



MAINE POWER RELIABILITY PROGRAM

A CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY PROGRAM
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PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Central Maine Power Company & Public Service of New Hampshire Maine Power Reliability Program Saco, Waterville, and Lewiston, Maine September 2008

Project Description and Expected Impacts

As the result of a comprehensive study and analysis of its bulk power transmission system, Central Maine Power Company (CMP), along with Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH), is seeking to build approximately 350 miles of transmission lines and associated infrastructure, including substations. The project, called the Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP), is necessary to ensure on-going reliable and safe electricity delivery to Maine's homes and businesses.

CMP's 345 Kilovolt ("kV") transmission system was built and put into service in 1971 and has served the area well for nearly 40 years. Aging infrastructure, demographic shifts within Maine, changes in the location of generation, and growing electric power needs over the last four decades have raised concerns over system reliability and power delivery for the future. CMP has identified certain needs for the transmission system which must be addressed to ensure that this system can continue to serve the existing and future needs of its customers.

CMP proposes a transmission solution based on a number of factors, including electrical performance, cost effectiveness, impacts to landowners and Maine's environment, and reliability under various forecasts of future conditions. CMP proposes to build 7 new sections of 345 kV transmission lines and 8 new sections of 115 kV transmission lines, rebuild 20 sections of 115 kV lines and 2 sections of 345 kV lines, and re-rate 7 sections of 115 kV lines. PSNH would build one 8 mile section of the project in southern Maine.

As shown on the attached map, the proposed route for the new 345 kV line is between the Orrington substation in Orrington, ME and the Newington substation in Newington, NH, with numerous interconnecting segments in midcoast, western, and central Maine. To reduce impacts on the environment and local communities, more than 95% of the new circuits will be located in or next to existing transmission line corridor. CMP is in the process of seeking additional land for the project from abutters to the corridor in approximately 23 towns.



As part of this project, CMP surveyed and mapped wetlands, vernal pools, and other natural resources on hundreds of miles of transmission line corridor. Because the final design of the project is not complete, the precise amount of impacts to these resources is not yet known, but will include both permanent and temporary impacts from activities such as placing new poles in the ground, crossing rivers, cutting vegetation, and building access roads. MPRP design engineers and environmental experts are working closely together to avoid or minimize the impact of transmission structures and substations on wildlife, flora, land, and water resources to the greatest extent practicable.

Permits That May Be Required

- Maine PUC – Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, 35-A M.R.S.A. § 3132
- Maine DEP – Site Location of Development Law, 38 M.R.S.A. § 481 et seq.
- Maine DEP – Natural Resources Protection Act, 38 M.R.S.A. § 480-A et seq.
- Maine DEP – Stormwater – Maine Construction General Permit
- Saco River Corridor Commission, 38 M.R.S.A. § 951 et seq.
- Land Use Regulation Commission, 12 M.R.S.A. § 685-B
- Maine DEP – Water Quality Certification, 33 U.S.C. § 1341
- Army Corps – Clean Water Act § 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344
- Army Corps – Rivers and Harbors Act § 10, 33 U.S.C. § 403
- State Planning Office – Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.
- Local approvals (including site plan, shoreland zoning, conditional use, and building permits) in approximately 80 municipalities