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

9-12-18

I offer my vehement rejection of CMP's proposal of the Quebec-Mass corridor.   
  
Environmental: This project does not add renewable energy to the region: merely reallocates hydropower from one place to another. The added draw to the grid could be fulfilled with any energy source: coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear...   
  
Occupational: The 1700 "promised" jobs are not promised to Mainers. Similar projects always bring in experts from away; I do not believe CMP and Hydro-Quebec will utilize locals as employees, except in the minimum wage, short term jobs.   
  
Transparency: Hydro-Quebec has not been to any of the local meetings to answer our questions. What are they hiding?   
  
Wildlife and Wetlands: The Natural Resource Council and the Sierra Club are both concerned about the irreparable damage the new corridor will bring to our vernal ponds, trout streams, deer shelter and feeding areas, golden eagle habitats, and air quality.   
  
Health: The ill-effects of living under high tension power lines are still debatable. However, the WHO and the CDC both acknowledge increased Electromagnetic Field (EMF) to increased risk of cancer, abnormal heart rates and biorhythms, stunted growth, fatigue, rashes and anxiety. Why should the residents of Maine have to shoulder his added health burden to provide power to Massachusetts?   
  
Tourism: The partnership with Western Mountains and Rivers Corporation does not accurately represent the beliefs and requests of the majority of the residents and tour guides in The Forks area. Most guides, even those employed by the founding members of WM&RC, reject this proposal. Many feel betrayed by this partnership.   
  
Wilderness: There are few areas left with the pristine, untouched wilderness that this corridor will carve and gut.   
  
History: New Hampshire recently rejected a similar proposal. Our western neighbors researched and vetted this well. Let's learn from their diligence and follow with the same decision.  
  
Respectfully submitted,  
  
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