

THE STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

APPLICATION FOR SITE LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT ACT PERMIT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT PERMIT  
FOR THE NEW ENGLAND CLEAN ENERGY CONNECT  
FROM QUÉBEC-MAINE BORDER TO LEWISTON  
AND RELATED NETWORK UPGRADES

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

EDWIN BUZZELL

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

**TESTIMONY OF EDWIN C BUZZELL**

1 **Please state your name and address.**

2 My name is Edwin C. Buzzell. My address is 645 Lake Moxie Road in West Forks,  
3 Maine.

4 **What is the name of your organization and business address?**

5 I am testifying on my own behalf.

6 **What is your current position?**

7 2016-Present Board of Directors, Old Canada Road National Scenic Byway

8 2003-Present Various Consulting Jobs for several paper companies

9 **What other professional occupations or affiliations have you had previously?**

10 2018 Member Natural Resource Council of Maine

11 2003-Present Various Consulting Jobs for several paper companies

12 2003 Semi-Retired after 27 years in Paper Industry, Area Manager

13 1988-2003 International Paper Company/ Ideal Technical Services, Jay, Maine and

14 Cali, Columbia, South America, served one year in Columbia, SA. as Superintendent

15 of Construction

16 1985-1988 Champion International, Quinnesec, MI.

17 1976-1985 Scott Paper/ S.D. Warren Company, Hinkley Maine

18 1979-1982 Owned and Operated Wildwater Adventures Wilderness Trips. A

19 whitewater touring Company that operated on the Hudson River, NY, Indian River

20 NY, Menominee River, WI, Kennebec Gorge, West Branch Penobscot and Dead

21 River. (Home River, Kennebec Gorge)

22 **What other occupations have you had in the greater Forks area?**

1 1978-1979 Owner/Operator Kennebec Kayak and Canoe, Norridgewock. Maine  
2 (Livery service for Kennebec and Sandy River) sales and custom-made whitewater  
3 kayaks and canoes

4 1974-present Registered Maine Guide - Whitewater, Recreation, Fishing and  
5 Hunting

6 **Why did you intervene in these proceedings?**

7 I chose to intervene in these proceedings to prove that the New England Clean  
7 Energy Connect (NECEC) transmission corridor does not conform to Scenic  
8 Character and Existing Uses. This transmission corridor will also be detrimental to  
9 Wildlife Habitat and Fisheries.

10 I have previously offered direct testimony in 2002 to Land Use Regulatory  
11 Committee (LURC) on the re-zone of 82.5 acres of my property in Moxie Gore,  
12 Maine to commercial use. That permit was granted but restrictions placed by LURC  
13 during the re-zone made it impractical for my business. These restrictions placed on  
14 the 250 feet frontage of my property would not have even begun to equal the damage  
15 the 53-mile NECEC transmission line would do. Why would LUPC  
16 grant a permit to NECEC and allow a large corporation like CMP to do what I was  
17 denied as a private citizen. I have, as an exhibit, a letter that I wrote to LURC in  
18 2002 asking for an exception (*See Exhibit 1*). I was denied.

19 The following descriptions represent my concerns regarding NECEC:

20 1. The outlined areas on the NECEC map, submitted at part of CMP's Site  
21 Application to the DEP and LUPC, illustrate that the transmission corridor will  
22 directly affect me and others.

1 A. Number Five Mountain top views- Will affect me as will others as a detriment to  
2 the Natural Scenic Beauty. The Transmission Corridor would deter me from  
3 climbing No. 5 Mountain as I have many times in the past. I would not recommend  
4 the hike to others if the proposed corridor was built. It would destroy the natural  
5 element that makes No. 5 Mountain a special place.

6 B. Rock Pond- Will affect me as I would not fish at or near Rock Pond as views of  
7 the transmission line would affect the existing scenic views. This is the type of  
8 development myself and others travel to get away from, not travel to see.

9 C. The Spencer Road- which the corridor will cross and parallel many times will not  
10 be the same wilderness drive with the development. Wildlife will not be as prevalent.  
11 I have had many sightings of Canadian Lynx, deer, moose, bear and bobcat along  
12 this road. Development will be more apt to push these wild animals further into the  
13 bush and destroy their current habitat. The existing use of this road as a logging and  
14 recreational access would change. Traffic will increase with the addition of  
15 hunters hunting the power line and line maintenance workers using this road.

16 D. Kennebec River Gorge-Kennebec Gorge usage is changing dramatically. More private  
17 boaters are able to do this river than ever before. I checked the figures on August 18, 2018.  
18 The figure for commercial raft paying customers was 960 on that day. Also on that day 460  
19 private boaters went down the river on their own. The Kennebec Gorge is a developing  
20 scenic resource not a diminishing one as some commercial raft companies would like you to  
21 think. Private citizens are traveling from sometimes long distances to do the Gorge on their  
22 own. These people are adding to the economy of the area and Maine in general. They are not  
23 coming for views of development. Cutting to the river's edge will destroy the natural

1 wonder on a particularly scenic section of the river (*See Exhibit 2*).

