

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY)
NEW ENGLAND CLEAN ENERGY CONNECT)) PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE
L-27625-26-A-N)
L-27625-TB-B-N)
L-27625-2C-C-N)
L-27625-VP-D-N)
L-27625-IW-E-N)

PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

Petitioners West Forks Plantation, Town of Caratunk, Kennebec River Anglers, Maine Guide Service, LLC, Hawks Nest Lodge, Ed Buzzell, Kathy Barkley, Kim Lyman, Noah Hale, Eric Sherman, Matt Wagner, Mike Pilsbury, Mandy Farrar and Carrie Carpenter, (“Petitioners”)¹, by and through their attorneys, Murray Plumb & Murray, file this Petition for Leave to Intervene at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection’s (“DEP” or “Department”) October 19, 2021 License Suspension proceeding and hearing pursuant to Chapter 3, Rule 11 and in accordance with the Department’s September 2, 2021 Notice of Public Hearing.

As supported by the attached original petitions to intervene in the original license application proceeding, each Petitioner is specifically affected by this project. They each and all continue to be uniquely affected because they each and all are located within Segment 1 – the area in which the public land leases were invalidated by Superior Court Order, Docket No.

¹ The Petitioners are individuals, businesses and two municipal entities who agreed to be combined during the underlying license application proceeding to aid in the efficiency of the process. For that reason they are seeking this petition in a combined group but remain individual intervenors.

BCDWB-CV-20-29. Moreover, all are parties to the pending appeals and as such shall be directly impacted by the outcome of the License Suspension proceeding. All shall continue to be represented by below signed counsel who will be present and able to participate throughout.

Therefore, each of the Petitioners respectfully request this combined Petition to Intervene be granted.

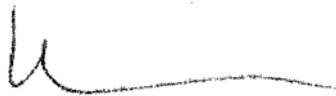
Respectfully Submitted,

West Forks Plantation, Town of Caratunk,
Kennebec River Anglers, Maine Guide Service,
LLC, Hawks Nest Lodge, Ed Buzzell, Kathy
Barkley, Kim Lyman, Noah Hale, Eric Sherman,
Matt Wagner, Mike Pilsbury, Mandy Farrar and
Carrie Carpenter

By their attorneys,

Murray Plumb & Murray

Dated: September 13, 2021



Elizabeth A. Boepple, Esq. (Me. Bar No. 004422)
Murray Plumb & Murray
75 Pearl Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207)523-8215
boepple@mpmlaw.com

Beyer, Jim R

From: ashli goodenow <ashli.goodenow@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:00 PM
To: DEP, NECEC
Cc: ashli goodenow
Subject: Petition for Leave to Intervene: CMP Transmission Project (W. Forks)

To Whom this may concern:

Attn: Jim Beyer

I am writing this petition for leave to intervene on behalf of the West Forks Plantation, as a town that will be directly impacted by the development of the CMP Transmission Project.

The concerns of the West Forks Plantation are relative to economic and environmental development of the Powerline corridor through West Forks and crossing the Kennebec gorge.

Please accept this as our letter to intervene and participate in the hearings.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

West Forks, Maine

Ashli Coleman
3rd Assessor, West Forks
Maine

207-841-9484
Ashli.goodenow@gmail.com

Town of Caratunk

Office of Selectmen

P O B o x 1 8 0 C a r a t u n k , M a i n e 0 4 9 2 5

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c a r a t u n k s e l e c t m e n @ m y f a i r p o i n t . n e t

Jim Beyer
Bureau of Land Resources
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
106 Hogan Rd, Suite 6
Bangor, Maine 04401

July 18, 2018

Re: Petition to intervene in CMP's Application for Site Location of Development Act permit and Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") from Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and Related Network Upgrades

No. L-27625-26-A-N

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Please find this written letter, emailed and postal mailed, as a **petition for intervention** in Central Maine Power Company's application for their New England Clean Energy Connect project. The Town of Caratunk is within the project boundaries and is, therefore, directly and indirectly affected.

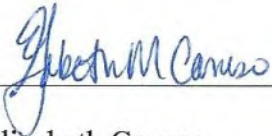
On March 21, 2018, a CMP representative pitched a brief, overview presentation to the Caratunk Selectmen regarding this project. The representative was looking for a letter of support for their application. Later that week, Caratunk sent in a general letter of support. However, since that time, much information has been brought to light. The Selectmen share great concerns for the welfare of Caratunk residents as well as the State of Maine should this project be brought to fruition.

1. The Town of Caratunk has had no representation in this mitigation proceedings. The Town of Caratunk wants to participate and be represented in permitting decisions for this application because the Town is within project boundaries.
2. The Town of Caratunk has not been contacted or asked to be on the directing board of the LLC handling the mitigation funds.
3. Should this project go forth as stated, Maine energy would be locked up and prevented from engaging in any future renewable energy generation projects. Caratunk has already twice supported NextEra for a solar farm within its boundaries. One such solar project lost in direct competition to this NECEC. The valuation benefit from CMP's additional transmission lines does not even compare to a large solar project in Caratunk. Caratunk is against the NECEC project if it prevents future renewable energy opportunities that provide for a huge tax benefit to all landowners and significantly increase the Caratunk valuation. Therefore, Caratunk sees this project as reducing its tax revenue.
4. This project is forcing 1000' of transmission lines across a Scenic and Wild River, the Kennebec River, where Caratunk residents make their livelihoods in the whitewater rafting and fishing tourism industry. This is a direct detriment to Caratunk residents and businesses.

