

April 15, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am writing you to express my support to the New England Clean Energy Project (NECEC). There are several reasons that justify my support to the project:

- **Siting:**

- NECEC siting has avoided some of the most sensitive and beautiful recreational areas in Maine such as Moosehead Lake, Bigelow Preserve, Kennebago, the Rangeley Lake region, and others – this preserves some very special areas.
- The project uses mainly existing corridor. In the area that does not include use of existing corridor, the NECEC project runs through working forest land.
- NECEC has been designed to avoid, wherever possible, impacts to important protected and sensitive natural resources such as vernal pools, rivers/streams, wetlands, and inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat. This protects these resources for both wildlife and for humans.

- **Minimum Impact:**

- As described above, the new corridor runs through a working forest. This land is privately held, and constitutes a commercially harvested and well managed forest, which is laced with clear-cuts and strip cuts, dirt roads, skid trails, log yards, and larger roads. In addition, private landowners actively manage the harvesting to protect important environmental attributes and the area is nonetheless heavily utilized for recreational purposes like fishing, hiking, and ATV/snowmobiling, and the NECEC will in no way adversely affect these uses. Visual impacts will not be unreasonable and will be in keeping with the character of the area; Recreational users are well aware of the commercial nature of this area, yet their use is unhindered by the sights, sounds, and smells of the working forest.

- **Mitigation and Compensation:**



- The project has been clearly designed to first avoid and, where not possible, minimize any impact. The improvements in design, including the underground crossing of the Kennebec River, and vegetation management are a clear demonstration of this effort.
- In any case, those unavoidable impacts have been compensated for by a very robust compensation proposal including nearly 3,000 acres of land to be preserved and nearly \$6M to be used for a variety of programs beneficial to natural resources. The project includes, as part of its compensation plan, land preservation of three tracts along the Dead River, which collectively will add over 1,000 acres to Maine's conserved lands and provide protection in perpetuity of almost 8 miles of river frontage along the Dead River, an Outstanding River Segment, ensuring preservation of its scenic, aesthetic, and recreational uses.
- **Benefits to Maine**
 - The NECEC Project has significant benefits for Maine, which offset the minimal environmental impacts the Project will have. These benefits include jobs, taxes, lower electric rates, and the addition of energy infrastructure. These benefits are directly produced by the project (reduction in energy costs, fuel security, etc.) as well as through the Settlement Agreement, as it has been recently recognized and approved by Maine's Public Utility Commission (PUC)
- **Climate change:**
 - Climate change is the most challenging issue that the human kind must face if we want to preserve our planet as a place where the next generations can live in the future. The future and health of Maine's forests and wildlife depend on an effective battle against climate change.
 - In my opinion, NECEC is the only feasible project that can make a significant contribution in the battle against climate change. By allowing 1,200 megawatts of clean, reliable hydropower to flow to Maine and New England, power that is currently being wasted. This will reduce between 3.0 and 3.6 million tons of CO2 emissions per year in New England, as the PUC's Staff has recently admitted in its Examiners Report that has been approved unanimously by the three PUC Commissioners.
 - This topic has been thoroughly discussed in the PUC proceeding, where all the parties had the opportunity to submit testimonies, analysis and independent experts' opinions. The reports and testimonies of those opponents to the project that decided to file materials in the proceeding have been strongly rebutted by independent experts hired by the PUC and by the permit applicant.



- There are some opponents to the project like NRCM that participated in the PUC proceeding (as well as in this proceeding) but chose not to present any kind of prove, analysis or research to support their position. However, they are still arguing the project does not help in the fight against climate change without any scientific base, and are doing everything they can to stop the project. We can't let petty NIMBY concerns get in the way of addressing this important issue.

For all these reasons, I urge you to support and concede the permits that the NECEC project is applying for to your Department.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pablo Fuentes-Cantillana', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Pablo Fuentes-Cantillana

Falmouth, Maine

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am a supporter of the New England Clean Energy Connect project. This plan is going to effectively reduce our carbon footprint for the foreseeable future.

