From:Antonio Blasi <antonioblasi1234@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:14 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Comment on the NECEC project permit

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CMP shouldn't get a permit to build the corridor because it's a bad deal for Maine's environment and economy. Even the MA AG is critical of the electricity product it produces.

There is no Environmental Impact Statement.

End the mitigation process. When a project will damage particular lots, stop trying to cover up with mitigation schemes. Antonio Blasi

Sent from my Android using speech to text

From:George Seel <georgeseel@outlook.com>Sent:Friday, March 20, 2020 4:26 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Comments - March 13, 2020 Draft Order

# 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. Commissioner Reid and staff –

After reviewing the draft order, I would like to compliment Bob Stratton and the other DEP staff on their hard work under trying circumstances and the comprehensive approach to the review, negotiation and conditional approval of CMP's powerline project. My fear has been since this project was announced that Maine's environmental laws and rules were not up to the task of addressing the full breadth of a proposed project of this scale and scope. You have proved my fears to be largely unfounded, except for not having the authority to independently evaluate green house gas emissions or reductions. Without such an independent analysis no conclusion can be reached whether the project's public benefits (green house gas emission reductions, etc.) outweigh the project's environmental and other indirect costs. I would encourage you to consider a legislative fix to the climate change review standard in the Site Location of Development Law since this issue will no doubt come up again in the future. Although not relevant to the review of the Department's draft order, but very much so to the adequacy of the overall State review of this project, the PUC's Examiner's Report also fails in this regard and does not include a benefit/cost analysis, or comparable analysis.

Other comments:

- The order is nothing more than a piece of paper (some would say a work of fiction) unless there is a robust
  inspection program, and enforcement and remediation follow-up. In a project of this scope with many moving
  parts and contractors, some more diligent than others, problems and non-compliance with the order is
  inevitable. For that reason I commend the 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection program included in the order. This is as
  essential to meeting the review standards of the law.
- 2. As an avid brook trout fisherman and having fished a number of the streams and ponds in the project area, including Cold Stream, I take issue with one aspect of the proposed order only requiring the vegetative buffer at the location of the Cold Stream crossing to be a minimum 35' in height. Given the importance of this stream as a brook trout breeding ground for the Kennebec River, and its own value as a fishery, and all the effort and monies that have been invested in the watershed of Cold Stream to protect habitat by Trout Unlimited and other conservation groups, I recommend the Department reconsider and require the retained buffer at this crossing be of "full canopy" height to adequately maintain stream water temperatures for brook trout.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope everyone stays well.

Sincerely,

George Seel Belgrade, Maine

From:	Rona Fried <rona@sustainablebusiness.com></rona@sustainablebusiness.com>
Sent:	Thursday, March 19, 2020 3:27 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Comments on New England Clean Energy Connect Protect Draft Order

# 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. Dear Jim Beyer,

I don't understand why you're trying so hard to give the go-ahead to the controversial New England Clean Energy Connect transmission line. The power goes to Massachusetts, Maine is just a pass-through. Why isn't your top priority to preserve Maine's ecosystems?

The draft permit is an improvement on a terrible plan, but there is still no reason to go ahead with it. It remains a "corridor" that fragments a globally significant forested landscape! I'm sure you are well aware of the problems of fragmented landscapes for wildlife – which should be your top priority. There is no need to reduce the impact of a bad idea, just reject it now!!

The fact that you require these changes clearly demonstrates the CMP corridor's substantial impacts on fish, wildlife, scenic resources, and the character of Maine's Western Mountains.

Maine needs real clean energy solutions that deliver verifiable reductions in carbon pollution. This project offers none of that.

Mainers deeply reject this project, so why must you go ahead with it? 25 towns have voted to oppose this project along with Androscoggin and Franklin County Commissioners, two of the state's largest unions, and the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine. Meanwhile, citizens have collected enough signatures to get it on the ballot to kill the project that way.

I'm so tired of government agencies that are there to protect the environment doing the wrong thing. It's time you started prioritizing what citizens want!!!!!

Rona Fried, Ph.D. Casco, Maine

From:	Stephen Champagne <schampagneme@gmail.com></schampagneme@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, March 24, 2020 4:22 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Comments on the DEP's Draft Order conditionally approving Central Maine Power Company's applications for State land use permits for the New England Clean Energy Connect project

# 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.

Dear Mr. Beyer: I write to provide one comment on the DEP's Draft Order conditionally approving Central Maine Power Company's applications for State land use permits for the New England Clean Energy Connect project. I provide my comments as someone who has spent the last 30 years as an attorney representing developers of renewable energy projects. In that time I have assisted in the development of more than 8000 MW of renewable energy projects including hydropower, wind, solar and geothermal projects in more than 10 countries.

Simply stated, the permit should not be approved because this project will not deliver renewable energy to the market which is the purported basis for the permit. It is almost universally accepted that hydroelectric projects in excess of 100 MW do not meet the criteria of being a renewable energy project because the adverse impacts of such large projects outweigh the benefits thereof. In fact, until Massachusetts recently changed its definition of renewable energy under Governor Baker, it had for decades mandated that large hydro projects did not qualify as renewable energy. Because the premise of the Energy Connect project is that it will bring renewable energy to Massachusetts, and it will not do so, the permit should be unconditionally denied.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephen Champagne, Esq. (retired)

From:	J Nicholas <jrnicholas@roadrunner.com></jrnicholas@roadrunner.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, March 24, 2020 3:25 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Comments on the DRAFT Order from the DEP regarding the NECEC
Attachments:	CMP Draft Order Comments.docx
Importance:	High

# 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. Dear Jim:

Attached are comments in response to the Draft Order from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection regarding the New England Clean Energy Connect project. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 207-462-4049, if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jack Nicholas

From:	Walter Anderson <waageo@myfairpoint.net></waageo@myfairpoint.net>
Sent:	Saturday, March 21, 2020 6:24 PM
То:	Tom Rumpf
Cc:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Re: COMMENTS: Draft DEP Order Re: NECEC Corridor

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Well Done, Tom! Walt

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 21, 2020, at 4:54 PM, Tom Rumpf <trumpfy@gmail.com> wrote:

I write to support the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) draft order approving, with conditions, the proposed NECEC transmission line corridor through northwestern Maine. As a forester with over 30 years experience working in Maine's north woods, including the area of the proposed new corridor, I recognize that the 53+/- new miles of corridor will cause some fragmentation and disturbance to the existing large block of forest land in western Maine. However, I believe that significantly reducing the carbon footprint of the ISO New England electric grid by adding 1,200 megawatts of hydro power from Quebec, is a critical first step in addressing the climate crisis, the single most significant threat to the environment of Maine and, indeed, the Earth.

In addition, I believe that the conditions placed on the project by the Department, in consultation with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and incorporating input from the testimony of many qualified parties, go a long way toward mitigating the impacts of the project.

I applaud the staff of the Department for taking their job seriously and proposing a decision which balances the need for action on climate change with protecting the environment of western Maine. Thank you for your good work.

Tom Rumpf Maine Licensed Forester #538 34 Belmont St, Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 415-8540 trumpfy@gmail.com

From:	lloyd irland <lcirland@gmail.com></lcirland@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, March 21, 2020 5:29 PM
То:	Tom Rumpf
Cc:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Re: COMMENTS: Draft DEP Order Re: NECEC Corridor

# 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.

# Well done! l.

On Sat, Mar 21, 2020 at 4:54 PM Tom Rumpf <<u>trumpfy@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

I write to support the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) draft order approving, with conditions, the proposed NECEC transmission line corridor through northwestern Maine. As a forester with over 30 years experience working in Maine's north woods, including the area of the proposed new corridor, I recognize that the 53+/- new miles of corridor will cause some fragmentation and disturbance to the existing large block of forest land in western Maine. However, I believe that significantly reducing the carbon footprint of the ISO New England electric grid by adding 1,200 megawatts of hydro power from Quebec, is a critical first step in addressing the climate crisis, the single most significant threat to the environment of Maine and, indeed, the Earth.

In addition, I believe that the conditions placed on the project by the Department, in consultation with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and incorporating input from the testimony of many qualified parties, go a long way toward mitigating the impacts of the project.

I applaud the staff of the Department for taking their job seriously and proposing a decision which balances the need for action on climate change with protecting the environment of western Maine. Thank you for your good work.

