STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY BUREAU OF PARKS AND LANDS 22 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL COMMISSIONER

May 5, 2025

Melanie Loyzim Commissioner, Maine Department of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station 30 Blossom Lane Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Conservation Requirements related to the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") transmission line – Preliminary Consent of Holder

Dear Commissioner Loyzim,

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands ("the Bureau"), provides its preliminary consent, as set forth below, to hold a conservation easement that NECEC will submit to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection as part of NECEC's Conservation Plan, which Conservation Plan is required by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection ("the DEP") Order dated May 11, 2020, and the Maine Board of Environmental Protection Order dated July 21, 2022 (collectively, "Orders").

More specifically, the Bureau and Weyerhaeuser, Inc. recently negotiated the terms of a perpetual conservation easement that, assuming Bureau approval of the Exhibits and final DEP approval of NECEC's Conservation Plan, the Bureau is prepared to hold on approximately 50,233 acres owned by Weyerhaeuser. The negotiated conservation easement is designed to comply with the Orders' relevant terms and be administratively feasible for the Bureau to hold. If the DEP's regulatory process results in significant changes to the easement terms that the Bureau and Weyerhaeuser have negotiated, the Bureau will need to review such changes before agreeing to hold such modified conservation easement.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Cutko

Director

ANDREW R. CUTKO, DIRECTOR
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cc: Amanda Beal, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Rob Wood, Director of Land and Water Bureau, Department of Environmental Protection Nate Webb, Director of the Wildlife Division, Dpt. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Molly Docherty, Director, Maine Natural Areas Program
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