

**Section 6**  
**Visual Quality and Scenic Character**

This generator lead is an “associated facility” under the terms of Maine’s expedited permitting for grid-scale wind energy development. Although associated facilities are eligible for consideration under the visual impact assessment standards of 34-A MRSA §3452(1), this report evaluates the Maine GenLead project using the traditional visual impact standards found in 38 MRSA §484(3).

A Visual Impact Assessment by Terrence J. DeWan & Associates is included as Appendix 6-1. That assessment evaluates the visual impact the generator lead transmission line and concludes that the Project should not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic and aesthetic uses of scenic resources within the viewshed and should not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the scenic character of the surrounding area.

**Appendix 6-1**  
**Visual Impact Assessment**

**VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**PROPOSED 115 KV GENERATOR LEAD LINE  
CHESTER TO OAKFIELD**

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June 7, 2011

**VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
115 GENERATOR LEAD LINE  
OAKFIELD TO CHESTER  
Maine GenLead, LLC**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The proposed 59±-mile 115 kV generator lead line proposed by Maine GenLead, LLC (Maine GenLead) will extend from the Bangor Hydro Electric (BHE) Keene Road substation in Chester to a substation servicing the Oakfield Wind Project in Oakfield.

The Oakfield Wind Project, DEP #L-24572-A-N and L-24572-TF-B-N (January 21, 2010), is being amended through a separate application to expand its capacity. This generator lead is an “associated facility” under the terms of Maine’s expedited permitting for grid-scale wind energy development. Although eligible for consideration under the standards of 35-A MRSA §3452(1), due to its length, Maine GenLead is providing a visual analysis of the generator lead pursuant to the standards associated with 38 MRSA §484(3). See 35-A MRSA §3452(2) (standards for associated facilities). The purpose of this generator lead is to provide a direct interconnect between the Oakfield Wind Project and the ISO New England transmission system.

The design will be primarily single pole structures, with double and triple poles and associated guying as necessary to support the integrity of the line. The amount of new clearing associated with the corridor will vary from 50 to 100 feet, depending on adjacency to existing transmission corridors.

The line will extend through 12 towns and townships: Chester, Woodville, Mattawamkeag, Molunkus Township, Macwahoc Plantation, North Yarmouth Academy Grant, Reed Plantation, Glenwood Plantation, T3R3 WELS, T4R3 WELS, Linneus, and Oakfield. The generator lead line consists of four segments:

- At the southern end, through Chester and Woodville, the line will be located adjacent to the existing Line 56 transmission line corridor for approximately 7 miles to an intersection with the existing 345 kV MEPCO corridor in Woodville.
- It then follows, with minor deviations to avoid wetlands, vernal pools, and settlements, the MEPCO corridor northeast for approximately 33 miles to the Glenwood Plantation/Haynesville town line.
- From this point, the line runs north along the westerly side of town boundaries for approximately 16.5 miles, to the town of Oakfield.
- From this point the line runs west for approximately 2.5 miles to a substation located near the easterly string of wind turbines for the Oakfield Wind Project.

In total, the new generator lead line will be located adjacent to existing transmission corridors for approximately 40 miles, 67 % of its total length.

The proposed single-pole 115 kV structures will typically be 70± feet tall. Special designs will be required in specific locations, such as major road and river crossings.

In general, the proposed generator lead line will not be a highly visible presence in the public landscape. The location that was selected parallels the existing MEPCO transmission line for over half the route, but is usually separated by uncleared ROW, typically 55 feet in width. In areas of new alignment, the

corridor is generally in very remote locations that are not often frequented by residents, recreational users, or motorists.

## 2. DATA COLLECTION

Terrence J. DeWan & Associates (TJD&A), landscape architects in Yarmouth, Maine, prepared the Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) of the generator lead line. TJD&A staff collected field data in the study area to assess visibility from public roads and other vantage points on April 14 and 15, 2010. Representative views from characteristic road, stream, and river crossing are included in Appendix A Study Area Photographs. Other data sources include the aerial photographs, cross sections, and substation site plans provided by TRC; the DeLorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer; USGS topographic maps; and Google Earth.

Photographic documentation was made using a Nikon D300 digital camera. For most photographs the camera was set to record at a “normal” focal length (*i.e.*, equivalent to that found on a 50mm SLR camera). Representative views within the study area are provided in Appendix A. Additional photographs, including all road and river crossings, adjacent homes, and other development are available in digital form upon request.

