



## Learn the Facts about Climate Impacts of CMP's Proposed Power Line

### Support: LD 640

### *Resolve, To Require a Study of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions from the Proposed Central Maine Power Company Transmission Corridor*

**Sponsored by:** Sen. Brownie Carson of Cumberland

**Co-sponsored by:** Sen. Shenna Bellows of Kennebec, Sen. Russell Black of Franklin, Sen. Ned Claxton of Androscoggin, Sen. Bradlee Farrin of Somerset, Sen. Robert Foley of York, Rep. Janice Dodge of Belfast, Rep. Jessica Fay of Raymond, Rep. Deane Rykerson of Kittery, Rep. Ralph Tucker of Brunswick

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**Central Maine Power (CMP) has made unsubstantiated claims about greenhouse gas emissions from its proposed 145-mile transmission corridor through Western Maine. Maine people deserve to know all the evidence and facts about CMP's corridor project, especially whether or not it would actually result in real greenhouse gas emissions reductions.**

This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to conduct an independent investigation of CMP's claims that its proposed transmission line would have benefits for the climate through reduced greenhouse gas emissions. If LD 640 passes, DEP would conduct an independent study of the total greenhouse gas impacts of CMP's proposal, release its report to the public, and take the study's results into account before deciding whether to issue a permit for the project.

### Why You Should Support LD 640

#### **Maine people need to know all the facts about CMP's proposed transmission corridor.**

- LD 640 would require an independent, fact-based review of the full impact of CMP's proposed corridor on greenhouse gas emissions.
- Hydro-Quebec and CMP are making claims without backing them up. Hydro-Quebec has been absent from Maine state agency review processes. Therefore, Hydro-Quebec is not accountable to the people of Maine because they have not testified under oath about the claims that its spokespeople make or that CMP makes on its behalf.
- Before the state issues a permit for the corridor, Maine people deserve to see the evidence (if any exists) that would back up CMP's claims that this project would actually result in greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

## **CMP has Not Presented Evidence that the Project Will Reduce Emissions or Benefit the Climate**

- Through a massive public relations campaign, CMP is asserting that its proposed power line will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- At the same time, CMP is fighting hard to stop agencies like the DEP from even considering expert testimony on the project's climate impacts, with one of CMP's attorneys recently making the absurd claim to DEP that "nowhere has CMP stated that the Project's purpose and need includes GHG emissions reductions."
- NRCM has seen no evidence that CMP's corridor project will actually benefit the climate through carbon reductions. At the PUC, CMP blocked the public release of documents that NRCM and others felt were critical to understanding the project's true climate impacts.
- NRCM shares concerns expressed by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office that Hydro-Quebec could divert hydropower from current customers in order to supply customers in New England.
- Dean M. Murphy, witness for the Mass. Attorney General's Office: "Diverting clean energy generation from other regions to New England would enable a reduction in fossil generation and emissions within New England, but the reduced deliveries to other regions may need to be replaced by additional fossil generation in those regions. This would effectively substitute fossil fuel generation in other regions for fossil generation in New England, shifting emissions from one region to another, without causing a material decrease."
- If this is the case (as NRCM's analysis also suggests), then CMP's power line would not reduce greenhouse gases. An independent DEP study could investigate the concerns raised by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.
- Hydro-Quebec and the developer of a similar transmission project proposal in New Hampshire were unable to convince New Hampshire state agencies of climate benefits and greenhouse gas reductions; the New Hampshire project was ultimately denied.

**A public hearing on LD 640 will be held on Friday, March 15, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.**  
in Room 216 of the Cross Office Building next to the Maine State House in Augusta.  
Please come speak in support of this bill!

*Banner photo: View of Moxie Pond from Bald Mountain. Photo by David Preston*



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