



MAINE POWER
RELIABILITY PROGRAM
A CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY PROGRAM

May 5, 2010

John Storer
Superintendent, Auburn Water District
P.O. Box 414
268 Court Street
Auburn, Maine 04210

RE: Re-rate of Section 61A as Part of the Maine Power Reliability Program

Dear Mr. Storer:

Thank you for meeting with Eric Cousens, City of Auburn Code Enforcement Officer, and me on February 11, 2010 to discuss permitting for the re-rate of Section 61A as part of the Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP) in the City of Auburn. The purpose of this meeting was to determine if proposed activities associated with the MPRP project along Section 61A in Auburn would require any special permits or permissions due to their location within the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay (LAO) District. At an earlier meeting with Mr. Cousens, referenced at Exhibit 3, I had discussed the entire scope of the MPRP project in the City of Auburn. At that time, design plans for Section 61A were not fully developed. Mr. Cousens suggested I meet with you once those plans were available. I am writing to confirm the determinations made during this follow-up meeting.

The MPRP is a Central Maine Power Company (CMP) project to upgrade Maine's bulk power transmission system. As we discussed, as part of the MPRP, CMP proposes to re-rate the existing Section 61A, a 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line located in the western portion of the City (See Exhibit 1 for a project overview). The corridor containing Section 61A runs roughly along the Auburn-Minot border. The re-rate of this section will involve replacing select poles in order to increase the clearance of the line in some locations (See Exhibit 2 for pole replacement locations). It is anticipated from the current design that seventeen (17) transmission structures will be replaced along Section 61A, but only six (6) of these structures are within the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay (LAO) District (See Exhibit 2).

While the MPRP is a permitted use in the underlying district, CMP was notified that it might need to comply with additional permitting conditions in this area (See Exhibit 3). You stated at this meeting that the replacement of poles within the LAO District would not trigger any permitting requirements. This decision is based on the following facts:

- CMP is not proposing new construction, but simply replacing poles that already exist within the transmission corridor;



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- CMP is not proposing new construction, but simply replacing poles that already exist within the transmission corridor;
- The pole replacement activities will not represent a major addition of impervious surface area to the LAO District;
- There is no need to expand the amount of cleared area in the corridor. Only vegetation around pole placement areas will need to be cleared.

In fact, the only real concern expressed during this meeting was the use of pesticides within the LAO District. I forwarded this concern to representatives at Central Maine Power Company. In addition, there is a Vegetation Management Plan attached at Exhibit 5, which is part of the permit issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. This document sets minimum setback requirements for fuel storage, vehicle/equipment parking and maintenance, refueling, and storage, mixing, or loading of herbicides; and, requires and identifies herbicides with low potential mobility and low persistence in the environment for use in sensitive resource areas within the corridor.

If I have made any omissions or misinterpreted our conversation, please notify me as soon as possible at 620-3851 or at dschneider@trcsolutions.com. Otherwise, would you please sign the enclosed copies of this letter and return them in the self-addressed stamped envelope confirming that you have read this letter and that the statements made above are correct. If there are any changes to the project that alters the anticipated activities within Section 61A, I will contact you to ensure that a permit is still not needed.

Thank you again for your time. I found our meeting to be extremely helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deirdre Schneider". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deirdre Schneider

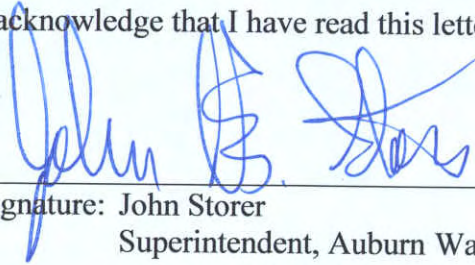


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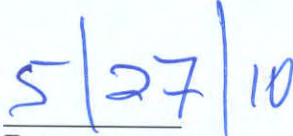
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Acknowledgement:

I acknowledge that I have read this letter and the information it contains is correct.



Signature: John Storer
Superintendent, Auburn Water District



Date