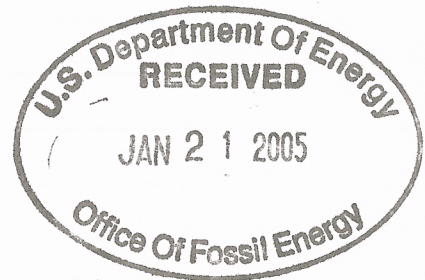


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

Docket No. PP- 300

APPLICATION FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT



COPY

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY**

**MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY**

**Docket No. PP-\_\_\_\_\_.**

**APPLICATION FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT**

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**BEFORE THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
**OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY**

**MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY**

**Docket No. PP-\_\_\_\_\_.**

**APPLICATION FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT**

Pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended by Executive Order 12038, and the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”), Office of Fossil Energy’s (“OFE”) administrative procedures (10 C.F.R. §205.320 – 205.329, ), Maine Public Service Company (“MPSCo.” or “Applicant”) hereby respectfully files this application for a Presidential Permit authorizing the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of facilities for the transmission of electric energy at the international boundary between the United States (“U.S.”) and Canada, as more fully described herein (“Application”). In support of this Application, MPSCo. respectfully states as follows:

**1.0 INFORMATION REGARDING THE APPLICANT**

**1.1 Legal Name of Applicant**

Maine Public Service Company is the legal name of the Applicant. MPSCo. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Maine and Maritimes Corporation both headquartered in Presque Isle, Maine.

**1.2 Legal Name of Partners**

This section is inapplicable to MPSCo. because MPSCo. is a corporation and not a partnership and because this proposed line is not a joint construction project with another entity.

**1.3 Communications and Correspondence**

All communications and correspondence regarding this application should be addressed to:

Thomas F. Osgood  
Director of Engineering, System Operations, Asset Management  
Maine Public Service Company  
PO Box 1209  
Presque Isle ME 04769-1209  
Phone (207)760-2520 Fax: (207) 760-2521 Email: [tosgood@mainepublicservice.com](mailto:tosgood@mainepublicservice.com)

#### **1.4 Foreign Ownership and Affiliations**

Neither MPSCo. nor its transmission lines are owned by a foreign government or assisted by a foreign government or instrumentality thereof. MPSCo. does not have any agreement related to foreign ownership or assistance. Maine and Maritimes Corporation, the parent Company of MPSCo., headquartered in Presque Isle, Maine, does have several Canadian subsidiaries.

#### **1.5 Existing Contracts with Foreign Governments or Foreign Private Concerns**

The Applicant does have existing interconnection agreements with New Brunswick Power Corporation (“NB Power”) located in New Brunswick, Canada. These agreements were established in order for MPSCo. to obtain energy from NB Power.

MPSCo. does not own any generating plants as the result of deregulation. Therefore, we have no power contracts with any foreign or domestic entities.

#### **1.6 Compliance with Law**

As set forth in an opinion of counsel attached hereto as Exhibit A, the construction, connection, operation, or maintenance of the proposed transmission facilities described herein is within the corporate powers of MPSCo. Further, MPSCo. has complied with, or will comply with, all pertinent federal and state laws related to the construction, connection, operation, or maintenance of the proposed transmission facilities.

## **2.0 INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

### **2.1 Introduction**

MPSCo. proposes to construct a new 138 kV interconnection to the NB Power transmission system for the purpose of increasing reliability of the Northern Maine grid. This project will increase the reliability of the Northern Maine transmission system and works toward satisfying the North American Electric Reliability Council reliability standards.

The proposed 138 kV transmission line will originate in Limestone, Maine at an existing substation owned by MPSCo. and tap into an existing 138 kV line (“line 1140”) on the NB Power transmission system near Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada. The proposed project is exclusively a transmission system interconnection and does not include the construction of any generation facilities in either country, nor is the proposed project dedicated or directly connected to any particular generation facility in either country. A map of the proposed route of the project is attached in Exhibit B.

The proposed 138 kV transmission line will be approximately 10.5 miles long. Approximately 90 % of this new line (nine miles) will be located adjacent to an existing 69 kV transmission line and will share a portion of the existing right of way. The plan is to utilize 50 feet of the existing cleared transmission right-of-way and to clear an additional 50 feet on the east side. This route was selected to minimize the overall length of the project, environmental impacts, land owner impacts, and project cost. The remaining portion of the line (1.5 miles) will need to be built on new right of way extending to the Canadian border. Approximately 72 acres of land (easements only) will be needed for the entire project. There will be four road crossings, one crossing each in Caswell and Hamlin over Route 1A, and two secondary road crossings, one each in Limestone and Caswell. The line will cross two USGS mapped and named brooks (Lavoie Brook and Evans Brook both in Caswell). The line will also cross the St. John River which forms the international border with Canada. The crossing is about 800 feet long. No poles will be set in any waterway. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commented the “since no work in or affecting navigable waters will occur; and/or no fill will be placed in waters or wetlands, no further action is required for this work.” Attached in Exhibit D is a copy of the letter from the Army Corps of Engineers.

## **2.2 Project Purpose**

The proposed interconnection will:

- i) Significantly improve the level of reliability and system security of the Northern Maine grid, which includes MPSCo., as well as Houlton Water Company, Van Buren Light & Power, WPS Canada Generation (owner of a hydroelectric plant in nearby New Brunswick) and a portion of the Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, all of which are connected to and served from the MPSCo. transmission system.
- ii) Provide a much needed increase in the transfer capability into northern Maine thereby increasing the region's load serving capability. The maximum transfer capacity of the line will be 100 megawatts.

