



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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August 2, 2024

Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04330-0017

Subject: Permit-by-Rule Notification  
Central Maine Power Company  
Section 1 Transmission Line Rebuild Project  
Augusta, Vassalboro, and Winslow, Maine

To Whom It May Concern:

Central Maine Power Company (CMP) respectfully submits this Permit-by-Rule application to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME-DEP) for proposed electric utility line upgrades, including pole installations, and associated temporary access roads (project activities) to be undertaken as part of the Section 1 Transmission Line Rebuild Project (Project). CMP has targeted November 2024 to commence project work activities.

The activities involve the rebuild of Section 1, an existing 34.5-kilovolt (kV) transmission line, on a 10-foot-average off-set from the existing centerline using replacement poles which will average approximately 9.5 feet taller than existing poles. The proposed length of the rebuilt transmission line is approximately 20.1 miles and passes through the City of Augusta and Towns of Vassalboro and Winslow, Maine. Please refer to the Project location map provided as **Attachment 1**.

The Project involves the following improvements to existing transmission assets:

1. Rebuild of existing Section 1 34.5-kV transmission line between the existing Winslow and Augusta East Side Substations. The existing line is approximately 22.8 miles long through Augusta, Vassalboro, and Winslow. This line dates back to the early 1950's and is deficient under numerous current electrical transmission standards.
2. Reroute of the existing Section 1 alignment in Winslow to remove approximately 1.5 miles of Section 1 and relocate new line adjacent to the existing Section 40 transmission line to collocate and consolidate the rebuilt Section 1 line within an established utility line right-of-way (ROW) corridor.

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3. Reroute of the existing Section 1 alignment in Augusta to remove approximately 0.7 mile of existing Section 1 and relocate adjacent to the existing Section 272 transmission line to collocate the rebuilt Section 1 line within an established utility line ROW corridor.
4. The new, rebuilt Section 1 will take a more direct route, thereby reducing the overall length of the line by 2.1 miles, affecting less land and natural resources.

CMP is seeking authorization for the two reconfigurations proposed which will utilize the expansion of an existing corridor to accommodate the relocated line under Permit-by-Rule Section 2 – *Activities Adjacent to Protected Natural Resources* and Section 9 – *Utility Crossings*.

For the remainder of the transmission line rebuild, the 'Public Works' exemption under NRPA [38 M.R.S.A Section 480-Q(9)] applies to the replacement work within an existing ROW where no corridor expansion is required. The exemption is applicable due to the fact that replacement poles are located within close proximity (~10 feet) and replacement poles are only slightly taller than existing poles with an average height increase of 9.5 feet.

Construction of the Project will require placement of 11 poles within wetlands along the two rerouted sections along with temporary crossing of seven wetlands and three intermittent streams to facilitate construction access. Each pole installation in wetlands will require an approximate 4-foot diameter hole (12.6 square feet) for the pole and associated backfill. Total permanent wetland impacts from the required fill for 11 poles is approximately 138.6 square feet. Of the total permanent wetland impacts, one pole (12.6 square feet) will be located within Wetland of Special Significance (WOSS), and the remaining 10 poles (125.6 square feet) will be located in non-WOSS wetlands. There are no proposed impacts or fill located within significant wildlife habitat. Please refer to Project Plans provided in **Attachment 2**.

Temporary crossing of the seven wetlands and three intermittent streams from placement of construction matting for access will result in 20,491 square feet (0.44 acre) of temporary impacts to wetlands. Temporary construction mats are to be removed as soon as work is completed and are typically in place no longer than one growing season. The proposed rebuild and replacements are within CMP's existing ROWs. Representative photos of wetland resources where pole installations will occur and existing ROW corridors are provided in **Attachment 3**.

POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) wetland scientists completed an evaluation of wetlands and waters of the United States (WOTUS) within the proposed Project area corridor to verify and delineate presence of regulated resources as depicted on project plan excerpts provided in **Attachment 2**. During the field evaluation, wetlands encountered were determined to be dominated by palustrine emergent (PEM) and palustrine scrub shrub (PSS) vegetation (See Photos in **Attachment 3**).

Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
August 2, 2024

To facilitate your review, please find the following Attachments enclosed:

1. Project Location Map
2. Project Plans
3. Representative Photos of Wetlands and Transmission Line ROW

Sincerely,



Michael Banaitis  
Environmental Project Manager

c: Bill Goggin, CMP  
Nicole Picard, CMP

**Attachments:** Project Location Map  
Project Plans  
Representative Photos of Impact Areas

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
PERMIT BY RULE NOTIFICATION FORM**

(For use with DEP Regulation, Natural Resources Protection Act - Permit by Rule Standards, Chapter 305)

APPLICANT INFORMATION (Owner)				AGENT INFORMATION (If Applying on Behalf of Owner)			
Name:	Central Maine Power Company			Name:	William Goggin		
Mailing Address:	83 Edison Drive			Mailing Address:	83 Edison Drive		
Mailing Address:				Mailing Address:			
Town/State/Zip:	Augusta, ME, 04336			Town/State/Zip:	Augusta, ME, 04336		
Daytime Phone #:	(207) 530-1284	Ext:		Daytime Phone #:	(207) 530-1284	Ext:	
Email Address:				Email Address:	wgoggin@cmpco.com		
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>							
Part of a larger project? (check 1):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	After the Fact? (check 1):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Project involves work below mean low water? (check 1):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Name of waterbody:	NA
Project Town:	See Attached		Town Email Address:	See Attached		Map and Lot Number:	See Attached
Brief Project Description:	Installation of replacement electric transmission utility poles either within or adjacent to freshwater wetlands and temporary impacts to freshwater wetlands from placement of timber construction matting for equipment access.						
Project Location & Brief Directions to Site:	North Belfast Avenue in Augusta, north of the existing Augusta East Side Substation, and south of the existing Winslow Substation off Benton Avenue to line crossing of Smiley Avenue in Winslow.						

**PERMIT BY RULE (PBR) SECTIONS (Check at least one):** I am filing notice of my intent to carry out work that meets the requirements for Permit-by-Rule (PBR) under DEP Rules, [Chapter 305](#). I and my agent(s), if any, have read and will comply with all of the standards in the Sections checked below.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sec. (2) Act. Adj. to Prot. Natural Res. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sec. (9) Utility Crossing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (16) Coastal Sand Dune Projects       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (3) Intake Pipes                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (10) Stream Crossing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (16-A) Beach Nourishment              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (4) Replacement of Structures                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (11) State Transportation Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (17) Transfer/Permit Extension        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (6) Movement of Rocks or Veg.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (12) Restoration of Natural Areas    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (18) Maintenance Dredging             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (7) Outfall Pipes                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (13) F&W Creat./Water Qual. Improv.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (19) Act. Near SVP Habitat            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (8) Shoreline Stabilization                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (15) Public Boat Ramps               | <input type="checkbox"/> Sec. (20) Act. Near Waterfowl/Bird Habitat |

**NOTE: Municipal permits also may be required. Contact your local code enforcement office for information. Federal permits may be required for stream crossings and for projects involving wetland fill. Contact the Army Corps of Engineers at the Maine Project Office for information.**

**NOTIFICATION FORMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THE NECESSARY ATTACHMENTS AND FEE**

- ☒ **Attach** all required submissions for the PBR Section(s) checked above. The required submissions for each PBR Section are outlined in Chapter 305 and may differ depending on the Section you are submitting under.
- ☒ **Attach** a location map that clearly identifies the site (U.S.G.S. topo map, Maine Atlas & Gazetteer, or similar).
- ☒ **Attach Proof of Legal Name** if applicant is a corporation, LLC, or other legal entity. Provide a copy of Secretary of State's registration information (available at <http://icrs.informe.org/nei-sos-icrs/ICRS?MainPage=x>). Individuals and municipalities are not required to provide any proof of identity.

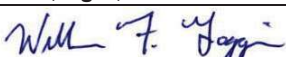
**FEE:** Pay by credit card at the [Payment Portal](#). The Permit-by-Rule fee may be found here <https://www.maine.gov/dep/feeschedule.pdf> and is currently \$307.

- ☒ **Attach** payment confirmation from the Payment Portal when filing this notification form.

**Signature & Certification:**

- I authorize staff of the Departments of Environmental Protection, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, and Marine Resources to access the project site for the purpose of determining compliance with the rules.
- I understand that this PBR becomes effective 14 calendar days after receipt by the Department of this completed form, the required submissions, and fee, *unless the Department approves or denies the PBR prior to that date.*

**By signing this Notification Form, I represent that the project meets all applicability requirements and standards in Chapter 305 rule and that the applicant has sufficient title, right, or interest in the property where the activity takes place.**

Signature of Agent or Applicant (may be typed):	William Goggin 	Date:	08/02/2024
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**Keep a copy as a record of permit.** Email this completed form with attachments to DEP at: [DEP.PBRNotification@maine.gov](mailto:DEP.PBRNotification@maine.gov). DEP will send a copy to the Town Office as evidence of DEP's receipt of notification. No further authorization will be issued by DEP after receipt of notice. A PBR is valid for two years, except Section 4, "Replacement of Structures," are valid for three years. **Work carried out in violation of the Natural Resources Protection Act or any provision in Chapter 305 is subject to enforcement.**