



MAINE POWER RELIABILITY PROGRAM

A CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY PROGRAM

MONROE, MAINE SHORELAND ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION

**Sections 3023 & 254 Transmission Line Construction
and
Section 203 Transmission Line Rebuild**

Prepared for:

Central Maine Power Company
83 Edison Drive
Augusta, Maine 04336

Prepared by:



TRC Engineers, LLC
249 Western Avenue
Augusta, Maine 04330

May, 2010

Application Form

**SHORELAND ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION
GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Applicant Central Maine Power Company	2. Applicant's Address 83 Edison Drive Augusta, Maine 04336	3. Applicant's Tel. # (207) 623-3521
4. Property Owner Central Maine Power Company	5. Owner's Address 83 Edison Drive Augusta, Maine 04336	6. Owner's Tel. # (207) 623-3521
7. Contractor TRC	8. Contractor's Address 249 Western Avenue Augusta, ME 04330	9. Contractor's Tel. # (207) 430-0732
10. Location/Address of Property Central Maine Power Transmission Line Corridor (See Exhibit 1, attached)	11. Tax Map/Page & Lot # See Deed Reference Table, attached as Exhibit 6.	12. Zoning District Stream Protection, Resource Protection
13. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF ALL PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION, E.G. LAND CLEARING, ROAD BUILDING, SEPTIC SYSTEMS, AND WELLS (PLEASE NOTE THAT A SITE PLAN SKETCH IS REQUIRED). See attached application text, drawings, and maps.		
14. Proposed Use of Project Electric power transmission.	15. Estimated Cost Of Construction \$17 million	

SHORELAND AND PROPERTY INFORMATION

16. LOT AREA Section 203/3023: Approximately 160 acres. Section 254/388: Approximately 115 acres.	17. FRONTAGE ON ROAD (FT.) Section 203 crosses 5 public roads with a corridor width of 218' at each crossing. Section 388 crosses 3 public roads with a corridor width of 270' at each crossing.
18. SQ. FT. OF LOT TO BE COVERED BY NON-VEGETATED SURFACES. The transmission line structures will occupy less than 0.1% of the project area. The remainder will remain vegetated.	19. ELEVATION ABOVE 100 YR. FLOOD See application text.
20. FRONTAGE ON WATERBODY (FT.) See attached maps (Exhibit 2)	21. HEIGHT OF PROPOSED STRUCTURE(S) See attached Exhibit 5.
22. EXISTING USE OF PROPERTY Electric power transmission.	23. PROPOSED USE OF PROPERTY Electric power transmission.
<i>Note: Questions 24 & 25 apply only to expansions of portions of existing structures which are less than the required setback</i>	
24. A) SQ. FT. OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK AS OF 1/1/89: N/A	25. A) CU. FT. OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK AS OF 1/1/89: N/A
B) SQ. FT. OF EXPANSIONS OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK FROM 1/1/89 TO PRESENT: N/A	B) CU. FT. OF EXPANSIONS OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK FROM 1/1/89 TO PRESENT: N/A
C) SQ. FT. OF PROPOSED EXPANSION OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK: N/A	C) CU. FT. OF PROPOSED EXPANSION OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK: N/A
D) % INCREASE OF SQ. FT. OF ACTUAL AND PROPOSED EXPANSIONS OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK SINCE 1/1/89: (% INCREASE = $\frac{B + C}{A} \times 100$) N/A	D) % INCREASE OF CU. FT. OF ACTUAL AND PROPOSED EXPANSIONS OF PORTION OF STRUCTURE WHICH IS LESS THAN REQUIRED SETBACK SINCE 1/1/89: (% INCREASE = $\frac{B + C}{A} \times 100$) N/A

