CMP objects to TU’s proposal, to the extent it would allow members of TU’s Maine Council to speak during the public comment sessions. Because TU has chosen to intervene in this proceeding, it is subject to the usual prohibition on intervenors’ officers, directors, and board members speaking during the public comment sessions. It is clear from Mr. Reardon’s letter that the Maine Council (which is the entity that voted to intervene, according to Mr. Reardon) serves as the Board of Directors for TU’s Maine chapters. Thus, members of the Maine Council should not be allowed to avoid the requirements that apply to intervenors, give TU two bites at the apple, and avoid the time constraints imposed on the parties. This is true regardless of whether members of the Maine Council are compensated or work as volunteers. TU is not the only intervenor with a sizeable board of directors, which is the function of their Maine Council. The Lewiston/Auburn Metro Chamber Board, for example, exceeds that of TU’s Maine Council, and the Maine Chamber board has over 80 members. CMP would not object, of course, to other, “regular” TU members speaking on their own behalf during the public comment session, as long as those members do not provide evidence that should have been provided by TU (or another Group 4 organization) as part of its case in chief.
Attached, please find a letter from Trout Unlimited regarding TU’s organizational structure and participation of our volunteers at the Public Hearings. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeff

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