The ongoing reliability and system security of the Northern Maine electric grid is dependent on the strength of the transmission ties with NB Power and the generating capacity connected to the grid. Therefore, the demonstration of need for this proposed transmission line is framed within the context of the load serving capability of the MPSCo. transmission system and its performance under various system contingencies. The present transmission system, with approximately 90 MW of firm transfer capability, requires 50 MW of internal generation to serve the current system peak load of approximately 140 MW. Although the present configuration has been in existence for more than a decade, a number of events/changes have occurred in recent years, all of which substantiate the need for a more robust interconnection with NB Power.

## **2.3 Technical Description**

The single 138 kV (60 Hz) overhead circuit will be constructed of approximately 150 single wooden poles, averaging 60 feet long with davit arms. Each davit arm will hold a polymer insulator, a transmission line arrester, and the conductor. Spans will be approximately 400 feet between structures. The minimum line to ground clearance for 138 kV lines is 19.7 feet per the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). The side clearance minimum is 10 feet per the Maine High Voltage Safety Act. MPSCo.'s transmission line design will maintain a minimum of 22 feet of ground clearance and 20 feet of side clearance. At the crossing of the St. John River a steel tower may be erected on the U.S. side to span the width of the river. This tower will be located about 90 feet in elevation above the water's surface. The span from the water's edge to the edge of the terrace on which the tower will be located is approximately 140 feet long. The tower itself will be built about 150 feet away from the edge of the

river bank. The transmission line will be single conductor per phase, made from 477 ACSR 26/7 (Hawk) conductor. The line has been designed using the NESC “Heavy Loading” for four lbs of wind and ½ inch of radial ice. Exhibit C contains a diagram of the right of way showing the relationship between the existing transmission line and the new proposed line. Also located in Exhibit C are drawings showing typical conductor spacing and design loading information. The maximum power transfer capability will be 100 MW.

### **3.0 INFORMATION REGARDING POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

#### **3.1 Statement of the Environmental Impacts**

An assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposed project is currently being prepared and all indications are that the environmental impacts of this project are minimal due to its short length, approximately 10 miles, and the fact that about 90% of the project runs along an existing transmission corridor. MPSCo. has applied for a Natural Resources Protection permit and a Site Location of Development permit from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”). As part of the DEP review, MPSCo. must ascertain what if any impact the project will have on natural resources. As part of this process, MPSCo. must also consult with the other natural resource agencies and seek their comments on the proposed project regarding any potential impacts that they may be concerned about. MPSCo. has consulted with the following state and federal agencies:

- Maine Historic Preservation Commission (“MHPC”)- Prehistoric and Historic Impacts
- Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (“MDIFW”) – Fish and Wildlife Impacts
- Maine Natural Areas Program (“MNAP”) – Rare and Endangered Plants
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Waterway and Wetland Impacts

#### **3.2 Historic Places**

The MHPC asked that both an archeological and historical architecture survey be conducted along the proposed route. A Phase I cultural resource investigation was performed. That investigation found no cultural resources along the project corridor. A review of all structures located within 900 feet of the project corridor was also conducted. After review by the MHPC, they conclude the project will have no impacts on historic properties. This line does not cross any lands that are considered significant to any Native American Tribes. Correspondence from MHPC can be found in Exhibit D.



### **3.3 Wildlife and Fisheries**

The MDIFW has indicated, after reviewing the project, that the project does not raise major concerns regarding fisheries, Significant Wildlife Habitat, or endangered or threatened species. Correspondence from MDIFW can be found in Exhibit D.

### **3.4 Rare Plants**

The MNAP reviewed their Biological and Conservation Data System files for information regarding the presence of rare or unique botanical features in the project area. MNAP noted that although there were two Natural Communities on the extreme edge of the project, they do not have major concerns about the project because it will barely cross these plant communities and the project follows the existing transmission line.

A complete rare plant survey was conducted along 90% of the project corridor. The remaining 10% will be surveyed in the spring if the DEP requires it. Attached in Exhibit E is the correspondence from MPSCo.'s rare plant scientist regarding the current project routing. No rare plants were discovered in this corridor.

### **3.5 Wetlands**

The US Army Corps of Engineers has determined that a Department of Army permit is not needed because there is no wetland filling or water way dredging or placement of structures within waterways associated with this project. The DEP will also review any wetland impacts as part of their review of MPSCo.'s state permit applications. The wetland impact will be mostly limited to change of use from a forested wetland to a scrub/shrub wetland. The line route does not cross any known flood plains.

### **3.6 Right-of-Way Width, Maintenance and Operation**

The right-of-way width for this project will be 100 feet. However 9 miles of this proposed project will be located adjacent to an existing 69 kV transmission line. Only an additional 50 feet of right of way will need to be cleared for 9 miles. This right-of-way width was selected using the Rural Electrification Administration "Overhead Transmission Line Design Manual."

### **3.7 Signature and Verification by Officer**

Exhibit F contains the signature and verification, under oath, of an officer of MPSCo.

