

March 14, 2017

THE NORTHERN PASS**

Northern Pass Transmission, LLC. P.O. Box 330 780 North Commercial Street Manchester, NH 03105-0330

CERTIFIED MAIL

Board of Selectmen Town of Allenstown 16 School Street Allenstown, NH 03275

Dear Selectmen:

We are about to commence the final hearings for the Northern Pass Transmission Project. It is customary at this point in the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) process to reach out to communities along the proposed route to discuss the potential for a stipulation or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) focused on avoiding and minimizing construction related impacts that may be a concern to local residents, business owners, and the community as a whole.

An MOU reflects our commitment to work with your community to minimize impact and disruptions to the public during the construction phase of the project. In addition, an MOU would confirm mutually-established expectations (e.g., property tax commitments) and can address numerous construction issues, such as work hours, use of town roads, traffic controls, location of equipment and material staging areas, lighting, disposal of construction debris, blasting, construction vehicles, liability insurance, environmental plans, site security, emergency response, and reports to the municipality. This list is not exclusive—if there are other issues that you would like to discuss, we are open to that as well.

The Applicants believe that such an MOU between the town and the Applicants can effectively address many of the concerns raised by the host communities in the SEC proceedings.

We have attached additional information on the construction MOU process that you might find useful.

Members of the Northern Pass team are available to have a working meeting with your designated point of contact to discuss the MOU and the concerns it is capable of addressing. Such a working meeting is often the best format for addressing the technical details associated with construction of a project of this type. Please contact us at 1-800-286-7305 with your availability for a meeting to explore the potential for an MOU with your community. If this is a good time for that, we will share with you the template MOU we have prepared that forms the basis for our discussions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this information.

Sincerely,

Jerry Fortier

Project Director - Transmission

Attachment: Northern Pass: Construction Phase Mitigation Measures/MOU Process

Northern Pass: Construction Phase Mitigation Measures

Northern Pass is committed to working together with your community to avoid and minimize construction related impacts and disruptions to local residents, business owners, and the community as a whole. As we prepare for the construction phase of the project, Northern Pass is looking for ways and ideas that will help to address community concerns and avoid inconvenience to the public.

Northern Pass is reaching out to communities along the proposed route to discuss their interest in entering a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the project. A MOU with your community can detail our agreed-upon construction impact mitigation measures and address such issues as public information commitments, environmental and construction considerations unique to your community, communications protocols during construction, and property tax agreements.

The Applicants believe that such an MOU between the town and the Applicants can effectively address many of the concerns raised by the host communities in the SEC proceedings.

How will a MOU benefit my community?

A MOU is a signed agreement that formalizes our commitment to work with your community and confirms mutually-established expectations (e.g., property tax commitments) and can address numerous construction issues, such as matters of public health and safety, use of town roads, traffic controls, liability insurance, environmental plans, emergency response, and reports to the municipality. It is the product of good faith discussions between your community and Northern Pass to constructively identify and resolve specific local issues pertaining to the project.

If accepted, the MOU will eventually become enforceable conditions as part of the SEC decision and order.

Specific areas of understanding may include, but are not limited to:

- Community outreach and communications framework to be used during construction (e.g., construction schedules, contact for public inquiries and complaints, primary points of contact for Northern Pass and community).
- Construction practices (e.g., best practices; lighting; temporary storage, staging and laydown areas; locations where workers assemble before and after a shift; advance notice of expected construction activities and public travel impact).
- Construction vehicle operation (e.g., weight limits, road and driveway access, staging/idling limitations, approved hours for construction vehicle use, inventory of road conditions, proper markings at job sites, liability protection for road restoration).
- Work hour limitations that include minimizing impact on local traffic and businesses.
- Safety and public health issues (e.g., clearly visible warning signs and reflective objects around high-voltage and construction areas, emergency response plan and coordination, certificate of liability insurance coverage, documentation of any environmental or industrial incidents, compliance with state herbicide requirements for right-of-way maintenance).
- Site restoration responsibilities and proper disposal of construction debris/waste.
- Blasting plans, if applicable (e.g. safeguards to ensure building foundations, wells or other structures are not damaged by blasting; safe handling and transportation of blasting materials).
- Environmental considerations such as stormwater plans, wildlife protection, and sensitive areas.

This list is not exclusive—if there are other issues that you would like to discuss, we are open to that as well.

Construction will take place once Northern Pass has received all necessary federal and state approvals.