9-12-18

Hello Sandra,

I am unable to make either hearing but would love it if you could add my statement:

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

I am deeply troubled by this entire project. As a life long Maine resident and 34 year business owner; I totally understand the need for compromise and balance regarding infrastructure improvements and protection of our natural resources here in Maine. I do not see the need for this transmission line due to the imbalance in what it gains vs. what is lost by its creation. If Massachusetts needs alternative energy in its grid then they need to permit and install more wind power off their coast as well as solar arrays on their roof tops. Or better yet, run the transmission line through the Berkshires from NY. This is THEIR PROBLEM, NOT MAINE'S; they can solve it within their own borders. They do not need to spoil a beautiful natural resource in Maine for their over consumptive needs. Buying off Maine's municipalities in rural areas is simply dirty business and should not be allowed to move forward. NH turned down an offer that was more generous than what is being discussed here because they were concerned for their natural resources and tourism. Lets not continue to prostitute our state for pennies while we sell our resources off with no regard for the long term losses to our state. People come here because we offer something that other states have lost: our beautiful environment. I emplore you ALL to spend time up in the locations that are earmarked for this project. Real time: go camping, hiking, fishing here. Spend a week if you can. Do it before any decision making happens. This is important. Get it right. Vote against this project moving forward. Our state, our children, our futures depend on it.

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