

Regarding: CMP Transmission Line

Greetings Mr. Beyer.

I am writing this letter to express my total opposition of the CMP Transmission Line making its way through Maine's North Woods.

There is NO compensation and there is NO mitigation plan that could make up for the destruction of Maine's undeveloped North Woods by running 53 miles of power lines through them. Maine will have lost, and CMP and Hydro-Quebec will make their billions!

As a carnivore conservation biologist practicing here in Maine, I have grave concerns for our returning carnivores that are so badly needed on this landscape. They need large swaths of unbroken land where they can live and move, and have just a few places left to be safe from human persecution. To open up a 53 mile swath through unbroken forests is not just disrupting that alone, but all life on either side of that line. It will change everything in the life of the forest and those who require it to survive.

In the years to come, if we continue to protect the wildness of our North Woods, Maine will be one of the last special places in the East, where people from around the globe can come and experience wildness and the wild beings that call it home. If we do not, Maine will be just like the rest of the East, swallowed up in development.

In closing, this is my personal story ~ I grew up in Ohio in a small town where my young parents wanted us to be away from the city. Many, many years later I remember all the adventures my siblings and I experienced in our own wild world. One incident has stayed with me all my life...I was probably 7 years old, it was Spring time and I walked into my forest and there.....was this most wondrous large patch of dew glistening violets. I can remember how my child's heart sang.

Now when I go back to the place of my childhood....everything is gone....only developments after developments swallowed up the forest I loved.

Once a special place is destroyed.....it can never return again.

Please...look into the future....

Respectfully,

Geri Vistein, Carnivore Conservation Biologist

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