



Paul R. LePage

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

July 25, 2017

Massachusetts 83D
RFP Evaluation Team

Dear Selection Committee:

I am pleased to offer my support to Central Maine Power Company's proposal to deliver clean renewable hydropower to New England.

Hydropower is a win-win for Maine. Hydropower has been a source of reliable energy powering Maine's economy for over 100 years. The proposal put forth by Central Maine Power is vital to making our business climate more competitive and will help stabilize electricity prices, enhance fuel diversity, and reduce the environmental impact from the energy sector.

Diversifying our energy resources with firm dispatchable clean energy has been a priority of my Administration since I came into office. Maine welcomes this leadership from the State of Massachusetts to offer competitively priced power into the New England market.

With Central Maine Power's long-standing history of developing transmission projects on-time and under budget and utilizing existing corridor, Maine is well-positioned to capitalize on existing investments and deliver clean, reliable hydropower to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul R. LePage".

Paul LePage
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT****Robert E. Macdonald**
Mayor

July 21, 2017

RE: Massachusetts 83D RFP Evaluation

Dear Sir/Madam:

The City of Lewiston has a long and very positive working relationship with Maine's largest utility, Central Maine Power. We consider CMP to be an excellent business partner and service provider. Our city is fortunate to have worked very closely with CMP during its recent reliability expansion project – the Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP) – and, throughout the development process, we were extremely pleased to see CMP respectfully negotiate with Lewiston residents and design solutions to mitigate any issues or concerns.

Not only is Central Maine Power a strong leader in the state of Maine, it is part of a global organization with solid financial backing. When they decide to do something, our experience has been that they do it well. CMP has embraced modernization and innovation and is ready to respond to the call for a cleaner energy future for the region. It is in this spirit that Central Maine Power has developed two proposals – New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) and Maine Clean Power Connection (MCPC) – in response to the Clean Energy RFP. The City of Lewiston is in full support of these proposals.

Lewiston would be impacted should either proposal be selected; in fact, CMP would build a new converter station in the vicinity of a major existing substation in Lewiston. Because we have experience in working through a complicated development process with CMP, we can comfortably say that Lewiston will work closely with them in order to ensure our zoning and land development code works for the proposed projects.

Our city is growing, and we, too, have embraced innovation and a changing economy. When it comes to economic development, Lewiston is proud of our open door policy and recognizes that our residents and businesses are benefitting from this activity. We are hopeful that CMP is successful in this competitive bid process, and we give the company high marks when it comes to delivering on their promises.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. McDonald
Mayor

Town of Bingham

13 Murray Street
P.O.Box 652
Bingham, ME 04920

Tel. (207) 672-5519
Fax (207) 672-3080
E-Mail: binghamselectmen@yahoo.com

Office of the Selectmen
7/20/17

Massachusetts 83D
RFP Evaluation Committee

RE: New England Clean Energy Connect

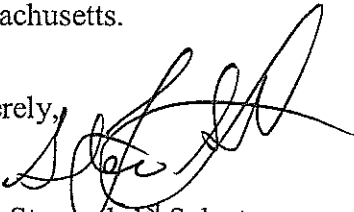
To Whom It May Concern:

Bingham, Maine is a small rural town in Somerset County which supports local economic development opportunities as well as clean energy for the entire region. Bingham is home to a large wind energy project which has given a major boost to our local economy. We are next door to the largest hydro project in Maine – Wyman Dam. We have a front row seat on the expansion of renewable energy in New England, and we like what we see.

When my colleagues and I learned about Central Maine Power's proposal to provide the pathway for 1,200 megawatts of renewable energy to reach the demand centers in New England, we were supportive of the project. If there is to be a project chosen to bring clean power from northern New England and Canada down to the market, then that project should run along the path of least resistance. This project follows an existing transmission corridor, for the most part, and the host communities along that line appear to be enthusiastic about this proposal.

Even though CMP's proposed New England Clean Energy Connect does not run through our town, we will do what we can to support it. NECEC is a great project for Maine and Massachusetts.

Sincerely,



Steve Steward, 1st Selectman

On behalf of the Bingham Board of Selectmen: Steve Steward Juliana Richard Gloria Jean Shaw

Town of Farmington

153 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington, Maine 04938

Tel: 207-778-6538 Fax: 207-778-5871

E-mail: info@farmington-maine.org

TDD (Emergency): 911 / TDD (Administration): 207-778-5873



July 25, 2017

Dear Selection Committee:

The Town of Farmington will be one of the host communities along the route of the New England Clean Energy Connect, should this project be selected in the upcoming competition to provide Massachusetts with 1200 Megawatts of clean, renewable energy. Our town supports the notion of a clean energy future for the entire region, and hopes that Maine is able to provide the means to further develop energy projects that will benefit not only our town and our state, but the entire northeastern United States.

