

Northern Pass Achieves

KEY PERMITTING MILESTONE

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Northern Pass on August 10, concluding the project's proposed route is the "preferred alternative." The final EIS also stated that Northern Pass provides substantial environmental and economic benefits for New Hampshire and the region and will result in only minimal impacts. Required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the FEIS is the result of years of review of project environmental impacts and reflects the careful consideration of thousands of comments submitted by key stakeholders and the public.

Northern Pass is now awaiting the issuance of its federal permits, including DOE's Presidential Permit, a Special Use Permit from the U.S. Forest Service, and the Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Northern Pass has already received the final permitting decisions from New Hampshire's Department of Environmental Services, Public Utilities Commissions and Department of Transportation, and continued with final hearings before the N.H. Site Evaluation Committee in August.

Conclusions from the Final Environmental Impact Statement:

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REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS
 - The "total average scenic impact" of Northern Pass is considered "low" to "very low"
 - There will be no "population-level effects to any protected species" due to Northern Pass
 - Northern Pass poses no health risks associated with EMFs
 - There are no authoritative studies that demonstrate impacts on tourism from transmission lines. Tourism is affected more by factors such as the national economy and the price of gasoline
 - Noise levels associated with Northern Pass during operation will be well below EPA guidance levels
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ECONOMIC BOOST FOR N.H.
 - Northern Pass will create 6,747 jobs in New Hampshire during construction, as well as 901 permanent jobs
 - During construction, Northern Pass will generate more than \$734 million of additional economic output within New Hampshire
 - New Hampshire will see an increase of \$37 million in annual statewide property tax collections once Northern Pass is built
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MEETING THE REGION'S ENERGY NEEDS
 - New England will see an annual reduction of CO₂ emissions by 9 percent, or 2.5 million metric tons
 - Northern Pass will diversify New England's electricity supply, reducing reliance on natural gas
 - Low-carbon hydropower from Northern Pass is a non-intermittent source of energy that can help meet public policy goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
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OTHER BENEFITS FOR N.H.

In addition to the benefits highlighted in the FEIS, Northern Pass will provide — and in some cases has already provided — significant investment in on-the-ground conservation and economic development programs.

 - \$200 million Forward NH Fund to support clean energy innovations, economic development, community investment and tourism
 - \$7.5 million to the North Country Job Creation Fund to develop and retain jobs in the North Country
 - 5,000 acres set aside for conservation, recreation and mixed-use
 - \$3 million to the National Fish and Wildlife Fund for its Partner's for NH's Fish and Wildlife initiative supporting conservation and restoration of key state habitats and species



SITE TOURS ALONG NORTH COUNTRY, UNDERGROUND ROUTE



The New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) recently toured a number of sites along the proposed Northern Pass routes. The visits, held on July 27 and 28, included stops in Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown, Dummer, Stark, Lancaster, Bethlehem, Franconia, Easton and Woodstock.

The locations of these stops were proposed by Counsel for the Public in a request that the SEC consider viewing portions of the proposed underground burial route as well as proposed additional above-ground sites in northern New Hampshire.

The July visits were in addition to four days of site visits held in March 2016 that included stops in Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stewartstown, Colebrook, Stark, Lancaster, Whitefield, Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Bristol, Franklin, Canterbury, Concord, Pembroke, Allenstown and Deerfield.

Northern Pass Reaffirms Its Commitment to Hiring Local Workers First

Northern Pass has long been committed to hiring New Hampshire workers first for the construction of Northern Pass. Eversource, Northern Pass' parent company, recently reaffirmed that commitment with a project labor agreement. On August 7, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) announced a finalized agreement that covers both union workers and non-union workers and businesses, including workers needed for the construction of access roads, logging and clearing, trucking and other key construction-related activities.

The announcement is positive news for New Hampshire's electrical workers as Northern Pass now presents an opportunity for them to work on a project in their home state, closer to their family and friends.

Tiler Eaton of the IBEW said, "Given the size of this project and the number of trained electrical workers needed, we anticipate this project will not only fully utilize all available New Hampshire members, but will also provide work for hundreds of our members from Massachusetts."

You can read the announcement on the Northern Pass website in our Document Library, www.northernpass.us/document-library.htm.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR NORTHERN PASS

- **Final hearings continue before the SEC in September**, including testimony on aesthetics and orderly development
- **Northern Pass expects to finish presenting its testimony** before the SEC by mid-September
- **The Counsel for the Public and intervenors** will have an opportunity beginning in September to present witness testimony
- **The DOE is expected to issue a Presidential Permit** for Northern Pass sometime this fall.

ABOUT NORTHERN PASS

Northern Pass is a 192-mile electric transmission line project that will provide New Hampshire and New England up to 1,090 megawatts of clean hydropower. This reliable and competitively-priced power will also bring a range of benefits to New Hampshire, including energy cost savings, additional tax revenue, and thousands of construction jobs. To learn more about Northern Pass, go to www.northernpass.us. You can also email questions to info@northernpass.us or call **1-800-286-7305**.