#### **4.0 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AND PROJECTS**

MPSCo. believes that locating the transmission line along the existing Line 6905 corridor, with an interconnection to the NB Power 138kV system, is the most reliable and least costly option for achieving its objectives of adding redundancy of power supply and increasing the capacity of the its grid. MPSCo. has considered both:

- i) Alternate routes for the proposed 138kV line, which have the same or similar endpoints (e.g., Limestone substation) in terms of system impacts.
- ii) Alternatives to building the proposed 138kV line, which included developing alternative transmission ties to the NB Power, Hydro Quebec or Bangor Hydro-Electric (“BHE”) systems, or the Maine Electric Power Company (“MEPCO”) Line, as well as considering alternatives to a transmission-based solution to its reliability concerns. More discussion of the alternatives considered is provided below.

MPSCo. has concluded that the proposed line , with an interconnection point at Limestone, provides the optimal means of meeting its reliability and selection criteria. MPSCo. also considered the following alternative routes to link the Limestone switching station with the “Line 1140 Tap” in Grand Falls, New Brunswick:

- (i) A roadside alternative running along Route 1A to the Line 1140 Tap.
- (ii) A line tying directly into the St. Andre Substation.
- (iii) A line tying directly into the Grand Falls Substation. MPSCo. ruled out the Limestone-to-St. Andre and Limestone-to-Grand Falls Substation routes because of concerns over costs and routing problems on the Canadian side of the border.

For a number of reasons, MPSCo. also ruled out a roadside routing of the line from Limestone to the Line 1140 Tap (which would run along Route 1A between Limestone and Hamlin) without undertaking a comprehensive evaluation. MPSCo. desired to avoid constructing a transmission line in close proximity to dwellings, and moreover, concluded that “overbuilding” a new transmission line above the existing distribution line would result in increased construction costs and pose safety concerns during construction and future maintenance which could only be overcome by employing cumbersome and time-consuming (and, hence, costly) procedures. Further, MPSCo. took note that roadside lines are typically less reliable due to the risk of auto accidents and higher incidence of tree-related faults.

**Projects involving reinforcing NB Power ties:**

1. The proposed 138kV line (Limestone to NB Line 1140)
2. Limestone to St. Andre
3. Limestone to Grand Falls
4. Mullen to Woodstock
5. Tinker Transformer Upgrade
6. Fish River to Clair

Other transmission alternatives:

7. Houlton to MEPCO Tap
8. Hydro Quebec DC Link
9. Interconnection to BHE (Sherman to Powersville Road)

Table 1 below presents the load-serving capability of MPSCo.’s present transmission system and each of the transmission reinforcement alternatives studied by MPSCo. in the system impact study. In addition, the Table depicts the estimated route length and costs for both the MPSCo.-only portion and the total project (where total project includes the Canadian or BHE respective portions of the interconnection).

**Table 1  
Summary Results from System Impact Study**

Transmission Configuration	Generator Dispatch*	Load Serving Capability** MW			Routing MPS/Total Miles	Cost MPS/Total \$M
		No Cont n-0	Single Cont n-1	Double Cont n-2		
Present	w/ wood	>155	148	122	--	--
Present	w/o wood	>155	116	90	--	--
Proposed 138 kV line	w/o wood	>155	145	124	10.5/12	4.4/6.3
LSSS to St. Andre	w/o wood	>155	144	132	10.5/18	4.4/9.0
LSSS to GF	w/o wood	>155	146	124	10.5/12	4.4/7.9
Mullen to Woodstock	w/o wood	>155	146	131	4/17	3.5/8.9
Tinker Upgrade	w/o wood	>155	134	89	0	.9/.9
FR to Clair	w/o wood	>155	116	90	2.5/3.0	1.3/2.5
To BHE	w/o wood	>155			21/23	7.3 /8.1

## 5.0 Consultation

### 5.1 Agency Consultation

MPSCo. contacted the necessary environmental and natural resource agencies and asked for their comments on our proposed project. A copy of the initial request for comment letter is included in Exhibit D. All agencies initially contacted responded and have provided their comments. The agency letters can be found in Exhibit D as well. Many of the letters point out that the agency has very little or no concern with this project. Some letters were received once the potential impacts were studied to determine if there were in fact resources that would be impacted (archeological, rare plants, historical buildings etc.). Letters are from the following agencies:

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife –Fisheries and wildlife review

Department of Conservation, Natural Areas Program – Rare or unique botanical features

Maine Historic Preservation Commission – Archeological and historical review

United States Army Corps of Engineers – Wetlands and waterways review

## **5.2 Public Consultation**

A public notice regarding the project was placed in a local paper on September 8, 2004. The notice invited interested parties to a public informational meeting at the local elementary school on September 15 at 6 PM. In addition, on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 49 certified letters were sent to abutting property owners and the municipal governments of the three towns that the project crosses. Copies of the public notice and letters sent to abutting property owners can be found in Exhibit E. No emails, letters or phone calls have been received from the public regarding the project.

At 6:00 PM on September 15 the public meeting was held. 13 people attended. After a brief presentation outlining the purpose, need, routing, and construction information questions were entertained. A list of questions follow:

1. What side of the existing line will the new line be located?
2. How difficult a time are we having obtaining the last 7% of the right of way options?
3. What impact will the line have on the town's tax base?
4. Will our rates go up when it is built?
5. Will I be exposed to EMFs?
6. Why did deregulation of the electric utilities occur?
7. How much noise will the line make when operating?
8. Can you consider relocating the line away from my property?

The meeting concluded at 6:40 PM.

