



June 13, 2025

Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Commissioner Loyzim:

On behalf of the Maine Renewable Energy Association (MREA), I am writing to express our strong support for NECEC Transmission LLC's revised Conservation Plan.

MREA is a nonprofit organization representing renewable energy producers, suppliers, and supporters across Maine. Our members include developers and generators of wind, solar, hydropower, biomass, and tidal energy, as well as the engineers, electricians, contractors, and other professionals who support these projects.

Our members contribute meaningfully to Maine's economy and play a vital role in advancing the state's climate and energy goals. Like the NECEC transmission line, each of their projects undergoes extensive permitting at the state, federal, and local levels—including rigorous environmental review by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). A stable and predictable permitting environment is essential to ensuring Maine remains a welcoming place for long-term investment in renewable energy and infrastructure.

The requirement to conserve 50,000 acres to promote habitat connectivity and preserve mature forest areas is unprecedented. While MREA is cautious that similar permitting requirements may become prohibitively difficult to achieve, we do strongly support the approval of the revised Conservation Plan. The Bureau of Public Lands has already expressed its belief that the Plan meets the relevant terms of the DEP and Board of Environmental Protection (BEP) orders. We agree, and respectfully urge the Department to approve the Plan.

Sincerely,

Eliza Donoghue, Esq.
Executive Director

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