The purpose of the VIA was to evaluate if the generator lead line, as proposed, meets the visual quality standards established under 38 MRSA § 484(3) and the Site Law’s Chapter 375.14 and the Natural Resources Protection Act’s Chapter 315.

38 MRSA § 484(3) No adverse effect on the natural environment requires that the developer has made adequate provision for fitting the development harmoniously into the existing natural environment and that the development will not adversely affect existing uses, scenic character, air quality, water quality or other natural resources in the municipality or in neighboring municipalities. Chapter 375.14 requires an applicant to demonstrate that the development will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the scenic character of the surrounding area.<sup>1</sup> Chapter 315 requires an applicant to demonstrate that a proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic and aesthetic uses of a scenic resource.<sup>2</sup>

## 3. STUDY AREA

### 3.1 Site Context

The characteristic landscape within one mile of the proposed generator lead line has relatively flat to gently rolling topography, with few hills or pronounced physical features. Throughout much of its length the line follows the MEPCO transmission line corridor, with several workarounds to avoid sensitive wetlands, vernal pools, or settlements. The predominant land use within one mile of the generator lead

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants are required to provide evidence that 1) the design of the proposed development takes into account the scenic character of the surrounding area; 2) development which is not in keeping with the surrounding scenic character will be located, designed and landscaped to minimize its visual impact to the fullest extent possible, and 3) structures will be designed and landscaped to minimize their visual impact on the surrounding area. *Chapter 375.14*

<sup>2</sup> A Scenic Resource is a public natural resource or public land visited by the general public, in part for the use, observation, enjoyment, and appreciation of natural or cultural visual qualities. The attributes, characteristics, and features of the landscape of a scenic resource provide varying responses from and varying degrees of benefits to, humans. *Chapter 315, Maine Department of Environmental Protection.*

line is commercial forestland. Vegetative cover is primarily second growth softwood / hardwood forests. In all locations the corridor avoids visually sensitive high points and topographic features.

The VIA concentrated on evaluating the potential visual impacts on known scenic resources, i.e., those public natural resources and public lands are usually visited by the general public, in part with the purpose of enjoying their visual quality.<sup>3</sup> Scenic resources that were evaluated include the East Branch Mattawamkeag River and the West Branch Mattawamkeag River in T3 R3 WELS; Wytopitlock Stream in Reed Plantation; Molunkus Stream in Macwahoc Plantation; Mattaseunk Lake and Mattaseunk Stream in Molunkus Twp; and the Penobscot River in Mattawamkeag and Woodville. With the exception of the river and stream crossings, the generator lead line corridor will affect very few areas of scenic significance.

Field work also evaluated road crossings and other points where the public will come into contact with the generator lead line to evaluate its effect on the scenic character of the surrounding landscape. With the exception of three State numbered roads, the majority of the roads crossed by the generator lead line are logging roads and secondary gravel roads with little or no residential development.

### 3.2 Distance Zones

The concept of distance zones is based upon the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service's visual analysis criteria for forested landscapes and on the amount of detail that an observer can differentiate at varying distances. The distance zones used for the study of the proposed generator lead line are defined as:

**Foreground: 0 to 1/2 mile in distance.** Within this distance zone, observers are able to detect surface textures, details, and a full spectrum of color. The majority of public views described in the VIA are in the foreground where generator lead lines cross public roads, streams, and rivers (see listing of Scenic Resources in 3.1 above).

**Midground: 1/2 mile to four miles in distance.** In the midground viewing distance, the details of the generator lead line corridor become subordinate to the patterns observed in the larger landscape. In panoramic views (e.g., major river crossings), the midground landscape is the most important element in the composition in determining visual impact. Because of the lack of topography and wooded nature of the surrounding landscape, the generator lead line corridor is generally not visible in the midground or background viewing distances. The only exception is the view of the Penobscot River crossing in Mattawamkeag, where the generator lead corridor is visible on the opposite side of the river in Woodville.

**Background: greater than four miles.** Changes to the landscape seen at this distance are highly visible only if they present a noticeable contrast in form or line. Since the landscape surrounding the line is generally very flat to gently rolling, the generator lead corridor should not be visible at distances greater than four miles.