Agent Authorization Letter

**Town of Monroe, Maine
Shoreland Zoning Permit Application
Maine Power Reliability Program**

Maine Power Reliability Program Description

The Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP) is a project by Central Maine Power Company (“CMP”) to upgrade Maine’s bulk power system. The vast majority of Maine’s bulk power transmission system was placed into service in the early 1970s and is now reaching the limits of its ability to meet the growing electrical demand of Maine customers. Since the last major transmission infrastructure was completed more than 30 years ago, the patterns of both available generation and customer load have shifted significantly. For example, population has become more concentrated in the southern part of the state, while the generation needed to serve that load is now more distant and dispersed. When these pattern changes are combined with the increasing peak demand the current transmission infrastructure in Maine will, in very few years, become inadequate. In addition, the reliability and security standards mandated by law and administered by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. (NPCC), and ISO New England (ISO-NE) have changed significantly in recent years. Central Maine Power Company must upgrade its bulk power system with this proposed project in order to meet the mandatory standards and to provide reliable electric service to Maine customers into the future.

CMP's 345 kV transmission system was built and put into service in 1971. Since then power consumption has more than doubled. In recent years, both CMP and ISO-NE have identified certain reliability issues with the 345 kV system that need to be addressed.

In January of 2007, the MPRP began a comprehensive needs assessment of CMP’s bulk power transmission system. The study included a 10-year forecast to evaluate the system in Maine, including a review of system reliability and performance under various system conditions and operating scenarios, as well as a needs assessment to ensure a reliable transmission system in the most cost-effective manner possible. The study identified a number of significant reliability issues with Maine’s bulk transmission system, including insufficient 345 kV transmission capacity, insufficient 115/345 kV transformation capacity, and insufficient transmission support and/or infrastructure in all regions served by CMP.

After completing the needs assessment, the MPRP team went to work to study possible solutions. This included both transmission and non-transmission alternatives, before designating its preferred solution.

CMP ultimately selected a primarily transmission solution (a small geographic area know as the South Portland loop will be addressed through non-transmission alternatives) based on a number of factors, including electrical performance, cost effectiveness, impacts to landowners, and Maine’s environment under various forecasts of future conditions. The proposed solution consists of a network of 345 kV and 115 kV transmission lines and associated substations throughout CMP’s service territory where particular needs were identified. The proposed transmission solution ranges from Eliot in the south, Rumford in the west, Warren and Searsport in the east, and Orrington and Pittsfield to the north. In all, MPRP will encompass nearly 80

Maine communities, and will require approvals from the Maine Public Utilities Commission, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and numerous other state and local government agencies.

Project Description in Monroe

The part of the program located in the town of Monroe involves work in the two transmission line corridors that traverse the town.

In the corridor which extends through the northeastern portion of the town (please see Exhibit 1), for approximately 6 miles from Dixmont southeasterly through Monroe and into Frankfort, the project involves:

- Rebuilding the existing Section 203 115 kV electrical transmission line. This transmission line, which currently runs on H-frame structures that are typically 45 feet above ground on the south side of the corridor, will be moved to the north side of the corridor and placed on single-pole structures that are typically 75 feet above ground.
- Constructing a new 345 kV transmission line. This new transmission line, Section 3023, will run on H-frame structures that are typically 75 feet above ground, and will be located in the existing corridor.
- Additional tree clearing is planned in some portions of the existing corridor. CMP will not need to acquire additional lands for this purpose; rather this portion of the MPRP will be built entirely on land that CMP already owns. See attached maps (Exhibit 3).

In the corridor which runs through the southwest corner of the town (please see Exhibit 1), for approximately 3.5 miles between Swanville and Frankfort, the project involves:

- Constructing a new 115 kV transmission line, Section 254. It will be installed on the north side of the corridor and will run on H-frame structures which are typically 55 feet above ground.
- Additional tree clearing in some portions of the existing corridor is planned. As with the other corridor, CMP will not need to acquire additional lands for this purpose. See attached maps (Exhibit 3).

Please note that structure heights vary due to varying terrain and the need to achieve spans which will avoid or minimize impacts to natural resources. Typical above ground structure heights are described above, although some structures may exceed those heights in specific instances. See the attached table (Exhibit 4) for a description of the number of structures within specific height ranges for each transmission line section.

The proposed upgrades in Monroe, as outlined above, are a part of the program to improve the reliability, safety, and security of the bulk power transmission system in Maine, while at the same time meeting the increasing demands for electrical power.

