

An Act to Verify the Reduction of Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Certain Electric Transmission Line Projects

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §487-A, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Nonessential transmission lines; reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a permit issued under this article for a nonessential transmission line is conditioned on the owner of the transmission line, no later than one year after the transmission line achieves commercial operation, submitting to the department documentation, analysis or other information, prepared by an independent 3rd party, that demonstrates to the department's satisfaction that the transmission line and the electricity it transports contributes to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. As used in this subsection, "nonessential transmission line" means a permanently installed transmission line carrying 100 kilovolts or more that is constructed primarily to transport electricity generated outside of the State and that achieves commercial operation after January 1, 2024.

A. The independent 3rd party analysis shall evaluate total greenhouse gas emissions across all jurisdictions interconnected with electricity generation and distribution systems that connect to the nonessential transmission line. The study must be based on a modeling analysis over the first 10 years of operation, with and without construction of the project, that incorporates appropriate assumptions on factors such as load growth, fuel costs, variation in dispatch of electricity among electricity markets, rainfall, electricity transmission constraints, addition and retirement of electric generation facilities and technology development. The findings of the study must be in a form that allows for comparison of greenhouse gas emissions effects, with and without construction of the project, to a benchmark of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in New England by the number of metric tons per year that the project claims would be achieved as a result of the project.

B. The independent 3rd party consultant shall develop a scope of work and modeling assumptions to guide the study and submit that scope of work and those modeling assumptions to the department to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and to be posted on the department's publicly accessible website for a period of no less than 10 days. Within that period of time, a person may submit to the department written comments regarding the scope of work and modeling assumptions. The department shall submit all comments received to the consultant.

C. The Commissioner may waive the requirement for an independent 3rd party analysis of greenhouse gas emission reductions from a nonessential transmission line if such a study has been completed, consistent with sections A. and B., during the permitting process for the project.

D. Failure of the owner of a nonessential transmission line to submit the documentation, analysis or other information that demonstrates to the department's satisfaction that the transmission line and the electricity it transports contributes to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions constitutes a violation of the permit issued under this article and the department shall take appropriate action in accordance with section 347-A, which may include, but is not limited to, entry of an administrative consent agreement requiring the owner to pay to the department penalties calculated in proportion to the amount of electricity transported using the transmission line that, in the department's determination, does not contribute to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions.

E.G. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if pursuant to a violation under paragraph A, the department requires the owner of a nonessential transmission line to pay penalties in accordance with section 347-A or 349, the department shall transfer those penalty amounts to the Efficiency Maine Trust established in Title 35-A, section 10103 for deposit in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund established in Title 35-A, section 10109 or another fund as determined by the department.

F.D. The department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

For the purposes of this section, "greenhouse gas" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 574, subsection 1.'

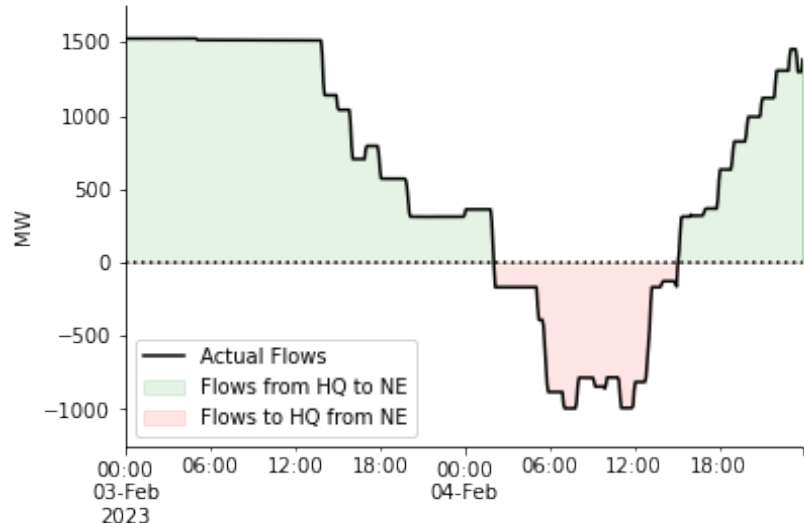
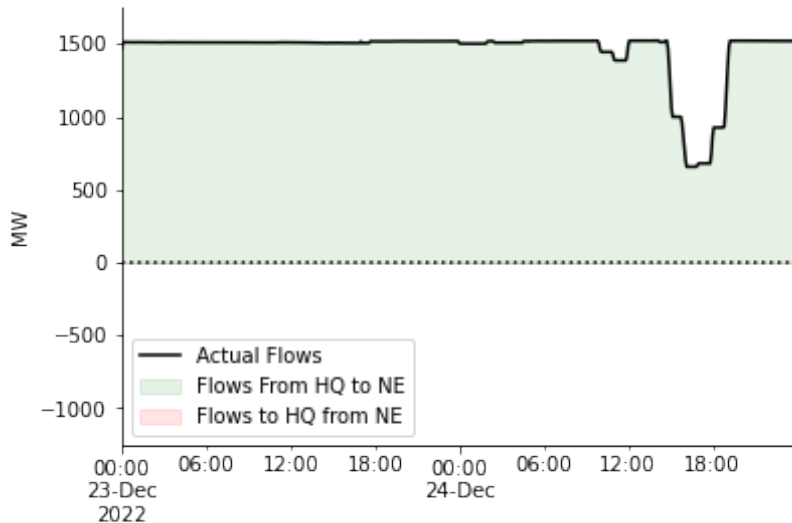
The Region Needs to Revisit Long-Held Assumptions