*Tom Rumpf* Maine Licensed Forester #538 34 Belmont St, Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 415-8540 trumpfy@gmail.com

Lloyd C. Irland The Irland Group 174 Lord Road Wayne ME 04284

mobile 207-446-3682

From:	Tom Rumpf <trumpfy@gmail.com></trumpfy@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, March 21, 2020 4:55 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	COMMENTS: Draft DEP Order Re: NECEC Corridor

# 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.

I write to support the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) draft order approving, with conditions, the proposed NECEC transmission line corridor through northwestern Maine. As a forester with over 30 years experience working in Maine's north woods, including the area of the proposed new corridor, I recognize that the 53+/- new miles of corridor will cause some fragmentation and disturbance to the existing large block of forest land in western Maine. However, I believe that significantly reducing the carbon footprint of the ISO New England electric grid by adding 1,200 megawatts of hydro power from Quebec, is a critical first step in addressing the climate crisis, the single most significant threat to the environment of Maine and, indeed, the Earth.

In addition, I believe that the conditions placed on the project by the Department, in consultation with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and incorporating input from the testimony of many qualified parties, go a long way toward mitigating the impacts of the project.

I applaud the staff of the Department for taking their job seriously and proposing a decision which balances the need for action on climate change with protecting the environment of western Maine. Thank you for your good work.

*Tom Rumpf* Maine Licensed Forester #538 34 Belmont St, Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 415-8540 <u>trumpfy@gmail.com</u>

From:K Ede <kede54321@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:32 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Maine Corridor

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.

Dear NECEC.DEP: I received a big mailer that was very deceptive from an unknown source saying positive reasons for the corridor which was ridiculous and skewed. A lot of money spent to send to EVERYONE in the area of Maine. My dislike is that this is already a monopoly and the amount of toxic spray they will use around these large electric transmitters to keep growth down around them will get into a lot of peoples wells and land. We know through these lawsuits that they are carcinogenic. They act like Mainers will pay less...HA they have screwed us with high bills and deny deny.... I do not want this corridor...Thanks, Kristin Ede Gouldsboro ME

From:	KenCapron1 <kcapron1@maine.rr.com></kcapron1@maine.rr.com>
Sent:	Friday, March 13, 2020 5:04 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Maine DEP issues draft order for CMP's New England Clean Energy Connect Project

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I strongly oppose parts of this order which are contrary to requirements for other similar projects historically. It is clear that a few people wish to block progress and use the State to compete between hydro generation versus wind/solar generation of electricity.

I would personally like to see even more power transmitted over this corridor with some coming into Maine's power grid at a lower cost than current generation.

I encourage the DEP to consider the successes of past power lines and the impact they have had on the environment. Almost none. And power lines have opened up a lot of hiking lanes and raspberry and blueberry picking opportunities.

I would also encourage CMP to make the pole line accessible for bicyclists, ATVs and Snowmobiles in partnership with clubs and proponents of such activities.

Thank you,

Kenneth A. Capron, ret. CPA, MCSE 1375 Forest Avenue D-11 Portland, Maine 04103 Phone: 207-797-7891 Email: kcapron1@maine.rr.com



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From:Marianne Miro <MarianneMiro@hotmail.com>Sent:Thursday, March 19, 2020 3:15 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Mainer's do not want the CMP Corridor

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.

Please DENY CMP's corridor permit because it's a bad deal for Maine's environment and economy! Mainer's do not want the CMP Corridor.

Thank you.

From:	Carole <msleesiamese@yahoo.com></msleesiamese@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:47 AM
To:	DEP, NECEC
Cc:	Sanborn, Heather
Subject:	Maine's Department of Environmental Protection, from a Mainer, RE: Stop the Corridor !

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.

Hello DEP and CC my local legislators:

As a Mainer, writing to you from Portland, Maine, I am asking that you please stop the CMP corridor.

First, let's look at your name "Maine's Department of Environmental Protection" = protection "the action of protecting, or the state of being protected". This alone should be your guiding principal when it comes to your support of this measure....please STOP...and protect Maine from this environmental catastrophe.

Second, overwhelmingly, Mainers oppose this destruction of OUR land.

Thirdly, we are lucky to live in such a beautiful State and am proud of the fact that we still have the largest piece of contiguous land East of the Mississippi. We must keep it that way and as Mainers, we need to remain vigilant.

Fourthly, once land is cleared and underground cables are set, it will be impossible to reverse course and put the land the way it was if the corridor does not work as well as suspected.

These spell D I S A S T E R!

Please do not support CMPs take over of Maine.

Carole G. Jean 36 Glenridge Drive Portland, ME 04102

From:	kenno2012@aol.com
Sent:	Thursday, March 19, 2020 8:56 AM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	MASSACHUSETTS POWER CORRIDOR a BAD CHOICE

# 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.

To Decision Makers,

I wish to convey my concerns with CMP's Extension Cord Proposal.

Their commercials are not truthful, Maine will not receive the power and a pittance of consideration.

New Hampshire and Vermont, No Go.....Environmental Impact

CMP is foreign owned and has a terrible maintenance / outage history.

Maine's woods are a national treasure, with CMP managing the line the likelihood of California fire disasters will increase EXPONENTIALLY, with NO ACCESS or suitable fire fighting equipment at the ready.

Maine should not be Massachusetts" cheap date" for their POOR PLANNING!

An ounce of prevention is worth...A POUND of CURE!

Kenneth Oddy 604 Raeleen Lane Scarborough

From:Reg Spearrin <winchest94@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 7:24 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Mr, Jim Beyer .Not good for Maine .

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.

From:Jennifer O'Connell <jtall.oc@gmail.com>Sent:Friday, March 20, 2020 10:06 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:My Opposition to the CMP Corridor

# 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.

Dear Jim Beyer,

I am writing to voice my **strong opposition to the approval and construction of Maine's CMP Corridor.** I believe that the CMP corridor will create a severe disruption through the Maine forest, impacting the Appalachian Trail, 263 wetlands, 115 streams, and animal habitat areas. This environmental cost is in no way equal to the insignificant measures CMP is proposing to assist and create opportunities for Maine residents. In fact, the majority of CMP's aid would go to Massachusetts.

CMP is an untrustworthy entity in their own right. They are currently under investigation for overbilling thousands of Maine customers, and, as I'm sure you're aware, are being sued for fraud over purposefully deceiving customers about the reasons for massive spikes in their electric bills.

Additionally, environmental groups with the land's best interest at heart, including Trout Unlimited, Natural Resources Council of Maine, and Appalachian Mountain Club, say the DEP should not issue CMP's corridor permit.

Please do your diligence and your job and act to protect the wild places of Maine, and the people who belong to this landscape we so love.

Thank you. Jennifer O'Connell Portland, ME

From:Rosalie Paul <gaia@gwi.net>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:19 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:my opposition to the corridor is pretty basic

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.

An open letter to Janet Mills and CMP in opposition to the "Corridor"....:

Your yes votes for the corridor come from ongoing support for a big business model that is outdated and unsustainable.

My no vote comes from a longing for alternative thinking, alternative energy and a shift to imaginative brainstorming. We can look to local communities as building blocks for what is needed for Maine energy and/or for Regional energy. What can we come up with that does not harm to Earth, that does not maintain the corporate establishment but provides for the energy needs for Maine and New England?

Please - IMAGINATION not corporate interests! CLEAN ALTERNATIVES, without fracking, without carving up our wilderness.

We can do this. Let's be a sustainable and creative model for other sates and regions.

C'mon....it's time for REAL CHANGE. Rosalie Paul, Brunswick

From:Bryan McNaney <mcnaneyb@aol.com>Sent:Friday, March 20, 2020 1:33 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:NECEC

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.

To:Mr. Jim Beyer

This is a note in support of the New England Clean Energy Connect Transmission Line.

The clear benefits associated with this line along with the low impact route using existing corridors and the industrial forest without significant use of eminent domain is compelling.

As a Franklin County resident, I look forward to the expansion of our tax base as well as the indirect electricity rate benefit we will enjoy by the introduction of a large quantity of low marginal cost electricity onto the New England grid.

I urge the DEP to move this project forward without delay.