While I understand NECEC may not be a perfect solution, it's a tangible plan which begins to address the critical issue of climate change. I haven't seen any other proposals that come close to offering what NECEC offers. This project is good for our environment. I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Darrel Arnold
146 Mayflower Heights Dr.
Oakland, ME 04963

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

The NECEC project will improve the quality of our air for decades. Using this available hydropower from Quebec will result in greatly reducing our carbon footprint and begin reverse the effects of climate change in Maine and New England.

NECEC also has many financial benefits of the plan. \$140 million will be dedicated to the reduction of electric bills for CMP customers. Another \$15 million will be used to expand the use of efficient heat pumps. Millions of dollars are also being allocated for educational grants, scholarships and benefits to the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

This project is a huge part of Maine's future. I am supporting it and I ask you to as well.

Sincerely,



Justin Lagasse
390 Walnut Hill Rd.
North Yarmouth, ME 04097

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I'm a supporter of the New England Clean Energy Connect. I'm puzzled how this has become a political issue. Governor LePage supported this plan because it will stimulate our economy by bringing thousands of jobs to Maine and millions in property tax values.

Governor Mills supports the project because it will dramatically improve our air quality and begin to reverse the effects of climate change which are already being felt here in Maine. This project moves us away from fossil fuels and toward renewable clean energy. I urge you to support this very important piece of Maine's future.

Regards,

Sandy Cole
117 North Pond Road
Rome, ME 04963

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am a supporter of the NECEC project. Opponents of NECEC say it will ruin miles of pristine Maine forest. That is not true. The forest being used for the project has many clear-cuts and log roads. This land has been harvested for decades. NECEC will also create more fishing, hiking, and snowmobiling options. This project is vital to Maine's future. Please support it.

Regards,

Richard S. Kusile

22 Leighton Road

Pownal, Maine 04069

(207) 688-3306

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am supporting the New England Clean Energy Connect. It has been designed to avoid wetlands, and bird habitats. In western Maine, the negative environmental impact is small. Across all of Maine and New England, the impact is hugely positive. The project takes millions of metric tons of carbon out of the air. Having clean air to breath is extremely important to my family. This project gets us moving in the right direction. I ask you to support NECEC.

Regards,



JOHN DEEGAN
17 QUAIL RUN
KENNEBUNK, ME. 04043

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am a supporter of the NECEC project.

NECEC will infuse \$1 billion into Maine's economy in just the first decade. It will create 1,700 jobs annually for the length of the project. These jobs pay well and keep our workers in Maine. For a construction worker to know they will have a steady job for several years should not be overlooked. NECEC has so much to offer, not the least of which is improving the quality of our air for years. I ask you to support it.

Regards,

Nicki Beaton

197 Sherwood St.

Portland, ME

04103

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I'm in favor of the New England Clean Energy Connect. I understand there are some negatives to the project but look at the positives. If we can help get clean energy around us, we will get a lot less of their dirty air blowback. The corridor will also open spaces on private land we can use free of charge for snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and just walking our dog. Finally, many businesses in Maine will get the work from NECEC as well as the maintenance of the corridor long-term. I think this project is good and I hope you support it.

Regards,



Amy DuRoche

37 Beechwood Dr.

Winthrop, ME

04364

April 12, 2019

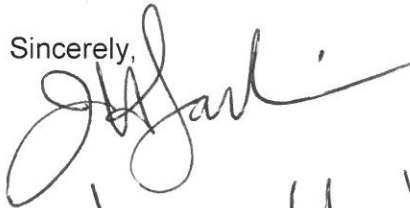
Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

The New England Clean Energy is a much-needed project for Maine. It will bring clean hydropower to our state and it doesn't cost Maine taxpayers anything.

Gov. Mills did an outstanding job getting more benefits for Maine. \$140 million will be set aside to help lower our electricity bills and another \$50 million will help low income customers. Anything that reduces our bills I'm in favor of. This project is good for Maine. I ask you to throw your support behind it.

