

# T o w n o f C a r a t u n k

Office of Selectmen

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Jim Beyer  
Bureau of Land Resources  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
106 Hogan Rd, Suite 6  
Bangor, Maine 04401

July 18, 2018

Re: Petition to intervene in CMP's Application for Site Location of Development Act permit and Natural Resources Protection Act permit for the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") from Québec-Maine Border to Lewiston and Related Network Upgrades

No. L-27625-26-A-N

Dear Mr. Beyer,

Please find this written letter, emailed and postal mailed, as a **petition for intervention** in Central Maine Power Company's application for their New England Clean Energy Connect project. The Town of Caratunk is within the project boundaries and is, therefore, directly and indirectly affected.

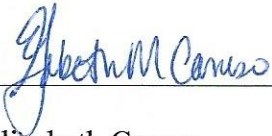
On March 21, 2018, a CMP representative pitched a brief, overview presentation to the Caratunk Selectmen regarding this project. The representative was looking for a letter of support for their application. Later that week, Caratunk sent in a general letter of support. However, since that time, much information has been brought to light. The Selectmen share great concerns for the welfare of Caratunk residents as well as the State of Maine should this project be brought to fruition.

1. The Town of Caratunk has had no representation in this mitigation proceedings. The Town of Caratunk wants to participate and be represented in permitting decisions for this application because the Town is within project boundaries.
2. The Town of Caratunk has not been contacted or asked to be on the directing board of the LLC handling the mitigation funds.
3. Should this project go forth as stated, Maine energy would be locked up and prevented from engaging in any future renewable energy generation projects. Caratunk has already twice supported NextEra for a solar farm within its boundaries. One such solar project lost in direct competition to this NECEC. The valuation benefit from CMP's additional transmission lines does not even compare to a large solar project in Caratunk. Caratunk is against the NECEC project if it prevents future renewable energy opportunities that provide for a huge tax benefit to all landowners and significantly increase the Caratunk valuation. Therefore, Caratunk sees this project as reducing its tax revenue.
4. This project is forcing 1000' of transmission lines across a Scenic and Wild River, the Kennebec River, where Caratunk residents make their livelihoods in the whitewater rafting and fishing tourism industry. This is a direct detriment to Caratunk residents and businesses.

5. This project is not benefiting the Maine ratepayer with lower rates or cleaner energy. In fact, it may increase greenhouse gas emissions. The Town of Caratunk and its citizens have an interest in lower energy costs and clean energy sources.
6. This project is not financially beneficial to the Maine economy or its residents.
7. Independent PUC consultants have found that CMP's project application boasts inflated economic and financial benefits.
8. Green and environmental agencies as well as the Maine Legislature's Committee of Environmental and Natural Resources and the Maine Legislature's Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology have stated concerns on this project.

We see this project as benefiting Hydro-Quebec and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the expense of Caratunk and State of Maine. This should not be so. If granted intervenor status, we affirm that we are able to participate in the proceedings in good faith with Elizabeth Caruso as the spokesperson for the Town of Caratunk. Thank you for the opportunity to intervene and to provide comments to the DEP hearings, etc.

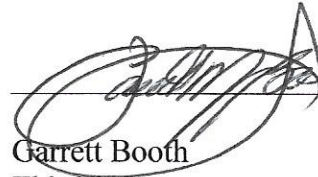
Sincerely,



Elizabeth Caruso  
First Selectman



Neil Katz  
Second Selectman



Garrett Booth  
Third Selectman