

Public Hearing
NECEC Shoreland Zoning Application
May 4, 2021

Board: Chair Delance White, Mike Fournier, Barbara Cook, Susan Theberge, Linda Flagg and Dennis Stevens,

Staff: Ronda Palmer, Code Officer

Guests: Adam Desrosiers, Nicholas Achorn, Black & Veatch; James Morin, John Titus, Burns & McDonnell; Lisa Gilbreath, Pierce Atwood; Gerry Mirabile, NECEC Manager; Jonathan Seavey & Tyler Johnson, Zoom specialist; Donna Perry, Sun Journal; John & Jean Gatchell, Donna Fuller, Jim Labrecque, Peter Theberge, Shawn Bradford, Benjamin and Leslie Geissinger

Delance White called the public hearing to order at 6:00 PM. He stated the attached ground rules for the meeting.

James Morin gave a presentation to the Board. The presentation is attached.

Barbara Cook asked if the 75 foot clearing is in the center of the 400 foot right of way. Representative for the NECEC stated that the clearing is on the westerly side within the 400 foot right of way.

Sue Theberge asked if the towers or lines would create interference for abutters with their electronic devices. An EMF study was done as part of the Maine PUC approval process for the project. The levels were either at or below the recommended levels.

Barbara Cook asked if pole 432-152 is in wetland (Pg. 3-8). NECEC stated it is not in wetland but in an Inland Wading Bird Waterfowl Habitat and Resource Protection District.

Linda Flagg questioned what would happen if in November voters halt the project what would happen to the poles. NECEC stated that if infrastructure is not active by company the company would decommission and take down.

Jean Gatchell, abutter, asked who would be responsible for paying to taking down the poles. NECEC said they would be.

Leslie Geissenger, abutter, made a statement that the only correspondence they have had on the project is a postcard and that they are upset that there is not more open communication. They run an organic farm and are concerned with what project will look like with them as a neighbor. NECEC representatives agreed to meet with the Geissengers.

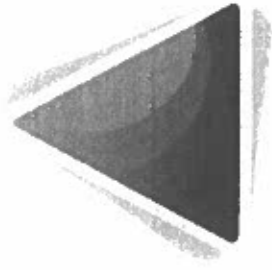
John Gatchell asked about stakes on land and if that is the line they will be cutting on. He wanted to know if abutters could have firewood cut near their property. At first NECEC said it was part of bid but then said maybe something could be worked out. A representative will meet with him to discuss options.

Motion was made by Mike Fournier and seconded by Dennis Stevens to adjourn the public hearing at 6:15 PM.

GROUND RULES FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 5/4/21

Any person wishing to speak at the May 4, 2021 public hearing will be given an opportunity to do so in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Scope of the Public Hearing. The subject matter of this public hearing is New England Clean Energy Connect Transmission LLC's shoreland zoning permit application dated March 22, 2021. Evidence presented on issues other than the applicant's compliance with Sections 15 and 16(D) of the Jay Shoreland Zoning Ordinance will be considered beyond the scope of this public hearing and will be excluded.
2. Procedure. The applicant will be asked to proceed first with an overview of its shoreland zoning permit application. Thereafter, persons wishing to address the Planning Board on the subject matter of the application shall signify their desire to speak by raising their hands when the Chair announces consideration of public comment. After being recognized to speak by the Chair, such persons will preface their comments by giving their first and last names and address. Speakers are asked to spell their last name so that the Recording Secretary can keep accurate meeting minutes.
3. Time Limit. Persons addressing the Planning Board as part of the public hearing shall limit their remarks to *five (5) minutes for Town of Jay residents and taxpayers* and to *three (3) minutes for all others*. Persons may be allowed to speak more than once at the sole discretion of the Board.
4. Evidence. The Planning Board may receive any oral or documentary evidence but such evidence is restricted to the subject matter of the shoreland zoning application. The Board shall exclude irrelevant, immaterial or unduly repetitious evidence.
5. Decorum. Persons present at the public hearing are requested not to applaud or otherwise express approval or disapproval of any statements made or action taken at such public hearing. Citizens shall refrain from interrupting other speakers. Citizens shall avoid personalities and conduct themselves in a civil, courteous manner expected of all meeting participants.
6. Questions. Speakers should address questions through the Chair. Speakers shall not attempt to engage in debate with other meeting participants.



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Section 432 High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Line Construction (320kV)

Jay, Maine

May 2021



Introductions

- Gerry J. Mirabile – NECEC Manager Permitting & Compliance
- Adam Desrosiers – NECEC Director Engineering & Construction
- Nicholas Achorn – Black & Veatch – Project Manager
- Nicholas Hahn – NECEC Vegetation Management
- Lisa Gilbreath – Pierce Atwood – Legal Counsel
- John Titus – Burns & McDonnell – Public Involvement
- James Morin – Burns & McDonnell – Permitting Specialist

The Project

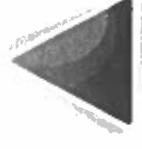


NECEC, LLC proposes to construct a High Voltage Direct Current (“HVDC”) transmission line and related facilities capable of delivering up to 1,200 megawatts (“MW”) of electric generation from the Canadian border to the New England electric grid.

STATE AND FEDERAL APPROVALS

- Maine Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued May 3, 2019.
- Maine Land Use Planning Commission Site Law Certification issued January 8, 2020.
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection Site Location of Development Act and Natural Resources Protection Act permits issued May 11, 2020.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act permit issued November 6, 2020.
- U.S. Department of Energy Presidential Permit issued January 14, 2021.