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<sup>3</sup> As defined by *Chapter 315.10, Maine Department of Environmental Protection.*

**4. INVENTORY OF SCENIC RESOURCES**

**MDEP VISUAL EVALUATION FIELD SURVEY CHECKLIST (NRPA, 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 480 A - Z)**

**Name of applicant:** Maine GenLead, LLC

**Application Type:** SLODA / NRPA

**Activity Type:** Construct a 115 kV generator lead.

**Activity Location:** Chester, Woodville, Mattawamkeag, Molunkus Township, Macwahoc Plt, North Yarmouth Academy Grant, Reed Plantation, Glenwood Plantation, T3R3 WELS, T4R3 WELS, Linneus, and Oakfield

**County:** Aroostook and Penobscot

**GIS Coordinates, if known:** See project location maps from Stantec

**Date of Survey:** April 14 and 15, 2010

**Observer:** Terry DeWan and Danielle Matkoskey

**Phone:** 846-0757

	<b>Distance Between the Proposed Activity and Resource (in Miles)</b>		
	0-1/4	1/4 –1	1+
<b>1. Would the activity be visible from:</b>			
<b>A. A National Natural Landmark or other outstanding natural feature? None</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>B. A State or National Wildlife Refuge, Sanctuary, or Preserve or a State Game Refuge? None.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C. A state or federal trail?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The proposed generator lead line corridor intersects Interconnected Trail System (ITS) 83 southwest of Linneus in a commercial forestland. Snowmobile trail users are accustomed to seeing logging roads and other components of forest operations. Farther to the south ITS 110, a connector trail, appears to follow the MEPCO transmission corridor for several miles on either side of Macwahoc. Visual impact to users should be slight.</p>			
<b>D. A public site or structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places? None.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Potential visual impacts to resources that are on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places have been addressed in the report that has been submitted to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and included in Section 8 of the Site Location amendment application.</p>			
<b>E. A National or State Park? None</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>F. 1) A municipal park or public open space?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The only public open space that is within the viewshed of the generator lead line corridor is a small picnic area on the Penobscot River overlooking the Mattaseunk Dam in Mattawamkeag. The facilities include a small picnic area, parking for several cars, and a set of very steep stairs that provide access to the Penobscot River. (See photographs in Appendix A). The proposed generator lead line corridor will be seen in context with an existing transmission line, commercial development along Route 157, and the Mattaseunk Dam. Visual impact on this recreation area should be minimal. The land is owned by Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC and is open to the public with certain precautions.

- 2) A publicly owned land visited, in part, for the use, observation, enjoyment and appreciation of natural or man-made visual qualities?

None, other than the riverfront picnic area described in F.1 above.

- 3) A public resource, such as the Atlantic Ocean, a great pond or a navigable river?

The **East Branch Mattawamkeag River** (32 miles from Haynesville to its headwaters) is rated as a ‘B’ river by the Maine Rivers Study for its Undeveloped, Anadromous Fishery, Inland Fisheries, and Whitewater Boating resources. The Study determined that the scenic resources of the river were not unique or significant, i.e., they did not meet a minimum standard of significance. The AMC River Guide describes the scenery in this section of the river as ‘wild’, although it should be noted that it is actively managed commercial forestland. The Guide notes “The East Branch is seldom run in comparison to the West Branch. The rapids in the upper part have to be run in high water, and you have convenient access at the end of the rapids to run the quick water of the lower end...Below Red Bridge (above the proposed crossing) are intermittent Class II rapids to the outlet from Pleasant Lake. Below here, around the foot of Outlet Mountain, the going becomes very rough. Paddling becomes easier after that. The remaining distance is open going with a slow current. Local people commonly motor up to Nickerson Brook when fishing.”<sup>4</sup>

The generator lead corridor has been aligned to cross the 100-foot wide river at a 90-degree angle at the start of a series of reverse curves. This alignment, plus small islands in the river, should minimize the amount of time that a paddler will have contact with the generator lead corridor and the overhead conductors. The 115 kV structures will be located as far from the edge of the river as possible. Non-capable riparian species will be allowed to grow within the corridor for visual screening as well as for habitat. The generator lead line crossing will be visible for approximately 700 feet for recreational boaters on the river. The 100-foot wide generator lead line corridor should have a moderate to strong visual impact on the immediate river crossing.

