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

“I don't think it is efficient to the cost of electricity to send it long distances from where it is generated to where it will be used, as will be the case if the proposed power transmission line is built to bring Hydroelectric generated electricity from Canada to southern New England. I do think that it is good for people to use non-fossil fuel electricity no matter where they are. I have not seen information that says that this part of Canada is generating more non-fossil fuel electricity than can be used much closer than where this electricity is being produced. I think the plan to bring this electricity through Maine is because people in Massachusetts are willing to pay more for this non fossil fuel electricity than the people near its origin want to pay. I guess this is what can happen with an economy that is based on the free enterprise system. But there is a big cost to building this very long transmission line and some damage to the natural environment. New England and Quebec should have an agreed upon plan to generate as much non fossil fuel energy as possible and generate it where it is needed. This plan should phase out all use of fossil fuel energy in this large area and do so as quickly as possible. Any proposal for such a long transmission line should be consistent with this plan. An organization representing New England states and the province of Quebec could work with nearby parts of Canada to develop the kind of plan I am talking about. But this plan should include a large regional plan to also build the facilities to replace fossil fuel energy with other kinds of energy - Hydroelectric, wind, and solar which will be used close to where it is generated so that the cost of constructing and maintaining long power line capacity can be greatly reduced. This will make electricity less costly for consumers than it will be by constructing power line capacity like what is proposed by the project I am commenting about.”

Submitted by Elery Keene on September 12, 2018

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Written