Zoning Districts Impacted

The proposed project will traverse two districts in the Shoreland Zone – Resource Protection (RP) and Stream Protection (SP), as follows:

Section 203 (northern part of the Town):

- An RP district along Chase Stream, associated with Chase Bog.
- An RP district along Thurlow Brook.
- An RP district along Marsh Stream.

Section 388 (southeastern part of the Town):

- An SP district at Dead Brook, a tributary of Marsh Stream.
- An SP district at the Toddy Pond outlet stream, a tributary of Dead Brook.

Permitted Land Uses

(From Section 14 of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance)

The MPRP is classified under the Ordinance as an “essential service,” which, pursuant to Table 1 of the Town’s Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, is a permitted use in the RP and SP districts with the approval of the Planning Board. “Installation” of essential services¹ is also subject to the specific requirements of Section 15(L) of the Ordinance, addressed below.

Land Use Standards

(From Section 15 of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance)

A. Minimum Lot Standards.

Not applicable.

B. Principal and Accessory Structures

Not applicable.

C. Piers, Docks, Wharfs, Bridges, etc.

Not applicable.

¹ The MPRP in Monroe is not “installation” of an essential service because the essential service (electric power transmission) is already installed in this location. Although Section 15(L) therefore does not apply, the MPRP meets the requirements of Section 15(L), as discussed below.

D. Campgrounds

Not applicable.

E. Individual Private Campsites

Not applicable.

F. Commercial and Industrial Uses

Not applicable.

G. Parking Areas

There will be no parking areas associated with the project.

H. Roads and Driveways

There will be no new permanent roads or driveways associated with the project, other than CMP-maintained access points and ways suitable for routine and urgent maintenance by its own vehicles. Temporary access ways, which are not considered to be roads or driveways, will not add any impervious surface area, and will be established for use during the construction phase (see Exhibits 3 and 4). This will be an ongoing process as access will be established to areas undergoing immediate construction. Determinations surrounding the exact nature of the construction of these temporary access ways will be made by the contractor in consultation with an environmental representative. All access paths are temporary and will be removed once construction is complete. General access to the corridor for construction purposes will be achieved through the construction of temporary access ways which will be in place for more than one growing season, but will be removed once all aspects of construction in that area are complete. Access to pole sites, either for removal or construction, will be achieved by temporary access ways which will be in place for no more than one growing season. Areas where soils have been disturbed will then be mulched with hay. Vegetation will be allowed to reestablish itself once the temporary access ways have been removed.

Measures will be taken to minimize and avoid impacts to streams and wetlands through the use of crane mats, temporary bridges, geo-textile fabrics, and culverts, when necessary. Appropriate erosion controls will be installed wherever necessary. If necessary, mats will be placed parallel to the upland edge as abutments to further protect bank stability and establish stability. No extensive grubbing (grading to remove root systems) within wetland crossing areas will be done prior to mat placement. However, some minor grading may be required to ensure mat stability and construction access safety. No streams will be crossed within the Shoreland Zone.

I. Signs

Not applicable. There will be no signage associated with the project.

J. Storm Water Runoff

With the exception of the immediate area around the base of the support structures there is no increase in impervious surface area associated with the transmission line. Therefore there will be no significant storm water run-off generated from the project.

K. Septic Waste Disposal

There will be no wastewater generated from the project site.

L. Essential Services

(1) A guiding principle in the design of the MPRP transmission line upgrades has been to utilize the existing transmission line corridors to the maximum extent possible. Within Monroe, the rebuilding of Section 203 and the construction of Section 3023 (in the corridor in the northeastern part of the Town) and the construction of Section 254 (in the corridor in the southeastern part of the Town) will all occur entirely within CMP's existing right-of-way. To allow for the safe and reliable operation of this new line, some new clearing within this right-of-way will be required in order to widen the existing corridor, but CMP will not need to acquire any additional property to accommodate the upgrade.