The **West Branch Mattawamkeag River** (40 miles from Haynesville to its headwaters) is also rated as a ‘B’ river by the Maine Rivers Study for its Critical/Ecologic, Undeveloped, Anadromous Fishery, Inland Fisheries, and Whitewater Boating resources. The Study determined that the scenic resources of the river were not unique or significant, i.e., they did not meet a minimum standard of significance. The AMC River Guide describes the scenery in this section of the river as ‘wild’, although it should be noted that it is actively managed commercial forestland. The Guide notes “Below Mattawamkeag Lake, the West Branch, already a large river, is mostly rapids and quick water for 12.5 miles. It is a pleasant and easy paddle in medium or high water, and it is similar to the lower Allagash. Like the latter, some places are scratchy in low water, requiring you to walk your boat down. It is wild, although about a dozen cabins line the river.”<sup>5</sup>

The West Branch is 100-125’ in width at the point of crossing. The generator lead corridor has been aligned to cross the river at a 90±-degree angle, taking advantage of a reverse curve to minimize the amount of time that a person on the river would have contact with the proposed corridor and the overhead conductors. The 115 kV structures will be located as far from the edge of the river as possible. Non-capable riparian species will be allowed to grow within the corridor for visual screening as well as for habitat. The generator lead line crossing will be visible for approximately 500 feet for recreational boaters on the river. The 100-foot wide generator lead line corridor should have a moderate to strong visual impact on the immediate river crossing.

**Wytopitlock Stream**, a branch of the Mattawamkeag River, (18 miles from the Mattawamkeag River to its headwaters) is rated as a ‘B’ river by the Maine Rivers Study for its Undeveloped and Anadromous Fishery resources. The Study determined that the scenic resources of the river were not unique or significant, i.e., they did not meet a minimum standard of significance. The AMC River Guide describes the scenery in this section of the river as ‘wild’, although it should be noted that it is actively managed commercial forestland. The Guide

<sup>4</sup> AMC River Guide Maine, Fourth Edition. Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston. 2008.

<sup>5</sup> AMC River Guide Maine, Fourth Edition. Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston. 2008.

notes “Wytotitlock Stream rises in Wytotitlock Lake in Glenwood and flows south to the Mattawamkeag River at Wytotitlock. It is a relatively small stream but navigable in high water from the lake down. It is mixed rapid and smooth, but most of the rapids are runnable.”<sup>6</sup>

Wytotitlock Stream is 15-35’ in width at the point of crossing. The generator lead corridor has been aligned to cross the river at a reverse curve, which minimizes the amount of time that a person on the river would have contact with the proposed corridor and the overhead conductors. The 115 kV structures will be located as far from the edge of the river as possible. Non-capable riparian species will be allowed to grow within the corridor for visual screening as well as for habitat. The generator lead line crossing will be visible for approximately 150 feet for recreational boaters on the river. The existing MEPCO transmission corridor is approximately 900 feet downstream from the point of crossing. The 100-foot wide generator lead line corridor should have a moderate visual impact on the immediate river crossing.

**Molunkus Stream**, another branch of the Mattawamkeag River, (36 miles from the Mattawamkeag River to the Each Branch headwaters) is rated as a ‘B’ river by the Maine Rivers Study for its Critical/Ecologic, Undeveloped and Anadromous Fishery resources. The Study determined that the scenic resources of the river were not unique or significant, i.e., they did not meet a minimum standard of significance. The AMC River Guide describes the scenery in this section of the river as ‘wild’, although it should be noted that it is actively managed commercial forestland and the river parallels Route 2 for most of its length. The Guide notes “Molunkus Stream rises in Thousand Acre Bog in Crystal just west of Patten and flows south through Sherman Mills and Macwahoc to the Mattawamkeag River just below Kingman. It is navigable from Sherman Mills, or with good water from Sherman Station. The upper part is best run with high to medium water, but much of the stream can be run at any time. It is entirely through woods, and no public campgrounds are available.”<sup>7</sup>

Molunkus Stream is 15-35’ in width at the point of crossing. The generator lead corridor has been aligned to cross the river at a reverse curve to minimize the amount of time that a person on the river would have contact with the generator lead corridor and the overhead conductors. The 115 kV structures will be located as far from the edge of the river as possible. Non-capable riparian species will be allowed to grow within the corridor for visual screening as well as for habitat. The generator lead line crossing will be visible for approximately 150 feet for recreational boaters on the river. The MEPCO transmission corridor is approximately 900 feet downstream from the point of crossing. The 100-foot wide generator lead line corridor should have a moderate visual impact on the immediate river crossing.

