

Electricity
Transmission

Update on DOE Transmission Issues Workshop

Arlington, VA
November 15, 2018

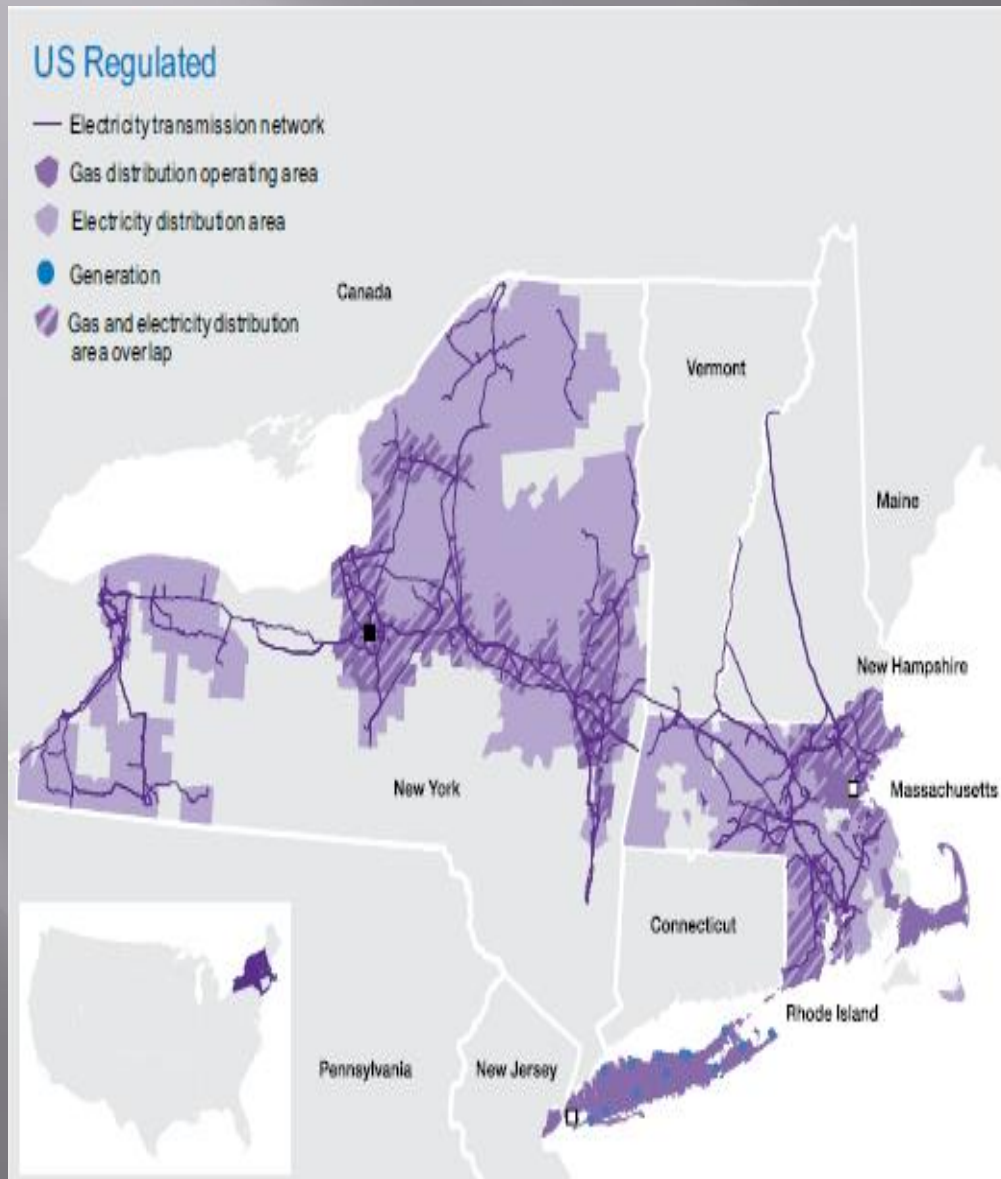
Bess Gorman, Assistant General Counsel & Director of Siting
bess.gorman@nationalgrid.com, 781.907.1834



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National Grid Electric Transmission Territory



