Appendix E describes and illustrates the experience of hiking on the Appalachian Trail (AT) northbound from the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain to (Moxie) Bald Mountain. These two mountains are nearly equidistant from the proposed Project with both summits nearly 3+/− miles from the existing corridor. There are approximately 14.5 miles of the AT located within the 5 mile radius of the proposed Project. This document is based on photographic records and observations from several field visits, as well as mapping and visual analysis using ArcGIS, Google Earth, and 3D Studio Max. Photos 1-18 are provided to illustrate the character and context of the trail.

The field analysis identified 8 elevated viewpoints (VP1-4 & VP8-11) and 3 corridor crossing viewpoints (VP5-7) located within 5 miles of the project, on or adjacent to the AT. Photosimulations were prepared from 3 of the viewpoints:

- Photosimulation A: Pleasant Pond Mountain Summit (VP2)
- Photosimulation B: Troutdale Road Crossing (VP6)
- Photosimulation C: Bald Mountain Summit (VP9)
Google Earth Aerial - Troutdale Road to Pleasant Pond Mountain

There is a filtered 180 degree view towards the Project and Moxie Pond on Middle Mountain (VP3), just south of Pleasant Pond Mountain. The existing transmission line is difficult to distinguish from this point.

Summit (VP1)
The summit is 3.3 miles from the Project and offers 180+ degree views north to east of Moxie Pond. Mount Kineo and Mount Katahdin are visible along with many other peaks. The Bingham Wind Project is partially visible. The existing 115kV transmission line is difficult to distinguish from the summit.

About 250 feet south of the actual summit, there is another vista (VP2), that has less tree line vegetation obstructing views and provides a 270 degree sweeping view from north to south. Nearly all of the Bingham Wind Project is visible from here at a distance of 13 miles away. Similar to the summit, the existing transmission line is difficult to see.

Vegetation at the summit is 8-15 foot evergreen vegetation. As a hiker descends the mountain below tree line, the vegetation progressively gets taller and averages 40 feet in height. There are several old growth stands along the trail that are 60+ feet in height as well.

Troutdale Road
The trail from the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain to Troutdale Road is approximately 4.7 miles. The AT crosses the existing transmission line two times in this area: Once, shortly before reaching Troutdale Road (VP5), where 12+ existing structures are visible, and a second time on Troutdale Road by Joes Hole (VP6), where 6-8 existing structures are visible. Aerial images show camps nearby and one close to the existing transmission line. The trail runs south along the road for approximately 900 feet and then diverges towards Baker Stream and Bald Mountain.
VIEWPOINT 1 - PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

VP1.A: A portion of a panoramic view looking northwest to northeast from the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain. The closest portion of the proposed 150’ wide cleared HVDC Corridor will be visible at a distance of 5.1 miles looking in this direction. See photosimulation from VP2. Photograph taken on 6/2/2017 at 9:13am

Photo 1: View looking northwest on the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain illustrates the typical summit vegetation of spruce/fir forest with intermittent areas of exposed ledge outcropping. Open or minimally filtered views are possible from approximately 900 feet along the AT as it passes over the summit looking northwest to the southeast.
VIEWPOINT 1 - PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

VP1.B: A continuation of the panoramic view looking northeast to southeast from the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain. The closest structures in the co-located HVDC Corridor will be 3.0 miles away on the western shore of Moxie Pond. Photograph taken on 6/2/2017 at 9:13am

Photo 2: Typical trail character. Most of the trail between Troutdale Road and the summit passes through Spruce/Fir forest and Hemlock stands.

Photo 3: Filtered view looking east from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward Bald Mountain. The proposed Project will be screened by foreground vegetation.

Appendix E: Appalachian Trail
Proposed Conditions: Panoramic view looking north to northeast from a clearing 230' east of the summit on Pleasant Pond Mountain on the Appalachian Trail in The Forks Plt. toward the proposed HVDC and co-located HVDC transmission lines. Mosquito Mountain and Moxie Pond are visible in the center and right of the image. This image was selected to photosimulate because it offered a wider view than the marked summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain. The closest visible structure in the proposed HVDC corridor will be 3 miles from this viewpoint.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain.
VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed HVDC transmission line. The proposed corridor will be 5.5 to 7.1 miles from this location.
VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed HVDC transmission line. The proposed corridor will be 5.5 to 7.1 miles from this location. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain. Mosquito Mountain is visible on the left side of the image.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Up to two proposed structures and conductors will be visible at distances of 2.9 - 4.0 miles from this viewpoint.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking north from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Up to two proposed structures and conductors will be visible at distances of 2.9 - 4.0 miles from this viewpoint.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain. Bald Mountain - North Peak is visible on the right side of the image.
Appendix E: Appalachian Trail

VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. One proposed structure and conductors will be visible at a distance of 3.5 miles from this viewpoint.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. One proposed structure and conductors will be visible at a distance of 3.5 miles from this viewpoint.
Proposed Conditions: Continued panoramic view looking northeast to southeast from a clearing 230' east of the summit on Pleasant Pond Mountain on the Appalachian Trail in The Forks Plt. toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Bald Mountain and Moxie Pond are visible in the center of the image. The closest visible structure in the proposed HVDC corridor will be 3.2 miles from this viewpoint.
**Viewpoint 2 Photosimulation A: Pleasant Pond Mountain, The Forks Plt**

**Existing Conditions:** Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain. The North Peak of Bald Mountain is visible to the right side of the image. Moxie Pond is visible across the entire image.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. One proposed structure and conductors will be visible at a distance of 3.2 miles from this viewpoint.
VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northeast from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. One proposed structure and conductors will be visible at a distance of 3.2 miles from this viewpoint.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking east from Pleasant Pond Mountain. Baker Pond is visible in the center of the image. The Bingham Wind project is visible 13 miles +/- to the southwest (across entire horizon).
VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

**Proposed Conditions:** Normal view looking east from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Up to 12 proposed structures and conductors will be visible at distances of 4.5 - 6.5 miles from this viewpoint.
VIEWPOINT 2 PHOTOSIMULATION A: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

Highlighted Location of Proposed Co-Located HVDC Corridor

**Proposed Conditions:** Normal view looking east from Pleasant Pond Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Up to 12 proposed structures and conductors will be visible at distances of 4.5 - 6.5 miles from this viewpoint. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
VIEWPOINT 3: PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, The Forks Plt

VP3: A panoramic view from Middle Mountain, a viewpoint approximately 0.6 miles south of the summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain looking north to northeast. The closest structures within the co-located HVDC Corridor will be 2.7 miles away. Photograph taken on 6/2/2017 at 8:37am

Photo 4: View looking northwest from the trail toward filtered views of Pleasant Pond Mountain (on left in image) and Mosquito Mountain (on right in image). The Project will not be visible from this location due to the intervening vegetation. (See map on next page for photo location.)
VIEWPOINT 4 - PLEASANT POND MOUNTAIN, Caratunk

VP4: View looking southwest from the trail toward the Bigelow Mountain Range. The Project will not be visible from this viewpoint.
Photograph taken on 6/2/2017 at 7:34am

Photo 5: Typical trail character between VP 4 and Troutdale Road.

Photo 6: Typical trail character between VP 4 and Troutdale Road.
VIEWPOINT 5: EXISTING CORRIDOR CROSSING, Bald Mountain Twp

VP5.A: Panoramic view looking northwest at the intersection of the Appalachian Trail and the existing transmission line corridor. The existing 150’ wide 115 kV transmission line clearing will be widened by 75’ on the western side (to left of clearing in image above) to accommodate the new HVDC transmission line corridor. Two self weathering steel HVDC structures will be visible from this viewpoint. Photographs taken on 6/2/2017 at 11:40 am

VP5.B: Panoramic view looking southeast towards Joes Hole (Moxie Pond) at the intersection of the Appalachian Trail and the existing transmission line corridor. The existing 150’ wide transmission line clearing will be widened by 75’ on the western side (to right of clearing in image above) to accommodate the new HVDC transmission line corridor. Portions of six self weathering steel HVDC structures will be visible from this viewpoint. See Photosimulation B.
Proposed Conditions: Panoramic view looking from southeast to south on Troutdale Road looking toward Joes Hole (Moxie Pond) in Bald Mountain TWP toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. The Appalachian Trail is located on Troutdale Road for approximately 1,000' including this section where the transmission corridor crosses. The existing 150' wide transmission line clearing will be widened by 75' on the western side to accommodate the new HVDC transmission line corridor. Portions of six HVDC structures will be visible from this viewpoint.
VIEWPOINT 6 PHOTOSIMULATION B: TROUTDALE ROAD, Bald Mountain Twp

Existing Conditions: Normal view looking south on Troutdale Road toward the existing transmission line crossing of Joes Hole /Moxie Pond.
VIEWPOINT 6 PHOTOSIMULATION B: TROUTDALE ROAD, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking south on Troutdale Road looking toward Joes Hole toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. The existing 150’ wide transmission line clearing will be widened by 75’ on the western side to accommodate the new HVDC transmission line corridor. Portions of six HVDC structures will be visible from this viewpoint.
Photo 7: View looking south toward Baker Stream on Troutdale Road just past the existing transmission line crossing. The Appalachian Trail is located on Troutdale Road for approximately 900 feet, merging north of the existing transmission line crossing and diverging east toward the Baker Stream crossing.

