



Janet T. Mills  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

March 6, 2020

Éric Martel  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Hydro Quebec  
75, boul. René-Lévesque Ouest  
Montréal, Québec  
H2Z 1A4

RE: NECEC transmission line

Dear Mr. Martel:

I continue to believe the NECEC transmission line project will offer considerable concrete benefits to Maine, including suppression of electricity prices, reinforcement of the New England electric grid, a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and the substantial \$258 million benefits package which my office negotiated upward from an initial \$50 million. That benefits package includes cash relief for Maine ratepayers, youth scholarships, transmission enhancement for other renewable energy generation, broadband access, electric vehicle charging stations, and high efficiency heat pumps, among other items of value.

Despite these benefits, many Maine people have expressed concern that the power to be transmitted across western Maine will go to Massachusetts and not directly to Maine consumers.

Recently at a meeting with Premier Legault I raised the issue of excess power on the line. I understand that not all the electricity transmitted over this line will be necessary to fulfill Hydro-Quebec's contractual commitments to Massachusetts, and that any such power not delivered for this obligation could instead be redirected to Maine consumers. Naturally, I would want to consider this option only if the excess power is of significance and if it were made available to Maine communities over a substantial period of time and at a rate that is advantageous to Maine ratepayers.

I invite a detailed discussion of this matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills  
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER