

**UPDATED INFORMATION
KIBBY WIND POWER PROJECT
July 23, 2007**

The following provides the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) with updated information on the Kibby Wind Power Project. The following areas are addressed:

- Refinements to 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line routing;
- Elimination of proposed turbine area;
- Update of wetland impact information; and
- Correction to Merrill Strip Township reference.

Refinements to 115 kV Transmission Line Routing

Since submittal of the LURC application in April, TransCanada has continued to work to refine the proposed transmission line layout in order to further reduce potential environmental impacts. Revised Plan and Profile Sheets are attached. Route refinements have occurred in three general areas, all located along the southerly segment of the 115 kV transmission line route:

- An approximately 2 mile segment of the 115 kV transmission line that had inadvertently straddled the Eustis/Coplin Plantation line has been adjusted to bring this stretch of right-of-way (ROW) completely within Eustis. This portion of the transmission line is, therefore, addressed in the project's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) application and does not extend into LURC jurisdiction.
- The portion of the ROW that parallels the Boralex ROW was refined in order to minimize impacts to a late successional northern hardwoods natural community and to further minimize construction disturbance and visual impacts by the transmission line in its approach to Route 27 and the crossing of the Appalachian Trail. After field assessment and consultation with Bureau of Parks and Land (BPL) and Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP), as described below, the route has been adjusted to parallel the northern side of the Boralex ROW (see Figure 1). Further, the width of the additional clearing adjacent to the Boralex ROW has been reduced to 100 feet through the use of a single pole structure (ranging from 75 to 95 feet tall) design. Figure 2 illustrates the proposed structure type.
- As a result of its ongoing consultation with stakeholders and consideration of measures to minimize overall impacts associated with the transmission line, TransCanada has decided to locate the transmission line underground for the final segment of the line, beginning just west of Route 27 and continuing into the Bigelow substation. Therefore, at an upland location adjacent to Route 27, the line will transition from an above ground line to an underground line. The underground transmission line is anticipated to extend along the westerly side of Route 27 (selected due to the wider work space and lack of natural resource issues as compared to the easterly side), within the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) easement, and continue to the existing driveway accessing the Central Maine Power (CMP) Bigelow Substation. At that point, the underground transmission line will be drilled under the roadway, and be installed underground along the CMP driveway to the existing substation. In this way, the project will avoid wetlands adjacent to Route 27 and can avoid additional aboveground elements affecting the Appalachian Trail area.

Selecting the appropriate routing along the Boralex ROW west of Route 27 required the balancing of a number of factors. Additional field efforts were undertaken to better understand resource issues (wetland, vernal pool, stream, and vegetative community assessment). Engineering factors and potential visual effect on nearby recreational uses were also factors considered in the selection of the northerly routing.

First, wetland assessment, and consideration of vernal pools and streams, was undertaken within areas not previously delineated. Delineations were important for both sides of the existing transmission line corridor to determine whether a significantly greater level of impact would occur based on paralleling the existing Boralex ROW to the north or to the south. Based upon these delineations, it was determined that wetland resources are comparable on either side, with the exception of a vernal pool that was identified adjacent to the north side of the Boralex ROW, west of Stoney Brook.

The second environmental assessment undertaken was precipitated by identification of a stand of late successional forest in the Flagstaff Region Management Plan (BPL, revised April 23, 2007). That document identified a generalized area to the north of the Boralex ROW that was characterized as "old growth forest." Upon further investigation, the Bigelow Preserve Manager, Steve Swatling, noted that this characterization was based only on informal field investigation and was not to be considered sufficient for fully understanding the character of that area. In addition, many large late successional trees were noted during the wetland delineation efforts on the south side of the existing Boralex ROW as well, and large stumps were evident on both sides of the ROW. In order to better understand the nature and extent of this resource, in support of a routing decision, additional targeted field efforts were undertaken. The first focused field day was spent with Rob Bryan, a forester for Maine Audubon, on June 4, 2007, gathering plot information for several locations on either side of the ROW. This was followed up by a field visit by Don Cameron from MNAP, Steve Swatling, and Rob Bryan, on June 8, 2007 to review the field plot data and to further assess the potential resource. Field surveys confirmed the presence of late successional trees on both sides of the ROW and the character was generally determined to be similar. The southerly stand was significantly larger than the stand to the north (200+ acres, as compared to about 60 acres). MNAP has delineated these areas as "Exemplary Beech-Birch-Maple Forest Natural Community," as documented in a letter dated June 19, 2007 (attached). The general consensus was that impact should be consolidated with the existing corridor to the extent possible, and that a slight preference for a northerly routing existed.