The following exhibits are included:

- A. Opinion of Counsel
- B. Map of Project
- C. Construction Diagrams
- D. Agency Correspondence
- E. Public Notice Correspondence
- F. Signature and Verification of Officer

WHEREFORE, MPSCo. respectfully requests that the DOE issue a Presidential Permit authorizing the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of the facilities described herein for the transmission of electric energy at the international boundary between the U.S. and Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Thomas F. Osgood  
Director of Engineering, System Operation, Asset Management  
Maine Public Service Company  
PO Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769-1209  
Phone: (207) 760-2520  
Fax: (207) 760-2521  
Email: [tosgood@mainepublicservice.com](mailto:tosgood@mainepublicservice.com)

# **Exhibit A**

## **Opinion of Counsel**

January XX, 2004

Office of Utility Systems, Economic Regulatory Administration  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington DC 20585

Re: Maine Public Service Company, Application for a Presidential Permit

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am Corporate Counsel to Maine Public Service Company (the Company). This opinion is delivered to you pursuant to 10 C.F.R. §205.322(a)(6) which requires an opinion of counsel be included in Presidential permit applications.

In connection with this opinion, we have reviewed and are familiar with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Company. I have also examined and am familiar with the contents of the Company's application for a Presidential Permit, to which this Opinion is attached as an appendix.

Based upon the foregoing, I am of the opinion that the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of the facilities as proposed in the Request is within the corporate power of the Company.

The foregoing opinion is being delivered solely to you in connection with the Request and may not be relied on by you for any other purpose or by any other person for any purpose without our written consent.

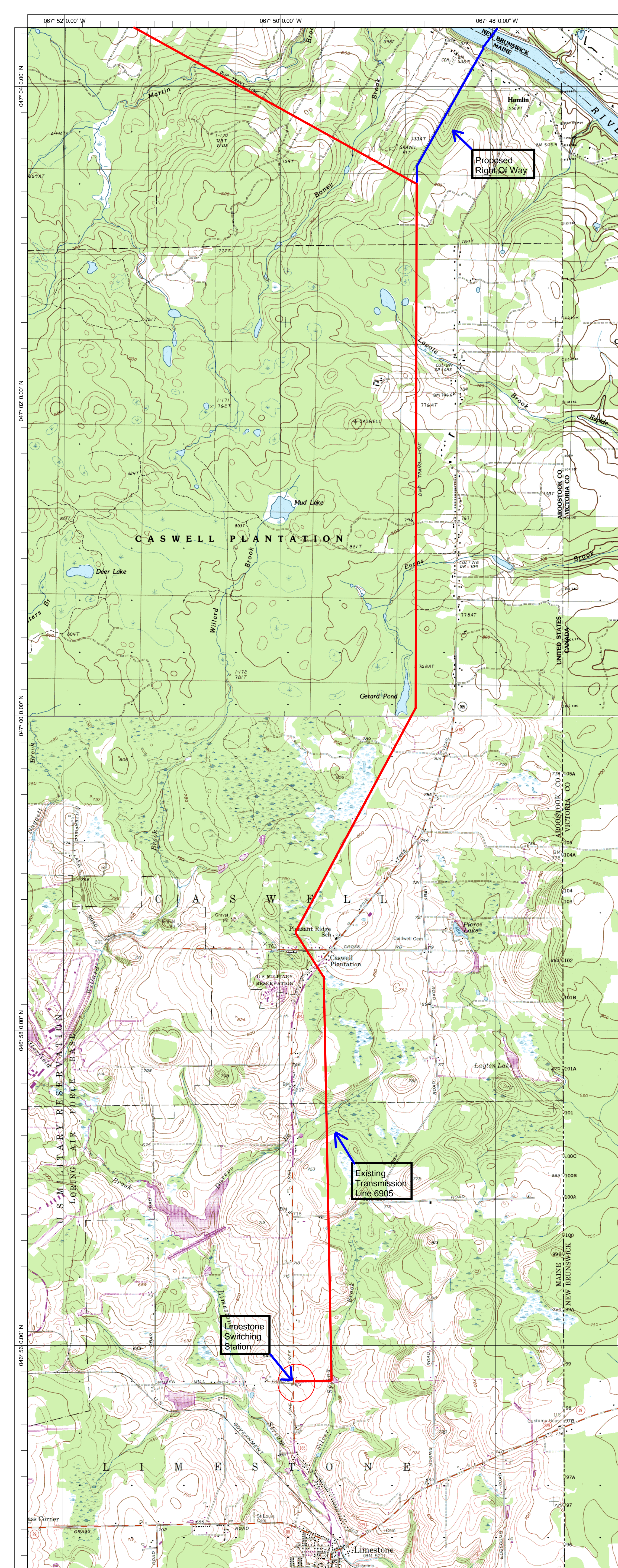
Respectfully submitted,

Patrick C. Cannon  
General Counsel  
Maine Public Service Company  
P. O. Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04762  
Tel: (207) 760-2422