(2) As noted above in the Project Description, within the corridor which extends through the northeastern portion of Town, from Dixmont southeasterly through Monroe and into Frankfort, the project crosses the RP District in three (3) locations. Within the corridor which extends through the southeast corner of the Town between Swanville and Frankfort, the project crosses the SP District in two (2) locations. Within these corridors, CMP has, to the greatest extent practicable, sited each individual structure so as to avoid, and where unavoidable to minimize, adverse impacts on surrounding uses and resources. As part of this avoidance and minimization effort, CMP has attempted to site the structures so that none is located within either the Resource Protection or Stream Protection districts. In Monroe, however, due to the fact that the existing corridors cross the RP and SP Districts and the structures cannot be sited in a manner that allows the entire district to be spanned, nine (9) structures will be located in the RP District and three (3) structures will be located in the SP District. There are no reasonable alternatives for locating these structures outside the RP and SP Districts. The amount of ground disturbance associated with the planned structures will be small, i.e., limited to the immediate vicinity of the pole placements, and since the project is co-located with the existing transmission line corridor which contains structures of a similar bulk and style, locating structures within the RP and SP Districts causes the least overall impact when compared with the alternatives. Avoiding this district would require expanding or moving the existing transmission line corridor or erecting much taller and much more substantial structures (e.g., steel towers with concrete footings) to achieve the required spans over this district. The overall environmental and visual impacts of either of these alternatives would be greater than the impacts associated with the project as planned. (See the sections related to specific Shoreland Zone Districts starting on Page 10 for more detailed information.)

M. Mineral Exploration and Extraction

Not applicable.

N. Agriculture

Not applicable.

O. Timber harvesting.

Not applicable.

P. Clearing of Vegetation for Development

Some clearing of vegetation will be required within the service corridor to accommodate the project and ensure that the project meets federal reliability and safety standards. The amount of clearing will be limited to that which is necessary for development of the project, and is generally limited to removal of species that are capable of growing tall enough to interfere with the transmission lines (so-called “capable species”). Non-capable species are allowed to remain to ensure that the corridor is vegetated, which prevents erosion and provides wildlife habitat. Unless required to create a safe working area, no grubbing (i.e., stump removal) will take place. In some instances “danger trees” are removed as well. Danger trees are trees that are large enough and juxtaposed in such a manner that they could fall into the conductor, thereby posing a severe reliability risk. The removal of danger trees is a relatively infrequent activity.

The cutting work is performed using equipment typical of logging operations including cable and hook skidders, forwarders, tree movers, chain saws, and logging trucks. In general all trees, saplings of capable species, and sometimes tall shrubs are cut at ground level. All root systems are left intact as the ground is not grubbed or graded. All slash (i.e., limbs, tree trunks, wood chips, etc.) from the cutting operation is disposed of in accordance with the Maine Slash Law (12 M.R.S.A. § 9333). The remaining vegetation is typically composed of scattered growth of small shrubs of non-capable species and herbaceous plants. After initial clearing, the condition of these cleared areas generally resembles that of a high-quality forestry operation. Specifically, great care is taken to prevent rutting and erosion.

After construction is completed, non-capable species are allowed to grow to ensure that the corridor is vegetated, which prevents erosion and provides wildlife habitat. Over a relatively short period of time (generally within one calendar year), the newly cleared portions of the corridors will Exhibit the early-successional habitat type that is typical of existing transmission line corridors in Maine.

See the attached maps (Exhibit 3), and the sections related to specific Shoreland Zone Districts, starting on Page 10, for more detailed information.

Q. Erosion and Sedimentation Control

With the exception of the immediate area around the base of the support structures there is no increase in impervious surface area associated with the transmission line. The amount of ground disturbance associated with this project will be limited to the immediate vicinity of

the pole placements and the impacts associated with access roads. CMP has developed a standard manual, “Environmental Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance Activities on Transmission Line and Substation Projects” (2007), which it uses as a routine part of all transmission and substation projects. (A copy of the manual is attached.) This manual contains erosion and sedimentation control requirements, standards, and methods that will be used to protect soil and water resources during construction of the various MPRP components. The manual was developed in consultation with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), is largely based on DEP’s *Maine Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs*, dated March 2003, and DEP’s Chapter 500, and contains specific Best Management Practices appropriate for electric transmission line and substation construction. These guidelines will be followed in the construction of transmission lines.

