

Everett Simpson
Corinna

Committee On Energy, Utilities and Technology
Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine

I am Everett Simpson, a Corinna resident. I support the statewide initiative, LD 1708 "An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company."

Along with 32 other Corinna landowners, I am impacted by a land-grab perpetrated by Maine Electric Power Company (MEPCO). The MEPCO Project is a proposed 345 Kilovolt transmission corridor extending from Pittsfield to Chester. The planned corridor is 70 miles long and 245 feet wide.

Since announcing the project in January 2016, MEPCO has exercised purchase options, and fee simple purchases of land and buildings. There are 13 communities in the central Maine region impacted by the MEPCO Project.

MEPCO's success in real estate speculation hinges on a letter sent to impacted landowners, graphically explaining the eminent domain process. As a result, Corinna now has a history of demolished houses and vacant dwellings, a forced migration from privately owned land and buildings. This scenario does not describe home.

MEPCO is owned by Central Maine Power Company and Versant Power. The parent companies are Avangrid and Iberdrola. These foreign owned utility companies are not acting in the best interests of the people of Maine.

Corridor To Nowhere - A Phantom Transmission Line:
MEPCO is an unreliable power company. The projected timeline for creating the MEPCO Project; 1) January 2016 - Project announced. 2) Fall 2017 - Corridor ownership completed. PUC filing. 3) 2018 - Begin construction.

The MEPCO Project has fallen silent. What happened?

A few highlights:

1. No electrical generating facility planned on either end of the corridor.
2. No utility project assigned to the corridor.
3. No financial investors purchasing MEPCO Project electricity.
4. A poorly planned transmission line project. A gerrymandered pathway.
5. No obvious reason for the MEPCO Project to exist. Obsolete before being built.

MEPCO fabricates the truth. MEPCO refuses to answer my impacted landowner questions. I refuse to sell my ancestral land to MEPCO.

Everett E. Simpson
Corinna, Maine
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