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August 17, 2020

Ms. Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Abutter Comment/Response to Order *Nisi* No. 26,389 in DE 20-014

Dear Ms. Howland:

My office represents Joseph Garneau and Mary Cohen (“Garneau”), owners of property located on Carr Street, Franklin, NH, known as Tax Map 77, Lot 402, which property is encumbered by an easement to Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) for the electric lines involved in this project. The Garneau property abuts the Northern Rail Trail, and faces the Webster Switching and Distribution Substation. The property in question also abuts Chance Pond.

One of Garneau’s main concerns regarding this project is erosion in the area due to the proposed construction, and what, if any, planned temporary mitigation measures will be taken to prevent silt and other run off into Chance Pond during construction.

Permanent measures to prevent erosion after the project’s completion are also necessary. In 2018 Eversource clear cut the easement area and since then has taken no measures to prevent erosion into the pond. As a result, silt and other matter washes into Chance Pond unchecked. Included in that clear cutting were 225 Christmas trees, planted by Garneau with the knowledge and permission of Eversource, and those trees were cut and chipped without warning or compensation.

Also of concern is the current lack of buffer plantings surrounding the substation, which were promised as part of the expansion of the substation but were never planted. This buffer was to provide a screen from the lights installed around the perimeter of the substation, as well as from workers’ view. It is also my understanding that Eversource clear cut the buffer between my clients’ property and the Northern Rail Trail. The property owners request that the promised buffer plantings be included in the final phase of construction on this portion of the line.

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My clients fear that new construction along this line will lead to further devaluation of their property, and are concerned about additional or expanded lines overburdening the area and causing harm to their property as well as Chance Pond.

Please contact my office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marissa Schuetz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Marissa A. Schuetz, Esq.