

The Future is Here: HVDC Light Underground Technology

September 18, 2011 by nnp_girl Listen up Northern Pass. We are becoming very informed on this technology. The cries of "ten times the expense" to bury the line are entirely based on antiquated technology. HVDC Light line burial is approximately two times the cost. The advantages to this in terms of PSNH and Hydro Quebec are as follows:

- 1. More electricity to sell:** Yes, because above ground lines lose 5-7% of the electricity as it flows down the lines. Would anyone like to put a dollar amount on that figure? Many, many millions of dollars could go to the electric companies rather than being wasted.
- 2. 50-80% Less outages:** That's right. Would anyone like to put a dollar amount on that one? Perhaps hundreds of millions of dollars over a 40 year agreement.
- 3. Less Vulnerable to terrorism:** Self-explanatory.
- 4. Less lawsuits from devastated and displaced home owners:** This one is so easy, one wonders where the moral conscience lies in the electric companies?
- 5. Win win situation:** Although this project is not needed, or wanted in any way—should we be forced to be an extension cord to this foreign power because the state allows it—burying the line mitigates a huge amount of impact and gives PSNH the opportunity to become socially and morally responsible for the impact in the state of NH.

Here are a few distinct advantages to the human population who must live on or near the line:

- 1. Virtually no EMF radiation:** This is a huge issue for families with children or the many schools that are seated too close to the line. Childhood Leukemia is well documented and studied. The many other ailments that can be attributed to EMF radiation are too lengthy to list. This virtually eliminates this issue. What company with a conscience would not want to be socially responsible?
- 2. No visual blight:** Our tourist industry, real estate values, and treasured scenery would not be threatened. Again, what company would not want to be socially responsible? A swath of towers versus a swath that resembles a bike path.
- 3. No devaluation of real estate leading to tax abatements:** This is based on the 2nd advantage and worthy to mention in it's own category. This means that the tax base in the towns remains unharmed because the real estate will not be devalued from the Northern Pass project. The tax relief from having the line would then raise the tax base in the town and increase the town budget.

In considering line burial versus overhead lines, the answers obvious: bury the line. Where would it be best to bury the line is a fair question. The best answer might just be along existing highways where the land is already softened as opposed to along the current PSNH ROWs. Look for a fight to the end on this one. PSNH is poised to make a cool \$60 million dollars a year in rent along that ROW. Moving the line to the highways would shift the rent from PSNH to the state. Wouldn't it be nice to have a little more money in our state budget?

When we create more awareness, we open the door to better solutions. My first choice is to prevent this project altogether. Allowing a foreign power source into our area is asking for trouble on many levels. I do not advocate the building of this line. However, if we are forced, let's make it work somehow. Please look over the PDF on HVDC Light Burial Technology and become educated on our options.

<http://www.nonorthernpass.org/nh/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/HVDC-UNDERGROUND-LIGHT-BP.pdf>

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