

3.0 OUTREACH AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

TransCanada recognizes the importance of stakeholder input to the proposed project. Through consultation with landowners, communities, and other interested stakeholders, questions and concerns can be identified and addressed, and important input can be incorporated into the project. From the earliest consideration of the project through ongoing efforts, TransCanada has incorporated outreach into its overall project plans. Meetings and communication with regard to the project have been occurring for more than two years in preparation for this application filing. Contacts made during the course of this process have included:

- Local area residents:
 - Area businesses, such as restaurants, campgrounds, motels;
 - Individuals with knowledge of the area; and
 - Recreational users around the Boundary Mountains area.
- Local officials:
 - Stratton/Eustis Selectmen;
 - Stratton/Eustis Fire Department;
 - Franklin County Commissioners;
 - Kingfield Town Officials; and
 - Carrabassett Valley Town Officials
- Conservation, sporting and environmental organizations:
 - American Lung Association – Maine Chapter
 - Appalachian Mountain Club;
 - Appalachian Trail Conservancy;
 - Arnold Trail Snowmobile Association;
 - Chewonki Foundation;
 - Conservation Law Foundation;
 - Flagstaff Area ATV Club;
 - Friends of the Boundary Mountains;
 - Maine Audubon Society;
 - Maine Snowmobile Association;
 - Natural Resources Council of Maine;

- The Nature Conservancy;
- Mountain Counties Heritage;
- Western Maine Audubon Society; and
- Western Mountains Alliance.
- Commerce and energy-related organizations:
 - Central Maine Power Company;
 - Franklin County Chamber of Commerce;
 - Greater Franklin Development Corporation;
 - Independent Energy Producers of Maine;
 - Coalition for Sensible Energy;
 - Maine Interfaith Power and Light; and
 - Flagstaff Area Business Association.
- State Legislature and committee chairs:
 - House Chair of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee;
 - House Chair of Utilities and Energy Committee;
 - House Minority Leader;
 - Ranking Minority Member, Utilities and Energy Committee;
 - Ranking Minority Senator, Utilities and Energy Committee;
 - Representative of District 91¹, former and newly elected;
 - Senator for District 91, former and newly elected;
 - Senate Chair of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee;
 - Senate Chair of Utilities and Energy Committee;
 - Speaker of the House (outgoing); and
 - Utilities and Energy Committee Member.
- Governor's office:
 - Department of Economic Development;

¹ District 91 consists of Eustis, Kingfield, Rangeley, Bethel, Gilead, Hanover, Newry, Stoneham, Upton, Woodstock, Dallas, Lincoln and Magalloway Plantations, Milton Township and the unorganized territories of No. Franklin, E. Central Franklin and Oxford (which include the project site).

- Office of Energy Independence and Security; and
- State Planning Office.
- Government agencies:
 - DEP;
 - FAA;
 - LURC;
 - Maine Bureau of Public Lands;
 - Maine Department of Agriculture;
 - Maine PUC;
 - MDIFW;
 - MDOT;
 - MHPC;
 - MNAP;
 - National Park Service;
 - U.S. EPA;
 - USACE; and
 - USFWS.
- Congressional staff.
- Tribes:
 - Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians;
 - Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians;
 - Passamaquoddy Tribe; and
 - Penobscot Nation.
- Landowners.
- Media.

In addition to reviewing technical and environmental considerations associated with developing the Kibby Wind Power Project at the site, TransCanada recognizes the importance of understanding Maine policy goals and attitudes toward wind projects, especially those in mountain areas. While the project was still in the feasibility phase, initial meetings were held in January 2005 with key regulatory and other stakeholders with the goal to better understand the

extent of public and regulatory acceptance of wind power and, in particular, a project located in mountain areas using appropriate techniques to minimize environmental and other impacts.

As project feasibility assessment continued, it was determined that an application would be prepared and submitted to LURC for the installation of met towers in order to confirm the exceptional wind resource at the site. A website and general inquiry telephone line was established and a fact sheet prepared in order to make general information about the potential project readily accessible to the general public. Outreach continued throughout this process to notify interested stakeholders and provide basic information about the activities underway, as well as the anticipated wind power project. In the process of these conversations, TransCanada sought input regarding issues and concerns of particular interest, and provided responses to questions and concerns with the most current and accurate information available. For example, TransCanada met with the Friends of the Boundary Mountains in the fall of 2005 to identify their concerns with development in the area and the proposed wind power project.

