



Northern Utilities, Inc.  
Docket No. DG 18-094  
Petition for Authority to Operate as a Public Utility  
in the Town of Epping  
Staff Data Requests – Set 1

Received: July 31, 2018

Date of Response: August 13, 2018

Request No. Staff 1-25

Witness: Kevin Sprague

**Request:**

What is the current status of permitting along the Rail Trail with DOT? Please indicate any associated restriction placed upon Northern.

**Response:**

The NH Bureau of Rail & Transit (BRT) has informed the Company that installing a new 8-HDPE gas pipeline in any location of the graveled portion of the Rockingham Recreational Trail corridor in Epping, from Rte-27 to Rte-125, is unacceptable. This is because there are presently two buried communications lines on either edge of the graveled portion of the ROW and that the center of the ROW is reserved for a future rail line.

The BRT suggested that the Company apply to install the 8-inch HDPE pipeline off either the north or south side of the Recreational Trail (within the ROW). The BRT utilities accommodation standards would require the pipeline be buried at a depth of 5 to 6 feet depending on the distance away from the center of future tracks (rails). Both sides of the ROW are thickly wooded areas that are in and out of significant wetlands for the entire distance from Rte-27 to Rte-125. The installation of the 8-inch HDPE would be 5 to 6 feet deep in heavily wooded and swampy areas within the ROW. As a result of this requirement, the Company has decided to pursue a corridor along Rte-27 to Rte-125. Maps showing the differences between this new route as compared to the original route are provided in response to Staff 1-28.