5. This project is not benefiting the Maine ratepayer with lower rates or cleaner energy. In fact, it may increase greenhouse gas emissions. The Town of Caratunk and its citizens have an interest in lower energy costs and clean energy sources.
6. This project is not financially beneficial to the Maine economy or its residents.
7. Independent PUC consultants have found that CMP's project application boasts inflated economic and financial benefits.
8. Green and environmental agencies as well as the Maine Legislature's Committee of Environmental and Natural Resources and the Maine Legislature's Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology have stated concerns on this project.

We see this project as benefiting Hydro-Quebec and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the expense of Caratunk and State of Maine. This should not be so. If granted intervenor status, we affirm that we are able to participate in the proceedings in good faith with Elizabeth Caruso as the spokesperson for the Town of Caratunk. Thank you for the opportunity to intervene and to provide comments to the DEP hearings, etc.

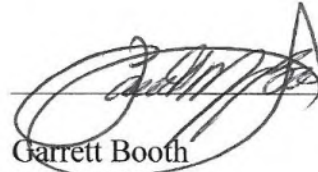
Sincerely,



Elizabeth Caruso
First Selectman



Neil Katz
Second Selectman



Garrett Booth
Third Selectman

Beyer, Jim R

From: info@kennebecriverangler.com
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 4:02 PM
To: DEP, NECEC
Cc: Allaboutangling@yahoo.com
Subject: Petition to Intervene

On behalf of Kennebec River Angler, KRA, I would like to file to intervene regarding CMP's proposed power line project, NECEC. Specifically we feel more environmental studies should be done in regards to how the project affects native brook trout habitat within the watershed. We would also like to see data regarding the economic impact of having a visible power corridor within the Upper Kennebec River gorge will have on local businesses, namely the rafting and fishing businesses that operate in the gorge.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Russell
Kennebec River Angler
PO Box 59
Caratunk, ME 04925
207-672-3408

Maine Guide Service, LLC
Greg Caruso, Master Maine Guide
81 West Shore Rd., PO Box 81
Caratunk, ME 04925
207.672.3627
207.858.3627
gcaruso@myfairpoint.net

Jim Beyer
Bureau of Land Resources
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
106 Hogan Rd, Suite 6
Bangor, Maine 04401

July 19, 2018

Re: Petition to intervene in CMP's Application for Site Location of Development Act permit and Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") from Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and Related Network Upgrades

No. L-27625-26-A-N

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Please find this written letter, emailed and postal mailed, as a **petition for intervention** in Central Maine Power Company's application for their New England Clean Energy Connect project. Maine Guide Service, LLC, operating on the Kennebec River and in The Forks, W Forks and Caratunk, is within the project boundaries and is, therefore, directly and indirectly affected.

On March 21, 2018, I was present while a CMP representative pitched a brief, overview presentation to the Caratunk Selectmen regarding this project. However, since that time, much information has been brought to light. I have grave concerns for the welfare of my fishing, hunting, rafting business as well as being a citizen of the Town of Caratunk and the State of Maine should this project be brought to fruition.

1. The mitigation proceedings for the last two years have been secretive and not representative of all area businesses and residents. The mitigation has been clearly swayed to benefit the few companies that are in the MOU, Western mountains and Rivers Corporation LLC.
2. As a business owner within the project boundaries, I operate as a fishing guide on the Kennebec, ferry Appalachian Trail hikers across the Kennebec, guide hunting, snowmobiling, and ATV tours in The Forks Area.
3. This project is forcing 1000' of transmission lines across a Scenic and Wild River, the Kennebec River, where I make my livelihood in the whitewater rafting and fishing tourism industry. This is a direct detriment to my business and my family. I am interested and willing to participate and be represented in permitting decisions for this application.
4. I have asked CMP to move the project's river crossing to a less obtrusive and view-obstructing location such as at the dam or over the narrow gorge in order to preserve the "Wild and Scenic" character of our trips.

5. Should this project go forth as stated, Maine energy would be locked up and prevented from engaging in any future solar or offshore wind projects. The town I live in, Caratunk, has already twice supported NextEra for a solar farm within its boundaries. One such solar project lost in direct competition to this NECEC. The valuation benefit from CMP's additional transmission lines does not even compare to a large solar project in Caratunk. I am opposed to the NECEC project if it prevents future renewable energy opportunities that provide for a huge tax benefit to Caratunk landowners and significantly increase the Caratunk valuation.
6. This project is not benefiting the Maine ratepayer with lower rates or cleaner energy. In fact, it may increase greenhouse gas emissions. I have an interest in lower energy costs and clean energy sources.
7. This project is not financially beneficial to the Maine economy or its residents.
8. Independent PUC consultants have found that CMP's project application boasts inflated economic and financial benefits.
9. Green and environmental agencies as well as the Maine Legislature's Committee of Environmental and Natural Resources and the Maine Legislature's Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology have stated concerns on this project.

