

# Letter: We want the power without the inconvenience

For the Monitor

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Re “Will tar sands oil flow through New Hampshire?” (Sunday Monitor editorial, April 14):

What do tar sands pipelines, hydroelectric transmission lines and windmills have in common? We insist it is our right to have as much electricity, heating oil, gasoline for our gas guzzlers and air travel as we want, on demand, at cheap prices, but we don't want the inconveniences, unsightliness, or dangers associated with any of them.

Even those of us who accept the scientific conclusions that fossil-fuel use is causing climate change and that apocalyptic destruction is likely before the end of this century, even we still can't change the behaviors we have come to expect are normal or are our rights. We still get on a plane for a weekend in Texas, a business trip to Europe or a conference in Costa Rica.

What will it take for us to stop focusing on the view from our backyards and realize we need to define a new “normal” in order to preserve human life on this planet?

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