2 F. Moxie Steam- Corridor crossing will be less than 1500 feet from my land. I travel  
3 there on a regular basis and I recommend to my guests to travel to almost the exact spot  
4 of the proposed transmission line crossing and hike down to Moxie Falls. Many other  
5 waterfalls exist between the crossing point and Moxie Falls. (*See Exhibits 3A through 3D*).  
6 This will affect me and my guests at the lodge. I would not recommend this scenic hike if a  
7 large development was the predominant scenery.

9 G. View from my own home - I have a direct view of Coburn Mountain from my  
10 home in Moxie Gore. At about 1300' feet I will be able to witness the destruction of  
11 my view from my own home. The reason I bought this land in 1995 and built this  
12 home was because of the pristine views of Coburn Mountain and surrounding area (*See*  
13 *Exhibits 4A- and 4B*).

14 The land was not even for sale, after exploring all land on the Moxie Road.  
15 I picked the place I wanted my home. I sought out the owner which was T.M. Land  
16 Corporation. The views that I sought will no longer exist with the transmission  
17 corridor. Personally, I have more to lose than most as the NECEC project will  
18 devalue my land and home (*See Exhibit 4C*).

19 Regarding the topic of Wildlife Habitat and Fisheries:

20 I am an avid hunter who has harvested over a dozen bucks in the areas spanning the  
21 proposed corridor. I can safely state that the corridor would attract many more  
22 hunters to a very visible area that deer must cross. These are much easier than  
23 conventional harvests and deer will have no protection. This will be severely  
24 detrimental to a deer population just beginning to recover.

Date: Feb 21, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By: Edwin C Buzzell  
Print Name: Edwin C Buzzell

STATE OF Maine  
COUNTY OF Pendscot

Personally appeared before me on the above- named Edwin C Buzzell who being duly sworn, did testify that the foregoing testimony was true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Before me,

Barbara J Dangler  
Notary Public/ Attorney at Law

My Commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara J Dangler  
Notary Public, State of Maine  
My Commission Expires 10/10/2021



Ed Buzzell  
P.O. Box 301 Jay, Maine

Kristina Henderson  
Land Use Regulatory Committee

6/26/2002

Kristina

Received a copy of the approval and thank you for your help. I have no problem with it except the 250' buffer zone that was added in after the plan was submitted. My main lodge while it is 450 feet off the road has a clearing that extends almost to the road facing southwest. I would like to make sure that my main lodge is visible from the road. It is visible now when the leaves are off the trees since the road is only about 75-100 feet from the clearing. There are no residential areas that this affects and the lodge is not and will not be visible from any other camp or residence. No camps exist for over 2 miles on the other side (left) of the road and I own 2000 feet plus frontage on my side of the road. This will only affect about 200 feet of my entire road frontage.

The asphalt road that goes by the lodge is used commercially by every outfitter in the area. All rafters and private boaters that do the Kennebec River Gorge have to use that road to get to the put in. I wish the lodge to be visible to my potential customers that visit the area. All the commercial outfitters in the area are visible from the road they are on. I would be at a business disadvantage from other outfitters if this buffer from the road exists. I will not be able to take care of the field that is there now. Road signs would not be able to make up for being visually unavailable.

There is only one year round residence that abuts me. This is Brian Rowe's residence. Brian has told me that he has no problem with what I am proposing. His comment was that his residence is quite a bit lower in elevation. Sound because of the acoustics of the area travels up to the lodge a lot more than it travels downward. I do not have a problem with a buffer zone between Brian's residence although question any 250-foot zone around my entire property that would forever limit me. That is a lot of land to be permanently disabled from use. My abutter on the other side is a seasonal camp, which is used for snowmobiles and ATV's (Richard Greenleafs place). The abutter on my back line is Mead Paper and it is in tree growth.

Had I known that the 250' buffer clause would be added I would have been a little more specific on the area in front of the lodge and apologize for that. I will fax to you a drawing describing the land, as it exists down to the road and a drawing of what I am proposing. There is not much difference between the two. Please note that while I would like my lodge to be visible from the road I plan to plant trees, other than the scrub trees that are there. I plan to seed with grass to improve the aesthetics and drainage of the 250' x 75' area over and above what is there now.

Thank You

Ed Buzzell



Exhibit 2  
Kennebec River at NECEC crossing point





Exhibit 3A  
Moxie Stream below NECEC crossing



Exhibit 3B  
Moxie Stream below NECEC crossing





Exhibit 3C  
Moxie Stream below NECEC crossing





Exhibit 3D  
Moxie Stream below NECEC crossing



Exhibit 4A  
View of Coburn Mountain from Buzzell residence.





Exhibit 4B  
View of Coburn Mountain from Buzzzell residence.



Exhibit 4C  
Buzzzell residence with Coburn Mountain in background.

