

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**The Northern Pass Transmission Line Project**  
**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

**Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplement to the Draft Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (DOE/EIS-0463) and announcing the extension of the public comment period on the Draft EIS and announcement of Postponement of Public Hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIS**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared a Draft EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 CFR §§1500-1508), and the DOE NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR §1021).

The U.S. Forest Service – White Mountain National Forest (USFS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District (USACE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1 (EPA), and the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning (NHOEP) are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

The Draft EIS addresses potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, the no action alternative, and the range of reasonable alternatives.

On August 31, 2015, the DOE received an amendment to the July 31, 2013, Presidential permit application for the Northern Pass Transmission Line Project proposed by Northern Pass, LLC which made changes to the proposed project.

The application amendment changed the proposed route by three miles, added two new connection pads of approximately one acre each and increased the amount of proposed buried transmission line from eight miles to sixty.

The Supplement to the Draft EIS will present an analysis of this new “Applicants Preferred Alternative.” This analysis will compare the new proposed route and configuration (above ground/underground) against the alternatives currently presented in the Draft EIS.

DOE invites public and agency comment on the Supplement to the Draft EIS and the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS is available online at <http://www.northernpasseis.us/>. The Supplement to the Draft EIS will be posted on the EIS website and distributed to the mailing list when completed.

The current public comment period to receive comments on the Draft EIS is extended to close December 31, 2015.

The public hearings scheduled for Tuesday October 6 in Concord, Wednesday October 7 in Whitefield and Thursday October 8 in Holderness are cancelled.

Public hearings to receive oral comments on the Draft EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS will be held prior to the close of the public comment period. Dates, times and locations of the public hearings will be announced.