Thank You,

Bryan McNaney 172 Middle St Farmington, ME 04938 207-491-4428

From:Tom White <220tomwhite@gmail.com>Sent:Tuesday, March 17, 2020 12:11 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:NECEC

# 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.

Dear Sirs:

I believe that the Central Maine Power Company information and science submitted to the Maine DEP is flawed. I am not a hydrologist, forester or geologist but a reasonable and well read Maine citizen. The scientific studies and impact to the state of this power line to our water ways, forests, creatures and health of the Maine citizen was proposed around thirty (30) months ago. Looking at other DC power line projects both in the United States and Canada I found studies to actual construction, if granted, are up to and beyond six (6) years. It does not seem reasonable or prudent to have completed scientific data in that short span of time. Their scientists have only studied a very short period (30 months) to make complicated thesis(s) on the impact of this proposal to the State of Maine.

I respectfully ask that the Maine DEP not grant the necessary permit for this project until reasonable studies on the effect of this power line can be gathered.

Thank you,

Thomas White II 220 Chesterville Road Jay, Maine 04239

From:Rachael Hooker <rachaellisa9@gmail.com>Sent:Monday, April 13, 2020 5:36 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

To whom it may concern,

As yet another Mainer vehemently opposed to the corridor, I'm adding my letter to the countless others you've received.

The fact that this corridor was even being considered is WRONG. The fact that it's made it as far as it has is an insult to so many of us who oppose it. As many other people have told you, Maine is the last of true wilderness east of the Mississippi. Wildlife has made this land their home long, long before Maine even became a state. Farmer's have been farming THEIR land, NOT cmp's land for generations. Farming is hard enough without the worry the corridor causes. If it's allowed to go through it will literally ruin livelihoods, lives & leave people struggling harder than they've ever had to. If this corridor is allowed it's going to absolutely destroy fields, forests, streams, rivers, animals habitats, it's going to kill entire ecosystems.

The ironic part of this is I'm not a tree hugger but I do respect, care & love the land in my state. I make a living hauling wood. However, I'm absolutely for regrowth, sustainable forestry & treating the land with respect & care. I want my daughter's, my grandbabies & one day my great grandbabies to have the joy & privilege of growing up on the land I and my family so love. I want them to have the option to farm, whether it's running a traditional farm or running a Horse farm as I used to, or sustainably logging the land, whatever they want to do, I don't ever want those options taken away. I don't want to see my friends farms suffer or lost because of this corridor.

If this corridor is allowed Maine will lose a huge part of our tourism. People come from literally all over the world to experience our magnificent land. The corridor will kill all inland tourism. We need Spain out of Maine. Hopefully you'll read ALL of our letters. I hope n pray you will NOT let cmp put the corridor in Maine!! Thank you for taking the time to read this, Rachael Walsh

From:Evelyn Beane <emcbhb@gmail.com>Sent:Friday, April 10, 2020 4:29 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

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.

From:Evelyn Beane <emcbhb@gmail.com>Sent:Friday, April 10, 2020 4:28 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

To whom it may concern, I am writing to you in regards to the proposed CMP Corridor. I am asking you on behalf of myself and family that live in western Maine to deny this permit. CMP and their parent company AVANGRID, and HYDRO QUEBEC in no way has shown any of us that this is good for Maine. This is totally a business only proposition for Massachusetts and them. The destruction of some of the only beautiful areas on the east coast that this project will allow is unfathomable. We live in an area with stunning views and vistas that will be forever ruined by the wide swath this corridor will take and the ugly huge metal high voltage towers. Not to mention the impact on wildlife, brooks, ponds, plant species, the Kennebec River and surrounding areas due to the construction and ongoing maitainance and use of plant growth deterrents. This corridor project will also have a negative impact not only on those of us who enjoy this land but folks who depend on it for their living. There are also those folks who because they are not residents of Maine who do not have a legal say, but never the less feel as strongly as I. Look at what Mainers have said with just the amount of signatures we collected in such a short time to put this project to a vote in November. We do not want this project, it is not good for Maine. Please do your job and protect our precious Maine environment from this destructive project. Thank you for your time and consideration. Evelyn M Chase Beane 291 Main Street Bingham Maine 04920

From::carleton Estes Estes <carletonestes@gmail.com>Sent:Thursday, April 9, 2020 5:10 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

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.

I want to know how you can give cmp permission to build the corridor when us people from Maine cant do shit around any lake pond or river and your gonna let them destroy northern Maine how much are they paying you to let this happen

From:Emery Goff <ebgc00@gmail.com>Sent:Thursday, April 9, 2020 11:04 AMTo:DEP, NECEC

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.

To whomever is in charge: Do not approve the New England Connect Corridor. It is absolutely NOT for the benefit of Maine or Mainers, it is simply to find a better market for Quebec's filthy and ecologically destructive hydropower and to make a lot of profit for Avangrid, CMP's Spanish corporate owner. Please, NO NECC!! Respectfully, Emery Goff and William Carhart

75 State St Unit 159, Portland, ME, 04101

From:Corey Rubchinuk <crubchinuk@gmail.com>Sent:Saturday, March 28, 2020 2:32 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

My official statement on the CMP lead campaign is- "If you worried about two forged signatures... You should worry about the other 100k that we could replace them with. Didn't you hire two Private investigators?.... Hmm....

Take your project elsewhere."

Contact me for any ideas, including an exit plan ... Where you don't crap on Mainer's... The toughest folks in the NE. Thanks.

Corey, concerned American.

From:Robert Mitchell <tdbearbob@netscape.net>Sent:Thursday, March 19, 2020 1:29 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

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.

why must you contiue to let outsiders destoy our woods.please stop this now the people of maine are totally against this as you can see by the news.keep maine green.bob mitchell

From:Paul Smith <rollerland51@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 3:36 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

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.

I Paul Smith oppose the CMP Corridor as written . Mariners are getting the short end of the deal . We need a bigger slice of the pie for a longer period of time . Thank you

From:David Brower <browerdavid235@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 12:13 PMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

#### DEP,

My name is David Brower and I reside in the town of Winslow, Me.

I and family and friends believe that CMP "should not" have a permit for the corridor that we all oppose! Thank you for listening, David Brower and Family.....

From:gldnears@aol.comSent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:20 AMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

Regardless of all the TV commercials touting the *great benefits* to be derived from the 'CMP Energy Corridor ', the people of Maine MUST have the opportunity to vote for/against the rape and plunder of our greatest resource, the natural beauty of our wilderness areas and the wildlife that inhabit it. The TV commercials promoting this travesty suggest that this power line will terminate at Lewiston . . which is a lie. This proposed power line will benefit Massachusetts more than Maine. And here's a question: New Hampshire rejected having this line running through *their* state ( which would have been the most direct and least expensive route for the power line ) . . WE should have the same right!

Richard Crampton 328 Beech Hill Rd Northport, ME 04849

From:miranda dewitt <mirandajewelry12@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:15 AMTo:DEP, NECEC

# 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.

Please do not issue a permit to CMP Corridor. It is a terrible deal for Maine.

Thank you.

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Sign up for the purelyhandcrafted newsletter and we will send you a coupon code good for 15% off \$20. Highlight the link below and right click. When it gives the option to copy link or go to link. Choose go to link. https://mailchi.mp/beaa7d606a32/purelyhandcrafted-newsletter

From:	Sheryl Harth <kandog1956@gmail.com></kandog1956@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 13, 2020 3:51 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Attached letter opposing NECEC
Attachments:	LJH Letter to DEP opposing NECEC.docx

# 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.

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Ironically, as I write this our propane fired generator is running again. That is not great for the environment of our valley, particularly on a low barometric pressure afternoon.

My mother-in-law, Patricia Hughey (14 Coburn Avenue East in Jackman) asked me to share her wishes for the DEP to deny any and all permits CMP has pending for the NECEC. She prefers to call the proposed corridor THE UGLY BROWN MONSTER.

Thank you for the careful considerations on behalf of the Maine people, Larry J. Harth

Larry J. Harth P.O. Box 136 Jackman, ME 04945-0136

Mr. Jim Beyer Maine Department of Environmental Protection State Street Station # 17 Augusta, Me 04333

April 13, 2020

Dear Mr. Beyer:

I write to you as a concerned Jackman resident and Maine taxpayer totally against the proposed use of the western Maine mountains for the NECEC CORRIDOR. I am aware of the true goal of NECEC: assigning CORRIDOR STATUS for this last intact segment of North American wilderness east of the Mississippi River. You know it, too.

