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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2011

OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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The Honorable Steven Chu  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

**Re: Northern Pass Transmission Project (DOE/EIS-0463)**

Dear Secretary Chu:

Throughout the past few months, the proposed Northern Pass Transmission Project has generated significant concern to the people of New Hampshire. I am writing you to convey these concerns with specific considerations and recommendations.

When considering our common goal of working towards energy independence, clean energy, and energy security, there certainly are many benefits that a mission such as the Northern Pass Transmission Project would have on New Hampshire and the New England region. However, I also believe it is vital to consider the significant impact this project will have on the state of New Hampshire and most importantly, the long-term effect it will have on the residents and landscape of my state's North Country region.

As this project continues to be debated, I implore that every effort must be made to explore alternative solutions to mitigate any potential negative impact of the Northern Pass Transmission Project. This includes exploring alternative transmission line routes and seeking solutions to lessen the intrusive and invasive impact of the towers on the New Hampshire landscape, such as the feasibility of burying the transmission lines and minimizing the visual impact of the towers.

I would also note that I greatly appreciate the extension of the public comment period for the Scoping Process for another sixty days. This will ensure residents in the Town of Deerfield and other affected communities have ample opportunity to learn about the project's effects in their area and put forth thoughtful input and comments.

In working together, we can decipher alternative solutions to lessen any potential negative impact of the Northern Pass Transmission Project, while also ensuring an open, transparent, and thorough review of the entire process. I strongly believe extending the public comment period would demonstrate DOE's commitment to this process.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Guinta  
Member of Congress