R. Soils

Based on the applicant’s analysis of the Soil Survey Geographic Database compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service, soils within the transmission line corridor will accommodate the proposed MPRP construction activities. Soil constraints within the transmission line corridor will be managed and mitigated through implementation of erosion and sediment control measures, proper site and project design, and special construction procedures. If concrete foundations for specific poles should need to be constructed, soil borings will be conducted and the foundations will be designed in accordance with soil characteristics.

S. Water Quality

To minimize spill potential during construction, no fueling or maintenance of vehicles or equipment will be performed within 100 feet of wetlands, streams or other sensitive natural resources. After construction, the electrical transmission line corridor is maintained to encourage the growth of scrub-shrub vegetation. Trees within the corridor that are capable of growing up into the conductors (“capable species”) must be removed for safety and reliability reasons. CMP uses a selective herbicide program to treat an area once every four years to maintain an early successional stage of growth. Herbicide is selectively applied (using a low-pressure backpack applicator) to capable species to prevent growth (or re-growth of a cut plant) of individual plants. CMP does not use herbicides within 25 feet of any waterbody or wetland with standing water. Crew forepersons are certified by the Maine Pesticide Control Board, and all herbicides are EPA registered. The selective use of herbicides within the transmission line corridor does not impose a threat to groundwater quality.

T. Archaeological and Historic Resources

There are no historic archaeological resources or historic archaeological resources eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in Monroe that would be impacted by the MPRP.

Approval Standards

(From Section 16 D of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance)

The proposed use will:

1. Maintain safe and healthful conditions.

The proposed project will maintain the same safe and healthful conditions which are already present in the transmission line corridor. The transmission line corridor and the structures within it are maintained to established industry standards so as to ensure the safety of utility workers and the general public. Maintaining sufficient clearances around the conductors is paramount to the safe operation of the line. These clearances are achieved through appropriate siting of the structures themselves and through vegetation maintenance practices as described above. All construction will be in accordance with CMP's transmission standards, general industry standards, and "Good Utility Practice," including all necessary liveline working clearances, strength factors, and reliability factors as governed by the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). In all instances, the line will be designed to meet or exceed the NESC and other standards, as applicable. The transmission line and all facilities will be operated in full compliance with CMP safety standards, which fully comply with Federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration requirements.

A health concern that is sometimes expressed revolves around the electric and magnetic fields produced by transmission lines. These fields are produced by any electric equipment or anything that carries electric current. The World Health Organization and numerous other scientific agencies around the world have studied the issue extensively. These studies have been unable to establish that electric and magnetic fields produced by transmission lines such as those being proposed as part of the MPRP cause any adverse health effects. There is no scientific basis to project any adverse health effects as a result of the electric and magnetic fields produced by transmission lines associated with this project. Accordingly, this standard has been met.

1. Not result in water pollution erosion or sedimentation to surface waters.

As described above with respect to Ordinance Sections 15(J), (Q), and (S), the MPRP will not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters.

2. Adequately provide for the disposal of all wastewater.

There will be no wastewater disposal required for this project, and therefore this standard has been met.

3. Not have an adverse impact on spawning grounds, fish, aquatic life, bird, or other wildlife habitat.

Impacts to wildlife, scenery, and unique critical areas are largely avoided through the use of the existing service corridor, which has been in place for several decades. In general, given the existing landscape characteristics of the site, construction and maintenance of the project is not expected to create conditions that are not already common to the project area. It is fully anticipated that local wildlife populations will adapt and respond to any additional

alterations much as they already do to ongoing land uses within the vicinity of the proposed project. Therefore, impacts to wildlife are expected to be minimal to non-existent. Identified significant wildlife habitats and natural areas, such as vernal pools and rare plant locations, will be avoided and minimized to the extent practicable through careful siting and placement of poles. Once installed the transmission line structures, due to the minimal amount of ground surface area they occupy, will have no significant impact on these critical natural areas. Significant wildlife habitats and natural areas will be avoided to the greatest extent practicable during construction, including measures that are taken to ensure any impacts will be minimal and temporary. Thus, this standard has been met. See attached maps, (Exhibit 4), and the sections related to specific Shoreland Zone Districts, beginning on Page 10, for more detailed information.