It is disgusting that Augusta has not demanded an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The overturned proposed projects in Vermont and New Hampshire warranted such studies, and so too should the priceless western Maine mountains. <u>THE MAINE DEP MUST DEMAND AN EIS!</u>

How can you possibly make an informed decision on the environmental damage from NECEC without it? Hydro-Quebec refused to produce one witness to testify under oath regarding their unsubstantiated claims about clean hydropower, so how can you possibly make an informed decision about the green house gas emissions they proclaim without definitive proof? These are two questions the PUC and LUPC refused to answer before they made their (unrespected) decisions; based on belief in the rhetoric pitched by lobbyists funded by Avangrid and Hydro-Quebec. I do not share that trust, nor should you!

Your very role is in the name of your department: <u>environmental protection of Maine</u>. It defies logic that this proposed **merchant project** was approved by the PUC and the LUPC, but it is truly appalling that the DEP is leaning toward giving it the stamp of approval! How can you possibly fall for the hyperbole pitched by Spain and Quebec? We are well-aware that an adjacent wind transmission line is phase two of this long planned, falsely titled, **proposed project of mass destruction**.

The Moose River Valley and surrounding region is a significant component of Maine Vacationland, and we live, "Maine, the way life should be". If this project is permitted, not only will it forever sacrifice the environment and the economy of the small towns reliant on wilderness seekers in our mountains, it will eradicate a territory available to generations of visitors who respect the respite from life's demands. Your decision can save that for the next 8-10 generations of visitors, or you can be held responsible for its demise. I ask you to honor the Maine woods and support the opinion of Maine's majority. **Deny it**!

Sincerely yours, Larry J. Harth

From:	Edward Brintle <ed113b@gmail.com></ed113b@gmail.com>
Sent:	Friday, March 27, 2020 9:47 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Attn: Jim Beyer Maine DEP CMP's corridor would be bad for Maine!

# 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.

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Like many Maine residents, my wife and I oppose the CMP Corridor. We believe the only fair thing to do is for the DEP to hold off on issuing a final permit for the NECEC until public comment can safely be heard.

I've read the August 20, 2018 Scenic Quality Consultant Report by James Palmer done for the DEP and the Land Use Planning Commission. This report reviewed the visual impact assessment (VIA) prepared by Terrence J. DeWan & Associates. The report identifies "what appears to have been a rushed preparation of this VIA...the fieldwork began on May 24, 2017 and the final draft of the VIA was dated September 26, 2017. Four months is inadequate to do a VIA for a project of this size...By way of contrast, TJDA's fieldwork for the Northern Pass Transmission Project (NPTP) began in April 2014 and the VIA is dated October 14, 2015, or 18 months...It is inexcusable that a VIA for a project of this size would rely on a "dummy" project to conduct its visibility analysis...I have no real knowledge of why this is happening. However, it is very unlike my past knowledge of how TJDA conducts a VIA." I hope some of the problems identified have been addressed. In particular, the planned Kennebec River Crossing of the power lines "is the worst place for a crossing" for whitewater rafting and kayaking because it destroys the wilderness experience. People, myself included, go to this remote area to enjoy the wilderness.

I've seen how much these highly visible tracts of giant powerlines blight the lands around me in North Yarmouth and Pownal. It is now going to be worse as the plan is to update and enlarge the Allen/Fickett Roads Substations. There also seems to be no plans to hide the current and future messes.

Everything about this project has been rushed and the people of Maine have not been allowed to vote on it. It was not rushed in New Hampshire and the people were allowed to speak. Please postpone the issuing of a final permit for the NECEC until public comment can safely be heard.

Sincerely, Ed and Dorean Brintle New Gloucester

From:Nicholas Pesarik <kittery94@yahoo.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 18, 2020 2:51 PMTo:DEP, NECECCc:kittery94@yahoo.comSubject:Camp corridor

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Evict hydro Quebec and CMP from extorting us.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Laurie Mullens <lauriej525@roadrunner.com></lauriej525@roadrunner.com>
Sent:	Sunday, March 22, 2020 5:43 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Central Maine Power Corridor Project

# 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.

I am sending this email to let you know that I strongly oppose the Central Maine Power's transmission line project. I believe that the Central Maine Power's corridor project is bad for Maine's environment. Cutting down 53 miles of trees in one of the most beautiful areas of our state isn't exactly environmentally friendly. Not to mention that the corridor would permanently damage critical wildlife habitat for some of our iconic species, like the brook trout. In fact, not a single environmental group supports CMP's corridor. The Department of Environment Protection should deny Central Maine Power's application to destroy Western Maine.

Laurel J Mullens Whitefield, Maine

From:Natalie Lane <ng.lane@hotmail.com>Sent:Sunday, March 22, 2020 8:54 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Citizen request

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.

To the Maine DEP,

Please deny CMP's corridor permit. Down deep you know, it is not good for Maine or our environment in the short term or the long term.

You as officials have a duty to protect Maine for future generations. Do not let our Maine government be manipulated by foreign companies and their gains. The Maine people will not be benefited by the permanent scarring of our precious landscape to send power to another state by a company owned by a foreign country.

Our fellow New England states saw this for what it was and did not accept the proposed deal and Maine shouldn't either. Don't make Maine the "Barney Fife" of New England.

I urge you to stand up and protect our beloved State. Small financial gains do not equate to the long term health of the State.

Respectfully,

Natalie Lane

Sent from my iPhone

From:Jean Stewart <jeanmcphail@gmail.com>Sent:Friday, April 3, 2020 9:09 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:CMP NECEC application- public comment

# 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.

CMP's proposal to cut a permanent 145 mile power line through Western Maine would cause significant and permanent harm to forest and wetland wildlife habitats. There would be certain significant and longterm negative impacts to the natural, recreational and economic resources that are crucial to the area's citizens, fauna and flora. The proposed line would drastically damage a globally significant forest, which is also the largest contiguous forest east of the Mississippi.

Touted as 'clean' power by CMP, no proof has been provided that this energy transmission will benefit our climate OR reduce greenhouse gas emissions! Attempts to determine this with an independent study were fought by CMP. Hydro Quebec is a foreign company and has never agreed to testify under oath at hearings concerning this project. Would Hydro Quebec conceivably substitute fossil fuel generated power in the mix coming thru Maine? Any guarantee they would not?

Bear in mind the infrequently voiced but real concern of increased fire risk, a greater risk with DC power lines. In 1947 Nine Maine towns were wiped out by fires. Fifteen people died. 53 miles of the proposed lines are in remote. poorly accessible regions.

Protecting and restoring Maine resources is your task, not allowing them to be degraded. What is the legacy we want to leave? I strongly disagree with those who say this power line will not drastically affect the people, fauna and flora of our beautiful and hopefully forward thinking state. I ask that you deny the permit for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jean Stewart

From:Susan Drucker <sdrucker@gwi.net>Sent:Thursday, April 9, 2020 9:51 AMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:CMP Transmission line

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.

Hello,

I strongly oppose CMP's proposed corridor. With so many threats to nature as a whole, we should be protecting our forests at all costs. Undisturbed natural environments are priceless to the well-being of humans and non-humans, and trees have the ability to sequester carbon in the ground. Please please please think long term, with NEW solutions, and not simply about economic gain.

Thank you,

Susan Drucker

From:Michelle Bridges <mrbridges85@aol.com>Sent:Monday, April 13, 2020 7:07 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:CMP transmission line project

## 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.

Hello Jim,

I realize this message is approximately an hour and a half late for deadline of comments, so I will keep my comment short as it may or may not count. Irregardless, I felt it necessary to reach out to you. I have been a Maine resident and lover of nature all my life. My family has property in the Western Maine Mountain region with a birds eye view of where this CMP corridor is proposed to be constructed. We hunt, we fish, we enjoy and respect the land. We love it here. It breaks my heart to visualize it, or even try to imagine the damage this corridor would bring to this untouched wilderness, the waterways and the wildlife of this area. This is a sanctuary for the wildlife habitat and should remain as such.

