Good morning,

Sandra Howard has my permission to submit my statement as part of sworn testimony.

Christine Blais

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Here is my comment:

I am writing in opposition of the construction of the Clean Energy Connect 1,200 MW HVDC transmission line. Allowing the construction of this line would not only have a negative impact on wildlife and their habitat, it would destroy the wilderness experience that brings so many of us to the region. The experience of boating in the gorge and resting on the river's edge in the lower Kennebec would be ruined by the crossing of these lines and for many, this may be the only wilderness experience they ever have. If you've never experienced the Kennebec Gorge for yourself, I recommend you do so before approving this project. I have heard some say 'it's only a few lines and a few orange balls,' but it's more than that. It's the corridor that will run along the mountain ranges, visible for miles that will permanently mar this beautiful landscape - for what? Please do not approve the construction of this transmission line. Thank you for your time.