The Project in Jay

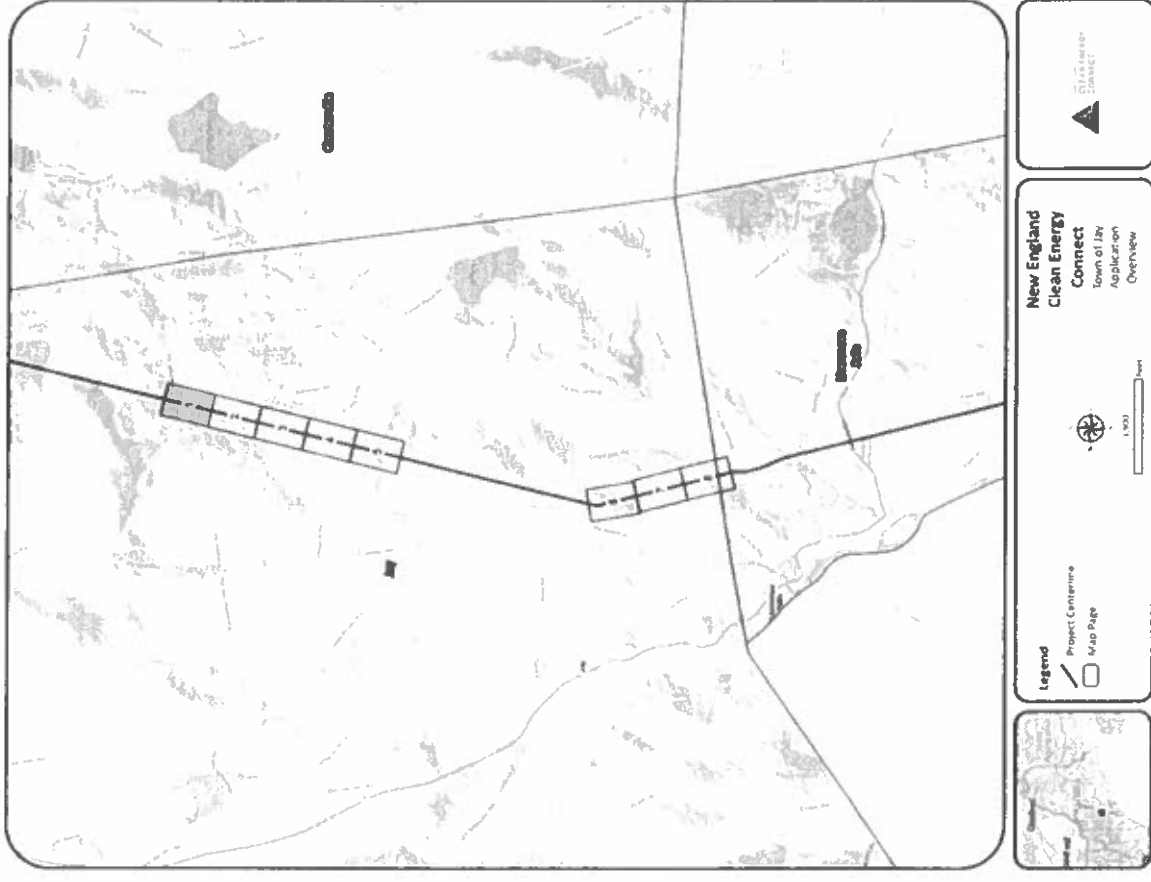


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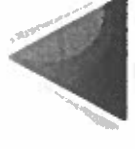
- The Project is an Essential Service pursuant to the Jay Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.
- The Project crosses the following Shoreland Zone districts: Resource Protection (“RP”), Limited Residential (“LR”), and Stream Protection (“SP”).
- The Project does not involve any in-stream work.

The Project in Jay

- The portion of the Project located in Jay involves the construction of a new 320kV HVDC electric transmission line that will be co-located within the existing transmission line corridor.
- The Project will be built entirely on land that CMP owns in fee over which NECEC, LLC holds an easement.
- The proposed new transmission line will extend for approximately 7 miles through Jay between Livermore Falls and Chesterville.
- The Project will not need to acquire additional land in Jay.



The Project in Jay



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- 41 new poles (transmission line support poles), with an average height of 97 feet will be installed as part of the Project.
- 38 pole locations will be single pole, self-weathering steel that will be direct embedded into the ground. The other three locations will require double poles that will also be self-weathering steel direct embedded into the ground.
- The transmission line corridor crosses undeveloped land, agricultural fields and forest land.
- The Project crosses the RP district surrounding Fuller Brook, the RP district surrounding an unnamed tributary of Clay Brook, the SP district along James Brook, the LR district surrounding an unnamed tributary of Clay Brook, and the SP district surrounding an unnamed tributary of Clay Brook.
- The Project will require placement of four new transmission line poles (432-152, 154, 155 and 156) in the RP district associated with Fuller Brook and one new transmission line pole (432-138) in the RP district associated with an unnamed tributary of Clay Brook.
- Three single poles (432-136, 138 and 160) will be installed in wetlands, resulting in approximately 60 square feet of permanent disturbance.

The Project in Jay



- The existing CMP corridor will be widened by 75 feet on land owned by CMP to accommodate the new transmission line.
- Temporary access ways will be used within CMP's corridor during construction.
- Timber mats will be used to cross wetlands and to span streams in order to protect natural resources.
- There will be no in-stream work.
- Access ways and temporary structure preparation areas will be restored to pre-construction conditions and revegetated.
- Construction in Jay is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021 and be completed by the fall 2022.

Questions?

866-676-3232

info@necleanenergyconnect.com



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