# **Exhibit B**

## **Map of Project**



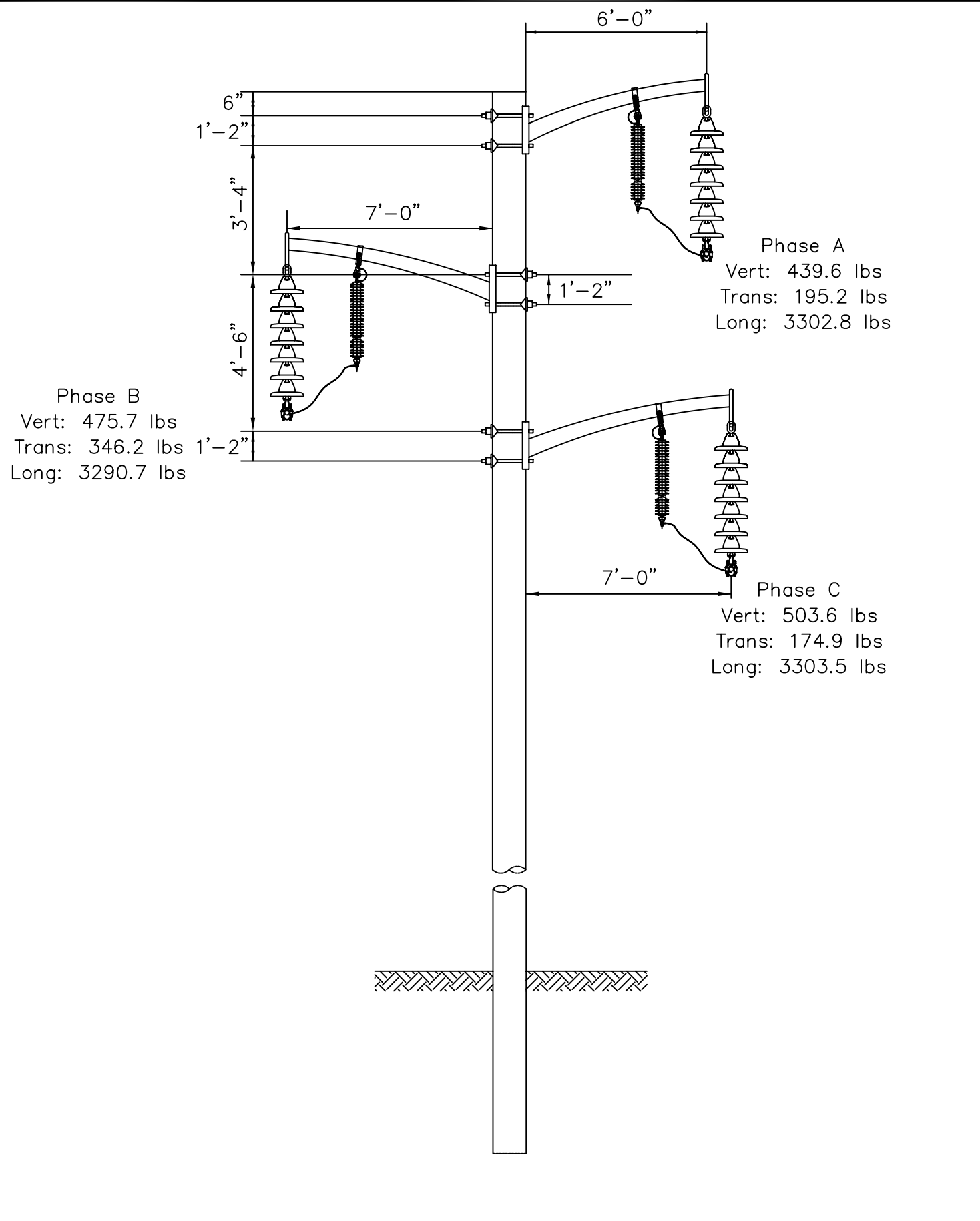
Proposed Right Of Way

Existing Transmission Line 6905

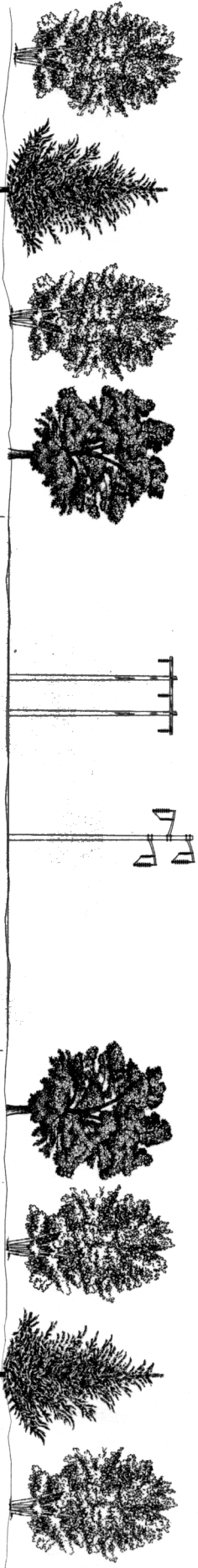
Limestone Switching Station

# **Exhibit C**

## **Construction Diagrams**



				138 KV SINGLE POLE CONSTRUCTION TANGENT STRUCTURE	
				TRANSMISSION STANDARDS MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY	
				DLH Drawn by	Approved by
No	Date	Revision Changes	By	App'd	11/13/03 Date



150' ROW

<p><b>MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY</b>  <small>PRESQUE ISLE, ME.</small>  <b>ELECTRIC POWER</b></p>	
<p>Title: Typical ROW Cross Section</p>	
Drawn By:	Scale:
Approved By:	Date:
File Name:	Print No.:
No. Date	Revision
By	App'd

**Exhibit D**  
**Agency Correspondence**

July 5, 2004

Emily Pinkham  
Maine Natural Areas Program  
Department of Conservation  
State House Station 93  
Augusta ME 04333

**RE: Maine Public Service Company Proposal to Construct a 138 kV Transmission Line From Limestone Maine to Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada, Initial Request for Agency Comments**

Dear Ms. Pinkham:

Maine Public Service Company (MPSCo.) is in the initial stage of designing a new 138 kV transmission line. This proposed line will originate in Limestone, Maine at an existing substation and interconnect with the New Brunswick Power Commissions (NB Power) 138 kV transmission system in Grand Falls, New Brunswick. The length of the line is 10.5 miles long. This proposed interconnection with NB Power will significantly improve the level of reliability and electrical system security of the Northern Maine grid.