- ❖ Electric transmission and distribution and gas distribution utility
- ❖ Electric transmission in five (5) states: Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, Rhode Island & Vermont
- ❖ In past decade:
- ❖ Over 20 siting proceedings in MA, NH, RI & VT (MA & RI EFSB, NH SEC & VT PSB/PUC) and 10 siting proceedings before NY PSC for 115, 230 and 345 kV transmission lines and related substations

Criteria For State Siting Review and Approval

- State Siting Regulators evaluate the proposed project against other project options and routing alternatives to select the option that best:
 - ◆ Addresses identified need
 - ◆ Minimizes impacts (environmental, social, etc.)
 - ◆ Ensures reliable energy supply
- ...at the “lowest” cost



State Siting Timelines Non-generator Transmission Lines

- Application Preparation
 - 12-24 months post regional study
 - Routing
 - Resource delineation
 - Expert reports
- From Filing of Application:
 - Massachusetts: 12-30 months (has not denied)
 - New Hampshire: 12-31 months (has denied)
 - New York: 18-30 months (has not denied)
 - Rhode Island: 12- 24 months (has not denied)
 - Vermont: 12-18 (has not denied)
- Time from Study Completion to Decision
 - 28 -48 months
 - Appeals can add 1 ½ - 4 more years to siting process



Siting Process Overview

□ Pre-Filing

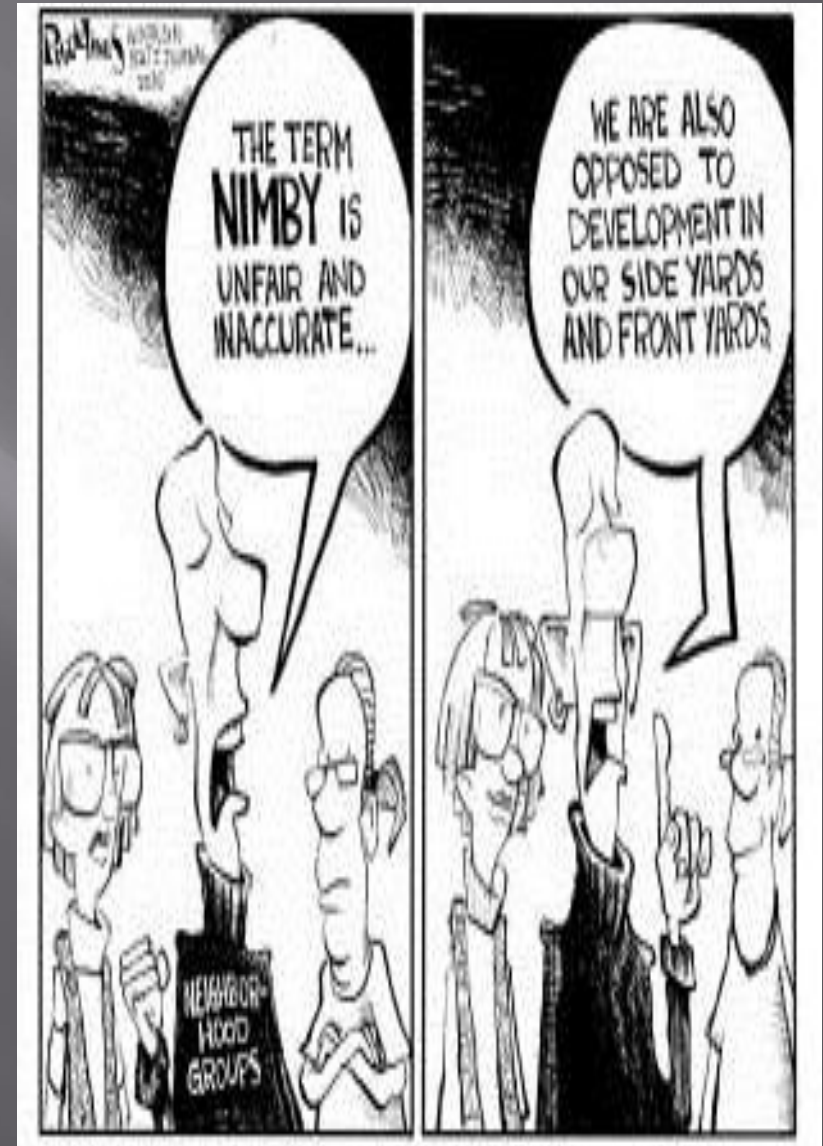
- Meeting(s) with siting staff or counsel
- Impact delineation, routing, expert reports, application drafting
- *Meetings public officials and boards on routing and impacts*
- *Meetings with community groups and abutters*
- Open house(s)

