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## Legal Notice

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### **LEGAL NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY USDA - FOREST SERVICE**

White Mountain National Forest  
Coös, Grafton, Belknap, Merrimack,  
and Rockingham counties,  
New Hampshire  
Northern Pass

Transmission Line Project  
Draft Environmental  
Impact Statement

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, has completed a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzing the potential environmental effects of issuing a Presidential permit for the Northern Pass Transmission Line Project. The USDA Forest Service - White Mountain National Forest is a cooperating agency in the preparation of this EIS, and is reviewing an application for a special use permit. The permit would allow Northern Pass Transmission, LLC to construct, operate and maintain an electric power transmission line crossing portions of the White Mountain National Forest.

The Proposed Action would be a single circuit ±300 kilovolt (kV) HVDC transmission line running approximately 153 miles (246 km) from the U.S. border crossing with Canada in Pittsburg, NH, to a new direct current (DC)-to-alternating current (AC) converter station to be constructed in Franklin, NH. From Franklin, NH, to the Project terminus at the Public Service of New Hampshire's (PSNH's) existing Deerfield Substation located in Deerfield, NH, the Proposed Action would consist of 34 miles (55 km) of 345 kV AC electric transmission line. The total length of the Proposed Action would be approximately 187 miles (301 km). In total, the Proposed Action would be within the WMNF for approximately 11 miles (18 km) in the towns of Stark, Easton, Lincoln, and Woodstock, NH. All portions of the Proposed Action on the WMNF would be located in the existing PSNH transmission route.

A Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on July 31, 2015, initiating a 90-day comment period for the Draft EIS. The comment period has subsequently been extended and is now scheduled to close on December 31, 2015.

The draft EIS is available on the Northern Pass EIS project website (<http://www.northernpasseis.us/>). This website was created to provide the public with information about the project, including background details, public hearings, and project updates. A custom comment form is included on the website, which allows the public to submit comments on the Draft EIS electronically.

In addition to the project website, the document is available on-line at the DOE's NEPA website [http://nepa.energy.gov/draft\\_environmental\\_impact\\_statement.htm](http://nepa.energy.gov/draft_environmental_impact_statement.htm). Copies of the entire Draft EIS

are available for public review at 30 local libraries and town halls. Copies and additional information can also be requested from Brian Mills, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Document Manager, at (202) 586-8267.

Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted verbally during public hearings or 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; or fax: (202) 586-8008. Comments can be hand delivered between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding holidays. The Forest Service encourages the public to submit comments via email to [draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us](mailto:draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us); or on the project website at

<http://www.northernpasseis.us/>. The following formats for electronic comments are acceptable: email message; plain text (.txt); rich text (.rtf); or Microsoft Word document (.doc). Please mark envelopes and electronic mail subject lines as "Northern Pass Draft EIS Comments." Written comments must be received by December 31, 2015.

This comment period is a designated opportunity for public participation. Only individuals or entities who submit timely and specific written comments (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) about this proposed project during this or another designated public comment period will be eligible to file an objection. Other eligibility requirements are identified at 36 CFR 218.25(a)(3) and include name, postal address, title of the project, identity of the individual or entity who authored the comments, and signature or other verification of identity upon request.

(UL - Nov. 9)