

Beyer, Jim R

From: Sandra Howard <sandrahowardnh@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 8:05 AM
To: DEP, NECEC; Hinkel, Bill
Subject: For NECEC public comment
Attachments: HOWARD - Winter Recreation Impact Survey 2019.pdf

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Good morning, Jim and Bill:

Please accept this as a public comment for the NECEC application.

I am submitting the Winter Recreation Impact Survey, which I conducted over 4-weeks in January-February 2019. The prompt to participants read as follows: “We are collecting data about the winter recreation experience in western Maine. These data will be used in response to a proposed 145-mile transmission line through Maine, which would include crossing many mountains, wetlands, and waterways in an undeveloped region of western Maine.”

It is important to note that CMP representatives testified on record at the PUC that they did not conduct a winter recreation survey to invest a potential impact on outdoor recreation in western Maine, instead, they based their claims on a few conversations with board members from Western Mountains and Rivers Corporation, who shared their anecdotal opinions. This information supplies further concern that NECEC would pose a negative impact on recreational tourism and way of life in northern Somerset county.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Howard, PhD
Director, Say NO to NECEC
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