

## Notice of Proceeding for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) and Notice of Informational Meetings

Dear Community Members and Neighboring Property Owners:

Central Maine Power Company (CMP) has filed with the Maine Public Utilities Commission (Commission) studies of the Portland area transmission system and an assessment of transmission solutions proposed to meet reliability needs identified in the studies. These studies have assessed compliance with Commission's "Safe Harbor" reliability standards issued in 2013, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) approved standards, known as the Bright Line Bulk Electric System (BES) Standards that became effective in July 2014. The Portland Area solutions study, filed on February 21, 2018, identified several transmission upgrades that address the reliability needs identified in the studies. As part of the Portland Area Solutions, CMP is proposing to:

- Build or upgrade substations in Cumberland, Gray, North Yarmouth, Freeport, Portland and South Portland;
- Upgrade transmission lines through Gray, North Yarmouth, Freeport, Yarmouth, Cumberland, Falmouth, Scarborough and Westbrook, primarily in the existing right-of-way;
- Construct an underground transmission line in downtown through Portland to South Portland; and
- Conduct a pilot study to assess the use of Non-Transmission Alternatives (NTAs) as part of the solution to meet the reliability needs.

The Portland Area transmission projects were originally planned to be part of the Maine Power Reliability Project (MPRP) that the Commission approved in June 2010 (Docket No. 2008-255). However, the parties in that proceeding agreed to address the Portland Area Solutions separately. In this current proceeding, CMP is seeking Commission approval, called a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), to undertake the proposed reliability upgrades. As part of this proceeding, the Commission will review the identified reliability needs, the proposed transmission solutions, and possible non-transmission alternative (NTA) solutions. You may review, upload, and print the Portland Area Analysis-Solutions Assessment as well as other documents in this proceeding at the Commission's website: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/online/index.shtml">http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/online/index.shtml</a>. We will also provide your town office a copy of the Portland Area Analysis-Solutions Assessment and all publicly-available documents we file in this proceeding.





Enclosed please find a copy of the Notice of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Proceeding and Notice of Technical Conference, issued by the Commission on June 18, 2018 announcing this stage of the proceeding to consider the CPCN request and the NTAs. The notice requires CMP to notify all landowners along the proposed transmission line route to acquaint you with the procedures for intervening in the case. As a landowner adjacent to the proposed transmission upgrades, you have the right to intervene and participate in the Commission's CPCN proceeding and may do so by filing a petition to intervene as set forth in Chapter 110 of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure available at <u>www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/65/407/407c110.doc</u>. **Petitions to Intervene must be submitted to the Commission no later than July 12, 2018.** If you have any questions about how you may file a petition to intervene and participate in the Commission's proceeding, you may contact Paula Cyr, the clerk of the Commission, at (207) 287-3831.

A Technical Conference to address the Portland Area Analysis - Solutions Assessment and to address any new Petitions to Intervene will be on July 18, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commission's Worster Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 101 Second Street in Hallowell.

As engineering and environmental studies progress, CMP will be holding public information sessions in several communities to explain the project, take public input and answer questions. In the meantime, further information is available by calling 866-4 CMP BRL (866-426-7275).

We look forward to working with communities and neighboring landowners to help us minimize impacts as we fulfill our commitment to provide our customers with reliable and safe electric service for your homes and businesses.

Sincerely,

Brian Ford Program Manager - Maine

Enclosure