



141 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111

(t) 617-902-2354 (f) 617-902-2349

www.nepga.org

For Immediate Release:
March 5, 2012

Contact: Dan Dolan
(617) 902-2354

NEW ENGLAND POWER GENERATORS ASSOCIATION COMMENDS SIGNING OF NEW HAMPSHIRE EMINENT DOMAIN LAW

Concord, NH & Boston, MA: New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) President Dan Dolan today released the following statement regarding Governor John Lynch's signing of HB 648, *AN ACT relative to eminent domain by public utilities*:

NEPGA applauds bill-sponsor Senator Jeanie Forrester, the New Hampshire Legislature and Governor John Lynch for their leadership to enact HB 648. With this new law, the level playing field for energy development in New Hampshire has been confirmed. The law is now clear, and any suggestion that loopholes exist for private large-scale transmission projects to take private property has been addressed.

HB 648 is entirely consistent with the [NEPGA policy position](#) concerning eminent domain, especially as it affects the proposed Northern Pass Transmission Project.

The Northern Pass Transmission Project has repeatedly said in federal regulatory filings and in public comment on the Project that, while they might not want to use eminent domain for the project, as a last resort they would. HB 648 removes this threat to property owners and loudly declares that this right does not exist.

We agree with the standard of conduct suggested by Governor Lynch in his 2012 State of the State speech which said, *"...the proponents of Northern Pass need to listen better. This project cannot happen without local support. And it should not happen with eminent domain."*

Competitive power generators continue to be committed to meeting consumer electricity demand in New Hampshire and across New England reliably, efficiently and in an environmentally-sustainable manner. Operating on a level and truly competitive playing field is critical to ensuring a full market for electricity exists to drive continued economic development. New Hampshire has today taken an important step in providing such an open and sustainable market.

About NEPGA

The New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) is the largest trade association representing competitive electric generating companies in New England. NEPGA's members' represent 85%, or nearly 27,000 megawatts, of all the available generating capacity in New England. NEPGA's mission is to promote sound energy policies which will further economic development, jobs, and balanced environmental policy. We believe that sustainable competitive markets are the best means to provide long-term reliable and affordable supplies of electricity for consumers. www.nepga.org