

York, Marylisa

From: Susan Bartovics <bbartovics@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 7:49 PM
To: DEP, NECEC
Subject: NECEC hearing
Attachments: CMP hearing.pdf

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Commissioner Loyzim
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
28 Tyson Drive
Augusta, Maine, 04333-0017

Dear Commissioner Loyzim,

Oct 19, 2021

I urge you to suspend the permit for the NECEC until the Black v Cutko No BCD-CV-2020-29 decision is completed based on the Rule of Law and let the Maine State Legislature determine the outcome of the lease of public land.

During the hearing, CMP stated that they would be likely to incur a cost of \$65 million if the project is suspended. That is barely more than they have spend in their lavish expenditures in the PAC's they have created to oppose Yes on 1. And it is not germane to your decision.

Repeatedly during the hearing this morning, CMP stated that the energy they will be providing is Clean and Green. It is not. This is greenwashing. Greenhouse Gas emissions from HydroQuebec Megadams include significant methane emissions that can be seen from space. Carbon sequestering forests are flooded and the resultant rotting plant material causes methane to be emitted (86 times more impactful than carbon as a greenhouse gas). Methyl mercury is produced by the rotting material that bioaccumulates in all fauna downstream. The United States no longer permits dams of these sizes because of the significant ecological impacts they have. In fact we are removing them in many locals across the country. CMP/HQ has not been willing to actually prove their claim that this power is either clean or green. Since Mr Dickerson repeatedly suggested that we will be further damaging the earth by this suspension, I raise this issue. **

The fact that no Environmental Impact Statement was required by the Army Corps of Engineers or the Department of Energy, leaves a large hole in the evaluation of this project and one that was completed in all other HQ applications across New England. CMP did not have RTI on the land in spite of their statements in hearings while HQ was absent from any public hearing.

You have an opportunity to right a wrong here and suspend the permit until the law court makes its finding and the Legislature makes its finding. At that point the alternatives that should have been part of the original permitting process can actually be evaluated.

I urge you do suspend the permit.

Sincerely,

Becky Bartovics
273 North Shore Rd
North Haven, ME 04853

** (Please see this link for science on this question https://www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org/pages/what_we_do/events/Speaker%20Series%202021-2022/Mega%20Dams/MegaDams.htm)