□ Post Filing

- Site walk w/ regulators
- Local public hearing(s)
- *Possible intervention*
- Discovery
- Pre-filed testimony/rebuttal testimony
- Adjudicatory hearing(s)
- Legal briefs by all parties

Themes Across Jurisdictions That Increase Timelines

- Increase in Municipalities seeking “Impact Fees”
- Competitive transmission projects offering more than previous regional projects
- “Pass-through” communities feeling overburdened by regional project
- Concern of added costs to municipalities from project



Themes Across Jurisdictions That Increase Timelines

- Increase in Community Activism
 - Lack of understanding of local benefit for regional project
 - Trees, viewsheds
 - Property Values
 - Increase in EMF concerns
 - Business Loss
 - Increase in Involvement by State Legislators



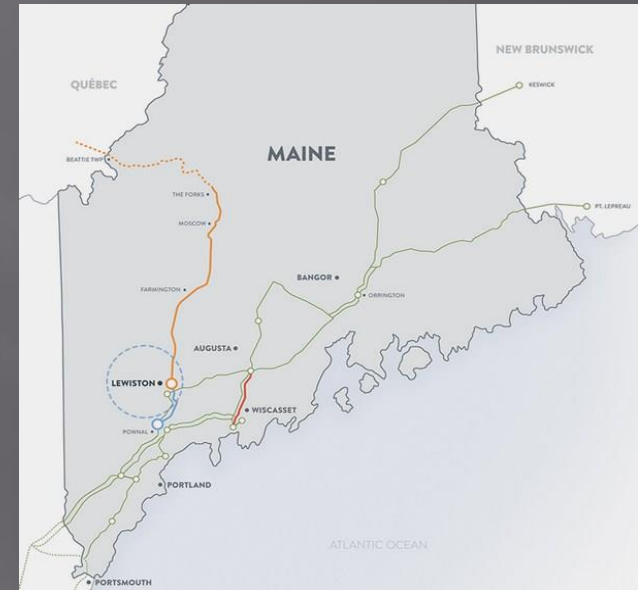
Themes Across Jurisdictions That Increase Timelines

- ❑ Increase in Siting Regulator workload
 - Increase in electric and gas line projects
 - Increase in generator projects (renewable and natural gas)
- ❑ Upfront work, reduces opposition and lessens regulator workload
- ❑ ACOE facing workload issues: offered to fund employee to work on infrastructure projects



Themes Across Jurisdictions That Increase Timelines

- Generators, Pass-through States
 - New England Clean Energy Connect (AvanGrid, Central Maine Power 145 mile, 1200 MW HVDC line in Maine)
 - Vermont Green Line (National Grid Ventures 59 mile underground/underwater 400 MW cable in New York and Vermont)



Successes

- ❑ Involvement of Municipality in Routing very early
 - Held dozens pre and post filing meetings with public officials
 - Listened
 - Revised part of route to occupy abandoned rail ROW, designed to accommodate future rec path at no additional cost to Project
 - Highlighted property tax benefits
 - Negotiated Community Agreement for impacts
 - Had Town support when faced with resident opposition
 - Offered to fund independent EMF expert report with cost cap
 - Held informational meetings streamed through Town's Facebook page with Q &A
 - Town appreciated responsiveness to educate residents, approved local permits

Misses

- Ensure impacted external stakeholders in agreement with or informed about routing decision/site selection
 - Town Manager/Mayor
 - Town Council, Zoning Boards
 - Town officials-DPW, Planning Director
 - Abutters/Residents, Community groups
 - Environmental groups
- Consider precedential affect on neighboring municipalities for same project and on future projects

Takeaways

- Study phase and siting phase dichotomous, need more integration
 - Look at social and environmental impacts of project and some more viable alternatives
 - Look at project costs for alternatives from delay perspective
- Municipal involvement prior to completion of study. Feedback important during study phase
 - Unknown municipal issues increase time and cost
 - Early involvement reduces opposition/intervention, support and friendly intervention more likely
- Develop guidelines of examples of impacts that are compensable and those that are not
 - Negotiation of mitigation of impacts increases time
- Develop strategy for relieving workload of state siting regulators and other permitting agencies. Can extra employees be funded?
- Ongoing Education of Public on Importance of Transmission Grid

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