



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Appalachian National Scenic Trail  
P.O. Box 50 (Deliveries: 252 McDowell St.)  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

**US Department of Energy**

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
A.1.A.

September 16, 2013

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**Electricity Delivery and  
Energy Reliability**

Mr. Brian Mills  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: Northern Pass Transmission LLC, Presidential Permit Application, OE Docket No. PP-371,  
National Park Service Request for Consulting Party Status for Section 106 Review

Dear Mr. Mills:

The National Park Service requests to become a "consulting party" for the purposes of the Section 106 review under 36 CFR 800.2(c)(5).

The Appalachian Trail became a National Scenic Trail in 1968 with the passage of the National Trails System Act. The Secretary of the Interior was designated as the primary administrator of the Trail, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, and authority since delegated to the National Park Service (NPS) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). We work closely with the White Mountain National Forest and have identified a management zone and management prescriptions for the Trail within the Forest's proclamation boundary as part of their Forest Management Plan. Such collaboration has ensured the preservation of a primitive recreational experience for hikers. These prescriptions extend outside of the Forest boundary and are applied to the NPS acquired lands of the Trail's corridor that have been administratively transferred from the NPS to the USFS, which include 6,458 acres of land and 37 miles of trail from the Connecticut River to Warren, New Hampshire. The NPS and USFS work closely together when reviewing potential impacts from external infrastructure proposals that may adversely affect Trail resources and the hiking experience within Forest boundary and corridor lands.

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in each of the fourteen states through which the Trail traverses, and we are currently in the process of seeking formal designation in each state, including New Hampshire. Given this status and our concern for the potential physical, visual and audible impacts from the Northern Pass project, we formally request consulting party status, including receipt of project materials and inclusion in any consultation meetings.

Sincerely,

*Wendy K. Janssen*  
Wendy K. Janssen  
Superintendent

cc: Ms. Elizabeth Muzzey, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, New Hampshire  
Division of Historical Resources  
Mr. Thomas Wagner, Forest Supervisor, White Mountain National Forest