Photo 8: A small trail parking area for 3-4 vehicles is located just across the road from the Baker Stream crossing. The parking area serves day hikers and overnight hikers.

Photo 9: A sign marks where the AT splits from Troutdale Road toward Baker Stream and the trail to Bald Mountain.

Photo 10: Hikers must carefully ford the stream before advancing to Bald Mountain. This can be difficult in high water.
Appendix E: Appalachian Trail

TROUTDALE ROAD TO BALD MOUNTAIN

**North Peak Trail**

The North Peak Trail is a side trail off of the AT that is encountered shortly after descending northbound off of the summit of Bald Mountain. The 0.7 mile trail to the North Peak summit is marked by carins and blazed in blue. The summit has less vegetation than the Bald Mountain summit, and has 270 degree views with Bald Mountain being the only foreground view obstruction. Nearly all elements visible from Bald are also visible at North Peak including the transmission line in the north of Moxie Pond, wind projects, and many high peaks. Bald Mountain Pond is also partially visible from North Peak.

**Summit**

The summit is located 3.0 miles from the Project. The summit landscape consists of open exposed ledge areas with patches of 5-10 foot vegetation. This open landscape character provides a variety of different vantage points. The surveyed summit has a 360 degree view of the surrounding area. The Bigelow Range, Mount Katahdin, and Coburn Mountain are some of the many peaks visible as well as the northern half of Moxie Pond. There are lower unobstructed views of Moxie Pond from locations west of the summit (VP8).

The existing transmission corridor is most visible along the northern end of Moxie Pond, but the closest portions are screened by vegetation. Both Bingham and Kibby wind projects are visible from most points on the summit.

**Bald Mountain Brook Lean-To**

The Bald Mountain Brook Lean-To is halfway between Troutdale Road and the summit of Bald Mountain. The area includes a Lean-to structure as well as camp/tent sites. It is a heavily wooded area with 40+ foot vegetation heights and no possible views of the Project. The relatively flat trail begins to become gradually steeper from the area of the Lean-to and on to the summit. The vegetation also gradually becomes shorter (10-20' foot) when making the ascent to the summit. The trail is well marked and easy to follow.

The trail parallels the existing transmission line corridor, approximately 75 feet from the clearing until the trail crosses (VP7) at a mostly perpendicular angle. There are 12+ existing transmission line structures visible from the crossing.
VIEWPOINT 7: APPALACHIAN TRAIL CROSSING, Bald Mountain Twp

VP7.A: A panoramic view looking northwest towards Joes Hole (Moxie Pond) at the intersection of the AT and the existing transmission line corridor. The existing 150' wide transmission line clearing will be widened by 75' on the western side (to right of clearing in image above) to accommodate the co-located HVDC transmission line corridor. There will be 3-4 structures visible in the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line corridor from this viewpoint.

VP7.B: A panoramic view looking southeast toward Joes Hole (Moxie Pond) at the intersection of the AT and the existing transmission line corridor. There will be 2-3 structures visible in the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line corridor from this viewpoint.

Photographs taken on 6/7/2017 at 1:34am
Photo 11: The Bald Mountain Brook Lean-To is located in a heavily wooded area with 40+ foot vegetation heights and no possible views of the Project.

Photo 12: The campsite and tent site area is nearby the Lean-To.

Photo 13: Trail character between Bald Mountain Brook Lean-To and the summit of Bald Mountain.

Photo 14: Trail character between Bald Mountain Brook Lean-To and the summit of Bald Mountain.

Photo 15: A sign directs hikers towards the Lean-To.
VIEWPOINT 8: NEAR BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

VP8.A: A portion of a panoramic view looking south to southwest from a point on the Appalachian Trail, 375 feet west of the summit of Bald Mountain. This area is the first point on the trail with sweeping views of Moxie Pond (below), Moxie Mountain, and the surrounding area. Bald Mountain is visible in the distance. Large open areas of exposed ledge outcropping and small intermittent patches of spruce/fir forest are characteristic of the landscape between this viewpoint and the summit of Bald Mountain. The closest proposed structures will be visible in the co-located HVDC transmission line at a distance of 2.8 miles away.

