April 11, 2019

At the last Selectmen’s meeting (4/8), a group of citizens came forward objecting to the CMP powerline proposal and to their perceived notion that the Pownal Selectmen were in support of the project based on a letter that was on the project’s NECEC website that was signed by the Selectmen. As one of the letter’s co-signers, I have to register my surprise that CMP would misguidedly use a letter that CMP drafted themselves to gain support for their bid against other projects. Without asking permission to publish the letter, or to transform the intent of the letter to fit the purposes of CMP, I find the process disappointing to say the least. Below is Pownal’s response to CMP publishing that letter without permission. The Selectmen of Pownal have not endorsed the NECEC project. CMP representatives will be at the next Selectmen’s meeting on 4-22 at 7:00 pm.

April 9, 2019

RE: Letter of Support

Dear New England Clean Energy Connect & Central Maine Power Company:

It has come to the attention of the Board that the letter of support that was written dated November 9th 2017 on behalf of the Board of Selectmen is being publicized and misconstrued as support for the entirety of the project being proposed. The intent the Board had in signing this letter was only to lend the municipalities support to Central Maine Power & New England Clean Energy Connect being awarded the project as it was at the time being bid on by other companies from out of state. It was not the Board’s intention to lend support for the entirety of the project as at that time there was not enough information available about the scope of the project.

We ask that the letter be taken down from the New England Clean Energy Connects website. This is misleading to the public in the support that the Town provided for this proposed project. We would further like to clarify that any decisions that are made on the project will need to go before the legislative body of the Town of Pownal.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Morris
George Anderson
Shawn Bennett

Board of Selectmen
Pownal, Maine