As it is proposed, I cannot see supporting the NECEC. I see this project as benefiting Hydro-Quebec and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the expense of my livelihood and the State of Maine. This should not be so. If granted intervenor status, I affirm that I am able to participate in the proceedings in good faith as the spokesperson for the Maine Guide Service, LLC. Thank you for the opportunity to intervene and to provide comments to the DEP hearings, etc.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Caruso
Master Maine Guide
Maine Guide Service, LLC

From: Hawk's Nest Lodge
Sarah and Peter Dostie West Forks, Me
7/18/2018

This letter of intervention is in reference to the new AVANGRID (CMP) transmission line corridor that is planned to be built over Coburn and Johnson Mountains. The corridor is in the view shed of our National Scenic Byway Rt. 201, through the full length of the West Forks, across the DOC and Trout Unlimited Cold Stream water shed, and across the Kennebec River Gorge in the West Forks in Somerset County.

The Hawk's Nest Lodge is concerned about the adverse economic impact created by the CMP project. The Hawk's Nest is highly dependent on the outdoor recreational tourist industry. In 2017 the Hawk's Nest had 15,890 visitors and on average employs 9-18 full and part time people in the area. Snowmobiling, ATV-ing, rafting, and kayaking, along with visitors to our Nat' scenic byway make up the bulk of the visitors.

It is our understanding that up to two years ago CMP contacted a single whitewater rafting outfitter in the Forks, which is a separate town not located in the Kennebec Gorge and began a mitigation process with an outside special interest group, the Western Mountains and Rivers Corp (WMRC) that led to a 22 million dollar Memorandum of Understanding. It appears the only host community in Maine to the new transmission line corridor, the **West Forks**, apparently was left out of that process. Both CMP and WMRC admitted this in an open public meeting in the West Forks after nearly two years.

Several businesses and organizations including the local ATV club, Snowmobile club, local fishing outfitters who make a living taking clients through the Kennebec River Gorge as well as the rest of the majority of whitewater rafting outfitters, town assessors, local paddlers, and basically everyone from the local area have been told they couldn't be part of the mitigation "or we would never get anything done", according to CMP and WMRC. It seems Trout Unlimited was also left out even though they were instrumental in the purchase of 8,000 acres of the Cold Stream watershed, one of the most important and fragile spawning habitats on the Kennebec for Maine wild brook trout. A good portion of that watershed is in the West Forks. The transmission line corridor passes through or directly over six miles of that watershed.

It seems that an honest and open dialog between the West Forks and CMP was simply not going to happen. From the perspective of residents and businesses in the West Forks as well as most outfitters, (both rafting and fishing), paddlers and their clubs, there is vehement opposition to high tension wires with 18 giant beach balls attached as guards for aircraft hanging over the Kennebec River Gorge. These are likely only the first of the transmission lines as the corridor is being built to include room for the future lines.. The profitable portion of the whitewater rafting industry is down to 12 weeks, yet, the season for private boating and fishing, is up to six months. Neither private boaters nor their representatives were not contacted. The recreation and tourism based economy and life style are 24/7/365 in the West Forks. A private outside special interest group dictating our future in the West Forks is out of the question when it comes to decisions of life changing impacts such as this.

In reference to the adverse environmental and view shed impacts of the Coburn Mountain area, Coburn Mt. is the highest peak between Mt. Katahdin, and the Sugarloaf/Bigelow Mt. area, with a

distance of nearly one hundred miles between. From the DOC observation tower on Coburn's peak the 360 degree view s from Canada to Katahdin, to Moosehead lake, the entire West Forks and well beyond are spectacular as is looking back at the mountain from anywhere in that view shed. Those views would also encompass miles of the transmission line corridor that come within a few hundred yards of Coburn's 3,718 ft. peak.

Coburn Mt. and ITS 89 are among the most visited destinations for snowmobiling in Maine with conservatively 10,000 snowmobilers in winter months, and a short hike for ATVers, and hikers. ITS 89 runs over the north shoulder of Coburn with open views from the Parlin Pond area throughout the West Forks, and , "Old Canada Road Nat. Scenic Byway" RT 201 a half mile away. The proposed transmission lines and their corridor run almost directly overhead of ITS 89 on the north shoulder as well as for miles before and after. The heavily traveled Johnson Mt. connector trail between Coburn and the West Forks used by both ATVs and snowmobiles will have the transmission lines either directly overhead or within nearby view. These Trails have unbroken scenic panoramic views to the horizon. ITS 89 is the only link for snowmobiles in northern Maine between the Ranglely area, past Grand Falls, over the 165 ft. Spencer Stream snowmobile bridge, and to the Jackman, Rockwood, West Forks, and Moosehead lake region. What has been called the Coburn Wilderness Trail will have miles of that transmission line corridor basically in your face or directly overhead. The Coburn Summit Riders were not contacted by CMP for any sort of mitigation.

These transmission lines are also visible from "Old Canada Road Nat. Scenic Byway" looking north from the top of Durgan Hill, the entire southern slope of Johnson Mt. and the North Shoulder of Coburn Mt. These mountain views will be gone for a lifetime. Hundreds of thousands of tourists traveling both north and south, between Quebec City, the beaches of costal Maine and beyond will be looking at miles of transmission lines. Any argument against that is simply wrong. The Old Canada Road Nat. Scenic Byway, with its mountains and rivers are the lifeblood to the West Forks. The OCR board of officers were not contacted for mitigation by CMP.