So I ask, how would the common person like us get heard? We are without millions of dollars to promote adds or fund campaigns to get the word out... Please, I ask you to reconsider and do your part in protecting this precious area in the Western Maine Mountains. I feel this project has no benefit to Mainers, it would only provide a vein to supply other States. Unfortunately it would be the wilderness and animals of this area who would bleed because of it... Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Bridges 207-458-1611

From:Amy Eshoo <amy@350maine.org>Sent:Thursday, April 9, 2020 4:25 PMTo:DEP, NECECSubject:Comment on NECEC hydro corridor

## 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.

**350 Maine** is a climate justice organization with a statewide membership. We work to end our dependence on fossil fuels, and to build a healthy, sustainable life for people and the planet. I am writing on behalf of our organization to comment on the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's draft permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission corridor.

We are against the building of this corridor by CMP. We believe that it will not reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, and may actually increase them. The line would permanently damage undeveloped forest and wildlife habitat and hamper our tourism industry.

The corridor would jeopardize the construction of new in-state renewable energy projects and the creation of clean energy jobs which we need for a sustainable future.

The destruction of First Nation lands continues throughout Canada due to megadam construction and operation. The communities that these megadams and transmission lines impact must unfairly bear the environmental costs associated with them and rarely any of the benefits.

These reasons lead us to decry the issuing of a permit by the DEP for the NECEC hydro corridor.

Thank you.

Amy Eshoo (she/hers) Program Manager 350 Maine amy@350maine.org / 415-246-8050 350 Maine website | Facebook Maine Climate Action NOW!

From:	hull@auroracontracting.com
Sent:	Thursday, April 9, 2020 6:44 PM
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Comment Regarding NECEC

## 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.

Dear Commissioners of Maine's Department of Environmental Protection,

NECEC is a project that will open up Maine to the type of development that the rest of the country runs away from every chance they get: permanent industrial infrastructure. This project jeopardizes what countless Maine citizens and people from the rest of the country and world hold dear about our state: our wilderness. Much of it is a working wilderness, true, but permanent industrial infrastructure will begin to erode that. Please consider the precedent of NECEC, and consider what will follow. If you think what follows is not part of the scope of what you are voting on, please think again. With NECEC in place, further projects will be insidious; no project in and of itself will likely be denied based on impact. An access road here, a wind turbine there... but collectively and in totality, we will see the degradation of western Maine's environment following NECEC. I know you will likely be under great pressure to permit this project from many sides. But remember who you are and what your job is to the people of Maine: you are the Department of Environmental Protection. Please protect Maine's environment from the development and ruin that NECEC is, and will bring.

Sincerely,

Troy Hull Starks, ME

From:	<u>Lisa Brown</u>
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	From a Mainer
Date:	Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:07:10 AM

Maine will only get some electric car stations and a some part time jobs and a few cents off our electric bill over time! This can't compare to the fire hazard, cancer causing, massive electrical towers that kill the wilderness and the animals in it! Then they will top it off with the wind turbines and the hazardous weed spray that seeps into the ground contaminating both the land and depleting it's worth and poisoning our drinking water!! Never mind this hydroelectric power dam is not green, it emites methane gas! This is where they want this to start - this CMP corridor from the Canada's dam then the 145 miles through Maine to give Mass the electric? This not only will hurt our water but kill that the fish we eat and the plants and this will travel to other lakes!! Not clean energy!!

This will destroy our food our water and our land!

Just pure greed for everyone involved!! Please read the research. Don't believe the printed media lies.

Say NO! NH fought it for years and won! NECEC is Not for the people of Maine! Sent from my iPhone

From:	<u>inwiest</u>
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Jim Beyer
Date:	Thursday, March 19, 2020 7:00:27 AM

Hi Jim. Hope you and your family are safe and healthy through the tough times. Just wanted to quickly mention my concern about the corridor project. I am an avid outdoorsman and have enjoyed the outdoors in that region since I was a child. Now I'm 47 and have started to share those experiences with my son. I consider that area to be a wilderness still. But I'm concerned that it will start to lose that feel. I hear of all the positives that this project brings. But I don't think it's worth putting another scar across a very natural area. Furthermore, I highly doubt this would be the last proposed large scale project in the remote Maine woods. Eventually I'm afraid Maine will lose it's Natural wilderness and beauty. Deeply concerned. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Jason Wiest. Lisbon Falls, ME

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From:	Kevin Healy
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	My thoughts on the NECEC Corridor
Date:	Thursday, April 9, 2020 7:20:50 PM
Subject:	My thoughts on the NECEC Corridor

This is my view of the proposed NECEC corridor (as a non-resident, revenue contributing tourist.) There will be no long-term benefit to Maine's residents, nor Maine's economy. The decision to allow this power corridor to pass through Maine may ultimately prove to be a detriment to both. The residents that rely on the tourism for income are the ones that will ultimately pay the price. I make a point to take at least one trip to this area every year. The vacationers that I've encountered, many traveling a great distance, are drawn to the area because of its lack of development, unadulterated scenic beauty and abundant opportunities to view fish and wildlife (opportunities that aren't available in their home states.) The fact that Maine puts so much focus on maintaining its native fisheries and wildlife speaks volumes. The hunting and fishing opportunities that Maine provides, particularly in this region, are world class and will become increasingly more in demand as other states fall victim to this type of avoidable habitat degradation. Redirecting the power lines under the Kennebec River only solves a very small fraction of the problem. Marring the landscape and degrading fragile ecotypes are actions that can't be undone. The results will manifest themselves for years to come. As far as nature related tourism revenue goes, hold on to what you have because no one is making any more natural landscapes. The preventable loss of this type of experience and economy has happened in other states and is not congruent with my vision of what Maine stands for... "The way life should be."

Thank you for your time,

Kevin Healy

I have attached a letter regarding the NECEC and MDEP permit approval.

Richard Aishton, Ph.D.

Hello,

Hope all is well during the pandemic, I wish to voice my opinion against the corridor. I see absolutely no benefit to the state of Maine, it's citizens or the wildlife that call this great state home. I personally don't know a single person that is in favor of the project and hope that the DEP will do what's right and not issue the permit for it. Thanks in advance from a lifelong Mainer.

Joshua Shrier Denmark,Me

My name is Carrie Carpenter and I live in Norridgewock, Maine.

While the Draft DEP Permit contains conditions that will minimize the environmental impacts in discreet areas of the First Segment of the NECEC, it does not cure the overall negative impact this project will have on both the environmental and economic ecosystems in the western mountains of Maine. Issuing a permit for this massive project will be the death nell for businesses already teetering on the brink from this unprecedented health crisis we are undergoing *right now*. This project will only ensure that our many small businesses in the western Mountains, so dependent on the environment and natural landscape, will never survive.

Carrie Carpenter

From:	Kris Clark
To:	DEP, NECEC
Cc:	Kris Clark
Subject:	NECEC
Date:	Wednesday, April 8, 2020 12:34:38 PM

I am strongly opposed to the NECEC corridor. It will not reduce CO2 in any significant matter, it does not help Maine become more self sufficient with local renewable energy sources and it does not prevent Hydro Quebec and others from importing fossil Fuel generated electricity in the future. Finally, Maine voters should be the final arbiters of this debate and must be allowed to vote on this issue in November.

George Clark and Cindy MacKay Lifetime Maine resident

Mr. Beyer,

I'm writing to express my strong objection to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission corridor. This project is purported to provide clean energy and combat climate change, yet the project is not supported by any climate change or environmental activist groups. This project also promises to create jobs in communities in western Maine - yet, again, the project is not supported by those communities. The only people who do seem to support this project are the people who stand to make money from it. This is a bad deal for Maine, plain and simple.

Sincerely,

Joshua Trombley Springvale, ME

From:	Grace & Craig Cain
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	NECEC comments
Date:	Friday, April 10, 2020 4:58:45 PM
Attachments:	CMP corridor letter.docx

Hello,

I'm writing with concern about the proposed NECEC corridor. I think that maintaining and upgrading existing lines is important, but certainly does not outweigh the impact that a new transmission corridor will have on the upper Kennebec and Western Maine region. I strongly oppose this project for that basis alone, and I sincerely wish the proposal didn't marry the two projects. I hope that the conservation of the very few remaining wild places is maintained for the sake of our environment and our children's environment.

