

Attachment VI

## Proposal for Additional Mitigation, Kennebec River Crossing, NECEC

### Conceptual Elements

May 31, 2018

CMP has designed the portion of the NECEC Project that crosses the Kennebec River so as to minimize and mitigate, to the extent reasonably technically and commercially practical, the visual impact thereof, such as by the placement of structures to eliminate or at least substantially reduce visibility of Project structures from the river user's perspective. Nonetheless, to mitigate any visual, environmental, natural resource, and community impacts of the NECEC's overhead crossing of the Kennebec River, and provide offsets to correct existing visual problems identified within the Kennebec River viewshed, CMP also will provide funding and land donations to support recreation and conservation in Somerset County, as follows:

1. Outdoor Recreation Funding. CMP will provide donations totaling in excess of \$22 million to support and enhance outdoor recreation in central and northern Somerset County, including for construction, operation, and staffing of a visitor center, further development of trails and tracks, maintenance of trails and tracks, and funding of education and cultural programs. In addition, CMP will provide annual grants for 5 years in the amount of \$50,000 each year to promote outdoor activities in central and northern Somerset County, and improve the current trail and track network in the area.
2. Gravel Pits. CMP will make available to a local recreational entity, at no cost, access to gravel pits owned or controlled by CMP, and use of gravel for development and maintenance of recreational assets.
3. Harris Station, Indian Pond, and Carrybrook Public Access. Consistent with the terms of existing easement rights, CMP will provide public and commercial access to Harris Station, Indian Pond, and Carrybrook for whitewater rafting, boating, fishing, snowmobile, ATV, bicycle, and other motorized and non-motorized trail uses through CMP's existing easement rights.
4. Donations of CMP Land. CMP will donate CMP land that is not essential to CMP's current or anticipated future needs for trails, huts, Kennebec River leases, and other recreational infrastructure or amenities benefitting the region, including some or all of the following:
  - Old rail bed from Indian Pond to Route 15 in Rockwood;
  - River frontage below The Forks;
  - Flagstaff hut lease released;

- Hut sites leased at Grand Falls and Indian Pond and trails under license agreement to Maine Huts & Trails;
- Moxie Falls trail easements acquired and assured for 1 motorized and 1 non-motorized trail from town to the falls; and
- Availability for single track bike trails off the existing and proposed bike trail system.

The land donations and acquisitions for trails will complete and connect The Forks Area trails system (formerly the FAST trail, Ridge Trail section) from the Flood Road to the center of town.