**Mattaseunk Stream** was not included in the Maine Rivers Study. The generator lead line corridor will be located approximately 500 feet downstream from the outlet to Mattaseunk Lake. There should be no leaf-on views of the generator lead line structures from the lake or Eastshore Road, due to the intervening vegetation and the alignment of the stream channel. See photographs of the site in Appendix A.

The 56-mile section of the **Penobscot River** between the Veazie Dam and Medway is rated as a ‘C’ river by the Maine Rivers Study for its Geologic/Hydrologic, Critical/Ecologic, Anadromous Fishery, and Canoe Touring resources. The Study determined that the scenic resources of this section of the river were not unique or significant, i.e., they did not meet a minimum standard of significance. The new 115 kV generator lead line should have a relatively minor visual impact on the view from the river, since the viewshed of the river at this point already contains another major transmission line, a hydroelectric dam, and commercial and residential development. A photosimulation of the proposed generator lead line corridor crossing the Penobscot River below the Mattaseunk Dam in Mattawamkeag is provided in Appendix B.

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

**2. What is the closest estimated distance to a similar activity?**

For approximately 33 miles the proposed generator lead line will be located adjacent to the MEPCO 345 kV transmission line. The generator lead line will also be located adjacent to the newly installed Line 56 115 kV transmission line for 5.25± miles at the southern end of the corridor.

**3. Are any of the resources checked in Question 1 used by the public during the time of year during which the activity will be visible?**  Yes  No

The rivers, streams, and trails are used throughout the year for a variety of recreation pursuits, primarily snowmobiling, fishing, picnicking, and boating.

## 5. AFFECTED POPULATION

There are three general groups of people who may be affected by the construction of the generator lead line. For the majority of its length, the proposed Maine GenLead generator lead line will be virtually invisible from public viewpoints, especially during the leaf-on seasons, due to its remote location and intervening topography.

### 5.1 Local Motorists

The primary viewing population is the year-round residents who live or work in this part of Penobscot and Aroostook County. The primary roads that are crossed by the new generator lead line are Route 2 in Macwahoc Plantation, Route 157 (Medway Road) in Mattawamkeag, and Route 116 in Chester. None of these roads have been designated as scenic byways by the Maine Department of Transportation.

The most significant road in terms of scenic value is Route 157, which parallels the Penobscot River and has dramatic views of the Mattaseunk Dam. The road is already crossed by an existing transmission line corridor, so the addition of the Maine GenLead generator lead line will appear as an incremental change to an already-industrialized area.

The majority of the road crossings are secondary town roads and gravel woods roads with very few nearby residences. In many locations travelers on these roads are already accustomed to crossing through the MEPCO transmission corridor. The visual impact to the motoring public should be minor.

Appendix A provides representative photographs of most of the road crossings.

### 5.2 Residents

There are a very limited number of private homes that will be affected by the construction of the generator lead line. Most of them are in remote locations and are already in proximity to the existing MEPCO transmission line. These include homes on:

- Dixie Road (one small home on the south side of the road, west of the MEPCO line). Approximately 150' of uncleared mixed vegetation will be left between the home and the edge of the generator lead line corridor.
- Route 157 on the east side of the Penobscot River (several homes both below and above the Mattaseunk dam, which already see the powerhouse and an existing transmission line).

- Pea Ridge Road (a single mobile home is located on the north side of the railroad tracks with a view of the existing Line 56 115 kV transmission line).

The Maine GenLead generator lead line has been rerouted away from the MEPCO transmission line in the vicinity of Aroostook Road to avoid a group of 6± homes. The selected location to cross Aroostook Road is several hundred feet away from the nearest dwelling.

The visual impact on residences along the generator lead line route should be minor.

### **5.3 Recreating Population**

The primary recreation uses that may be affected are snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and whitewater boating.

**Snowmobiling.** Interconnected Trail System (ITS) 110 is co-located for a section of the MEPCO transmission line on either side of Macwahoc. The proposed generator lead line should not have any impact on this existing facility. The line also crosses ITS 83 southwest of Linneus, which should not affect the snowmobile route.

**Hunting.** Hunters may find that the additional open land affords greater diversity of habitat and find transmission lines to be beneficial additions to the landscape.