Thanks Seth

From:	william hughey
То:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	NECEC comments attn: Jim Beyer
Date:	Monday, April 13, 2020 12:24:05 PM

We find it appalling after reading the draft order that you are even discussing mitigation as opposed to outright an outright denial of this permit application. This project will do such harm to the environment of our state that this permit should by the DEP's own regulations be denied not mitigated. The impacts on our waterways alone necessitate a denial of this permit application. Time and again CMP/Avangrid has proven to be deceitful and callous when it comes to their claims of caring for our environment. If they truly cared about environmental impacts they would have submitted a proposal to have this project line be completely buried under either Rt. 27 or Rt. 201. A completely buried line is the only way this project would even come close to being low impact. Your department has a duty to the people of our great state to do what is right and deny this permit and protect the environment and our environmental heritage of future generations. No more playing these mitigation games, deny this permit as you should have long before now.

Thank you for your time. William Hughey, Wendy Sloat and Nynah Hughey of 654 main st. Moose River Maine 04945

NECEC Hydro Corridor is bad for everyone in Canada, Maine, and Mass. It is damaging to the people of Canada and bad for the forests of

Maine. I am a resident of MA and also have a summer home in Maine. I do not want this dirty energy to come to Mass. Most of the people

in Maine do not want these power lines going through their land. There are better ways to save energy and fight climate change.

Please do what you can to stop this project. Thank you, Dorothy Anderson, 125 River St, Weymouth, MA 02191

From:	Carlton Wilcox
То:	DEP, NECEC; PUC, Maine
Cc:	Melissahenes@pownalmaine.org; Townclerk@durhamme.com; Paul First; Claxton, Ned; Carson, Brownie; Jeffery.Timberlake@legislature.maine.gov; Arata, Amy; Sharpe, Braden
Subject:	NECEC MDEP Order Comments & PUC Complaint CMP Substation Design & Flooding
Date:	Friday, April 10, 2020 11:36:14 AM
Attachments:	2020.04.10 NECEC MDEP Order Comments Reduced.pdf Exhibit 2 Plans Reduced.pdf Exhibit 3 Aerial Photos Reduced.pdf Exhibit 1 Dec 2019 Letter Reduced.pdf Exhibit 4 Wetlands Reduced.pdf

Attached is my letter with issues regarding the Maine DEPs NECEC Order that also serves as a complaint to Maine PUC concerning substation location and substation stormwater runoff management.

To be contained in one email, the documents have been reduced in size. Should you desire any photos or other documents in a greater resolution please let me know and I will provide them.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Sincerely,

Carl Wilcox 207-632-4985

Good afternoon,

A a property owner in the West Forks, I am writing to urge you to deny issuing the permit for this destructive project.

I am confident that the majority of you--like the majority of Mainers, know that this project is not in the best interest of Maine. With that being said, it seems unlikely that the majority of you would vote to allow the project especially since your job is to protect the environment of the state.

There are many reasons this permit should be denied. There are better options--going underground for one--. The permanent damage this will cause to the scenic character of this region can not possibly be mitigated in any way. If this corridor gets approved, it will open up the area for an unknown number of similar projects in the future (wind towers, more power corridors, more roads) and it would be more difficult to deny permitting on future projects.

It will be tragic if the remoteness of this area is jeopardized since it is the only part of the state with such remoteness that can be traveled to in about  $2 \frac{1}{2}$  hours from Portland.

There is no doubt, the ones benefiting from this project is CMP and a few of the companies they may hire to do the work. The money being spent by CMP and HQ on promoting this project should signal how much CMP will benefit from it. The losers on this project are the people that truly care about our state and its resources, now and for generations to come.

I can go on and on with reasons to deny the permit but I am sure you have heard most of them.

In closing, I again strongly request you deny this permit and show that you are protecting the states resources as you should.

Sincerely,

Debra May

PO Box 235

New Gloucester, ME 04260

April 10, 2020

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this urging for the denial of the NECEC permit to be granted. I have an Environmental policy degree and also have worked in the Electric utility field for over 20 yrs.

The purpose behind CMPs proposed project arose from the defeat of a similar proposal in NH. Because MA has a renewable energy mandate with an ever growing demand, CMP is trying to capitalize on this to make easy money at our states expense.

This project would stifle our own renewable energy efforts. The use of solar grids with net-metering and our biomass industry would suffer greatly if this project moves forward.

Our western Maine mountains area is a special place which deserves protection. The NECEC is not in the best interest of our people or our wildlife. I am asking for you to do the right thing and deny the permit for the NECEC. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Meagher North Berwick, ME

Do not issue a permit for the NECEC. Do not. Lew-Ellyn Hughes Mainer and Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR) Greenville Maine

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From:	Paul Markson
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	NECEC powerline
Date:	Wednesday, March 18, 2020 1:17:54 PM

I urge the Maine DEP to halt permitting and construction of CMP's NECEC powerline to Massachusetts. Damming rivers, killing fish, clear-cutting forest, stressing animals, and sending electricity over hundreds of miles is not, repeat NOT the answer to protecting Maine's environment. As a Registered Maine Guide who's speciality is back country fly fishing, I know first hand that Quebec hydro power and CMP's planned corridor does not add up to "green" power. And as a lifelong Maine resident, I know first hand that sacrificing Maine's natural resources and environment, for Massachusetts' benefit, is a bad deal we will regret for generations to come.

Please Maine DEP, help keep Maine "Vacationland" and not let us become the "Doormat of Massachusetts". Vote NO on the NECEC powerline application.

Respectfully, Paul L Markson Registered Maine Guide Bangor, Maine 907-4744 oronopaul@yahoo.com

Elaine D
DEP, NECEC
NECEC PROJECT
Thursday, April 9, 2020 4:13:49 PM
To the Maine DEP.docx

Thank you for extending the due date for comments.

Dear DEP,

I hesitated to write this letter because I assumed it might be a waste of my time, considering the influence (both external and internal) enjoyed by CMP, Avangrid and Iberdrola. The pressure exerted often is able to cloud the realities of a project such as this.

As an environmental dynamics professional with 40 years of experience in Maine and internationally including Scandinavia, Eastern and Western Europe, Canada, and Russia I will state that the only way to fairly assess whether this NECEC is feasible or not is to conduct an Environmental Impact Statement. If this is NOT done then how could any one of you make an honest, unbiased decision?

Richard W. Aishton, Ph.D. Environmental Dynamics Analyst Farmington, Maine

To The Maine DEP,

Please protect our unique and beautiful North Western area of the State of Maine by denying the new Transmission Line proposed by CMP.

The Northern wilderness area where the new 53 mile Corridor stretch would begin, would cause great , perhaps permanent, damage with the 150 foot wide swath through the wilderness. The Corridor will interrupt the natural flow of the forest, the animal and bird wildlife, animal migration routes, animal hibernation and wintering area, and the possibility of harming area streams and lakes. Plus, the roads, pathways and areas cleared to accommodate transporting equipment for the Transmission Line will also cause great environmental harm to that wilderness area.

I write as a 76 year old Franklin County resident that has appreciated and enjoyed the wild forested beauty of the Lake Enchanted area in Somerset County for over 30 years plus. I have bunked, hiked, fished, bird-watched, canoed and found peace and tranquility in that wilderness are! I call it: "God's Country!"

In the enormous amount of business, political and social obligations: personal, state, national and world-wide, it is indeed, most powerful

and appreciated to have the peace and tranquility of the magnificent natural beauty of the North Western forests, mountains and lakes

of our cherished Maine! I urge you, as DEP Members, to advocate for the wilderness forests, mountains, animal and fish wildlife of our

North Western Maine area and preserve the area, in it's Natural Beauty, for future generations to enjoy Mother Nature at her VERY BEST!

Thank You & With Regards, Wendy A, Huish Farmington, Maine

I am opposed to this project for a number of reasons.

1. It will be owned and operated by foreign companies that have shown their disregard for the well being of Mainers for decades.

2. It will cause needless destruction to wild areas.

3. It will be at risk of damage/destruction by terrorists. It would be safer to have locally generated green energy, distributed at a local level.

4. Mainers will gain relatively little in benefits from the project, but out state will suffer all the negative effects of this project.

Sincerely,

Ms. Adair DeLamater 44 East Milan Street Bath, Maine 04530

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Thank you for extending the comment period on the Department's Order concerning the NECEC project due to the COVID-19 complications.

I'm requesting an extension from today's 5:00 pm deadline. Our power was lost yesterday afternoon about 4:00 pm. CMP anticipates it will be restored tonight at 7:15 pm, after the deadline. With the COVID-19 stay at home order, I can not go to a public library to complete and email the letter. My lap top computer is now dead.