In addition, during this early feasibility phase, TransCanada continued to gather environmental and engineering information. Based upon a review of available information from the Kenetech application, it was determined that several species studies in particular would be updated for the Kibby Wind Power Project. Meetings with key stakeholder agencies were initiated prior to the start of associated field programs in the fall of 2005. Detailed protocol information was reviewed and project information discussed to ensure that key issues would be addressed in a manner, and with a level of detail, that would provide reviewing agencies appropriate information. Following an initial inter-agency meeting in August 2005, technical consultation continued throughout program efforts, including regular telephone updates and input, agency field visits during field efforts, and sharing of draft reports for incorporation of agency comments. Table 3-1 reflects technical consultation that has occurred with regard to environmental issues associated with the project.

Table 3-1: History of Agency/Stakeholder Coordination Regarding Ecological Surveys

Date	Agency/Stakeholder	Description
July 27, 2005	(MNAP; MDIFW; USFWS	Letters sent regarding met towers to MNAP; MDIFW (two regions); and USFWS.
August 10, 2005	MDIFW	Meeting with Regional MDIFW (Kibby Township)
August 18, 2005	DEP; USFWS; MDIFW; both regional MDIFWs; USACE; LURC	Review protocols prior to fall study program; documented in meeting notes circulated for comment.
August 24, 2005	USACE	Consulted with USACE regarding met tower wetland delineations and permitting process.
August 29, 2005	LURC	Advisory Ruling from LURC to allow clearing necessary for agency-requested radar installation.
August 25, 2005 thru October 2005	USFWS; MDIFW; LURC	Incorporated agency comments (circulated revised protocols reflecting comments on 8/25/05) and initiated studies on 8/22/05; comments 8/30/05 on some protocols; 9/9/05 circulated "final" protocols.

Date	Agency/Stakeholder	Description
		Daytime avian survey work began in September. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2005 nighttime avian surveys (radar) • Fall 2005 daytime avian surveys (largely raptors) • Fall 2005 morning migrant survey • In response to agency feedback, bat studies were deferred Small mammal strategy agreed as habitat avoidance if possible
August 25, 2005 thru October 2005	USFWS; MDIFW; LURC	Continued agency involvement and information exchange throughout, including agency personnel participating in the field. Field work was completed in mid-late October 2005.
August 30, 2005	LURC	LURC application for met towers submitted for review.
August 30, 2005	USFWS	Agency response received for met towers.
September 6, 2005	MNAP	Agency response received for met towers.
September 9, 2005	USACE	Application to USACE regarding met tower access impacts.
September 15, 2005	Regional MDIFW	Agency response received from Regional MDIFW; Kibby Township for met towers.
October 5, 2005	Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC)	Meeting with AMC to discuss the project.
October 20, 2005	USACE; USFWS	USACE authorization on met towers received, including a letter from USFWS.
October 27, 2005	Maine Audubon Society (Audubon)	Meeting with Audubon to introduce the project.
October 27, 2005	NRCM	Meeting with NRCM to introduce the project.
November 2, 2005	LURC	LURC Development Permit issued for met towers (amended 11/15/05).
November 8, 2005	Friends of the Boundary Mountains	Meeting with Friends of the Boundary Mountains
November 23, 2005	U.S. EPA	Project introduction to U.S. EPA.
November 17, 2005	MNAP	Additional MNAP consultation regarding subalpine areas associated with met towers completed on 11/17/05. Additional correspondence also occurred on 1/26/06; 2/14/06; 4/17/06; 5/2/06, 5/5/06, 5/12/06, 9/27/06 and is ongoing.
December 21, 2005	MDIFW; USFWS	Meeting with USFWS/MDIFW on 12/21/05 to discussion potential need for Canada lynx survey.
December 24, 2005	MDIFW; USFWS	Protocol for Canada lynx survey submitted to MDIFW and USFWS.
January 23, 2006	MDIFW	Correspondence received regarding potential transmission corridor.
January 25, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS	Minor comments received on Canada lynx protocol.
February 2, 2006	MDIFW	Field training for Canada lynx survey.
February 17, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS; LURC	Draft fall 2005 avian reports submitted for agency review.
February 23, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS; (LURC unable to attend)	Discussion of results and plans for spring programs, as well as for avian mortality monitoring at the met