What was CMP thinking when they quietly negotiated with a private outside special interest group for \$22 million in mitigation over a period of years without so much as a phone call to the one community in Maine sitting in the bulls eye of adverse environmental and economic impact? CMP with its billion dollar Trans Maine Power line corridor, (where tens of billions will be generated by a conglomerate in Canada producing the power)- a conglomerate based in Spain delivering the power to the state of Massachusetts- literally failed to take the West Forks into consideration. At this time there is growing momentum to have this transmission line corridor go the same way as the Dicky Lincoln Dam Project! There is neither a person, nor an entity that I am aware of in the West Forks, and beyond that is in favor of this corridor.

There is also a growing sense that CMP approached one or two of the largest whitewater rafting outfitters two years ago, and began a conversation about purchasing the large campgrounds that these outfitters currently lease from CMP on the Kennebec River.

Decades ago CMP filed a lawsuit against the State of Maine PUC to raise the electrical rates over and above the rates allowed at the time by the MPUC. CMP shareholders wanted to recoup the losses CMP had to endure when forced to acquire lands and floodplains that could be affected by artificially raising and lowering water levels. The law that forced the purchase of the lands was called the Mills Act. CMP took the lawsuit to the Maine Supreme Court and won. The burden for the cost of the lands was forced on the CMP rate payer. The CMP rate payer effectively has stewardship over these lands, not the

CMP shareholders. These lands have some of the most beautiful and pristine waterfronts in the state, with a wealth of massive trees , and the last of Maine's old growth forests. Arguably, these lands belong to the people of the state of Maine.

The entire process reeks and needs to be more closely vetted by regulators as well as the office of the attorney general of the State of Maine. We in the West Forks ,and many other Mainers want to hear from the candidates running for Governor of Maine to see where they stand. The state of Maine should not allow a crack in its armor in the protection of our most precious lands and resources from outside special interest groups and mega conglomerates based outside of Maine and the U.S.

Sarah Dostie, Owner

Peter Dostie

Beyer, Jim R

From: Ed Buzzell <ebuzzel@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 1:30 PM
To: DEP, NECEC
Subject: NECEC Project

Jim Beyer, Bureau of Land Resources
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
106 Hogan Road Suite 6
Bangor, Maine 04401

Ed Buzzell
305 Madawaska Ave.
Pittsfield, Maine
04967

Jim,
We would like to petition the DEP to intervene in the Central Maine Power project NECEC. While we realize clean power is important to the people of Massachusetts we see no long term benefit in this project for the people of Maine.

We are particularly opposed to the section from the Canadian border to Moxie Pond. We have started the process of receiving guests at our Lodge on the Moxie Road in Moxie Gore. The power lines will cross Moxie Stream and the CMP Right Of Way is only about 800 feet from the 85 acres of land the lodge is located on. We also kayak the Kennebec Gorge, fish at Cold Stream, enjoy Moxie Stream and its many waterfalls. We would encourage our guests at the lodge to enjoy the same.

This project will be very visible to us and my guests at the lodge. The Lodge is located at about 1300 feet and we have a clear view of the Johnson Mountain, Coburn Mountain area . A power line is one of the last things my guests from the urban areas would want to see from the lodge. We believe this project will ruin the aesthetics and harm the environment for us and my guests at one of Maine's most important tourist destinations. We also believe that this project would severely devalue our lodge and our land. We would have to strongly reconsider investment in the area.

The land this project will go through is the one of the largest undeveloped tracts of land in the lower 48 states. This is why our guests from urban areas want to come to Maine and will in the future. We believe that this project is only a prelude of what is to come since it is to be built in the exact same area the proposed East West Highway and two major proposed wind farm projects. This is also the last thing my guests from the urban areas would want to see. Why not keep this land undeveloped for the future of Maine? Once it is developed it is gone forever.

Best,
Ed Buzzell
Moxie Gore, Maine
207-487-5200

Mailing Address

Ed Buzzell
305 Madawaska Ave.

Pittsfield, Maine
04967

Hinkel, Bill

From: Kathy Barkley <kbraft@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 10:27 AM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Subject: LUPC petition
Attachments: Barkley LUPC petition.docx

Dear Mr. Hinkel,

I am writing to intervene in Avangrid/CMP project petition. Please read my attached letter.

sincerely,
Kathy Barkley

August 1, 2018

I, Kathy Barkley submits this petition to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to intervene as a party in Central Maine Power' s (CMP' s) application for a Site Location of Development Act permit and a Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line running from the Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and related network upgrades. Kathy Barkley seeks leave to intervene pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedures Act and the Rules and Regulations of the Land Use Planning Commission, Chapter 5, Section 5.13.

Avangrid/CMP' s projected 145-mile power line through Maine wildlands should not be approved. The short term economic benefits surrounding its construction in no way mitigate the negative effects on Maine' s flora, fauna and scenic vistas. As whitewater based tourism declines (as proven by years of declining commercial rafting numbers) our Maine wildlands and wildlife will be ever more important in bringing visitors to the Kennebec Valley. This line is not in the best interest of Maine. Massachusetts can find other ways of meeting its power needs than buying Canadian power and forever destroying Maine wildlands. The idea that this line is easier and provides potential for massive profit to Avangrid/CMP (as shown by multimillion dollar offers to the state of Massachusetts and Kennebec Valley towns) does not demonstrate long term benefit to the state of Maine.

