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November 12, 1981

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

The Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555



To the Secretary:

We represent the Town of South Hampton, New Hampshire, having initially been retained in connection with a Petition before the Public Utilities Commission with respect to a route change in the transmission lines running from the Seabrook Nuclear Plant to the Scobie Station, which action is presently before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. The interest of the Town is substantial, in that the impact of the transmission lines emanating from the Seabrook Station impacts heavily on the Town of South Hampton.

The Town of South Hampton consists of 7.8 square miles which will contain 14,000 feet of high voltage overhead transmission lines. One-half to two-fifths of every square mile will look upon these transmission lines. The population of South Hampton is 623. There will exist approximately 18 feet of transmission line per person, and 55 feet of line per home. The density impact will be as intense as anywhere in the United States.

Indian Ground Hill, over which the lines travel, is a long ridge of high ground. It's historical significance as an Indian campground and possible burial ground is recommended as the subject of a survey by State archaeologists, and that significance appears to have been ignored in the entire course of the proceedings.

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The center of town also comprises an historic district. Further, it's situs at the top of the hill is not only unusual among the Seacoast towns, but also presents vistas of the opposing ridge on which the transmission lines are scheduled to transverse with poles up to 100' in height. The lines are visible from the two peaks of Indian Ground Hill and remain visible until they reach the Massachusetts line at the Pow Wow River, for about four and one-third miles.

Yet another historic area is Jewelltown, part of the Town's early master plan, which is severely impacted by the lines at the same time as they cross and affect the Pow Wow River. Two of the Town's four historic districts (Center; Jewelltown) are adversely affected by the North-South leg as located; and a third (Highland) is adversely affected by the COMPANY'S proposed East-West modification.

The Town's only commercial district is impacted by a portion of the proposed modification of the East-West leg, at the Kensington end of that district. The resulting decrease in valuation negatively affects the Town's tax base, not only in this commercial district, but also as a result of the impact of the East-West leg on the Highland Avenue historic and residential district, and further still as a result of the extremely severe impact of the North-South leg on the entire expanse of residential properties affected by it. With respect to the commercial district, the particular land crossed by the transmission lines is the only remaining land in that district with frontage which is undeveloped.

We feel the above facts raise issues more than sufficient to justify the intervention of the Town of South Hampton as a party before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in its consideration of the application submitted by Public Service Company of New Hampshire for licenses to operate Units 1 and 2 of the Seabrook Station.

We are prepared to present evidence and to engage in cross-examination, to file memoranda as required, and to assist the Commission in any other way which it requires.

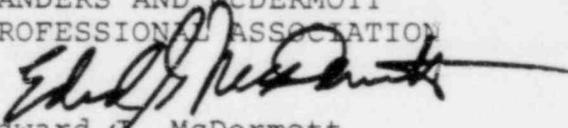
It is the East-West and North-South transmission lines running from Seabrook to Scobie and into Massachusetts that particularly impact as they transverse the Town of South Hampton. One of the motions denied by the Commission which is incorporated in the

Appeal now pending before the New Hampshire Supreme Court was a motion for a feasibility study to be conducted on an alternative route for this transmission line.

It is our desire to intervene and participate therefore in the proceedings, and we appreciate your early attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

SANDERS AND McDERMOTT
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION


Edward J. McDermott
EJMcD/cml

cc: Ms. Anne Verge, Chairperson
Board of Selectmen
Town of South Hampton