Date	Agency/Stakeholder	Description
		<p>tower sites; documented in meeting notes circulated for comment. All comments on meeting notes were received by the end of March 2006. Spring programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2006 nighttime avian surveys (radar) • Spring 2006 daytime avian surveys (largely raptors)
February 23, 2006 (Cont'd)	MDIFW; USFWS; (LURC unable to attend) (Cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2006 morning migrant survey • RTE raptor survey • Breeding bird/Bicknell's thrush survey • Spring 2006 bat monitoring • Vernal pool identification • Wetland delineations <p>Small mammal strategy agreed as habitat avoidance if possible</p>
March 1, 2006	Audubon	Provided Draft Fall 2006 avian reports to Audubon for review prior to meeting.
March 14, 2006	Audubon; LURC	Met with Audubon and LURC for project update, including review of fall avian results and spring plans.
March 28, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS	Provided detailed protocol for rare, threatened and endangered raptor survey. MDIFW participated in the aerial survey work.
April 28, 2006	MDEP; LURC; USACE; MDIFW	Circulated protocol for vernal pool delineation.
May 1, 2006	MDIFW	Protocol submitted for breeding bird/Bicknell's thrush protocol.
May 5, 2006	MDIFW	Electronic request providing shape files of the project area and transmission line corridor.
May 5, 2006	MNAP	Electronic request providing shape files of the potential transmission line corridor.
May 11, 2006	LURC	Pre-application meeting attended by the range of agencies and stakeholder groups.
May 12, 2006	MDIFW	Comments received on breeding bird/Bicknell's thrush protocol.
May 17, 2006	MDIFW	MDIFW review letter regarding Essential and Significant Habitats or Threatened and Endangered Species in project area and transmission line route.
May 30, 2006	USFWS	USFWS review letter regarding transmission line corridor.
June 14, 2006	MDIFW	Phone conversation to discuss breeding bird survey progress with Tom Hodgman.
June 15, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS	Draft Canada lynx report submitted for agency review/comment.
August 14, 2006	Maine State Soil Scientist	Site walk to refine scope of soils mapping.
August 24, 2006	Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS)	Phone conversation to discuss breeding bird and Bicknell's thrush habitat and surveys performed during 2006 with Chris Rimmer, VINS.
September 11, 2006	MNAP	Site walk to review rare plants and communities issues.

Date	Agency/Stakeholder	Description
September 13, 2006	LURC; Maine State Soil Scientist	Meeting to review road layout issues.
September 27, 2006	LURC; Maine State Soil Scientist; USACE; (DEP unable to attend)	Site visit to confirm wetland delineations and related issues.
October 3, 2006	MDIFW	Site visit focusing on avian habitat issues.
October 17, 2006	MDIFW	Site visit focusing on small mammal habitat issues.
November 11, 2006	Audubon; AMC	Meeting to discuss avian and related issues.
November 28 – 29, 2006	MDIFW; USFWS; LURC	Draft spring 2006 avian and bat reports distributed for agency review prior to meeting.
November 29, 2006	MDIFW	Comments received on rare, threatened and endangered raptor survey report.
December 1, 2006	MDIFW; LURC; USFWS unable to attend	Meeting to review avian and other species issues focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2006 nighttime avian surveys (radar) • Spring 2006 daytime avian surveys (largely raptors) • Spring 2006 morning migrant survey • RTE raptor survey • Breeding bird/Bicknell's thrush survey • Spring 2006 bat monitoring • Vernal pool/wetland delineations • Small mammal issues The summer/fall 2006 bat study report was not yet available at the time of the meeting.
December 1, 2006	LURC, DEP, Maine State Soil Scientist	Meeting to review layout and discuss wetland issues.
December 12, 2006	MDEP	Site visit along transmission line corridor to review wetland delineations.
December 14, 2006	MDIFW	Comments received on avian and bat studies.
December 21, 2006	LURC, MDIFW, USACE, Audubon, Friends of the Boundary Mountains, AMC, NRCM, Conservation Law Foundation, Maine Geological Survey, Maine State Soil Scientist	Pre-submission meeting.
December 26, 2006	MDIFW, USFWS, LURC	Draft summer/fall bat study report circulated for agency review.
February 13, 2007	MDIFW	Consultation with MDIFW regarding mapped habitat areas along the 115 kV transmission line.
March 15, 2007	LURC, DEP, Maine Soil Scientist	Meeting to discuss LURC application materials relating to soils, stormwater and erosion control.
March 15, 2007	LURC, MDIFW, USFWS	Meeting to discuss LURC application materials and natural resource studies.