The backdoor manner in which CMP colluded with its carefully chosen board to reach mitigation agreements raises red flags about this proposal. From its dam relicensing CMP is very familiar with who the user groups are in the affected area and deliberately chose to exclude the majority of them from this process. The majority of board members stand to personally benefit from their relationship with CMP.

At CMP' s informational meeting in the West Forks this project was presented as a done deal. The only question seemed to be having the line go over or under the Kennebec River. CMP' s ownership of the affected land was cited but ownership does not mean doing whatever you want with land as evidenced by Maine' s land use regulations and local zoning. Only through the efforts of concerned Kennebec Valley residents did the public learn they could have input into this process.

If this line is constructed scenic vistas hard earned by hiking and Maine' s beautiful wildlands will be forever industrialized. This project will permanently destroy Maine wildlands while providing no benefit to the majority of Maine residents. This project should not be approved.

Sincerely,
Kathy Barkley

Kathy Barkley

220 Main St
PO Box 55
Caratunk, ME 04925

Hinkel, Bill

From: Kim Lyman <klyman9672@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 3:39 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Cc: klyman9672@gmail.com
Subject: Petition to Intervene in New England Clean Energy Connect Project - SLC-9
Attachments: LUPC petition to intervene CMP.docx

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a petition to intervene in Central Maine Power's application for a Site Location of Development Act permit and a Natural Resources Protection Act Permit for the NECEC high voltage direct current transmission line running from the Quebec - Maine Border to Lewiston, ME, and related network upgrades.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Lyman
Caratunk, ME
207-672-4099

Hinkel, Bill

From: Braddah hale <1withwhitewaters@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 6:38 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Subject: Re: Petition to intervene CMP corridor

On Wed, Aug 1, 2018, 17:59 Braddah hale <1withwhitewaters@gmail.com> wrote:

My name is Noah Hale. I've lived in the town of the Forks for 35 years. This is one of the many towns across the State of Maine affected by the proposed corridor. I spend most of my free time kayaking in Caratunk/Forks area. As a long time guide, I love to share this beautiful area with visitors from all over the United States and often from other countries. My concerns for this project are not only for the area that I live but for the entire State of Maine.

1. The Caratunk/Forks area's economy relies almost exclusively on recreational tourism. This project will put 1000' of power line (with large aircraft guards) across the Kennebec River, where my husband, a fly fishing guide, along with his partners, take their guests on wilderness fishing trips. Their guests often comment on the serenity of the river, and the fact that they've been able to be somewhere for hours and hours without seeing anything man made. People come to raft either privately or with the many rafting companies (and spend money in town), and many others come to just simply enjoy the river and the surrounding area hikes. In addition, this power line will be visible from the summits of most of the local mountains, the Old Canada Road Scenic Byway, and much of ITS 89 (a major snowmobile trail utilized by many of the businesses here). This interruption to the scenic view is a direct negative impact on recreational tourism, and in turn, to these businesses that support this community.
2. This project does not benefit the Maine taxpayer with lower rates or cleaner energy. NECEC may increase greenhouse gas emissions. I personally have an interest in lower energy costs and clean energy sources for my community and for the people of Maine.
3. This project is not financially beneficial to Maine's economy or its residents. The PUC found that the CMP project application boasts inflated economic and financial benefits. They reported that the project will suppress existing and future renewable energy generation in Maine due in part to increased congestion on the transmission line. In their letter, these legislators also expressed the negative impacts on wildlife, forests, and clean water.
4. NECEC, as proposed, would negatively affect wildlife. The proposed corridor would require significant clearing through sensitive habitat, including habitat for many rare species, as well as ecologically and economically important species like Brook Trout and White-tailed Deer. The proposal would affect more than 1,000 acres of wetland, cross 115 streams and scores of vernal pools, and degrade approximately 20 acres of inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat. I sat in on two of the CMP informational meetings. Asked during the Franklin County meeting if they would avoid destroying the habitat of deer during breeding/birthing times and partridge during nesting/hatching time, they answered that they would not halt construction unless it was specified that they had to. This means they have no interest in working with the needs of the environment and protecting it. They will do only what is mandated.

5. If this corridor becomes a reality, it is only the beginning of applications to the State of Maine for more industrial power and other corridors in this area and beyond. The reality is, Maine is a tourism state, and people come here to experience our greatest resources – our clean water, our vast forests, our abundant wildlife, our thriving fisheries, and our vast mountain views where you can see nothing but trees, water, and other mountains for miles and miles.

6. I also feel that the people of the most affected area, The Forks area, were kept in the dark about negotiations being made by a committee handpicked by a person that CMP was working with on this starting two years ago. This committee represented the Forks area residents, without those residents and even other local select persons being made aware of this by anyone on this committee. Members of the community here feel misrepresented/unrepresented. CMP has largely downplayed this project to the public. While they've given out facts, they have not made the general person, who may not understand the lingo of the CMP world, know that just because much of the corridor is existing, it will be drastically changed from top to bottom, not just the new section. People are slowly realizing it, and now being told 'it's too late to do anything about it'.

7. In the words of a fishing guide I know: "If your business is using the resources then you do everything in your power to protect those resources. For myself and my business there is no compromise. Without these you have devalued your business and have opened the door to future developments."

For the above reasons, I request that this Petition for Intervention be granted.

