



An Avangrid company

March 11, 2025

Testimony on behalf of Central Maine Power Company Neither For Nor Against

LD 596: Resolve, to Provide Legislative Approval of Northern Maine Transmission Infrastructure

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, my name is Kathleen Newman, Vice President of Government Affairs for Central Maine Power Company, submitting testimony neither for nor against LD 596, Resolve, to Provide Legislative Approval of Northern Maine Transmission Infrastructure.

CMP supports the Northern Maine Renewable Energy Development Program, the legislatively directed initiative to promote development of the substantial renewable energy resources in northern Maine as outlined in Title 35-A, §3210-I, and we intend to participate in any RFI or RFP the MPUC issues pursuant to that program.

CMP's parent company Avangrid has designed a transmission line to bring wind power from the County to the New England grid. The full length of this route is fully secured, and no additional land is needed to establish a contiguous route from Aroostook County to Windsor. Over 100 miles of the line will be built next to existing transmission lines, and 40-80 miles will be built on land already set aside for utility use.

We testify neither for nor against LD 596 at this time, however, because we believe legislative approval of a high-impact transmission line – to the extent it should be required at all¹ – must, at a minimum, only come after the route of the selected project developer's line is known.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

¹ It is our position that the imposition of legislative approval for high impact transmission lines resultant from the 2021 anti-NECEC referendum (IB 2021, c.1) is unnecessary and should be repealed.