**Fishing.** Visual impacts to the various streams and rivers that are crossed are confined to relatively narrow corridors that are generally very remote. While the visual impact at the point where the generator lead line crosses the water may be strong, people who fish will have many other opportunities both up and downstream to pursue their sport.

**Whitewater boaters.** Several of the rivers and streams that are crossed are used for whitewater canoeing / kayaking, primarily in high water conditions. The generator lead corridor has generally been located at bends in the stream channel to minimize the amount of time that boaters come into contact with the generator lead corridor and conductors. In many locations the river users also see other transmission lines, bridges, and nearby roads. The streams and rivers all pass through actively managed commercial forestland, which will influence the perception that recreational users of all types have about the character of the land.

## **6. VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

### **6.1 Landscape compatibility**

**Color.** The colors and materials to be used for the proposed structures are similar to the existing wooden structures that viewers are familiar with in this part of Maine. The new wood structures may initially be darker than the ones that have been installed for a few years, but the contrast will diminish with time as normal aging occurs.

**Form.** Single pole 115 kV structures are becoming more common throughout Maine (see photographs of the recently installed Line 56 transmission line at Pea Ridge Road in Appendix A.) These wooden structures are simpler in form than the H-frame transmission structures that are often used in similar situations.

Line. The generator lead line corridor is generally well-screened by intervening vegetation and topography throughout most of its length and is minimally visible. Due to the limited visibility of the generator lead line within the study area, there should be relatively minor contrasts in line.

Texture. The texture of the proposed 115 kV structures will be similar to the existing structures and should not cause a contrast in texture.

## **6.2 Scale contrast**

The proposed 115 kV structures will typically be 70'± in height, which is equivalent to the height of the tallest trees that line the generator lead corridor. This will result in a minor contrast in scale where the generator lead line is seen from public roads, rivers, or other public viewpoints.

## **6.3 Spatial dominance**

Due to its remote location and the screening provided by the surrounding vegetation, neither the generator lead structures nor the cleared corridor will dominate the landscape composition or the surrounding land forms, water bodies, or sky.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Based upon a review of the project, the proposed Maine GenLead 115 kV generator lead line between the Oakfield Wind Project Substation and the BHE Keene Road Substation will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic and aesthetic uses of scenic resources within the viewshed and will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the scenic character of the surrounding area. The visual impact assessment has demonstrated that the applicant has made adequate provision for fitting the generator lead line harmoniously into the existing natural environment and that the development will not adversely affect the scenic character in the municipalities that it traverses or the neighboring municipalities.



P1: Existing logging road near site of proposed substation in Oakfield.



P2: Gated access to a logging road near site of proposed substation.



P3: Newly regraded logging road near site of proposed substation.



P4: Characteristic landscape near site of proposed substation.



P5: Characteristic views of landscape in the vicinity of the angle point in the generator lead line corridor, east of the proposed substation.



P6: Near angle point east of substation.



P7: Typical vegetation and topography near the northern terminus of the generator lead line.



P8: Near northern terminus of the generator lead line.



P9: Existing MEPCO transmission line crossing Route 2A, northeast of the proposed generator lead line.



P10: View of existing MEPCO 345 kV transmission line from Route 2A.



P11: Occasional filtered views from Route 2A toward the MEPCO transmission line. The generator lead line would be on the north (east) side of the existing transmission line and barely visible from Route 2A.



P12: Typical view of vegetation patterns along Route 2A. The MEPCO transmission line is generally not visible due to intervening vegetation.



P13: View of MEPCO transmission line from Dixie Road. The generator lead line would be on the near side of the MEPCO line.



P14: Camp on south side of Dixie Road, adjacent to proposed generator lead line, is one of the few residential structures within the viewshed of the proposed corridor.



P15: Looking northeast down the existing MEPCO transmission line. The generator lead line will be located on the northeast side of the MEPCO line (to left in photo).



P16: View from Route 2A looking northwest to the existing MEPCO transmission line at Dixie Road. The proposed generator lead line would be located on the northeast side of the MEPCO line, on the far side of the existing transmission structures in photo.



P17: View of Wytopotlock Stream looking north from Route 2A bridge. The generator lead line would not be visible from this location.



P18: View of Wytopotlock Stream, looking at the south side of the Route 2A bridge.