The Town of Farmington also is home to an existing transmission corridor, owned and operated by Central Maine Power. We enjoy numerous benefits from this good neighbor, including safe, reliable power which, given that we have a number of businesses and a first-rate University, is extremely important to our community. CMP has an interest in working with our town regarding storage, as is also the case in Massachusetts. When they commit to this kind of program, we have found CMP to be an excellent partner in moving ideas forward. We look forward to working with CMP on this issue, as it would be extremely beneficial to the town of Farmington and the University of Maine, Farmington.

New England Clean Energy Connect appears to be an excellent proposal. It utilizes existing commercial forest land that is available for expanding business opportunities. It also follows an existing transmission corridor, which currently runs through Farmington. The use of this ROW for another major project is the right way to develop the grid, rather than forging new paths over environmentally sensitive, or highly populated areas.

Thank you for your careful review of a project we can all be proud of here in Maine. The Town of Farmington looks forward to doing what it can to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Farmington Board of Selectmen

Joshua H. Bell, Chairman

Stephan M. Bunker

Matthew W. Smith

Michael J. Fogz

H. Scott Landry, Jr.



Town of Jay

340 Main Street • Jay, Maine 04239-1697
Tel: 897-6785
Fax: 897-9420

office of

SELECT BOARD
ASSESSORS
TOWN MANAGER
TREASURER
TOWN CLERK
PLANNING BOARD
CODE ADMINISTRATOR

July 21, 2017

To the Massachusetts 83D RFP Evaluation Committee:

The Town of Jay, Maine is home to an existing Central Maine Power Transmission Corridor and we appreciate the good neighbor we have in this company. CMP is committed to providing its customers with excellent service, reliable power and they go out of their way to ensure safe practices. Our Town has historically been a large industrial energy user. However as the paper industry has changed we have seen the loss of one paper mill and the decline of a second. As recently as this week we received news of an additional paper machine with the associated equipment being permanently shut down. The loss in valuation along with the loss of jobs in our community has been a very real challenge for us.

Perhaps a bright light on the horizon is CMP's proposal to Massachusetts to provide a significant amount of clean, renewable power from Canada and Maine in order for your state to better meet its required clean energy requirements. CMP's proposal would go through our Town and this letter is to inform you that we are hopeful this opportunity becomes a reality.

Clean energy, investment in rural New England, innovation and enhanced technology, and connecting something as crucial as our electric grid throughout the region are all reasons for us to support CMP's proposal. Of course we are also interested in the economic benefits that would flow to our part of Maine, the lower electric rates this proposal offers, the added jobs and the new tax revenue this project would bring to Jay.

We urge you to look favorably upon the proposal being submitted by CMP. Maine wants to be part of the future energy solution and our Town hopes to be a host community.

Sincerely,

Shiloh A. LaFreniere

Shiloh A. LaFreniere
Town Manager

Town of Moscow
110 Canada Road
Moscow, Maine 04920

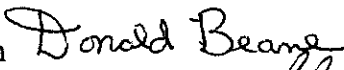

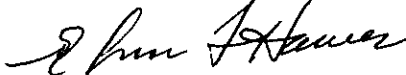

Dear Massachusetts 83D RFP Evaluation Team:

The Selectmen in Moscow, Maine write to you today in support of the proposed New England Clean Energy Connect project, being developed by Central Maine Power. We hope that this proposal meets with your approval and you decide that it is the best option for Massachusetts as you select a project capable of transmitting a significant amount of clean energy, backed up by Hydropower, to your state.

We already have a corridor to Quebec through Moscow, moving lumber and tourists in both directions, so it seems a good thing to expand that to electricity! Moscow stands to gain if you choose this project, as does Massachusetts! We are enthusiastic about the local construction jobs, the tax revenue a project like this will bring to our town and we are certain the environmental impacts of this proposal are much less than any other alternative. It is not every day that large, economic development opportunities come to this region of Maine, so NECEC can count on our support.