Date: August 1, 2018

Noah Hale
Box 701
Jackman ,me
04945

Hinkel, Bill

From: Eric Sherman <eshermanbpr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 10:41 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Subject: NECEC- Petition to Intervene
Attachments: Sherman_Eric_IntervenorLetter.docx

Dear Mr. Hinkel,

Please find attached my petition to intervene in CMP's NECEC project. I have attached a Google Doc, and in Word, and placed the letter here in the email.

Thank you,

Eric J. Sherman

 [Sherman_Eric_IntervenorLetter](#)

State of Maine

Land Use Planning Commission

22 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Re: Petition to Intervene in New England Clean Energy Connect Project - SLC-9;

Dear Land Use Planning Commission,

Please find this email as a petition to intervene in Central Maine Power's (CMP's) application for a Site Location of Development Act permit and a Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line running from the Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and related network upgrades.

My name is Eric J. Sherman. I was born in Greenville and have lived in Maine all but four of my 55 years. I am currently in my thirty-third year as an active registered Maine Whitewater Guide, and have also been a registered Maine Recreational Guide for over twenty years. I'm also a teacher at Greenville Schools. I hike, bike, ski, snowshoe, kayak, canoe, and raft in Maine's vast wilderness. I spend a large portion of time from May through October working on the Kennebec and Dead rivers in The Forks area. I love Maine's wilderness, and I love sharing it with the people who come to this area for rafting, camping, sightseeing, and vacationing. I have concerns for the experiences of the guests who book raft trips on the Kennebec River, concerns for the other waterways and wildlife that will be affected, and concerns that CMP has not been forthright about this project.

1. When I bring my crew to where we load the rafts at Harris Station Dam, my crews (and I) are awestruck at the enormity of the dam. I share the history of the dam, the natural history of the area, and the specifics of the hydropower generation of Harris Station. Believe me, the irony that a dam which drastically altered the landscape 65+ years ago is not lost on me. But it is what it is, and I'm looking forward. Except for the stairs at Carry Brook, once we leave the dam, people don't see a man-made structure until we hit the ball field where we see the bridge and some houses. The company I've worked for (since 2001), Moxie Outdoor Adventures, has its lunch site just upstream of where the proposed lines will cross the river. Those lines will be visible from our lunch site, and will be an eyesore that detracts from the wilderness experience of my guests, the other guests, the other guides, and me. People don't leave their homes in Boston and its suburbs, and Southern

Maine and its developed areas to go to a place that looks like an industrial park, especially when they expect a wilderness experience.

2. I am also very concerned for the wilderness, waterways, and wildlife that the powerline will affect from the Maine/Canada border all the way to Lewiston. I read an article that summarized the following about CMP's plan: "CMP's proposed line includes above-ground transmission lines across 263 wetlands, 115 streams, 12 inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat areas, the Kennebec River Gorge, the Appalachian Trail, and near Beattie Pond, a Class 6 remote pond." This is unacceptable. My family owns a camp on Moosehead Lake, and we're not allowed to cut a six inch diameter tree within 100 feet of the water for fear of an impact on the water and wildlife. How can anyone justify the devastation that the 145 mile NECEC project will cause to the environment, when a single tree cut too close to Moosehead's shoreline causes a fine? In addition, CMP has not presented any evidence of a reduction in gas emissions. This is not a clean energy project. I'm also concerned that if the powerline is allowed, then a precedent will have been set, and what will stop developers from building more transmission lines, gas lines, roads, bridges, cabins, condominiums, resorts, and who knows what else? Finally, the Central Maine Power and Western Mountains & Rivers Joint Statement says that, "CMP proactively sought mitigation ideas that would help western Maine achieve its potential as a hub for outdoor recreation." The people who participated in these mitigation ideas were hand-picked and did not represent the rafting community as a whole (or the populations of The Forks, West Forks, and Caratunk). There is a perception of shady backroom deals going on with those who were handpicked by CMP. Another perception is that those people were misled by CMP and told that NECEC was a done deal and that these mitigation ideas were a last ditch effort for locals to get something out of this project. News of this project emerged in the non-handpicked river community in early fall 2017, but those talks had been going on much longer than that. A final perception is that this project was purposefully kept on the downlow to minimize the time opponents would have to organize against it.

4. If granted leave to intervene, I, Eric J. Sherman intend to participate fully as a party in this proceeding.

5. Maine's wildlife, wilderness, and waterways will be substantially and directly affected by the NECEC project. We cannot let this happen.

For the above reasons, I, Eric J. Sherman, request that this Petition for Intervention be granted.

August 2, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Sherman
PO Box 124
23 Birch Point Road
Greenville, ME 04441
207-695-4434
eshermanbpr@gmail.com

Hinkel, Bill

From: Matt Wagner <mwagner@insourcerenewables.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2018 4:43 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill; caitlin.hutt2@gmail.com
Subject: Re Petition to intervene
Attachments: wagner LUPC.docx

Bill,

Please accept my letter attached below.

Sincerely,

Matt Wagner

Insorce Renewables

113 North Lancey St

Pittsfield, ME 04967

(207) 659-1054
extension # 706

mwagner@insourcerenewables.com



Dear Maine Land Use Planning Commission,

Please find this written letter of intent to intervene regarding the Avon Grid's effort to permit the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission line construction.