Sincerely,



JAMES H. JENKINS
40 SQUISC TRAIL
YARMOUTH, ME 04096

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I am in favor of the New England Clean Energy Connect. This project will preserve Maine's environment for decades. There is no dispute that hydropower is much cleaner and an environmentally friendly renewable energy. The less fossil fuels we use the better off Maine will be. There are far more positives to NECEC than negatives. I ask you to throw your support behind the project.

Regards, *Matthew Liskom*



40 Tucker Ave

Portland, ME 04103

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I'm a Mainer and love being outdoors. That's why I am supporting the New England Clean Energy Connect. Opponents say NECEC will make hunting and fishing in parts of western Maine a less enjoyable experience. I don't think that's true.

Other corridors provide perfect spots to hunt. The habitat and animal life around other corridors continue to thrive. I have no doubt the NECEC will have a similar impact. I ask you to support this project. It's good for our future.

Sincerely,



28 Wellwood Rd.
Portland, ME
04103

April 12, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director, Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME, 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I support the New England Clean Energy Connect. We must address climate change and we must do it now! Time is limited! The carbon removed from our air by using hydropower instead of fossil fuels is the equivalent of removing 57,000 vehicles from Maine's roads annually. That will make a major impact in reducing the effects of climate change in Maine. I urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sabrina Christian".

Sabrina Christian
110 Florida Ave
Portland, ME 04103

Judy Diaz
194 Macomber Hill Road
Jay, Me 04239
207-500-9434

April 14, 2019

Mark Bergeron, Director
Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Me 04333-0017

RE: SUPPORT LETTER FOR NEW ENGLAND CLEAN ENERGY CONNECT

Dear Director Bergeron;

I am writing in support of the NECEC. I am a resident of Jay, a selectwoman of the Town of Jay and I own property in the unorganized territory, West Carry Pond. I'm a retired bridge contractor, I built \$18MM of the turnpike widening in 2000-2004. I have dealt with the DEP, Army Corps of Engineers, LURC and angry citizens on numerous projects. Prior to this, I was in the surety business, bonding State, Federal and Private projects. I believe Jay is one of the last few Towns supporting this project. The No CMP Corridor has eloquently provided my personal cell phone number to the entire community in the last mailer, attached. I continue to stand firm with my opinion and conviction that this project is in the best interest of Jay, Maine and New England.

I gave public testimony in support of the project in Farmington after returning from Aswan, Egypt where I was touring the High Dam and 3000 megawatt Hydro Plant.

We are living in a time when everything is instant gratification and on demand: inventory, information, cell phones, computers, how can we do it faster and more efficient. We continue to use more and more electricity to have instant access to everything. In the Northeast we continue to use more electricity every year and our power plants are in the same state of affairs as our roads and bridges....they are old and in need of replacement, such as Pilgrim Nuclear, which is shutting down and produces 680 megawatts. Where will the replacement come from, currently primarily fossil fuels....

I understand the passion people have with this project, but I believe it's motivated by distrust of big business, misinformation and profit. The truth always comes out if you follow the money. Massachusetts is paying for the project. Why? They have clean power mandates and several older power plants going off line in the next few years, thus higher energy prices and fines are on their radar. CMP and parent companies have extensive experience with clean energy and obviously could see the writing on the wall and see the mandates coming from Washington. CMP worked diligently to acquire the working forests in the least invasive path to their existing power corridors. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to calculate the plants going off line to estimate the significant deficit facing the New England Power Grid. The opposition, funded by the fossil fuel providers will benefit producing electricity at inflated prices.

We have an obligation to our children and the planet to be good stewards of our natural resources. At the same time, we have an obligation to meet the needs of our population to provide safe clean renewable energy that minimizes the impact on our natural resources. I believe CMP/NECEC has worked with all the State, Federal and Local agencies to provide a responsible RFP on this project and minimize the impact to the environment. (Let's look at the alternatives, blow a new line through NH or VT, can you imagine? The problem is Massachusetts isn't next to Quebec.