If this proposal moves forward, local contractors and suppliers will be eager to get to work on the development of this line and when it comes to public involvement in the permitting phase. Maine's ready to host a project like this one. I think you will see a lot of vocal support for the project. We have the chance to export clean, renewable power, and we believe this is the right move for everyone.

Sincerely,

Donald Beane, 1st Selectman 
Michael Staples, 2nd Selectman 
Elvin Hawes, 3rd Selectman 
Moscow, Maine 

MAINE
S T A T E
CHAMBER
of
COMMERCE

July 21, 2017

The voice of Maine business

Massachusetts 83D
RFP Evaluation Team

To the Selection Committee:

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce is the voice of Maine business and has been intimately involved in energy policy for decades. Our organization recognizes the new competitive marketplace that now exists for the generation and delivery of energy. This added layer of competition should benefit business and residential customers, now that our nation is moving forward with the development of a reliable, clean energy supply.

Central Maine Power, Maine's largest energy delivery company serves more than 600,000 customers over 11,000 square miles. They invest regularly in a stronger, smarter grid, which means their customers enjoy a high level of service, and their commitment to providing safe, reliability power is well known. When CMP developed their largest project ever – Maine Power Reliability Project – they did so in such a way that the public, the regulatory agencies, the legislature, and the host communities were all very satisfied. CMP has earned the high regard of their customers. They know how to permit and develop projects on time, under budget and with public support.

The New England Clean Energy Connect is a project Maine will support and we encourage Massachusetts to select it for the delivery of clean energy. CMP has secured a corridor from the Canadian border into the regional electric grid. The vision they had to assemble this strategic corridor is quite remarkable, and the communities and businesses along this route are enthusiastic about the opportunity it brings to Maine, and to the future of our region's energy mix. This project offers such dramatic benefits for the ratepayers in Massachusetts, while minimizing impacts to the environment in Maine that we would be surprised if any other project could surpass it.

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce supports this proposal wholeheartedly. Although the power is going to Massachusetts, we are confident Maine will recognize the benefits getting dropped off along the way. We will do everything possible to engage and assist as this project goes through the local, state and federal permitting process. Given the location of the corridor and the merits of the proposal, we would not anticipate any difficulty whatsoever in obtaining the necessary permits in a timely manner.

With enthusiastic support,



Dana Connors,
President & CEO

July 21, 2017

Massachusetts 83D
RFP Evaluation Committee

Dear Committee Members:

The Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council has had the pleasure of meeting with representatives from Central Maine Power as they prepare to submit two proposals to provide significant clean energy to Massachusetts. From our perspective, the proposals are both very sound, and appear tailored to the requirements of your RFP. Our organization, which is focused on business attraction and overall growth to our area of Maine, strongly supports this type of economic development for a number of reasons.

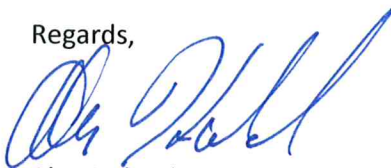
First, our area of the state is growing and we support innovation. Clean energy is a product that Maine can proudly deliver to the entire region. Central Maine Power has evolved over the years and has adapted very well to a changing energy world. They are indeed an innovative company, and can be considered a leader in their industry.

Second, Lewiston/Auburn is already an energy hub for Maine and the entire New England region, with many hydroelectric facilities. We look forward to any expansion of this essential clean energy product and are enthusiastic about this type of investment in our community.

Finally, the projects they are proposing – both New England Clean Energy Connect and Maine Clean Power Connection – are very well sited. The path from Lewiston to the Canadian border is an excellent route as it utilizes existing commercial forest land and a well-established transmission corridor. This corridor already knows Central Maine Power to be a very good neighbor, who always takes into consideration landowner concerns and environmental integrity. Given the path for these two proposals, it appears they are a strong alternative to the projects that have long been reviewed in the media.

Our organization is very complimentary of CMP's efforts and we hope that they are among the organizations you select.

Regards,



Alan Hahnel
Chairman, Board of Directors

July 20, 2017

Massachusetts 83D
RFP Evaluation Team

Dear RFP Evaluation Team:

Greater Franklin Development Council has taken a leading role in advising and supporting clean energy projects that bring sustainable economic development to our county. Central Maine Power's proposal to construct a new transmission line from the Canadian border through western Maine and Franklin County is just such a project. It will bring new business opportunity to this corner of Maine, while boosting the tax base and suppressing energy costs.

