

21.0 AIR EMISSIONS

21.1 Introduction

No degradation of air quality is expected to result from construction and operation of the NECEC Project. Minimal, temporary influences on air quality as a result of program related construction activities may occur. Such influences may arise from construction personnel commuter traffic, exhaust from construction vehicles, and temporary dust generated by construction activities which expose soil and which require vehicular travel along unpaved roads. Given the limited duration of activities at any one location, the generally rural nature of the NECEC Project area and the existing uses of unpaved roads along the transmission line corridors (e.g., logging and associated trucking), any influences on overall air quality will be insignificant. Emissions of fugitive dust will depend on such factors as soil properties (e.g., moisture content, volume of spoils, and soil fines content), meteorological conditions, and construction practices employed. Fugitive dust is only expected at substation construction sites and along unpaved construction access roads. Best management construction practices will be employed to minimize emissions of fugitive dust, including:

1. Use of water or other wetting agents on areas of exposed and dry soils;
2. Use of covered trucks for transport of soils or other dry granular materials;
3. Controlled storage of spoils on the construction site which may include mulching storage piles with hay or covering with tarps in concert with containing the piles with erosion control mix and or silt fencing; and
4. Final grading, landscaping, and revegetation or permanent stabilization with approved materials as soon as practical.

21.2 Distributed Generation

CMP may deploy one or more temporary, portable (e.g. trailer-mounted) 2 MW distributed generation (“DG”) units during and immediately following the NECEC Project construction. These units may be utilized during construction, maintenance/repair, reconfiguration, or cutover of new facilities to provide local voltage support. Up to four of these units may be installed, as needed, at any substation site. Maine Department of Environmental Protection Air Emission License #A-952-71-B-R (SM), issued to CMP on August 12, 2013, regulates air emissions from these DG units. The license requires the use of ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel (maximum sulfur content 0.0015% = 15 ppm).

This license also prescribes emission controls, heat output, and maximum fuel consumption (runtime) of these units.