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MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER
State of Maine
Department of Environmental Protection

November 22, 2021

**Re: Fourth Procedural Order Suspension Proceeding New England Clean
Energy Connect**

IN THE MATTER OF

CENTRAL MAINE POWER CO.)
NECEC TRANSMISSION, LLC)
25 Municipalities, 13 Townships/Plantations,)
7 Counties (listed Appendix A))
L-27625-26- A-N) LICENSE SUSPENSION PROCEEDING
L-27625-TG-B-N) PUBLIC HEARING
L-27625-2C-C-N) FOURTH PROCEDURAL ORDER
L-27625-VP-D-N)
L-27625-IW-E-N)

Dear Commissioner Loyzim,

My name is Jim LaBrecque I am from Bangor Maine. I was former Governor LePage's Technical Advisor on energy for his eight-year term. I am here testifying on my own personal behalf today and not on behalf of the former Governor.

I oppose any restriction, delays or re-opening of hearings in regards to this NECEC matter for the following reasons.

1. The people have spoken for three years, through the legal process put in place by "**we the people.**" Millions of dollars have been spent by Advangrid to defend the letter and intent of the law from its rival competitors primarily, NextEra, Calpine, and Vistra. These rival competitors failed to make their case to oppose the NECEC corridor to the PUC, DEP, BEP, LUPC, Army Core of Engineers, FERC, EPA, DOE, and the president of the United States. After years of failures and as a last-ditch effort to kill off their competitor, these rival competitors invested millions of dollars for a political attack on the corridor which included two referendums and millions on public ads to misinform and incite the public against the project. The DEP like all other state and federal agencies must not allow the money and wrangling of energy competitors to now bend the law that rightfully produced permits for the project. To do so would not be in the state's best interest.
2. In addition to all Advangrid's successful open public hearings over the last several years, Advangrid further prevailed over its rivals in multiple State and Federal court cases and appeals. I don't believe there has ever been a more scrutinized public project in Maine's history than the NECEC corridor thanks to Advangrid's rival competitors, and the hard work of many courts and government agencies.
3. Advangrid has lawfully acquired all the necessary permits after years of open public hearings, processes, procedures, laws, rules, regulations and court proceedings put in place by "**we the people.**" It would be unconscionable, to undermine the enormous weight duly earned by Advangrid in this matter, over the latest questionable legal tactic by its rival competitors to override our government officials.
4. A decision to terminate, interfere or impede any permits at this time would demonstrate to the world that any corporation can come to Maine and basically overpower Maine law and Government by simply paying the cost to collect signatures for a referendum in a last-ditch effort with the intent of achieving an outcome contrary to all the laws, rules, regulations and final court determinations.

James C. LaBrecque