VP8.B: A continuation of a panoramic view looking southwest to northwest approaching the summit from a point on the AT, 375 feet west of the summit. In addition to Moxie Pond, open views of Pleasant Pond Mountain (left side of the image), and Mosquito Mountain (right side of the image), are visible from this point. The closest proposed structures will be visible in the co-located HVDC transmission line at a distance of 2.8 miles.
Proposed Conditions: Panoramic view looking from south to west from the summit of Bald Mountain on the Appalachian Trail in Bald Mountain TWP toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Moxie Mountain is visible on the right side of the image with Baker Pond visible below.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking south from the summit of Bald Mountain.
VIEWPOINT 9 PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain TWP

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking south from the summit of Bald Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. The corridor will be partially visible at a distance of 7.5 miles.
VIEWPOINT 9 PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain TWP

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking south from the summit of Bald Mountain toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. The corridor will be partially visible at a distance of 7.5 miles. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Existing Conditions: Normal view looking southwest from the summit of Bald Mountain. Moxie Mountain is visible in center of image with Baker Pond visible below.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking southwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The corridor will be partially visible at a distance of 2.8 miles.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking Northwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The corridor will be partially visible at a distance of 2.8 miles. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
**Proposed Conditions:** Panoramic view looking from southwest to northwest from the summit of Bald Mountain on the Appalachian Trail in Bald Mountain TWP toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Pleasant Pond Mountain is visible on the left side of the image. Mosquito Mountain and Moxie Pond are visible on the right side of the image.
 Existing Conditions: Normal view looking southwest from the summit of Bald Mountain in Bald Mountain Twp toward the proposed co-located HVDC transmission line. Pleasant Pond Mountain is visible on right side of image above.
Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking southwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The co-located HVDC corridor will be visible at a distance of 3.0 miles.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking southwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The co-located HVDC corridor will be visible at a distance of 3.0 miles. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking west from the summit of Bald Mountain. Pleasant Pond Mountain is visible on left side in image above and Moxie Pond below.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking west from Bald Mountain Summit. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor will be partially visible on the far side of Moxie Pond at a distance of 3.1 miles.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking west from Bald Mountain Summit. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor will be partially visible on the far side of Moxie Pond at a distance of 3.1 miles. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
Existing Conditions: Normal view looking northwest from the summit of Bald Mountain. Mosquito Mountain is visible in the center of the image.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The proposed co-located corridor will be visible on the far side of Moxie Pond at a distance of 3.4 miles. The widened corridor will be visible where the existing corridor is visible.
PHOTOSIMULATION C: BALD MOUNTAIN SUMMIT, Bald Mountain Twp

Proposed Conditions: Normal view looking northwest from Bald Mountain Summit. The proposed co-located corridor will be visible on the far side of Moxie Pond at a distance of 3.4 miles. The widened corridor will be visible where the existing corridor is visible. The proposed co-located HVDC corridor location has been highlighted for reference.
VIEWPOINT 10: BALD MOUNTAIN POND VIEW, Bald Mountain Twp

VP10: A panoramic view looking east to southeast towards Bald Mountain Pond. This view is located at the start of the descent northbound off of Bald Mountain, and faces in the opposite direction of the proposed Project. There will be no Project views from this location.

Photo 16: View looking southeast next to Viewpoint 8. The Bingham Wind Project is visible through an opening in the low vegetation.
VIEWPOINT 11: BALD MOUNTAIN NORTH PEAK, Bald Mountain Twp

VP11: A panoramic view looking northwest to southwest from North Peak. The summit has less vegetation than the Bald Mountain summit, and has 270 degree views with Bald Mountain being the only foreground view obstruction. Nearly all elements visible from Bald are also visible at North Peak. Moxie Pond, Pleasant Pond Mountain, and Mosquito Mountain are some of the closest visible elements in this view. The proposed co-located HVDC transmission line will be visible from this location at 3.5 miles.

Photo 17: View looking north at North Peak. The 0.7 mile trail to the North Peak is blazed in blue and marked by carins.

Photo 18: View looking southeast from the North Peak. Bald Mountain is visible on the right and a small portion of Bald Mountain Pond is visible on the left. The Bingham Wind Project is visible in the distance in the center of the image.