I have invested considerable time and energy in this letter and feel it is appropriate that the Department extend the deadline to a reasonable time after the power utilities have restored power to their customers.

This was written and sent from my cell phone.

Sincerely,

Carl Wilcox

CMP shouldn't get a permit to build the corridor because it's a bad deal for Maine's environment and economy.

Also this bad deal will destroy the eco system in Maine. We need to stop killing by power lines as well.

Yvonne Stanton Woolwich, Maine

Sent from Von

From:	Orlando Delogu
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	pg 1 of a 2 page comment on DEP"s draft CMP order
Date:	Monday, March 23, 2020 12:42:19 PM
Attachments:	DEP MEMO.docx

From:	Orlando Delogu
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	pg. 2 of a 2 page comment on the DEP"s draft CMP order
Date:	Monday, March 23, 2020 12:44:23 PM
Attachments:	Scan 81.pdf

Substantial loss of trees will result from the NECEC corridor. The fact that the tree loss extends for miles instead of in a clump does not mitigate the damage to the environment and the negative impacts on climate change and actually may cause unforeseen actualities.

In any event, the discussion should be tabled until the world is in a less financially precarious state. It may well be that finances prevent the project completion.

The worst case scenario would be that the forest gets cleared in preparation and then the project never completed.

Sincerely,

Wendy Mae Chambers Scarborough, Maine and also Jackman, Maine

Jim Beyer Maine DEP State House Station #17 Augusta, ME 04333

Please - I oppose the corridor. So very bad for our environment... Please STOP the Corridor! Thank you! Lucy Poland Farmingdale, Maine 04344

Dear Jim Beyer,

I have lived in the Moosehead /Jackman /Forks region for over 50 years. I have owned and operated a white water rafting company for 25 years on the Kennebec and Dead Rivers. I now own and operate The Birches Resort on Moosehead lake.

I have been a commercial float plane pilot in the region, a licensed forester and a Registered Maine Master Guide for over 40 years. I know what tourists want and need to encourage them to travel to the region.

CMP's power line proposal is a bad deal for Maine and for the region. It will dig up and destroy habitat for hundreds of species of wildlife. It will destroy scenic vistas which the tourist economy in the region depend on for income.

Guests come from all over the world to enjoy the unbroken forests of the region.

This power line will also accommodate hundreds of giant wind turbines in the region which will diminish if not destroy our tourist economy.

This power line will have devastating impacts on the Kennebec River and Moxie Stream. My rafting company was named Wilderness Expeditions because the region was so pristine.

This permit should be denied and or at least delayed until Maine people can vote on it this coming November.

I hope the DEP will do the right thing and deny this project.

Sincerely,

John Willard birches.com

Attention: Jim Beyer,

While everyone is concerned with Covid 19 right now, as well they should be and I am, there still remains the issue of the CMP Corridor through Maine. I am strongly opposed to the construction of the corridor for a number of reasons, most if not all of which you have probably heard, but which are as relevant now as they were when the project was first proposed.

I am concerned about the project on three fronts. First is the immediate and long range environmental impact on our natural resources in the area. Second is the displacement of wildlife from their homes. And last is the long term negative impact on the health of the people living along the corridor's path.

Please do not permit this project to go forward.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Hillman Bourne

15 Mount Merici Avenue

Waterville, Maine 04901



Virus-free. <u>www.avast.com</u>

My name is Diana Burgess and I live in Upper Enchanted TWP. I am writing to you regarding the NECEC project and encouraging you to not approve the project.

Spain's CMP/Avangrid doesn't care about Maine's environment or way of life or how this project will permanently destroy natural habitats and migration routes through the northern woods. Spain's CMP/Avangrid only cares about making money. The taller poles and growth beneath does nothing to alleviate the fact that this power is not Green energy. It is a well know fact that large mega dams such as Hydro-Quebec are not green energy. In fact, more and more scientific studies show that they create more greenhouse gases than they mitigate. Why else would Spain's CMP/Avangrid pay thousands and thousands of dollars on lobbyists to stop a bill in the State Legislature last summer that would have required an environmental assessment by a independant source.

One of the things that has always made Maine such a great place to live is that they have always protected the environment. My grandfather (Edgar Thomas) was one of the first people to serve on the DEP and he worked relentlessly to protect Maine's waters from contamination by chemicals and by educating people that putting soaps and household chemicals into the waters destroys the ecosystem. He would be very disappointed that the current commissioners are even considering allowing this project to proceed.

There are many other alternatives for Mass to meet their energy goals that may actually provide the green energy that Mass requires. If this project is not built, nothing changes in the environment or for climate change or for the State of Maine. Not providing a permit will only require Mass to look to Vermont's already approved much greener project. What is wrong with that? What is wrong with saving Maine for our future generations? Maine does not need to be a part of this. If you approve it you will go down in history as people who approved the destruction of the last remining large forest east of the Mississippi.

This picture was taken on my property last winter from a game cam. There are 4 cats in this photo. My property is on the southern side of the proposed corridor. Never again will we see cats this far south if this project is approved.



I beg you to be on the right side of history and do not approve this project. Make your fellow Mainers proud of the work you do. Say no to big business and stand with your people.

#### Diana Burgess

66 View Road

Upper Enchanted TWP, Maine

207-615-4517

Hello,

Last Friday prior to the deadline I submitted comments on the NECEC order and requested confirmation of receipt. After two business days I have yet to receive that confirmation. Have you or have you not received it? It was submitted by me, Carl Wilcox, via this email address.

Additionally, a few minutes after the 5:00 pm deadline, I copied this email address in response to a letter that I received from CMP in regards to comments on the CWA permit application that I made more than 3-months ago. This letter from CMP was received at about 3:15 pm April 9 at the approximate same time that we lost our power for nearly 20-hours.

This letter from CMP resulted in revealing that CMP did not correctly submit to MDEP, FEMA flood mapping for Pownal. The applicant failed to map FEMA non-digitized flood maps which may well extend to othe areas impacted by the NECEC project and not just Pownal.

Please confirm receipt of both of these emails.

Sincerely,

Carl Wilcox, P.E.

Mr. Beyer:

I am writing to ask the Department of Environmental Protection to deny the Spanish conglomerate Iberdrola, through their entities Avangrid and Central Maine Power, their desire to slash a fifty-three-milelong corridor through some of Maine's most beautiful and environmentally sensitive woodlands.

Of course, you are aware that groups such as Trout Unlimited, the Natural Resources Council of Maine, and the Appalachian Mountain Club stand firmly against this profiteering gambit thinly veiled as "environmentally friendly" to Maine and Massachusetts. Their research has proven what any citizen with common sense has known from the start: It is unnecessary, and a bad deal for Maine's environment and economy.

There are dozens of strong arguments in favor of protecting our environment and livelihoods by denying CMP's permit application. Those aside, the recent Covid-19 pandemic should bring into sharp focus the danger of increasing our reliance on foreigners for our most vital commodities, and the so called "Clean Energy Connect" would do just that. We may consider the Spanish directors of Iberdrola, their Qatari financial backers, and the Canadians as our allies and business partners today, but in times of turmoil we must understand that they will do what benefits them first and foremost.

Let's leave a legacy of common sense, a protected environment, and independence for future generations by denying the profit-grabbing, environment damaging, co-dependent relationship proposed by those in foreign countries. Please stand for Maine's environment and her hard-working citizens by reconsidering this permit.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary Henry Winslow

(207) 872-0825

From:	Steph Barrett
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Public comment
Date:	Friday, April 10, 2020 8:46:15 AM

I'm writing to encourage DEP to refuse the NECEC permit, for the following environmental reasons:

-while it's true the corridor runs through working forest, it is still, largely, forest habitat. That habitat will be disrupted by the corridor and ensuing wind development.

-it crosses many streams and brooks, removing essential cover that will allow warming waters.

-there is an existing corridor from Jackman already. That Avangrid can't work and play nice to make a deal with Brookfield shouldn't be a penalty for the citizens of Maine -hydro is renewable, not clean.

Please take these irreversible impacts into account when considering a permit that will forever change Somerset County.