NECEC is using "their" existing corridor, thus the impact will be minimal, compared to new construction. The new corridor will be through "their" right of ways and commercial working forests. I own property adjacent to a working forest, the infrastructure is incredible and I often see tandem tractor trailers hauling logs at a steady clip. Lets keep in mind these are also the working forests they allow companies to operate white water rafting companies, snowmobile clubs/ATV clubs to use the trails, hunters and trappers to use their property, and hikers and outdoorsmen to enjoy the habitat, but remember its their property that they allow us to enjoy at no cost.

Now they ask for your permit to utilize their property to provide a clean renewable energy project that will benefit us all. Yes, there will be impacts and they have worked diligently with numerous parties to mitigate the impact and offer exchanges to offset the impact. They have taken great care to avoid some of the most sensitive beautiful recreational areas. They have designed the project to avoid impacts to important protected and sensitive natural resources including crossing the Kennebec River underground to preserve the beauty of the area. The conservation package offered is impressive and will provide years of enjoyment to future generations; 3000 acres of conservation land, 1000 areas along the Dead River, 8 miles of River frontage, and nearly \$6MM to be used for programs benefitting natural resources including minimizing impacts on fisheries and wildlife. You must ask yourself, are they being good stewards of the land? Have they chosen the least impactful route? Is this project in the best interest of New Englanders? I feel they analyzed all the options and chose the best solution, further they continue to modify their plan as stakeholders request changes.

I read the RFP when NECEC initially presented the project. The western Maine towns need economic development, this project through the construction and mitigation process addresses those needs. The new tax revenue will offset the continuing increases in school funding and the broadband infrastructure expansion will promote new businesses to the area. A project of this size will add 3500 jobs during construction and inject daily revenue into the small towns along the corridor. There are significant funds proposed to help low income families. The project will reduce our energy costs. The mix of hydropower to the NE power grid will prevent electricity price spikes we have during cold snaps. The project provides a \$200MM investment in the NE Power Grid enhancing renewable energy and grid reliability. Grants for heat pumps, electric car charging stations, support for electric vehicles will exchange fossil fuels for clean energy and lower our carbon output. Educational related grants to study marine wind generation, funding for internships and scholarships at the University of Maine Farmington, funding for our Vocational Programs and emphasis on math and science programs will benefits the students and young adults in our area. The economic benefits to Western Maine will spur new businesses and growth to our area that has lagged behind Southern Maine for years.

NECEC is an impressive project, and they have built a strong team to execute the project with a wealth of experience in renewable energy projects. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is essential to slowing the pace of climate change, caused by burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat and transportation. We acknowledge we need to decrease the use of gas, coal and oil to reduce the release of CO2 into the atmosphere. This project will deliver 1200 megawatts of clean hydropower to New England, the equivalent of removing 676,000 cars off the road or 3MM metric tons of emissions annually. Maine has the highest rate of homes heated by heating oil, this project will provide \$15MM to expand the use of heat pumps to replace oil and other fossil fuel heating sources.


This project will help offset the recent and pending New England power producing retirements. Approximately 4600 megawatts of the regions nuclear, oil and coal generation has or will retire in the next decade, with an additional 5000 megawatts reduction possible during the same time period. We have to start planning and implementing clean energy changes or we will be in a devastating predicament.

I am just a retired person sitting on the sidelines watching technology change at a rapid pace and wondering how are we going to prepare for the future? The "not in my backyard" group has to look at what is in the best interest of the Northeast. We must change our ways to protect the planet for our children and that entails clean energy projects. I strongly urge you to support this project and as I said, follow the money... in the end do you want to support clean energy or more fossil fuel at increased costs.

I sit in meetings where Western Maine residents can't pay their bills and are losing their homes; residents have to decide if they will buy prescriptions, food, heating oil, pay their mortgage or utility bills; and children have food insecurities, schools have food pantries and our school district RSU73 has 60% of the students receiving free and reduced meals. This is happening in Maine, right under our noses.

