

U.S. Department of Energy
The Northern Pass Transmission Line Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Supplement
Notice of Public Hearing

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces public hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIS (DOE/EIS-0463) and the Supplement to the Draft EIS (DOE/EIS-0463-S1). The Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS evaluate the potential environmental impacts of DOE's proposed Federal action of issuing a Presidential permit to Northern Pass LLC (the Applicant) to construct, operate, maintain, and connect a new electric transmission line across the U.S./Canada border in northern New Hampshire.

The public comment period on the Draft EIS started on July 31, 2015, with the publication in the Federal Register by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of its Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS, and the public comment period on the Supplement began on November 20, 2015 with publication in the Federal Register by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of its Notice of Availability of the Supplement to the Draft EIS. The public review period to receive comments on the Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS closes on January 4, 2016.

DOE invites interested Members of Congress, state and local governments, other Federal agencies, American Indian tribal governments, organizations, and members of the public to provide comments on the Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS. DOE will conduct public hearings to receive oral and written comments on the Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS at the following locations commencing at the times identified:

Whitefield: Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa
Presidential Room
101 Mountain View Road
Whitefield, NH 03598

Concord: Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
Grappone Conference Center
Granite Ballroom
70 Constitution Avenue
Concord, NH 03301

Plymouth: Thursday December 17, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
Plymouth State University
Ice Arena Welcome Center
129 NH Route 175A
Holderness, NH 03245

Please note that, in order to better accommodate the public interest in these hearings, two hearing sessions will be held in Whitefield on December 15, 2015. The format of all hearings, including the afternoon

session in Whitefield, will be identical. A court reporter will be present to record comments for the record; interested individuals need only submit their oral comments once.

Requests to pre-register to provide oral comments at a public hearing should be addressed to the Northern Pass EIS Team at this email address: info@northernpasseis.us. When requesting to pre-register to provide oral comments at a public hearing, please include your full name and email address, and specify the location you request to speak at. For the Whitefield, NH meeting, please indicate which meeting time you wish to speak at. Please state in the subject line, "NP Draft EIS Public Hearing Speaker Request." Please submit your request by December 7, 2015; requests received by that date will be given priority in the speaking order. However, requests to speak may also be made at the hearing. The speaking order will be as follows: (1) Elected Officials; (2) Pre-registered speakers (order determined on a first-come, first-served basis); (3) Speakers registering at the meeting. Pre-registered speakers who have requested to speak at a specific time will be accommodated as possible. Note: if you requested to speak at the previously-scheduled public hearings in October 2015, please re-submit your request.

Each commenter will be allotted three (3) minutes. Individuals who have already spoken may have the opportunity to speak again when all other participants have made their first comments.

If assistance is needed to participate in any of the DOE hearings (e.g., qualified interpreter, computer-aided real-time transcription), please submit a request for auxiliary aids and services to DOE by December 4, 2015 by contacting Brian Mills as described below or e-mailing info@northernpasseis.us.

In addition to comments on the Draft EIS and Supplement to the Draft EIS, DOE is seeking public input with respect to the cultural and historic property information presented in this Draft EIS in accordance with its cultural and historic property review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Comments on the Draft EIS, Supplement to the Draft EIS, and Section 106 can be submitted verbally during public hearings; on the project website (<http://www.northernpasseis.us/comment/>); in writing to Mr. Brian Mills at: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585; via e-mail to draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us or Section106comments@northernpasseis.us; or by facsimile to (202) 586-8008. Please mark envelopes and electronic mail subject lines as "NP Draft EIS Comments" or "NP Section 106 Comments." Written comments should be submitted by January 4, 2016. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight and all comments received or postmarked by that date will be considered by DOE in preparing the Final EIS. Comments submitted (e.g., postmarked) after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

The documents are available online at <http://www.northernpasseis.us/>. Copies of the Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS are also available at a number of public libraries and town halls (a list of locations is found here: http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/DraftEIS_Hard_Copy_Locations.pdf). Printed copies of the documents may be obtained by contacting Mr. Mills at the above address.

For further information contact Mr. Brian Mills at the addresses above, or at (202) 586-8267.