

York, Marylisa

From: Burke, Ruth A
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 4:41 PM
To: DEP, NECEC
Subject: FW: DEP Hearing NECEC Permit (comments by Paul Frederic)

Ruth Ann Burke
Maine Department of Environmental Protection Board of Environmental Protection Commissioner's Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Frederic <frederic@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 4:36 PM
To: Burke, Ruth A <Ruth.A.Burke@maine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: DEP Hearing NECEC Permit (comments by Paul Frederic)

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fwd: DEP Hearing NECEC Permit (comments by Paul Frederic)
Date: Sun, 21 Nov 2021 21:55:20 -0500
From: "Paul Frederic" <frederic@myfairpoint.net>
To: frederic@myfairpoint.net

DEP Commissioner and Staff:

I am Paul Frederic of Starks and a former director of the Maine Use Regulation Commission. My comments address the impact of the November 2, 2021 vote on the NECEC, LLC project. Opposition carried the day. However, the D.E.P. should not suspend the license it granted to allow construction of the corridor. The following points are of special importance in supporting my position.

1. On Friday, November, 19 NECEC, LLC suspended construction at the request of Governor Mills. This suspension is in place until the courts reach a decision on the constitutionality of the ballot question. It is critical that our courts have time to hear arguments and pass judgement on the matter before the D.E.P. takes any action.
2. NECEC, LLC has been building the transmission in good faith with legal permits issued by permitting agencies. Most of the right-of-way has already been cleared and much of the project is completed. As a former director of a regulatory agency, I understand the intense process involved in granting such permits. The notion of turning this procedure into a popularity vote leads to regulatory uncertainty that will scare many potential investors away from Maine.
3. Delays in the project have both short and long term impacts. Hundreds good paying jobs, much local vendor income and many public benefits will be suspended or lost to the region and state.
4. NECEC, LLC, a project that will help in our fight against global warming, will be delayed. It represents the kind of large scale energy infrastructure investment needed if our society is to address climate change in a serious way.

I ask you to leave the project permit in place and to allow the courts time to reach conclusions regarding the corridor.

Thank you for your time.

Paul Frederic