After careful analysis of alternate routes, MPSCo. has chosen to build this new line adjacent to an existing 69 kV transmission line right of way (ROW) in order to minimize impacts. The new line would share a right of way with the existing 69 kV transmission line for about nine of it's roughly 10.5 miles and would only require clearing an additional 50 feet of right of way for 9.5 miles and clearing 100 feet of right of way for the last 1.5 miles. This line will cross the St. John River in Hamlin Maine. No construction will take place in the river.

Enclosed with this letter is a more detailed project description including pictures and maps identifying the route. At this time we are asking agencies to provide input regarding sensitive natural resources or other issues that MPSCo. should consider as we move into final design and permitting of this project. Kindly provide written comments to my attention within 30 days to the address above.

Should you have any additional questions please feel free to call me at 760-2570.

Thank you in advance for your comments.

Sincerely,

Russell C. Smith  
Manager of Performance, Compliance and Training



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
284 STATE STREET  
41 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0041

ROLAND D. MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

August 13, 2004

P.O. Box 447  
Ashland, ME 04732

Russell C. Smith  
Maine Public Service Co.  
P.O. Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

RE: MPS Co. Proposed Transmission Line

Dear Russell:

Please be advised that after reviewing the information on the proposed transmission line from Limestone to Grand Falls, New Brunswick, there appears to be no major fisheries concerns. Standard erosion control BMP's should be enacted for any stream crossings that may be necessary in the course of erecting this power line.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project.

Regards,

David J. Basley  
Regional Fishery Biologist







JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
284 STATE STREET  
41 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0041

ROLAND D. MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

August 2, 2004

Russell C. Smith, CUSA  
Manager, Performance, Compliance & Training  
Maine Public Service Co.  
PO Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Dear ~~Russell~~: *Russell*

As discussed with you earlier via a telephone call, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife after reviewing our data base has no major concerns referencing Significant Wildlife Habitat or E/T species within the 138 kV transmission line project site from Limestone, Maine to Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada.

I look forward in the future in receiving information detailing the additional environmental issues pertaining to this project. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,  
*Richard Hoppe*  
Richard Hoppe  
Regional Wildlife Biologist  
PO Box 447  
Ashland, ME 04732



BIODIVERSITY

FISH AND WILDLIFE ON THE WEB: [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com)  
EMAIL ADDRESS - [ifw.webmaster@maine.gov](mailto:ifw.webmaster@maine.gov)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
157 HOSPITAL STREET  
93 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0093

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

PATRICK K. MCGOWAN  
COMMISSIONER

July 23, 2004

Russell C. Smith  
Manager of Performance, Compliance and Training  
Maine Public Service  
P.O. Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769-1209

Re: Rare and exemplary botanical features, Limestone Maine to Grand Falls,  
New Brunswick, Canada.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have searched the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Data System files in response to your request of July 5, 2004 for information on the presence of rare or unique botanical features documented from the vicinity of the project site from Limestone Maine to Grand Falls, New Brunswick, Canada. Rare and unique botanical features include the habitat of rare, threatened or endangered plant species and unique or exemplary natural communities. Our review involves examining maps, manual and computerized records, other sources of information such as scientific articles or published references, and the personal knowledge of staff or cooperating experts.

Our official response covers only botanical features. For authoritative information and official response for zoological features you must make a similar request to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State Street, Augusta, Maine 04333.

According to the information currently in our Biological and Conservation Data System files, there is a Dwarf Shrub Bog Community and a Sedge Heath Fen Community that intersects with the proposed project. Given that the Transmission Line will barely cross these Natural Communities, and that the Transmission Line will follow immediately adjacent to the existing line, we do not have major concerns. However, we would like to make the recommendation for future right-of-way maintenance to be done mechanically rather than by use of herbicides.

If someone is hired to conduct a field survey of the project area, please refer to the enclosed supplemental information regarding rare and exemplary botanical



features documented to occur in the vicinity of the project site. The list may include information on features that have been known to occur historically in the area as well as recently field-verified information. While historic records have not been documented in several years, they may persist in the area if suitable habitat exists. The enclosed list identifies features with potential to occur in the area, and it should be considered if you choose to conduct field surveys.

This finding is available and appropriate for preparation and review of environmental assessments, but it is not a substitute for on-site surveys. Comprehensive field surveys do not exist for all natural areas in Maine, and in the absence of a specific field investigation, the Maine Natural Areas Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of unusual natural features at this site.

The Natural Areas Program is continuously working to achieve a more comprehensive database of exemplary natural features in Maine. We would appreciate the contribution of any information obtained should you decide to do field work. The Natural Areas Program welcomes coordination with individuals or organizations proposing environmental alteration, or conducting environmental assessments. If, however, data provided by the Natural Areas Program are to be published in any form, the Program should be informed at the outset and credited as the source.

The Natural Areas Program has instituted a fee structure of \$75.00 an hour to recover the actual cost of processing your request for information. You will receive an invoice for \$75.00 for our services.

Thank you for using the Natural Areas Program in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions about the Natural Areas Program or about rare or unique botanical features on this site.

