This letter, in response to your request, provides information about the map, and map revision, that displays the ______________ town line in the vicinity of ____________________________.

The Maine Office of GIS has developed digital base maps, including town boundary coverage, from the USGS 7.5 minute map series. Although every effort has been made to eliminate error in map compilation and the digitization process, the possibility of some error is expected. In addition, GIS data may retain any locational inaccuracy or discrepancy found in the USGS source. The 7.5 minute series map scale is 1:24000 and meets a National Map Accuracy Standard of plus or minus 20 feet. Town boundary lines for the series were compiled from USGS maps at 1:62,500 scale, aerial photo interpretation, and limited field work.

A steering committee drawn from state agencies revises, corrects, updates, and guides error correction in the town boundary coverage through the research and use of legislative documents. At the request of town officials, on behalf of the towns adjacent to the boundary in question, the map can be examined for mapping error.

This letter is to notify you of the documentation needed to identify error and correct the mapping of the town line. In order to implement map correction in an orderly manner and to eliminate subjective or unauthorized changes to mapped boundaries, the steering committee proceeds with map correction and/or update requests that are submitted with legislative documentation. The documentation submitted must include a description of the boundary as enacted by the Maine Legislature and approved by the Governor on behalf of the People of the State of Maine.

If such documentation is not available through your town office, it will be necessary, for map correction, to obtain the documentation through other sources. The subcommittee must depend on the ability of town officials to provide documentation of legal enactment of the boundary. Towns have access to a number of resources for help with research, interpretation, and clarification of historical government and legal records, and with legislative services and processes. These resources include field survey, the Maine State Law and Legislative Library, the Maine Municipal Association, the offices of legislators, and of the state legislature.

On behalf of the GIS Technical Group steering committee, thank you for your inquiry and assistance.

Maine Office of GIS
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Cc: E911 Project Manager, Maine Office of GIS