P19: Eastern Road looking west under the existing MEPCO line. The proposed generator lead line would cross the road in the immediate foreground.



P20 : View of the existing MEPCO transmission line, looking northeast from Eastern Road. ITS 110 is co-located with the MEPCO line at this point and would not be affected by the construction of the generator lead line.



P21: View of Molunkus Stream, on west side of Route 2, at the point where the generator lead line would cross. The cleared corridor would be approximately 95' in width.



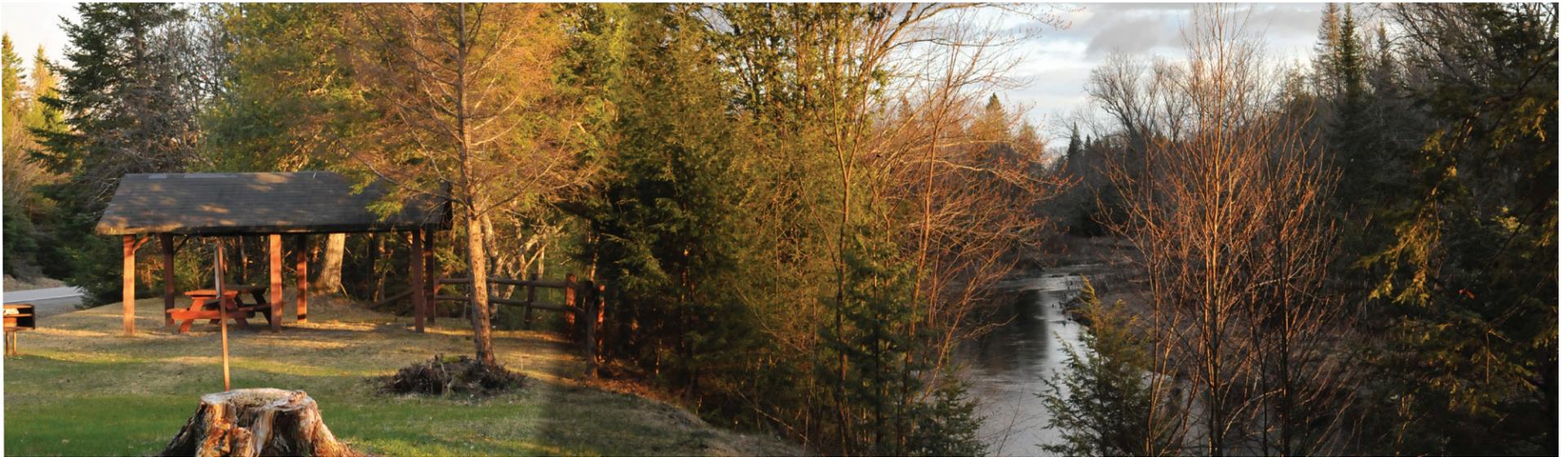
P22: At Molunkus Stream high water paddlers would see the generator lead line conductors for approximately 400' once they rounded the bend of the stream.



P23: View of the Route 2 crossing on the east side of Molunkus Stream, looking north.



P24: View of Molunkus Stream from Route 2 near the point where the generator lead line corridor would cross the stream.



P25: Route 2 rest area on Molunkus Stream, approximately 3,000' north of the generator lead line crossing. The 115 kV structures would not be visible from this viewpoint and should not have any visual impact.



P26: Looking west from Route 2 at the existing MEPCO transmission line. The proposed generator lead corridor would be 2000' to the north.



P27: View of Route 2 looking north under the existing MEPCO line.



P28: Looking northwest on Aroostook Road. The generator lead line corridor was aligned away from the MEPCO line in this area to avoid residential properties.



P29: Looking southeast on Aroostook Road.



P30: Looking east at the existing MEPCO transmission line from Mataseunk Lake Road. The generator lead line will be to the north (left) of photo separated by 95± feet of vegetation.



P31: Looking north where the generator lead line will intersect with Mattaseunk Lake Road.



P32: View from Eastshore Road on Mattaseunk Lake looking southeast at Mattaseunk Stream. The generator lead line corridor will be located approximately 500 feet from the road and should not be visible from the lake.



P33: Vegetated islands in Mattaseunk Stream will screen the view of the 115 kV structures from Mattaseunk Lake.



P34: View looking east from Eastshore Road on Mattaseunk Lake, an accessible, developed lake.