How much can we rely on Hydro Quebec?

A Tale of Two Cold Snaps

Christmas Eve, 2022

February 3 & 4, 2023



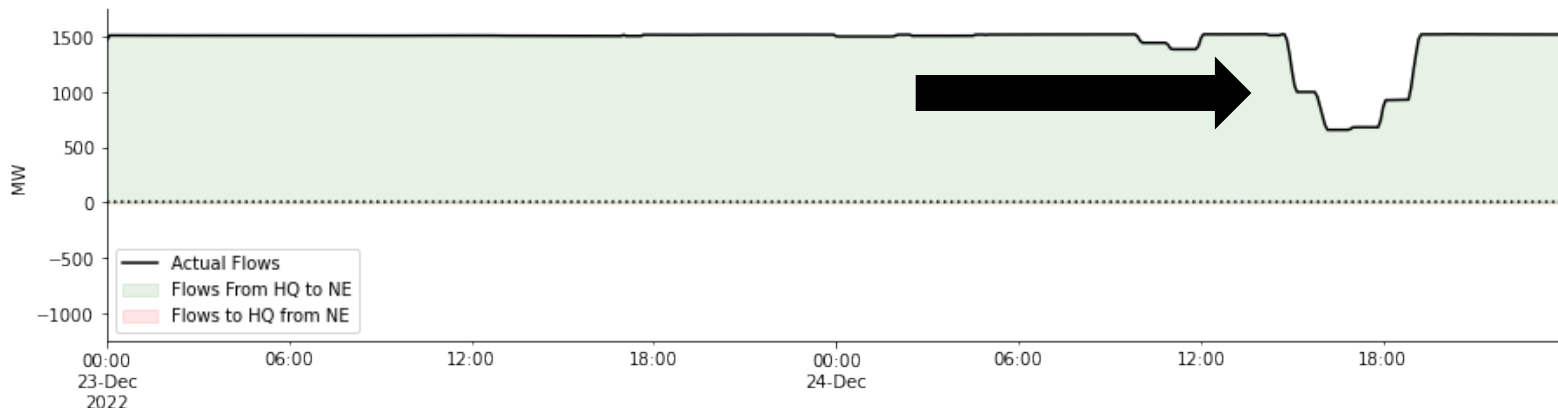
An Eventful Christmas Eve

- **Background & Context**

- Long holiday weekend combined with huge geographic storm led to high natural gas prices and low day-ahead gas generation clearing.
 - Oil was consistently in-merit.

- **Second Pay-for-Performance Event**

- ~2,000 MW of generator derates/outages over the day.
- Loss of ~700 MW from HQ from day-ahead to real-time, coinciding almost exactly with the reserve shortfall from 4:40-6 pm.
- \$39 million in penalties.



Arctic Weekend

- **February 3 & 4**

- Extraordinarily low temperatures with wind chills setting records across New England.

- **New England Sent Over 1,000 MW to Quebec**

- Starting at the afternoon peak on Feb. 3, net exports from Quebec to New England were collapsing.
- By the morning ramp on Feb. 4, New England was sending 1,000 MW to Quebec to meet their peak demand (a 2,500 MW shift).

