

I only have my lifetime in which to make a difference. And where will my intentions fall when I try to do so? Will my actions honor the stewards who cared for this land and left it for me? What would they think of how I care for the gift they gave me? After all, my contribution to preservation has been apathetic at best.

Every day, I marvel over my good fortune to live in a state that has remained largely untouched. It is why I choose to be here. Maybe I don't care – is it worth the effort to write this testimony? After all, this corridor won't directly affect me, my home or the homes or property of anyone I love. So, what is the big deal? Do I really care about leaving the land intact for those who come after me?

It should be so clear to all of us, that what we do now will just be the start of something. The impact this corridor will have on the land long-term cannot be known. Forests all over the globe are failing to regenerate themselves thereby reducing the filtering of CO2 and accelerating climate change, destroying habitats for wildlife and creating an environment for more severe weather. Here in Maine, lobstermen are already pushing further out to sea to trap lobsters and the lobsters they seek are already migrating north to cooler waters. It is obvious that we should be extending extra care to our Maine Woods, not destroying them.

Why have I, as a Mainer, had no opportunity to voice my support or lack thereof for this project? Why is short-term gain for a Canadian corporation valued above the destruction of the Maine Woods and all that will bring?

Corporations do not invest in projects that do not benefit the corporation itself and the individuals in power. The stakes are high for the players behind the Avangrid CMP Corridor, whoever they may be. **Who are all of the individuals** that are lining their pockets and currying favor to bank such favors for a later date? Let me see the faces of those that will benefit from the destruction of the Maine woods. At least there should be that. Any stated benefit is nothing more than a token offering to allow those who make back room deals a chance to quiet their consciences... to rationalize the destruction of the forest, the animals and in short the future of our state. Where is the land they will target for their next project? My back yard?

So, I find I do care, that I want in some small way to make a difference.... to state my gratitude to those who came before me and to leave a sign for those who come after me that someone cared enough to leave our incredible woods intact for them to walk through.