Sincerely,



Toni Bingel Pied  
GIS Specialist/Assistant Ecologist  
93 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0093  
207-287-8044  
toni.pied@maine.gov

Enclosures



MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
55 CAPITOL STREET  
65 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCII  
GOVERNOR

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR.  
DIRECTOR

September 9, 2004

Mr. Russel C. Smith  
Maine Public Service Co.  
P. O. Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769-1209

RE: 138 kV transmission line (MHPC 1556-04), archaeological survey

Dear Mr. Smith:

My staff has reviewed the Phase I archaeological survey report by James Clark and Edward Moore for this project. We accept the survey report as written, and the results of the survey as negative.

I find that there will be no archaeological properties as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 affected by the project.

Sincerely,

  
Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.  
State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Dr. Richard Will



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
696 VIRGINIA ROAD  
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742-2751

Regulatory Division  
CENAE-R-53  
CORPS ID#: NAE-2004-2229

July 20, 2004

Russell C. Smith  
Maine Public Service Company  
P.O. Box 1209  
Presque Isle, Maine 04769-1209

Dear Mr. Smith:

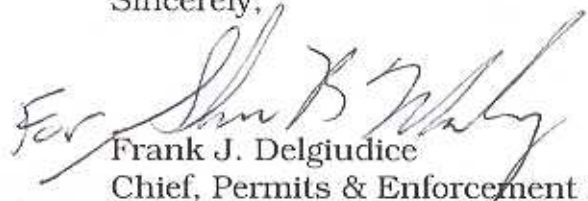
This refers to your letter requesting the need for a Department of the Army permit to construct and maintain a new 138kV aerial transmission line from Limestone, Maine, USA to Grand Falls/Grand Sault, New Brunswick, CANADA.

Based on the information you have provided, we have determined that a Department of the Army permit is not required for the work described in your submittal. Our regulatory jurisdiction encompasses all work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and the discharge of dredged or fill material into all waters of the United States, including adjacent wetlands, as well as the grading within those waters, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Since no work in or affecting navigable waters will occur; and/or no fill will be placed in waters or wetlands, no further action is required for this work. **A reminder, no filling of waters of the United States (wetlands or waterways) is authorized without written approval from the Corps.**

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Shawn Mahaney of my staff at 207-623-8367 at our Manchester, Maine Project Office.

Good luck with your project.

Sincerely,

  
Frank J. Delgiudice  
Chief, Permits & Enforcement Branch  
Regulatory Division

**Exhibit E**  
**Consultants Correspondence**

**William D. Countryman**  
*Environmental Assessment & Planning*  
868 Winch Hill Road, Northfield, VT 05663  
Ph: (802) 485-8421; FAX: (802) 485-8422  
[wdcenv@together.net](mailto:wdcenv@together.net)

10 November 2004

Russell Smith  
Maine Public Service Corporation  
PO Box 1209  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Re: Line 3875, additional surveys for rare plant species

Dear Russell,

I have reviewed the map of alteration in the proposed route for this project, now to be located slightly westerly of the original proposal in the town of Hamlin, and have the following thoughts.

- I have walked the segment that is adjacent to the existing powerline and have walked along the woods road that accesses this area from the north, and I have inspected the field edge and woods road upslope to the south from US Rte. 1A. This was done last November when we were delineating wetlands in the area, and I inspected the woodlands at the summit of the hill for wetland condition. Although this was out of season for searches for rare species, nevertheless I saw no habitats that I would consider of moderate or high potential for the occurrence of any such species, except that I thought that giant rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera oblongifolia*) could possibly occur in the deciduous woodlands at the summit of the hill, and looked for it without finding any.

Following the protocol for the search I undertook in August of this year, i.e., searches for rare species in selected habitats along the length of the corridor, and not throughout its entire length, I would otherwise have considered this section of low potential, and would not have searched it again, nor would I have searched along the field margin down to Rte. 1A.

- As to the segment of corridor between US Rte. 1A and the St. John River, I have not inspected this area; it is my understanding that Don Cameron of the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) has done so, without finding any species of concern. Particularly, his inspection of the riverbank area itself

showed no Furbish's lousewort (*Pedicularis furbishiae*), which was found at the riverbank on the original alignment.

- The MNAP has stated that they see no need for additional searches, but they cannot waive any requirements that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), or federal agencies may have. I understand that you have received significant snows so is apparently too late to undertake a meaningful search this year. If there is a requirement to perform an additional search, I would be happy to do so next summer.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Arthur V. Gilman

AVG/s



# **Appendix F**

## **Public Consultation**

**Maine Public Service Co.  
Public Information Meeting  
138kV Transmission Line Project  
Limestone Maine to St. Andre New Brunswick  
September 15, 2004**

Name	Address	Phone #
Mr & Mrs JAMES GAREY	HC 62 Box 51 HANLINE ME	207 8685079
Cecile B Cyr	HC 62 Box 56 HANLINE ME	868 5047
Lawrence H Zenius	1574 Van Buren Rd Caswell	325-4667
Skip Dumaiz	VAN BUREN LIGHT & POWER	
Ulysses Benven	749 VAN BUREN RD (Caswell)	325-4645
Alice Peers	1347 Van Buren Rd Caswell	325-4868
Alton C Bell	1059 Van Buren Rd Caswell	325-4837
Robert Bell	1956 Van Buren <sup>Rd</sup> Caswell	325-4720
Laurie Jemmisse	927 V.B. ROAD	325-4117
Royce Ballard	3 Willard Rd	325-4145
Clayton Roy	853 VAN BUREN RD	325-4163
Margaret Feely	1348 Van Buren Rd	325-4868
Paul S. Henke	1167 Van Buren Rd Caswell	325-4073

## Family/Multi-Unit



### Multi-Unit

(2) 1 bdrm units w/liv. rm., kitchen, bath single family unit downstairs or split up \* Garage \* Own Septic \* Shared Well w/105 1 acre±

107 McBurnie Road  
Presque Isle, Maine

Will Be Sold As One

Bid IS \$39,000.00

September, 2004 \* 11:00 a.m. ON SITE

2004 \* 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Only

Currently Occupied

Certified check. Closing within 30 days.