Engineering factors also strongly support routing the transmission line along the northern side of the Boralex ROW. To the south, terrain is steeply sloping down to the ROW. The slope is considerably more gradual to the north of the Boralex ROW.

Potential visual issues that were considered included the proximity of both the Appalachian Trail to the south and the Bigelow Preserve to the north. Recreational users of both areas would experience minimal change due to the existing presence of the Boralex transmission line. However, placing the proposed 115 kV transmission line to the north, on the downslope, would decrease visibility by taking advantage of natural topographic screening.

Based upon these factors, an engineering design was considered to reduce the necessary additional clearing to the extent possible. The use of the single pole design will allow the additional cleared area to be limited to 100 feet to the north of the Boralex ROW. Even with a pole height ranging from 75 to 95 feet, natural terrain will significantly limit visibility.

Should further opportunities arise to consolidate with Boralex or other parallel ROWs, TransCanada would do so. Absent those opportunities, the currently proposed configuration offers a least-impact balancing of environmental and community issues in siting the proposed transmission corridor.

Elimination of Turbine Development Area

The LURC application had included, as a portion of the proposed D-PD zone, an area outside the original easement in which two turbine locations were shown. Based upon further consultation with the landowner, it has been determined that this area will be eliminated from the proposed project. The total area of the proposed D-PD zone is now 2,821 acres (909.52 acres on Series A and 1,912.16 acres on Series B). The proposed D-PD zone is shown on the attached revision to Exhibit C of the LURC application (in Volume I), which reflects the modified proposed rezone area.

Wetland Impact Information Update

Ongoing project work has resulted in additional reduction in wetland impacts, as discussed below.

No change in wetland impact associated with proposed new facilities associated with the wind turbine project has occurred. However, further engineering examination of existing roads in the project area has resulted in a determination that widening and improvement of roads that would require wetland impact is not necessary. Therefore, the "Wahl Road Improvements" line items from Table 8-5 can be eliminated, resulting in a reduction from 1.639 acres to a total of 1.419 acres of total wetland fill. Revised versions of Table 8-5 and Table 8-6 from Volume I of the application are attached.

Along the proposed 115 kV transmission line, the realignments have resulted in adjustments in engineering along the right-of-way (as reflected in the attached Plan and Profile Sheets). As a result of the redesign efforts, wetland fill impacts have been reduced from 3,320 square feet (0.08 acre) to 1,140 square feet (0.03 acre). Revised Tables 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-6 and 6-7 from Volume V are attached.

Correction to References to Merrill Strip Township

Figure 2-3 from Volume I of the Application depicts the so-called A, B, C and D Series. The C Series was mistakenly depicted as extending into a portion of Merrill Strip Township. TransCanada's development rights do not extend into Merrill Strip Township, and Figure 2-3, attached, has been corrected accordingly. As a result of this correction, the acreage of the C Series drops from 331.7 acres to 272.5 acres, and the total acreage that TransCanada is effectively protecting by not developing the C, D, and northern portion of the A Series, as detailed in its June 4, 2007 LURC submittal, is reduced from approximately 1,324 acres to 1,264 acres. A public summary of the agreement with the environmental groups regarding the conservation package also included the mistaken reference to Merrill Strip Township. Although that summary was never provided as part of this Application, that summary has also been corrected to eliminate any reference to Merrill Strip Township.