Regards, Stephanie Barrett 25 Pickerel Lane Belgrade, Maine 04917

From:	Callie Willis
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	public comment
Date:	Thursday, April 9, 2020 9:08:30 AM

Nothing good will come out of the NCEC hydro corridor project. This is NOT the direction that Maine wants to move in. Please step into all of our future and reject this! Most Sincerely, Callie Willis

I own property on the Androscogin River. I can only cut a % of the trees on the river bank. I also own property on Webb Lake in Weld. It is a non conforming lot so I can't do improvements to the property and protect the environment.

How can the DEP even remotely consider permitting the proposed CMP corridor when individual landowners have to abide by your strict rules to protect the environment? It is unfair!

I hope you will consider it from a landowners point of view.

Thanks

Arthur Chamberlin Canton, Maine

Mr. Beyer,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed New England Clean Energy Connect Corridor.

Maine has the largest contiguous, forested wilderness east of the Mississippi. Surely the DEP must realize how exceptional such a tract of uninterrupted wilderness is? We need to preserve it, not just for our children, but because it is a valuable and rare ecosystem. Any development that removes, separates or divides an area of this wilderness should be deemed environmentally unacceptable. The first cut always makes the next (and next, and next after that, and so on) easier to justify.

Once it's gone, or carved up, you can't get it back. Please do your duty by the citizens of Maine, and deny the corridor permit.

Sincerely,

Heather Aguiar 22 Cortland Rd. Freeport, Maine

From:	Lucy Atkins
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Public Comment on NECEC Hydro Corridor
Date:	Thursday, April 9, 2020 9:04:39 AM

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The proposed *New England Clean Energy Connect* transmission corridor is a bad idea for Maine and the world. We are amidst a global climate crisis, so the framing of the project as "carbon-free electricity" intentionally misrepresents it to the public. Huge dams in Canada remove large areas of forest that are responsible for carbon sequestration, simultaneously releasing methane, a greenhouse gas four times more dangerous than carbon dioxide. A transmission line carrying hydro-electricity is nowhere near carbon-free.

What's more, this corridor would fragment an already increasingly fragmented natural area in Maine. The North Woods are barely wilderness, but they are all we have in Maine and New England. They are immensely important to wildlife, wetlands, and watersheds.

We have found ourselves facing a second global crisis in the past months--COVID-19. This pandemic stems in part from destruction of ecosystems allowing viruses from stressed populations of animals to come in closer contact with humans. North American needs to show the world that we value the small areas of wild space that we have left. We need to leave it alone, not fragment it more, and focus our work on real renewable energy development.

Thank you. Lucy Atkins

From:	Faith Rawding
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Public Comment re: New England Clean Energy Connect
Date:	Saturday, March 14, 2020 1:03:07 PM

As a year round resident of Maine, born in Maine, raised in Maine and have lived in Maine my whole life: this project to create a transportation corridor for electricity from Canada to Massechusettes through Maine is, once again, an out of state, and in this case, an out of country, attempt to use OUR resources for monetary gain and for foreigners' profit. We will no longer be used. There are many reasons why hydropower is NOT green, there are many reasons why the old economic model of a monopoly monopolizing the source of electrical power and then selling it to a population that has no choice but to buy is NOT the way it should be. And there are many reasons why such corridor will further damage and deplete our precious natural resources. **I absolutely oppose this project.** 

Faith Rawding 81 Church Road Cliff Island, ME 04019 207 409-4606 <u>f.a.rawding@gmail.com</u>

Dear Jim,

I hope you are safe and healthy.

I'm writing to ask when the public comments and intervenor group responses will be posted to the DEP's NECEC project website.

Many thanks for the update.

Sincerely, Sandi Howard Director, Say NO to NECEC

To whom it may concern;

I would respectfully ask the members of the DEP to hold off on issuing a final permit on the NECEC until public comment can safely be participated in.

The Governor has called on all Mainers to follow a social distancing protocol which the economy of this state is already feeling the effects of and the Maine people are reeling under, because of the Corona Virus.

Just today l witnessed an elderly couple who have been married 66 years today celebrating their anniversary by talking to each other through a locked glass door. The wife could not come in the nursing home because of the CDC guide lines that are in place.

Again, please consider holding off on issuing a final permit. Please give Mainers the chance to come together and have a voice.

Right now, that would be impossible.

Regards,

Theresa York

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Jackie Adamo
To:	DEP, NECEC
Subject:	Protect Maine"s Natural Resources
Date:	Friday, April 10, 2020 10:37:25 AM

Dear Commissioners of Maine's Department of Environmental Protection,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the NECEC project that will jeopardize what countless Maine citizens and people from all corners of the world hold dear about our state: our pristeen wilderness. A permanent industrial infrastructure will destroy this natural gem, which can never be replaced! Please remember who you are and what your job is to the people of Maine: you are the Department of Environmental Protection. Please protect Maine's environment from the development and ruin that this project will bring. Please give the people of Maine the opportunity to decide by vote what is best for our state. Don't allow NECEC to continue to plow through the approval process without the voice of the citizens of Maine being heard! You have the opportunity to slow this thing down. Please don't buckle under the pressure of those with deep pockets. Please do the job you are charged to do: protect Maine's environment! Thank you,

Jackie Adamo Portland, ME

### Dear Maine DEP,

I hope my plea to you is not a waste of time. Since the mission of the DEP is to *"prevent abate and control the pollution of the air, water and land, to preserve, improve and prevent diminution of the natural environment of the State"* I ask you to carefully consider my request for an Environmental Impact Statement for NECEC.

I am a former member of one of "your" DEP Workgroups, recommended to you by an environmental group, and have testified more times than I can count at hearings before the legislature in Maine, before the NH legislature, and once for Senator Snowe on airborne mercury at an EPA hearing in NH, and for an EPA airborne mercury hearing here in Maine. On top of that I also attended 2 DC hearings with then Senator Michaud on mercury accomplishments in Maine.

The emissions created by this Dam for the Corridor are huge. Not at all Clean, and you need to see that with an Environmental Impact Statement.

#1. The damage to Maine's environment for Massachusetts to wallow in "fake" clean power from Quebec is also huge. The transmission line crossing 115 streams, 126 wetland's and numerous lakes and ponds while dangling towering power lines over one of our most iconic forested waterways is very not clean. Then the clear-cut will be "maintained" with periodic spraying of a chemical soup of herbicides putting local streams in harm's way. Then it also will fracture habitat throughout the region, decreasing biodiversity that interconnects and makes our world habitable. Researchers found that rotting vegetation in the water means that the dams emit about a billion tons of greenhouse gases every year. This represents 1.3% of total annual anthropogenic (human-caused) global emissions.

The transmission line is definitely neither clean, nor green, and needs the Environmental Impact Statement!

#2. The Romaine River dam, as most others in Canada, also violates the rights of the indigenous people near them, in violation of UNDRIP, which is the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People. UNDRIP was ratified by both the US and CA. We have no business taking part in the violation of those rights by participating in accepting illegal hydro power from Quebec.

Dams cause Mercury to be leached from flooded soil at new hydroelectric dam sites, or from any flooded area. This process can add to mercury levels in freshwater aquatic food chains in those areas poisoning people and animals who rely on those aquatic food chains.

#3. Reservoirs that store water and produce electricity were among some of the world's largest contributors of greenhouse gas emissions, the very thing the corridor is supposed to save us from. According to Waterkeepers Alliance, "Dam reservoirs are emitting the equivalent of one gigaton—or one billion tons —of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year. <u>That is more greenhouse</u> <u>gas production than the entire nation of Canada</u>, and just under the amount of greenhouse gas emissions attributable to Brazil, number 7 on the top-10 list of greenhouse gas emitters, behind China, the EU and the United States."

#4. Diatoms. They are microscopic, unicellular, marine or freshwater algae in the fresh water that flows furiously from the forests in spring runoff to the ocean. If they do not reach their destination of the ocean, or are held back by dams at critical times, there is no food for the sea life that feeds on them, namely Copepods. Copepods are the favorite food of North Atlantic Right Whales now threatened with extinction because their own food supply of copepods is in short supply, held back by numerous Canadian dams when they are most needed. The decline of diatoms, then the copepods, then the whales, and Maine fisheries, [not overfishing as dam proponents claim] all coincided with the construction of Hydro Quebec and Canadian dams. More fish and other aquatic animals feed on copepods than any other kind of animal in existence.

An Environmental assessment is definitely needed for NECEC as per your mission to prevent diminution of the natural environment of the State.

Sincerely

Marjorie Monteleon Southwest Harbor