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In 2014, BPL issued a lease to CMP for its corridor across two public lots in Western Maine, the Johnson Mountain and West Forks Plantation lots. They did so behind closed doors without any public notice. BPL revised the lease twice, in 2015 and 2020, both times without any public notice.

CMP would cut a 150-foot corridor through these public lots, fragmenting wildlife habitat and harming recreational opportunities. This would clearly reduce and substantially alter these lands that belong to all Maine people.

In spite of the requirement to get a 2/3 vote of the Legislature before issuing a lease for an obviously destructive project across public lands, BPL has failed to do so three times.

The Legislature needs to hold BPL accountable and make it very clear that BPL must get the required 2/3 vote for the CMP corridor and other projects like it that would irreparably damage public lands.