mountain View Road  
                          Whitefield, NH 03598
- Plymouth:          Thursday October 8, 2015, 6:00 p.m.  
                          Plymouth State University  
                          Ice Arena Welcome Center  
                          129 NH Route 175A  
                          Holderness, NH 03245

Please note that, in order to better accommodate the public interest in these hearings, two hearing sessions will be held in Whitefield on October 7, 2015. The format of all hearings, including the afternoon session in Whitefield, will be identical. A court reporter will be present to record comments for the record; interested individuals need only submit their oral comments once.

Requests to pre-register to provide oral comments at a public hearing should be addressed to the Northern Pass EIS Team at this e-mail address: [info@northernpasseis.us](mailto:info@northernpasseis.us). Please include your full name and e-mail address, and specify the location where you would like to provide oral comments. For the Whitefield, NH meeting, please indicate the meeting time (1pm or 6pm) of your request. Please state in the subject line, "NP Draft EIS Public Hearing Request to Pre-Register to Provide Oral Comment." Please submit your request by September 30, 2015; requests received by that date will be given priority in the order for comments. However, requests to provide oral comments may also be made at the hearing. The order for commenting will be as follows: (1) Elected Officials; (2) Pre-registered commenters (order determined on a first-come, first-served basis); (3) Commenters registering at the meeting. Pre-registered commenters who have requested to speak at a specific time will be accommodated as possible.

Each commenter will be allotted three (3) minutes. Individuals who have already spoken may have the opportunity to speak again when all other participants have made their first comments.

If assistance is needed to participate in any of the DOE hearings (e.g., qualified interpreter, computer-aided real-time transcription), please submit a request for auxiliary aids and services to DOE by September 25, 2015 by contacting Brian Mills as described below or e-mailing [info@northernpasseis.us](mailto:info@northernpasseis.us).

In addition to comments on the draft EIS, DOE is seeking public input with respect to the cultural and historic property information presented in this draft EIS in accordance with its cultural and historic property review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Comments on the draft EIS and Section 106 can be submitted verbally during public hearings; on the project website (<http://www.northernpasseis.us/comment/>); in writing to Mr. Brian Mills at: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585; via e-mail to [draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us](mailto:draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us) or [Section106comments@northernpasseis.us](mailto:Section106comments@northernpasseis.us); or by facsimile to (202) 586-8008. Please mark envelopes and electronic mail subject lines as "NP Draft EIS Comments" or "NP Section 106 Comments." Written comments must be received by October 29, 2015. Comments submitted after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.