GRACE POND SUBDIVISION OWNERS ROAD ASSOCIATION

Portland, ME 04103

17 September 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

The Board of Directors of the Grace Pond Subdivision Owners Road Association (GPSORA) voted to adopt a resolution in opposition to the CMP New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) proposal. We are a 20 member organization representing private land owners on the west side of Grace Pond – within a few miles of the proposed project. We are compelled to act as stewards of the land and environment of this region in northern Maine on behalf of its private landowners and tens of thousands of annual visitors.

Our own participation in the debate has re-iterated several important points:

1. This project does not solve an unmet need for power for Mainers.
2. The project does not deliver enough economic value to Mainers that would more than offset the permanent damage and loss of value from tourism to the region.
3. The project will fundamentally change the scenic views enjoyed by tourists to the region, hikers, and all outdoor recreationalists in a way that would be irreversible and is unnecessary.
4. This project puts at risk unique habitat for native Maine Brook Trout and other species native to the area.
5. The studies outlining the benefits toward the fight for clean, renewable energy are not well articulated and have been disputed, requiring – at minimum – further independent study. The project does not go far enough to articulate how our broader geographic region would help the climate change or renewable energy initiatives.
6. This project would hurt local property values.
7. This project has been born out of the will of a few who are not acting in the broad best interests of the many.

We submit this letter and commentary to ask that the Public Utilities Commission consider the overwhelming opposition to this project from those most directly impacted. It would be criminal for an extremely narrow group of nefarious corporate actors to be allowed to proceed under the circumstances, and trust that you will act in your capacity to block the project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Lauze

President, GPSORA

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\*Sandra Howard will submit this for our association