

**TOWN OF MOOSE RIVER
P.O. BOX 267
JACKMAN, ME 04945**

October 14, 2018

To whom it may concern,

The citizens of the Town of Moose River and Board of Selectman have voted to oppose the CMP NECEC project due to our grave concerns about the projects impacts.

If approved, the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) corridor will forever impact our region, our environment, our tourist industry, our forest products industry, our economy, our families' future, our seasonal residents' future, and our very way of life. This region continues to attract generations of visitor because they want to experience the natural beauty of the upper Kennebec and Moose River Waterways, and the surrounding wilderness of western Maine. This region offers a unique respite from the challenges and stress of life in the city, and we want it to stay that way for future generations of residents and visitors.

Some local sightlines will be spared, but the proposed transmission towers and lines will be visible from nearly every summit of nearly every peak in the Moose River Valley. They will cross some of the region's most pristine wilderness numerous times, hang over brooks, streams, rivers, and seasonal waterways crucial to all species of wildlife. The herbicides used to maintain the corridor will leach into the region's waterways, aquifers, and water tables. Our water is drawn from Big Wood Pond and it is fed by the Moose River. We do not need any more Herbicides than we already have polluting our drinking water. The environmental impact of the permanent deforestation component alone should alarm you as leaders of our town. Loss of oxygen to the valley, loss of shade to the fish, loss of canopy for birds and wildlife, loss of habitat for birds and mammals including deer yards and the loss of the unscarred views that make our area so special.

The NECEC project will have potential impacts on the safety and security of The United States of America. The project will leave a wide open 150-300 foot hole in the northern border of our country requiring additional resources to guard to prevent illegal activities. The project will also make us less energy independent and more reliant on a foreign country for our energy needs. Giving foreign countries control of our power supply is not responsible nor in the best interest of our country.

This project will inevitably lead to more powerlines, an unknown number of wind turbines and other future developments that are industrial in nature and detrimental to our area and its' wild untamed charm that keeps us here and brings in tourists and future residents.

Our area is not logistically equipped to handle the scope of the proposed project. The short term economic gains will be outweighed by the long term losses to our economy. The limited lodging, gathering places, eateries, and fuel pumps will be inundated by out of area workers, leaving little to no room for our longtime residents and tourists will look for alternative places to ride, boat, fish, hike, hunt, snowmobile, ATV, and get away from it all. Many of them will not come back once they find new places to recreate.

Another major issue is the current level of healthcare available to the workers during this multi-year project. The remote region of the corridor presents its own unique rescue challenges, and the level of medical treatment available may prove quite inadequate in the event of simultaneous traumatic injuries to multiple workers and residents. This would be an additional financial burden on our taxpayers. The remote locations could lead to a potential loss of life or property if the Fire Department and Ambulance are unable to respond to multiple calls simultaneously. There are no licensed nurses to support the one physician and one physician's assistant covering the clinic.

These impacts along with many others show how this project will be an economic burden on us that will have no lasting benefits to our citizens, only benefits for out of state and foreign companies while we are negatively impacted.

Respectfully submitted,

The residents and Selectmen of Moose River

