Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 9, 2013

The Honorable Ernest Moniz, Secretary United States Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20585-0800

Re: Scoping Hearing Change

Dear Secretary Moniz:

We write to you regarding today's Federal Register listing of four proposed scoping hearings on Northern Pass Transmission, LLC's amended application to the Department of Energy (DOE) for a presidential permit to bring 1200-MW of hydropower to the New England market. The announced hearing scheduled for September 26, 2013 in West Stewartstown, New Hampshire, has raised concerns among our constituents. It has been brought to our attention that the current location for the hearing may not have the capacity required to accommodate what is likely to be a strong turnout at the hearing and poses some logistical challenges to attendees.

As you know, this issue has been widely followed around the state and scoping hearings held in 2011 were very well attended. In order to ensure the public has an opportunity to meaningfully comment, we respectfully request that you consider moving the hearing to a larger venue such as Colebrook Elementary School gymnasium in Colebrook, New Hampshire. The space can accommodate a larger crowd and has ample parking available in close proximity to the school.

We appreciate DOE's continued willingness to work with our offices throughout the application process to ensure it is fair, transparent, and allows all stakeholders the opportunity to ask questions and make their voices heard.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Shaheen

United States Senator

United States Senator

Kelly Avotte

Carol Shea-Porter

Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

Member of Congress

Cc: Brian Mills, Senior Planning Advisor Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DEO