The new corridor to bring clean, renewable energy from Quebec has been carefully sited through commercial forest and along an existing transmission corridor in Franklin County. This is a sound approach that will provide the region with significant economic benefits while minimizing environmental impacts. Hydropower is an important energy resource and Maine offers the best path to connect it into the New England grid.

The benefits of this project are so important to all of Maine, including to Franklin County.

- More than 1000 jobs per year are projected for 5 years during permitting and construction;
- At least \$4 million is expected in new tax revenue to host communities, many of which are in Franklin County;
- More than \$40 million in wholesale electric cost savings are projected.

These benefits are noteworthy and Greater Franklin Development Council is hopeful that this project will be part of the solution. Should Central Maine Power's proposal be selected in this competitive bid process, our organization looks forward to being part of the public process during both the permitting and construction phases.

We want to salute the residents of Massachusetts for your far-sighted plan to increase clean energy in the regional energy mix.

Best regards,



Alison A. Hagerstrom
Executive Director

E.J. Carrier, Inc.

8 Long Pond Road
PO Box 489
Jackman, ME 04945
Phone: (207) 668-4457
Fax: (207) 668-4188

July 24, 2017

RE: New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC)

To the Massachusetts 83D RFP Evaluation Committee:

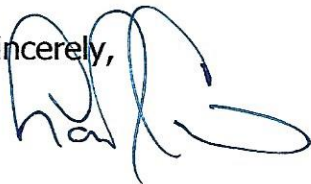
This letter is in strong support for the proposed New England Clean Energy Connect.

This strategic corridor, being submitted by Central Maine Power, does an excellent job utilizing appropriate land for a new transmission line from the Canadian border in western Maine over to existing energy infrastructure. The corridor follows an already utilized, working forest owned by only a few entities, one of which is E. J. Carrier, Inc. It makes sense for New England to tap into existing rights-of-way, both transmission and industrial, rather than touch pristine forest land or highly sensitive areas, in order to ensure a cleaner energy future for our region.

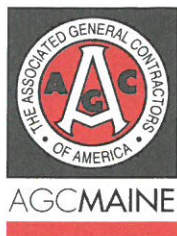
We have found Central Maine Power an excellent organization with which to work. They are knowledgeable and professional and always strive to do the right thing on projects such as this.

Given that Central Maine Power has the financial wherewithal to provide Massachusetts with the required clean energy, and they will meet the timeframe that has been outlined, we hope you will give their proposal very careful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Larry Carrier', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Larry Carrier, President



Associated General Contractors of Maine

agcmaine.org

TO: Massachusetts Clean Energy Selection Committee
FROM: Matt Marks, CEO
RE: Massachusetts Clean Energy RFP
DATE: July 21, 2017

Associated General Contractor (AGC) is a trade association dedicated to ensuring a sound and healthy construction industry and providing the public with an assurance of the skill, responsibility and integrity of AGC-member firms. AGC Maine works for Maine's construction companies by providing leadership and resources on a wide variety of issues, including site work development, safety and health, and environmental policy.

AGC Maine is pleased to support the proposed projects: New England Clean Energy Connect and Maine Clean Power Connection (MCPC). We have a long history of providing services, through a number of our members, to Central Maine Power (CMP) and know them to be an experienced, reputable, and highly professional company that holds excellence and safety as priorities. When CMP develops major projects, as they did with the recent Maine Power Reliability Project (MPRP), they do so on time and on budget, which appears to be of utmost importance in this competitive process. Given that the projects will create more than 1,000 jobs per year for five years, our organization is eager to assist during construction if either of Central Maine Power's proposed projects is selected to provide clean energy to Massachusetts.

Maine has the capability to move clean, renewable power from its northern region and Canada to the New England markets, and AGC Maine has the desire to support and actively participate in providing a cost-effective and environmentally-sound solution to the requirements that Massachusetts has set forth in its Request for Proposals. We have studied the other proposals and it appears that CMP's projects provide an excellent solution – with shorter routes, over existing rights-of-way, through communities that are supportive, and avoiding many sensitive environmental areas. Should a CMP project be selected, there is no doubt that it can be built to the highest level of quality in the timeframe required to meet the in-service date.

Sincerely,


Matt Marks, CEO

ABOUT ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF MAINE

Chartered in 1951, the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Maine is the state's largest construction industry trade association. The Association maintains an office in Augusta and has 185+ members statewide. Member companies include general contractors, sub-contractors, and service and supply providers. For more information visit www.agcmaine.org