



April 14, 2015

Brian Mills
Sr. Planning Advisor Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Mills:

On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 104, Local 490, and IBEW International, we are writing to object to the recent request by the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation to extend the public comment period for 90 days after the release date of the draft EIS and for public comments be accepted 90 days after the final public hearing date for the Northern Pass project. Considering the current challenges faced by the New England energy market, IBEW Local 104 and IBEW International find this request unreasonable.

While IBEW supports the opportunity for public comment and providing reasonable time for the consideration and presentation of those comments, extending these timelines by four months or more is unnecessary and presents an unreasonable burden on our members. Many of our NH members rely on the local work generated by these projects, and this unreasonable extension request would further limit their work opportunities.

As you and NH's Congressional Delegation may be aware, New Hampshire has experienced detrimental impacts to our economy from a failing competitive energy market. This crisis impacts all aspects of our state's economy, and independent experts suggest that the solution to this problem is the introduction of new energy supplies, like the Northern Pass, into New England. To further delay this and other proposals by implementing unnecessary long public comment periods further impacts our state's economy and working families.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter, and IBEW would ask that you reject the request for a four-month extension of the public comment period associated with Northern Pass. Please contact us if you would like additional information

Sincerely,

Denis Beaudoin
Business Manager
IBEW Local 490

Joseph Casey
International Rep.
IBEW

Tiler Eaton
International Rep.
IBEW

Brian Murphy
Business Manager
IBEW Local 104