My name is Matt Wagner and I'm writing on behalf of myself, my wife, and my children in the interest of our common future. I'm opposed to the clearing and construction of the proposed line for several reasons, which I will list below. As a family we have spent over twenty years hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, caving, rafting, and guiding in the Enchanted Forest and surrounding area. While we no longer live in the area, we now own a camp there and bring our children there at least every other weekend throughout the year. This is the area I consider my home. As former residents and guides we've lived on both sides of the recreation industry we now support. Please carefully consider the dramatic reshaping of this critical area's future in your permitting process. Thanks for taking a moment to consider my objections as you decide the future of the area.

- In public presentations CMP has repeatedly perpetuated the notion that the area where a new corridor is to be built is a degraded or otherwise previously destroyed industrial forest. While industrial forestry has certainly left its mark, it HAS NOT permanently fragmented one of the last remaining contiguous forests east of the Mississippi River, which is exactly what this project would do. Logging roads that were once 40 feet wide have receded back into barely passable jeep trails in my lifetime. Allowing a transmission line through this area is a massive shift towards an industrial landscape, not the working forest that we've long since come to terms with.
- As a lifelong outdoorsperson and conservationist, I can attest to some of the great work that's already been done by conservation organizations to protect this area. The MBPL lands on the southern slope of Coburn Mountain go largely unvisited but are an amazing unsung asset to the region. The Cold Stream conservation area attracts fisherman from all over the world as one of the greatest brook trout habitats in New England and is known to be the spawning ground for many of the brook trout in the Upper Kennebec River. The Nature Conservancy's protection of the land surrounding and including #5 Mountain is without parallel. NECEC threatens all these places with permanent development, habitat fragmentation, watershed loss, and insufficient setbacks from streams that harbor some of the country's last remaining brook trout fisheries.
- There are alternatives. This line doesn't need to transect this area. This project has been selected to save non-Maine ratepayers money over more viable and less ecologically menacing options. In a recent public hearing CMP's own representative admitted that this line may only be economically feasible for 20-40 years as non-transmission alternatives such as solar gain ground.
- No economic impact study has been done to show the potential impact on this area though a soft package has been offered by CMP to some of the rafting companies through a private arrangement that promises around 20 million in mitigation revenues to be paid to the supporters of the project. I'm certain the French would give us our 15 million back for the Louisiana Purchase in a heartbeat. The shortsightedness of this arrangement is staggering.

- As an aside from the soon to be realized economic costs and ecological concerns, I have a very human concern that's at the heart of why this project should suffer a quick rebuke. It's intangible, and I'll share it with you with an anecdote. I once took a young group of Boy Scouts from southern New England down the Kennebec on a raft trip. It's a day that I know changed their lives and how they view the natural world forever. During our trip, a bald eagle was attempting to rob the young from an osprey nest that hung over the river, not far from the proposed NECEC crossing. I pulled the boat to shore and we watched for nearly an hour as the osprey and eagle battled, diving, soaring, striking each other, and screeching loudly as they wheeled around us. Later that night the scout master told me that many of the kids in other boats that day had had a blast on the river, but that the kids that had gotten to see the great birds battling had been given something much greater and that they were quieter that night as they thought about their day. I hope some of them still carry that experience with them. Their experience that day couldn't have been had by lifelong effort. I'm certain that while many of them may not come back to experience the wildness of the area, that the idea of it, that knowing that wild places still exist, and that they can go there and leave the entanglements of modern life behind, is as critical to them today as it is to those of us who venture there regularly. There aren't many of these places left that are accessible to regular people on the east coast. A day on the river for many is a chance to re-find that bond with wildness. It doesn't matter that beyond the buffer lays a working forest that they can't see.

A lot of great work has been done to protect this experience, whether it's at the top of Enchanted Mountain, riding a raft on the Kennebec Gorge, or casting a fly to a rising trout on Cold Stream. I urge you on behalf of all who find rejuvenation in wildness to deny the application to bisect this wild and scenic area with a transmission corridor.

Kind Regards,

Matt Wagner
Knox, ME

From: Mike Pilsbury, Guide/Owner
Kennebec River Angler
111 Main St
Caratunk, ME 04925

7/18/2018

This is a petition for leave to intervene. is in reference to the new AVANGRID (CMP) transmission line corridor that is planned to be built over The Kennebec River Gorge and across the DOC and Trout Unlimited Cold Stream water shed.

As a Registered Master Maine Guide, and Co-Owner or Kennebec River angler, the only outfitter offering guided Fishing trips on the section of the Kennebec where the proposed power line will cross, I am concerned this development may adversely affect our business and other businesses in the area. I also believe it may have a detrimental impact on the Kennebec River fishery and the tributaries in the region.

From the information I have, it seems that CMP has had secret negotiations with the self- serving group, Western Mountains and Rivers Corp.

This group claims to represent many of the outfitters and businesses that may be affected by this development, but actually has placed their own interests at the forefront of discussions and negotiations. Private sales of CMP lands to individual members of this corporation, for example.

I believe other members and businesses in out should be consulted and have input regarding the environmental and commercial impact of the proposed powerline.

Mike Pilsbury
7/19/18

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Pilsbury', written in a cursive style.

