

**York, Marylisa**

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**From:** Hank Washburn <washburnhank@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2021 8:02 PM  
**To:** DEP, NECEC  
**Subject:** comment on NECEC project

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I am writing to ask the DEP to suspend the permit for the NECEC project immediately. CMP, Hydro-Quebec, and Avangrid have not ever given proof that this corridor will reduce greenhouse gases. Also, NECEC has steamrolled through the permitting for the use of public lands in the project, which they should be ashamed of, as should our former and current governors. Another aspect of this project that I have not heard addressed satisfactorily is: who is going to be responsible for fire control along the corridor, in the event of a wind or ice event? Pacific Gas and Electric has been held responsible for enormous damages due to fires caused by failure of their electrical lines. I have heard testimony from local firemen in towns near the corridor, and they have no idea who will respond in the case of an incident along that 53 mile segment of worst with little or no road access.

Besides all these factual arguments, I think you might weigh the testimonies of common citizens, who have been in opposition to this project from the very beginning. Almost all the towns along the route do not want this project to proceed. Is it going to be the rich, multinational corporations who get what they want again and again, or will the DEP listen to its citizens and neighbors, follow the law scrupulously, and decide to deny NECEC the permits they obtained unfairly in the first case.

submitted by Henry Washburn, 38 Intervale Rd., New Sharon, ME 04955 retired teacher and private citizen