After TransCanada decided to move forward with the project and submit an application to the LURC, consultation with project stakeholders continued in order to gain additional feedback about the project and keep stakeholders informed about project developments. This consultation continued to include discussion of technical elements with regulatory and other stakeholders, as well as providing general project information as updates have been available.

In addition to these meetings, TransCanada has hosted site visits in order to allow various stakeholder entities to gain an understanding of site conditions and the proposed layout, which can be more helpful sometimes than the information that can be obtained from simply mapping review. Attendees of various site visits during the period from August through October 2006 have included:

- AMC;
- Eustis Selectmen;
- Friends of the Boundary Mountains;
- Independent Energy Producers of Maine;
- LURC staff;
- Maine Audubon Society;
- Maine State Soil Scientist;
- MDIFW regional office and specialist staff;
- MNAP botanist/ecologist;
- NRCM;
- Office of Energy Independence and Security;
- Regional elected officials;
- USACE;
- USFWS; and
- Western Maine Audubon.

Local contacts were also made with a wide range of local people and businesses to begin a dialogue about the project. A consultant hired by TransCanada engaged more than 50 people who live and work in the area in a series of informal interviews. The goals of these interviews were to obtain information that would help the project team ensure minimal impacts to the local economy and way of life; to provide local people with an opportunity to express their thoughts and obtain answers to questions about the project; and to gather anecdotal information to consider the recreational uses of the land and water surrounding the project area. The interview process also proved to be helpful in understanding uses of the project area and surroundings, and also in developing relationships in the local community that will continue to support an

agreeable outcome. For instance, the community concerns about changes in access policies were able to be addressed immediately through clarifying that TransCanada's project will not limit existing uses of the project area.

This local outreach effort continues with letters, phone calls, and personal meetings with landowners within 1,000 feet of the project, the proposed transmission line route, and as well as in the vicinity of the few places where the turbines would be visible. To date these communications have resulted in positive interactions that have provided an opportunity for the landowners and TransCanada to engage in discussion and share information.

In addition to individual contact and conversations, where information could be expressed in confidence, an Open House was held on October 18, 2006. Local residents were invited to meet with project team members and review available project information. This event was advertised locally through the use of fliers, and was advertised in the Kingfield Irregular and the Rangeley Highlander. Over 50 people attended this meeting.

TransCanada representatives have also attended conferences focused on climate change in Maine and on Maine mountain concerns in order to ensure that project decisions could incorporate information obtained from such relevant events.

Throughout the consultation process, stakeholders have spoken openly with TransCanada regarding the project and significant input has been received. Issues raised during consultation efforts include:

- Need for renewable energy to combat global warming and improve air quality;
- Need for lower cost and diverse energy supplies;
- Environmental impacts (avian, visual, wetland, and protected species);
- Socioeconomic benefits (jobs, taxes, community investment plan);
- Recreational benefits;
- Continued access to land in the project vicinity; and
- Appropriate balancing of mountain impacts through reducing environmental impact and ensuring benefits to Maine.

TransCanada was encouraged by the understanding of the importance of adding renewable energy to Maine, and appreciated understanding particular concerns. The project team has considered specific issues raised in the development of studies that comprise this application, and will continue to work with stakeholders to address issues that have been raised.