

Town of Clinton
Planning Board
P.O. Box 219
Clinton, ME 04927

John Titus
TRC Engineers, LLC
249 Western Avenue
Augusta, ME 04330

Re: Central Maine Power Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP)
Section 3023/67 Transmission Line Construction
January 2009

Dear Mr. Titus:

At our meeting on February 18, 2009, the Clinton Planning Board voted 3-0 to approve the application of Central Maine Power Company (CMP) for the transmission line project referred to above. The basis for our decision is provided below.

We find the following facts:

1. The applicant is CMP, which has demonstrated that it has adequate title, right, or interest for this project.
2. CMP filed a complete application for approval under the Land Use Ordinance and Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for the following:
 - A new 345 kV transmission line on the northwest side of the existing CMP corridor on wooden H-frame structures that are typically approximately 75 feet above ground.
 - A ½-mile portion of the new 345 kV line will be installed from the south side of Hill Road northwards to a tributary of Twelvemile Brook on steel single-pole structures that are typically approximately 135 feet above ground.
 - Approximately 1 mile of the existing corridor will be relocated where it crosses Mutton Lane so that it is closer to I-95. The existing 115 kV transmission line in this area will be rebuilt on single pole structures that are typically approximately 75 feet above ground, and the new 345 kV transmission line will be built on H-frame structures that are typically approximately 75 feet above ground.
3. To meet electrical safety standards for clearances on the new 345 kV line, CMP has options to acquire or has acquired from abutters a 50-foot strip of land on the northwest side of the corridor (with the exception of the area between Hill Road and the tributary to

Twelvemile Brook, where, because CMP has been unable to acquire property rights for the additional land, CMP has proposed the use of the single pole structures).

4. CMP stated that if it is able to acquire the 50-foot strip of land along the corridor between Hill Road and the tributary to Twelvemile Brook, it will construct this portion of the 345 kV line on the H-frame structures, instead of the single pole structures.
5. The project, which will cross three zoning districts (Industrial Commercial, Potential Development, and Low Density Residential), as well as three Stream Protection Districts and a Secondary Wellhead Protection District, meets the dimensional requirements in Land Use Ordinance § 3.
6. The project is an “essential service,” which is permitted in all zoning districts and permitted in the Stream Protection and the Secondary Wellhead Protection District with Planning Board approval.
7. The project complies with the applicable performance standards of Land Use Ordinance § 4 and the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance § 15.
8. At the Planning Board’s request, CMP submitted a report from geologist Peter Garrett of Emery & Garrett Groundwater, Inc., which concluded that the project will have no impact on the Town’s groundwater.
9. The Planning Board held a public hearing on the application on January 21, 2009, and met to deliberate on February 18, 2009.

Based on these findings and our review of the applicable ordinance provisions, we conclude that:

1. CMP has met all of the approval criteria for site plan approval in Land Use Ordinance § 5(G) for the reasons explained in the application materials.
2. CMP has met all of the approval criteria for shoreland zoning approval in Shoreland Zoning Ordinance § 16(D) for the reasons explained in the application materials.
3. CMP has met all of the approval criteria for protection of the Clinton well in Land Use Ordinance § 3A(D) for the reasons explained in the application materials.

Accordingly, the Planning Board voted 3-0 to approve CMP’s application, subject to the following conditions:

1. CMP shall provide the Code Enforcement Officer with copies of the following approvals for this project when they are issued: (i) Site Location of Development Law/Natural Resources Protection Act permit from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection; (ii) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Maine Public Utilities Commission; and (iii) Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Because of the extensive


scope of the MPRP, the ongoing permitting proceedings at the state and federal levels, and the length of time that will be required to build the MPRP, this approval shall not expire until 2 years from the date that the last of such state and federal approvals is issued.

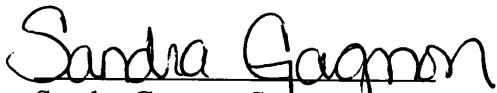
2. If CMP is able to acquire the property rights along its existing corridor that would eliminate the need to use single pole structures from Hill Road to the tributary of Twelvemile Brook, CMP may choose to build this portion of its project on H-frame structures within the existing CMP corridor. This will eliminate the need for the taller, single pole structures.

Dated: February 27, 2009.

CLINTON PLANNING BOARD


Michael Walton, Chairman


Justin Cote, Vice-Chairman


Sandra Gagnon, Secretary