P35: View looking west from Eastshore Road on the Mattaseunk Stream bridge.



P36: Panoramic view of the Penobscot River from Route 157 below the Mattaseunk Dam in Mattawamkeag. The generator lead line will cross the river on the north (far) side of the existing MEPCO transmission line. See photosimulation in Appendix B.



P37: View looking northeast at the existing MEPCO line at point where it crosses Route 157. The generator lead line corridor would be located between the yellow industrial building and the MEPCO line. Approximately 50 feet of vegetation would be left to separate the two transmission lines.



P40: Looking west at the existing MEPCO transmission line as the Penobscot River crossing below the Mattaseunk Dam in Mattawamkeag. The generator lead line would cross the river on the north (right) side of the MEPCO line. See Photosimulation in Appendix B for the same view following installation of the generator lead line.



P43: Panoramic view of picnic area and the Penobscot River beyond. The generator lead line would add a second transmission corridor that would be visible from this location. See Photo-simulation in Appendix B.



P41: View of Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC picnic area below the Mattaseunk dam in Mattawamkeag.



P42: Picnic area includes a set of stairs to gain access to the Penobscot River below the dam



P44: View of the Penobscot River from Route 157, upstream from dam.



P45: Single family home on the east side of Route 156 upstream from dam. Most residences along the river will not have a direct view of the generator lead line corridor.



P46: Waterfront property on Route 156 immediately upstream from dam.



P47: View looking north on Butterfield Road in Woodville from the existing MEPCO corridor. The generator lead line would be on the west side of the MEPCO transmission line, in the immediate foreground in photo.



P48: View looking south on Butterfield Road toward the MEPCO transmission line.



P49: View looking south on Route 116. The existing MEPCO transmission line is visible near the horizon.



P50: Land use in the vicinity of the proposed generator lead line at the Route 116 crossing.



P51: View looking southwest at the intersection of Route 116, the recently installed Line 56, the Eastern Maine rail line, and the proposed generator lead line.



P52: View looking northeast from same viewpoint.



P53: View looking southwest from Pea Ridge Road at existing Line 56 115kV transmission line. The generator lead line corridor will be located on the northwest (right) side of the existing transmission line.



P54: Looking northeast from same location on Pea Ridge Road. The mobile home in photo is one of the few residences that will have a view of the proposed generator lead line corridor.



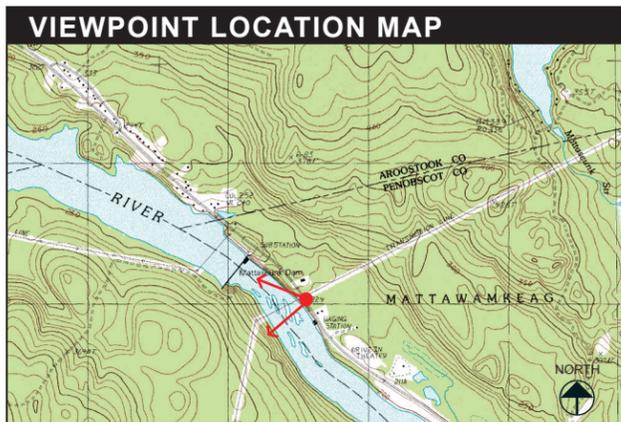
P55: View looking west of Keene Road substation and existing transmission line from cemetery on Route 116 in Chester. No major visible changes to the substation are anticipated as part of the construction of the generator lead line.



P56: View looking northwest from same location.



Existing view of the Penobscot River below the Mattaseunk Dam looking west from Mattawamkeag toward Woodville. The MEPCO 345 kV transmission line, directly overhead, is located in a 150± foot transmission corridor.



## Penobscot River, Mattawamkeag, ME

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Photosimulation of the proposed Maine GenLead, LLC generator lead line crossing the Penobscot River below the Mattaseunk Dam in Mattawamkeag and Woodville. The transmission corridor will be 100 feet in width and separated from the MEPCO transmission line by a 50 foot buffer.

<b>VIEWPOINT LOCATION MAP</b>			
	<h2>Penobscot River, Mattawamkeag, ME</h2>	<h2>Maine GenLead, LLC</h2>	 <p>Terrence J. DeWan &amp; Associates                  Landscape Architects &amp; Planners                  121 West Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096                  telephone: 207.846.0757 fax: 207.846.0675</p>
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