The Central Maine Power (CMP) corridor would damage our environment with no benefits for the climate. It’s a bad deal for Mainers.

The controversial transmission line would cut a permanent gash through Maine’s Western mountains, forever harming a globally significant region that supports a vibrant outdoor recreation economy. CMP and Hydro-Quebec would make billions in profit by sending existing hydropower from Quebec across Maine to get higher prices in Massachusetts.
Vote YES on Question 1 to Stop the CMP corridor

Question 1 on the November 2021 ballot is designed to stop the destructive CMP corridor. CMP and Hydro-Québec have spent $40 million on a political campaign to spread false information and scare people. Newspaper columnist Bill Nemitz called CMP’s tactics “political hokum of the highest order.”

Voting YES on Question 1 to stop the CMP corridor is the best option that Maine voters have to make their voices heard.

CMP’s Illegal Lease to Cross Public Lands

CMP violated the Maine Constitution and state law by obtaining an illegal lease to cross public lands without a two-thirds vote of the Legislature. Their lease has now been terminated by a State Superior Court Judge, jeopardizing the corridor’s future because the company no longer has full right, title, and interest to land along the proposed route.

The facts are clear: CMP’s lease to cross public lands is illegal, and the entire project must stop.

The Corridor Would Forever Harm Maine’s Woods, Waters, & Wildlife

The corridor’s 53 miles of new transmission line would fragment the largest contiguous temperate forest in North America and perhaps the world. The gash would damage 263 wetlands and cross 200 rivers and streams, including prime habitat for brook trout.

No Climate Benefits

The CMP corridor is not about reducing emissions, as CMP’s own lawyers have admitted. In fact, the existing hydropower being used would not provide new reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

We can’t trust CMP on climate. Their real record is obstructing progress on clean energy and delaying new solar projects across Maine because CMP doesn’t profit from solar power. CMP and its parent companies make huge profits from building transmission lines.

YES on Question 1 is the Right Approach for Stopping the CMP Corridor

In November 1993, 72% of Mainers voted to amend the Maine Constitution to require that a substantial change of use on public lands be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature. In 2014 and 2020, CMP ignored this constitutional requirement by securing illegal leases to cross public lands without legislative approval.

Question 1 retroactively addresses CMP’s past illegal leases and re-asserts the requirement that the Legislature must approve a substantial change in use on public lands. It does not grant any new power to Maine lawmakers. The Legislature has had the authority to pass retroactive laws for decades and well-established case law affirms this authority.

Question 1 appropriately ensures that future high-impact transmission lines greater than 50 miles in length receive a majority vote from the Legislature and protects the forestlands in the Upper Kennebec region from damaging projects like the CMP corridor.

We need real climate solutions that strengthen our communities, not harm them.

Maine must move aggressively to reduce carbon pollution by embracing local clean energy projects like solar and offshore wind that will create new good-paying jobs, strengthen our economy, and protect our health and environment.

CMP’s corridor would take us in the wrong direction. It’s a mistake we can’t afford to make.