Additional Conditions. Please call for details.

344 Van Buren Road, Caribou, Maine 04736  
(207) 498-3859

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

mental health, substance abuse, and speech and language to work together to promote the well being of the social, and educational services.

### Speech Therapist - MHRT-C, Presque Isle

A (40 hour) position providing outpatient services. Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, or related services-related field plus one year of experience. Individual must qualify for MHRT-C certification. **Application deadline: Monday, September 13, 2004**

### Specialist, ABC Preschool.

Preschool programs in Caribou and Presque Isle, providing one on one and small groups (ages 2-5 years) who are experiencing

At least two years of post secondary training in special needs children also a plus. **September 20, 2004**

### Children's Crisis Counselor - CCSU

Interested in joining the team at the Children's Crisis Center working with children and adolescents.

Work on an as needed basis and across all shifts. **Application deadline: Monday, September 13, 2004**

Comprehensive benefits are available for all full time

Send resume and college transcripts to:

David G. Thibodeau  
Director of Personnel Services

Program worker position to:

Brenda J. Macomber  
Human Resources Office  
P.O. Box 10660  
Portland, ME 04104  
hroffice@ccmaine.org  
www.ccmaine.org

Catholic Charities Maine is a United Way  
and an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

## DHS Licensed Foster Parents Needed

For Juvenile Services Program, 1-14 day emergency placements for teens, \$50.00 per day, ongoing professional support provided.

For more information contact:  
John Costello at 941-2855 or 582-8077.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION AND OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Please take notice that on or about October 15, 2004, Maine Public Service Company, 209 State Street, PO Box 1209, Presque Isle, Maine, 04769-1209, Tel. (207)760-2300 intends to file an application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for permits under the Site Location of Development Act (38 M.R.S.A. §§ 481-490; DEP Regulations Chapters 371- 377) and the Natural Resources Protection Act (38 M.R.S.A. §§ 480-A to 480-Z; DEP Regulations Chapters 305-359), and for a water quality certification under § 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) for a proposed project.

Description: The proposed project is a 138 kV electric transmission line approximately 10.5 miles in length from Limestone to Hamlin, Maine and crossing the US/Canada Border (St. John River) to St. Andre, New Brunswick, Canada. Nine miles (86%) of the proposed line will be located adjacent to an existing transmission line. The remaining 1.5 miles will require a new right of way. The purpose of the line is to improve MPSCo.'s transmission system reliability by connecting to New Brunswick Power's 138 kV Transmission system. The proposed transmission line will consist of single pole construction with occasional angle structures and a steel tower structure at the St. John River crossing. The project will require the reconstruction and upgrading of the Limestone Switching Station to a 138 - 69 kV substation.

Further Information: Maine Public Service Company will conduct a **PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING** at 6:00 p.m. on September 15, 2004 at the Caswell Elementary School on Route 1A in Caswell. Representatives of MPSCo. will explain the project and provide an opportunity for public comments and questions. You are invited to attend this meeting.

After it is filed with the Department of Environmental Protection, the application may be viewed by the public at the Hamlin, Caswell and Limestone town offices, as well as at the Department of Environmental Protection offices at 106 Hogan Road, Bangor, Maine.

Questions may be addressed to Russell C. Smith, Maine Public Service Company, PO Box 1209, Presque Isle, Maine, 04769-1209; Tel: (207)760-2570; email: russsmith@mainepublicservice.com

Requests for the Board of Environmental Protection to assume jurisdiction over the application or requests of a public hearing on the application must be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection in writing no later than 20 days after the application is accepted as complete for processing. Public comments on the application may be provided to the Department of

listening skills, goal oral interpersonal skills, good license and reliable trans Qualified individual resume to:

Director  
Application



Job duties include clean pumps, flumes, cutters, area as instructed if necessary equipment damage. Perform trash and product waste chemicals, foamers, and usage; follow safety equipment as needed; may be required to work according to perform other duties as a

Responsible for setting measures codes, cuts, polyethylene film to while making periodic change-overs as needed rewraps by opening damaged away used poly. Form responsible for box form

### Mech

Job duties include working equipment throughout the welding, soldering, bra fabricating. A successful Shifts: 3pm-11pm and 1

### High School Diploma

McCain Foods USA, Inc. wages and benefits include

- Health Insurance
- Paid Vacation
- Short Term Disability
- Tuition Reimbursement
- 401K with up to contribution

Send resume to:

**Appendix G**  
**Signature and Verification**  
**by Officer**

The undersigned, Brent M. Boyles, having been first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer for Maine Public Service Company, that he has reviewed the foregoing Application and he has knowledge of the matters set forth in this Application, and that such Application is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, accurate and true.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent M. Boyles

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn and subscribed before me on this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 2005.

Notary Public in and for the State of Maine. My Commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.