



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 22, 2010

Thomas G. Wagner
Forest Supervisor
White Mountain National Forest
U.S. Forest Service
71 White Mountain Drive
Campton, NH 03223

Dear Mr. Wagner:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the participation of the U.S. Forest Service, White Mountain National Forest, as a cooperating agency in the Department of Energy's (DOE's) preparation of the *Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0463), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Our understanding is that, in discussion with DOE staff, you have requested that White Mountain National Forest participate as a cooperating agency based on jurisdiction by law and special expertise (40 CFR 1501.6).

DOE is considering an application by Northern Pass Transmission LLC (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 345-kV alternating current line would be built 40 miles to Public Service Company of New Hampshire's existing Deerfield Substation, located in Deerfield, New Hampshire. The applicant's proposed route would cross the White Mountain National Forest along an existing Forest Service permitted route.

Please contact Brian Mills, NEPA Document Manager, in the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability by e-mail at 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 by phone at 202-586-4600. We look forward to working with you and your representatives.

Sincerely,

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

Carol Borgstrom, Director
Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance

cc:

Glen Parker, U.S. Forest Service
Bill Dauer, Forest Engineer, White Mountain National Forest
Brian Mills, NEPA Document Manager, DOE



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