

Kirkland, April

From: Jeremy Miller <millerjr8@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 6:08 AM
To: DEP, NECEC
Subject: Re: Opposition to the NECEC Corridor

I'm writing to you to voice my opposition to the NECEC powerline project. This type of development was already rejected by New Hampshire regulators due to its obvious negative impacts on the regional environment, as well as the tourism based economy.

There are no long term benefits to the people of Maine or to the forest, wildlife and waterways-based economy of the region. This plan also includes a COMPLETELY inappropriate crossing of the Kennebec River Gorge, which was once considered for Wild & Scenic designation, however it was determined local regulators could adequately protect these qualities. Protecting these qualities is your civic duty. Please do your part in maintaining the spirit of this decision and the spirit of the Kennebec River Gorge. If you have never passed through the gorge, I please urge you to do so before making any decision. It is truly a magical place.

Furthermore, the proposed corridor would fragment one of the largest contiguous areas of temperate forest in the US. This corridor would daylight numerous trout holding waters, impacting stream quality and stream temperatures. Protecting both of these factors are imperative to the health of our trout populations. Maine has been the safe haven of the remaining wild brook trout habitat in the east and should remain that way in perpetuity.

I have heard the argument from proponents that the area is already industrialized due to logging activity. However, well planned logging on managed forests beget a new forest of healthy young trees for the future of the forest, creates habitat and provides recreational opportunities. A powerline corridor destroys a forest, invites new inappropriate industrial development, invites large scale chemical spraying and permanent disruption of animal behavior and water quality.

I urge you, for these and many other reasons, to reject this innappropriate development in our great state. Thank you for your time.

Jeremy Miller

Forester/Registered Maine Guide
Hampden, Me