

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 15-460

NORTHERN PASS TRANSMISSION, LLC

Petition to Cross Public Waters

ORDER OF NOTICE

On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC (NPT) filed a request for license to construct and maintain electric lines at twenty-five locations over, under, and across public waters. The crossings are to be located in: Pittsburg, Clarksville, Stark, Lancaster, Dalton, Bethlehem, Franconia, Easton, Plymouth, Woodstock, Ashland, Bridgewater, New Hampton, Hill, Bristol, Franklin, Northfield, Concord, Pembroke, Allenstown, and Deerfield, New Hampshire. Seventeen of the crossings will be overhead, and eight will be underground. A description of the location of each crossing is contained in an attachment to the Order of Notice. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-460.html>.

NPT filed its petition for the license in connection with an application to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee for a certificate of site and facility to construct a 192-mile-long high-voltage electric transmission line from the Canadian border to Deerfield. According to NPT, all twenty-five crossings are related to the construction of the transmission line.

RSA 371:17 requires any utility, corporation, or individual desiring to cross any public water to petition the Commission for a license. Pursuant to RSA 371:20, the Commission shall

grant a requested license if the petitioner demonstrates that the license may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in such waters. RSA 371:21 requires the Commission to determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to owners of land bordering on such public waters for damage thereto occasioned by the structures for which the license is granted, subject to an appeal as provided in RSA 371:10. RSA 371:21 also requires the Commission to determine the amount of compensation to be paid to the state for rights on public lands.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the license is necessary to meet the reasonable requirements of service to the public; whether the license, as requested or as conditioned by the Commission, may be exercised without substantially affecting the public rights in waters or lands; whether the crossings will be constructed and maintained according to the standards contained in the National Electrical Safety Code; and whether and what amount of compensation NPT should pay to bordering landowners, the state, or both. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 1, at 9:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, NPT, the Staff of the Commission, and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow NPT to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to RSA 371:19, NPT shall notify the New Hampshire Attorney General, each town where the crossings will be constructed, and all owners of lands within 100 feet of either side of the crossing on the affected state waters, by providing a copy of this Order of Notice and attachment by United States Certified Mail, return receipt requested no later than March 21, 2016, such notice to be documented by affidavit listing the name and address of persons to whom notice was sent along with copies of the return receipts, filed with the Commission on or before March 29, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, NPT shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than March 17, 2016, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which the crossings are to be located, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before March 29, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to NPT and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before March 29, 2016, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 1, 2016.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this tenth day of March,
2016.


Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

Northern Pass Waterbody Crossing Location Description - NHPUC Docket No. DE 15-460

Appendix #	All distance measurements and directions noted below are approximate and only provided for a general location description.
1	Halls Stream in Pittsburg, NH, and the Canadian/NH border, approximately 600 feet northwesterly of the intersection of the proposed right of way corridor and Halls Stream Road.
2	Upper Ammonoosuc River in Stark, NH, approximately 950 feet southwesterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Northside Road.
3	Otter Brook in Lancaster, NH, approximately 650 feet southerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and North Road.
4	Israel River in Lancaster, NH, approximately 1,800 feet southerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and North Road.
5	Johns River in Dalton, NH, approximately 400 feet easterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Faraway Road.
6	Ammonoosuc River in Bethlehem, NH, approximately 250 feet westerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 116.
7	Pemigewasset River in Ashland, NH and Bridgewater, NH, approximately 1,950 feet southeasterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 3 in Bridgewater.
8	Squam River in Ashland, NH, approximately 750 feet southwesterly of the intersection of the I-93 overpass and Collins Street in Ashland, NH.
9	Pemigewasset River in New Hampton, NH and Bridgewater, NH, approximately 750 feet southwesterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 132 in New Hampton, NH.
10	Pemigewasset River in New Hampton, NH and Bristol, NH, approximately 850 feet southerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 104 in Bristol, NH.
11	Pemigewasset River in New Hampton, NH and Hill, NH, approximately 3,100 feet southwesterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Coolidge Woods Road in New Hampton, NH.
12	Chance Pond in Franklin, NH, approximately 150 feet northeasterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Chance Pond Road.
13	Merrimack River in Franklin, NH and Northfield, NH, approximately 650 feet southeasterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 3 in Franklin, NH.
14	Turtle Pond in Concord, NH, approximately 1,200 feet southeasterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Oak Hill Road.
15	Soucook River in Concord, NH and Pembroke, NH, approximately 2,300 feet southerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Chenell Drive in Concord, NH.
16	Suncook River in Pembroke, NH and Allenstown, NH, approximately 100 feet easterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Bachelder Road in Pembroke, NH.
17	Lamprey River in Deerfield, NH approximately 200 feet westerly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Mountain Road.
Appendix Part B	Connecticut River in Pittsburg NH, and Clarksville, NH, approximately 550 feet southerly from the corner of Beecher Falls Road and Route 3, Pittsburg, NH.
Appendix Part B	Gale River in Franconia, NH, approximately 100 feet southerly of the corner of Route 18 and Route 116.
Appendix Part B	Ham Branch in Easton NH, approximately 800 feet southeasterly of the corner of Route 116 and Paine Road.
Appendix Part B	Ham Branch in Easton NH, approximately 100 feet southeasterly of the corner of Route 116 and Loop Road.
Appendix Part B	Ham Branch in Easton NH, approximately 3,500 feet southeasterly of the intersection of the existing right of way corridor and Route 116.
Appendix Part B	Gordon Pond Brook in Woodstock, NH, approximately 250 feet westerly of the corner of Hiltz Drive and Route 112.
Appendix Part B	Moosilauke Brook in Woodstock, NH, approximately 250 feet northerly of the corner of Grandview Lower Road, and Route 3
Appendix Part B	Baker River in Plymouth, NH, approximately 350 feet southerly of the corner of Foster Street and Route 3.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 15-460-1 Printed: March 10, 2016

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXEC DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**