While this project might not be perfect it is the best option in front of us and they have mitigated, changed methods, presented conservation and economic benefits and are willing to come to the table to discuss and explain their position. I believe they are good stewards of our natural resources, and are operating using best management practices and working in good faith to provide a clean energy option to the New England Grid.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Diaz", written over the printed name.

Judy Diaz

FOR BY STOP THE CORRIDOR
1793 WESTBROOK, MAINE 04098

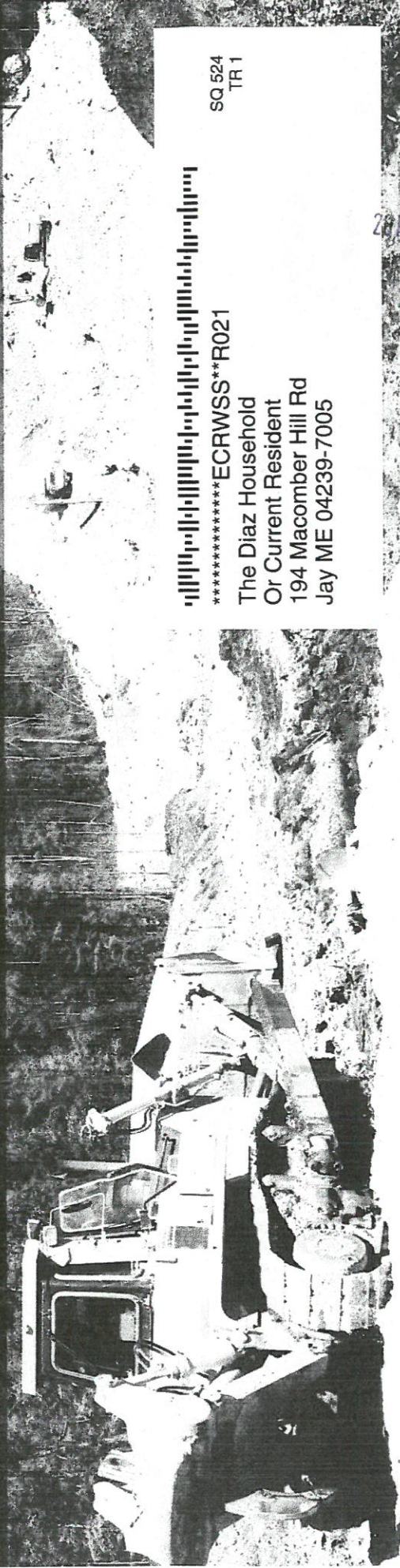


STOP THE CORRIDOR

ACTION ALERT

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Contact your local elected officials TODAY and make sure they oppose the CMP corridor.



Presorted Std.
US Postage
PAID
Snowman Group



SQ 524
TR 1

*****ECRWSS**R021
The Diaz Household
Or Current Resident
194 Macomber Hill Rd
Jay ME 04239-7005

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MAINE D.E.M.
20 APR 17 AM 7:42



POLLING SHOWS 90% OF FRANKLIN COUNTY
RESIDENTS OPPOSE THE CMP CORRIDOR.

SO WHY IS THE JAY SELECT BOARD SUPPORTING IT?

Maine people overwhelmingly oppose the CMP corridor project because it will permanently scar our landscape just to bring power to Massachusetts.

Towns all over Franklin County have voted to oppose the CMP corridor including Wilton and Farmington. And the Franklin County commissioners recently withdrew their support for the project.

But the Town of Jay Select Board voted to support CMP's corridor, despite massive opposition from the people of Jay.

You deserve to have your voice heard. Call your local elected officials today and tell them to join with the people of Jay and oppose the CMP corridor.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Call these folks today and let them know you oppose the CMP corridor

JAY SELECT BOARD

Terry Bergeron at 897-3308

Thomas Goding at 578-3796

Judy Diaz at 500-9434

Timothy DeMillo at 778-1044

Gary McGrane at 645-3382