4. Conserve shore cover and visual, as well as actual, points of access to inland waters.

The project does not impact any actual points of access to inland waters. The primary means by which the proposed project will conserve visual points of access to inland waters is through the use of the existing transmission line corridor. Since the corridor already contains structures of a similar nature, and those who use inland waters which intersect the corridor within Monroe are already used to seeing these structures, the proposed project will not significantly affect visual points of access to inland waters. Where the transmission line corridor crosses Marsh Stream recreational boaters will have a view of the corridor for approximately 500 feet, due to the stream's meandering alignment and the streamside vegetation. The additional width of the cleared portion of the corridor, together with the rebuilt Section 203 and new Section 3023, will have a visual impact on those who recreate on the water body. However, the rebuilt Section 203 structure (#284) will be set back approximately 260 feet from the water's edge, approximately the same amount of setback as the existing Section 203 structure (#310). The new Section 3023 structure (#396) will be set back approximately 300 feet from the water's edge. Please see Exhibit 4, Figure 4. In addition, increasing the conductors' height, due to the increased height of the proposed structures, can be considered a positive visual impact since they will be further above one's field of vision. On balance, therefore, any visual impacts can be said to be minimal or perhaps improved. The corridor will continue to be maintained in a vegetated state, thereby preserving a similar degree of shore cover which currently exists.

5. Protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the comprehensive plan.

As discussed above with respect to Ordinance Section (15)T, the project will protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the comprehensive plan.

6. Will avoid problems associated with flood plain development and use.

Approximately 23 of the proposed structures are planned to be within the 100-year flood plain associated with a tributary of Marsh Stream. As a result the project will only create approximately 419 square feet of new impervious surface area within the 100-year flood plain of the tributary of Marsh Stream over a distance of approximately 1 mile and encompassing approximately 24 acres of the project area.

Only 2 of the proposed structures are planned to be within the 100-year floodplain associated with Dead Brook. As a result the project will only create approximately 50 square feet of new impervious surface area within the 100-year floodplain of Dead Brook.

Each pole will have roughly the same effect on the floodplain as a mature tree. Because of the nature of transmission lines and the minimal additional impervious surface associated with the project, construction and maintenance of the proposed transmission line will not cause or increase flooding or cause a flood hazard to any neighboring structures.

Furthermore, the project will not affect runoff/infiltration relationships. Thus, the project will avoid problems associated with flood plain development and use.

7. Be in conformance with the provisions of Section 15, Land Use Standards.

As discussed above with respect to Ordinance Sections 15(A) through (T), above, this project complies with all of the provisions of Section 15 of the Ordinance.

Specific Areas of Shoreland Zoning Impact

Sections 203 and 3023 (northeastern part of the Town):

1. A Resource Protection district at Chase Stream, associated with Chase Bog (Exhibit 4, Figure 5).

There will be three structures sited within this district: poles 211 and 212 of Section 203, and pole 341 of Section 3023. Pole 210, associated with Section 203, is on the very edge of this district and may be within it. Please see Section 15 (L), page 5, for the rationale behind locating the project within the RP District. Less than 0.8 acres of land will be cleared of capable species within this district.

A temporary access way for the installation and removal of these poles is planned. The temporary access way will not cross Chase Stream. Once construction is complete this temporary access way will be removed. Please see Section H, page 4, and Exhibit 8, for a discussion of temporary access way planning, construction, and removal.

A Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat (WWH), which is rated as being of “moderate” value by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W), is located within this district. For these areas CMP will prohibit clearing and construction activity between April 15 and July 15. This restriction will minimize the potential disruption of avian breeding and nesting activity. In addition, because these areas are associated with wetland areas, the use of herbicides for vegetation maintenance in these areas will be prohibited. Construction of the transmission line structures in these areas is not expected to affect the ecological functionality of these WWHs, as these areas are largely open areas of emergent and shrub vegetation, and contain relatively few trees. This condition will continue to exist once the project is completed. The very limited amount of clearing planned within this WWH will not affect its functionality.

A significant vernal pool is also located within this district (see attached map at Exhibit 3). The project will have no significant impact on the functionality of the pool. The pool will not be crossed by construction equipment and no structures will be located within the vernal pool. Electric conductors (wires) will span the pool, and there is the potential for indirect impacts through conversion of adjacent forested uplands and wetlands to a scrub/shrub habitat. The potential for these indirect impacts is minimal since the corridor will be

maintained in a well-vegetated state, and only a very small proportion of the forested area around the pool will be removed during construction of the MPRP. In addition, pole 234 of the existing Section 203 and its associated guying, all of which are in the vicinity of the pool, will be removed.

2. A Resource Protection District at Thurlow Brook (Exhibit 4, Figure 4).

There are four structures planned within this district: poles 236 and 237, associated with the rebuilt Section 203, and poles 359 and 360, associated with the new Section 3023. Two poles (259 and 260), associated with the existing Section 203, will be removed from this district.

Please see Land Use Standards (L), starting on page 8, for the rationale behind locating the project within the RP District.

A temporary access way for the installation and removal of these poles is planned. The temporary access way will not cross Thurlow Brook. Once construction is complete this temporary access way will be removed. Please see Section H, page 4, and Exhibit 8, for a discussion of temporary access way planning, construction, and removal.

Approximately one acre of land within this district will be cleared of capable species. Non-capable species will be allowed to remain and the cleared area will resemble the portion of the corridor which has already been cleared of capable species. As a result this planned clearing of capable species will not adversely affect the functionality of the stream and associated wetland area.

A small portion of a large deer wintering area is located within this district. It is rated of “indeterminate” value by MDIF&W, meaning its value has not yet been measured. Approximately 0.25 acres of land within this deer yard will be cleared of capable species. Given that the entire deer yard is roughly 186 acres in size, this small amount of clearing will not affect its ability to function as it currently does.

3. A Resource Protection District at Marsh Stream (Exhibit 4, Figure 3).

Two structures will be located within this district: pole 284, associated with Section 203 , associated with Section 203, and pole 396, associated with Section 3023. There will be no clearing of vegetation within this district. Temporary access ways for pole removal and installation will be established. These access ways will approach from the northwest and will not cross the stream or its associated wetland.

Section 254 (southeastern part of the Town):

1. A stream protection district at Dead Brook (Exhibit 4, Figure 1).

Pole 371 and 372, associated with Section 254, will be located within this district. Please see Land Use Standards, (L), starting on page 5, for the rationale behind locating the project

within the SP District. Access to the pole location will not require crossing Dead Brook. Less than 0.25 acres of land will be cleared within this district.

A WWH, rated as being of “moderate” value is located within this district. The same practices and conditions described where the project encounters a WWH in the vicinity of Chase Stream, described on the previous page, will apply to this WWH as well.

2. A Stream Protection District at a tributary of Dead Brook (Exhibit 4, Figure 2).

There will be one pole, #352, associated with Section 254, sited within this district. The pole will be set back approximately 40’ from the stream, and the stream will not be crossed. Less than 0.1 acres of land will be cleared of capable species within this district.

EXHIBIT 1
Project Overview Map

EXHIBIT 2
Transmission Line Configuration Cross Sections

EXHIBIT 3
Maps Showing Project Scope with Natural Resources

EXHIBIT 4
Maps Showing Project Scope Within the Shoreland Zone

EXHIBIT 5
Tables Showing Structure Types and Heights

EXHIBIT 6
Table of Project Abutters

EXHIBIT 7
Table Showing Proof of Title, Right, or Interest

EXHIBIT 8
**CMP's "Environmental Guidelines for Construction and
Maintenance Activities on Transmission Line and Substation
Projects"**