Hinkel, Bill

From: Mandy Farrar <manfarr1974@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 5:25 AM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Subject: Petition to Intervene in New England Clean Energy Connect Project - SLC-9
Attachments: Intervene LUPC.pdf

State of Maine

Land Use Planning Commission

22 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Re: Petition to Intervene in New England Clean Energy Connect Project - SLC-9;

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Please find this written letter via email (and attached PDF) as a petition to intervene in Central Maine Power's (CMP's) application for a Site Location of Development Act permit and a Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line running from the Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and related network upgrades.

I live in the town of Caratunk, one of the many towns across the State of Maine affected by the proposed corridor. I spend most of my free time hiking, rafting, canoeing, and fishing in Caratunk/Forks area, and I love to share this beautiful area with visitors from all over the United States and beyond. My concerns for this project are not only for the area that I live but also for the State of Maine.

1. The Caratunk/Forks area's economy relies almost exclusively on recreational tourism. This project will put 1000' of powerline (with large aircraft guards) across the Kennebec River, where local fly fishing guides take their guests on wilderness fishing trips, commercial and non-commercial people come to raft (and spend money in town), and many others come to just simply enjoy the river. In addition, this power line will be visible from the summits of most of the local mountains, the Old Canada Road Scenic Byway, and much of ITS 89 (a major snowmobile trail utilized by many of the businesses here). This interruption to the scenic view is a direct negative impact on recreational tourism, and in turn, to these businesses that support this community.
2. This project does not benefit the Maine taxpayer with lower rates or cleaner energy. NECEC may increase greenhouse gas emissions. I personally have an interest in lower energy costs and clean energy sources for my community and for the people of Maine.
3. CMP's transmission line would do little to reduce the pollution that causes climate change. CMP's line would transmit power from HydroQuebec, who has not demonstrated that the power transmitted by this project will result in a true and verifiable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, rather than simply shifting existing power from one market to another.
4. This project is not financially beneficial to Maine's economy or it's residents. The PUC found that the CMP project application boasts inflated economic and financial benefits. They reported that the project will suppress existing and future renewable energy generation in Maine due in part to increased congestion on the transmission line. In their letter, these legislators also expressed the negative impacts on wildlife, forests, and clean water.
5. NECEC, as proposed, would negatively affect wildlife. The proposed corridor would require significant clearing through sensitive habitat, including habitat for many rare species, as well as ecologically and economically important

species like Brook Trout and White-tailed Deer. The proposal would affect more than 1,000 acres of wetland, cross 115 streams and scores of vernal pools, and degrade approximately 20 acres of inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat.

6. If this corridor becomes a reality, it is only the beginning of applications to the State of Maine for more industrial power and other corridors in this area and beyond. The reality is, Maine is a tourism state, and people come here to experience our greatest resources – our clean water, our vast forests, our abundant wildlife, our thriving fisheries, and our vast mountain views where you can see nothing but trees, water, and other mountains for miles and miles.

If granted leave to intervene, I intend to participate as a party in this proceeding.

The economic benefit of this project is overstated, while the environmental impact is underestimated. While this project will be very lucrative for CMP and hydro producers in Canada, this is a bad deal for Maine's residents, wilderness, and wildlife.

For the above reasons, I request that this Petition for Intervention be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Farrar

190 Main Street

Caratunk, ME 04925

207-672-6411

manfarr1974@yahoo.com

Hinkel, Bill

From: Carrie Carpenter <carrie_carpenter@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill
Subject: Petition to Intervene in New England Clean Energy Connect Project - SLC-9

Dear Land Use Planning Commission,

My name is Carrie Carpenter and I have been a resident of Somerset County my entire life. My family has a long history with the lands and waters of this beautiful area. From my great- grandparents who ran sporting camps on Austin Pond and later on Wyman Lake, to my great- great-great grandfather, a hunting and fishing guide in The Forks who made birch bark canoes and caribou hide snowshoes. Great love, respect, and appreciation for this land and its resources have been passed down through generations. I rest assured that your committee was created out of those same values.

I ask you today to please help stop the New England Clean Energy Connect Project. Please do not allow a short-sighted decision based purely on money to jeopardize resources that once depleted we may never get back. Please fight to ensure future generations will be able to enjoy and work this land as you and I and many generations before us have.

The LUPC guiding principles are listed on your website. (They are copied and pasted below.) I hope with all of my heart that you truly honor these principles, as every single one is a reason to intervene and stop the NECEC Project...

- Preserve public health, safety and general welfare;
- Support and encourage Maine's natural resource-based economy and strong environmental protections;
- Encourage appropriate residential, recreational, commercial and industrial land uses;
- Honor the rights and participation of residents and property owners in the unorganized and deorganized areas while recognizing the unique value of these lands and waters to the State;
- Prevent residential, recreational, commercial and industrial uses detrimental to the long-term health, use and value of these areas and to Maine's natural resource-based economy;
- Discourage the intermixing of incompatible industrial, commercial, residential and recreational activities;
- Prevent the development in these areas of substandard structures or structures located unduly proximate to waters or roads;
- Prevent the despoliation, pollution and detrimental uses of the water in these areas; and
- Conserve ecological and natural values.

Please find this written letter, emailed and postal mailed, as a petition to intervene in Central Maine Power's (CMP's) application for a Site Location of Development Act permit and a Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line running from the Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and related network upgrades.

Date: August 2, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Carpenter

[336 Beech Hill Rd Norridgewock, ME 04957](http://336BeechHillRdNorridgewockME04957)

207-680-5858

carrie_carpenter@rocketmail.com