



July 20, 2017

Dear Massachusetts Clean Energy RFP Evaluation Team,

The Maine Renewable Energy Association (“MREA”) is writing to support the 150MW Timberline Wind Farm bid of EDF Renewable Energy (“EDF”), in response to the Commonwealth’s RFP.

MREA is pleased to support the proposal from EDF Renewable Energy for up to 150 MW of wind energy in Western Maine from the Timberline project. This project, when combined with other projects in the area, will deliver up to 1110 MW of cost-effective wind and solar energy into the New England grid. This includes 800 MW of wind and solar originating in Maine. The projects will be combined with a 130 mile high voltage transmission line built entirely within the State of Maine.

The combination of the wind, solar, and transmission lines will result in approximately \$2 billion of investment into the state. This will include hundreds of millions awarded to local companies for the construction of the roads, transmission lines, and completion of the renewable facilities. In addition to the local economic impacts resulting from construction, during operations additional millions will be paid to local landowners and to the host communities.

EDF selected the Timberline projects due to its location far away from current areas of high recreational use, minimizing its impact on sensitive receptors. Additionally, the project location is within 5 miles of the terminus of the newly proposed Avangrid HVDC line, minimizing the amount of transmission line needed to be constructed to connect the project to the grid.

MREA believes the addition of the Maine based Timberline project, along with the other projects comprising the bid utilizing the MCPC Transmission Line, will be a very cost effective way for Massachusetts to meet its carbon reduction goals while stimulating economic activity in Northern New England.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeremy N. Payne
Executive Director

www.renewablemaine.org