

## Whitefield, Maine

## Development, Shoreland Zoning, and Floodplain Management

## **Application for Permit**

## Section 3027 Transmission Line (345kV AC)

May 12, 2021

# Development, Shoreland Zoning, and Floodplain Management Permit Applications

Section 3027 – 345 kV Overhead Transmission Line

submitted to

## Whitefield, Maine

By

**Central Maine Power Company** 83 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04336

5/12/2021

## TOWN OF WHITEFIELD DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

### Read Section 2 "Standards" in the Development Ordinance. Be prepared to answer questions if they apply to your project.

Owner Informat	ion	Applicant Information (if different)
Company	Central Maine Power Company	Company
Name	Attn: Gerry J Mirabile	Name
Mailing Address	s 83 Edison Drive	Mailing Address
_	Augusta, ME 04336	
Phone	207.242.1682	Phone
Email	Gerry.Mirabile@cmpco.com	Email
	-	

	01 04 07 010 012	001-061, 004-005,007-007,	
Whitefield Tax Map #	013, 016 , 019	Lot(s) $\# \underline{19-008, 019-052019-032}$ Lot Size	incomplete on mapping

Existing Property Use (check all that apply)	Proposed Property Use (check all that apply)		
□ Forested	🗆 Farm		
🛛 Farmland	□ Home		
□ Home	Year-round 🗆 Yes 🗆 No		
Year-round 🗆 Yes 🗆 No	□ Business		
□ Business	□ Industrial		
□ Industrial	Mineral Extraction		
Mineral Extraction	igvee Other continues to be CMP-owned transmission line corridor		
Other CMP-owned transmission line corridor			

Detailed Description of Proposed Use of Site or Building		
A 345kV (AC) overhead transmission line supported by dual wooden pole H-frames is to be constructed within the center of an		
existing, cleared CMP-owned transmission line corridor in Whitefield from the boundary with the Towns of Alna on the south to		
Windsor on the north and will be referred to as Section 3027.		

Whitefield Development Application - Page 1 of 5 Pages

Existing Primary Structure on Property	Proposed Structure on Property	
□ Home	□ Home new building	
Business	$\Box$ Home addition	
□ Industrial	□ Home garage/accessory	
Wooden dual pole H-frames and mono poles         Number of stories         Height       85 ft and 75 ft         Exterior dimensions         Setback from road         Setback lot line 1         Setback lot line 2         Setback rear lot line	□ Business - new □ Business addition Wooden dual pole H-frames Number of stories Height85 ft Exterior dimensions Setback from road Setback lot line 1 Setback lot line 2 Setback rear-lot line in center of 300 ft wide cleared corridor	

What types of garbage will you have? NA How do you plan to get rid of it? NA	Is there water to the building? □ Yes □ No NA Will there be water to the building? □ Yes □ No If yes, attach a sub-surface wastewater disposal system plan. If no, where are the employees going to the bathroom? portable facilities typical to construction projects

Do any of these apply to your property?	Do any state laws apply to your project?		
□ road easements/rights of way	🕅 Yes 🗆 No		
□ waste/sanitary waste easement	Federal laws?		
□ utility easement	$X$ Yes $\Box$ No		
□ deed restriction	Is your property in a shoreland zone : $M$ Vec $\Box$ No		
□ deed covenant	Explain		
□ other			
The transmission line corridor is owned			
by CMP			
Attach easements, covenants & applicable permits	Attach easements, covenants & applicable permits		

Driveway Entrance (check all that apply) □ driveway entrance proposed □ approval of Road Commissioner attached □ 911 address needed	Parking           Number of employees         Not Applicable           Number of customers/day         Not Applicable           Describe the area		
<ul> <li>□ state road entrance required</li> <li>□ state road change use required</li> </ul>	Loading Areas How are materials delivered? Not Applicable		
Attach copies of any approval or permits obtained Not Applicable	How are finished products removed from property? Not Applicable		

Can you affirm that you have sufficient financial capacity to complete this development?	When do you propose to start? <u>July 2021</u>	
⊠X Yes □ No	When do you propose to finish? Q3, Q4 2021	

Erosion Control

What soil disturbance will be created in the construction of your project?

Soil disturbance will be limited that localized to and necessary for installation of dual-pole wooden H-Frames as displayed on Exihibit 1

How will you manage erosion and sediment?

Best management practices (BMPs) described in detail in Exhibit 7 "Environmental Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance Activities on Transmission Line and Substation Projects" will be implemented, functionally maintained and regularly inspected to manage erosion and sedimentation.

When finished, what amount of the property will be bare, no vegetation on it?

After construction is completed and as described under Section 9.0 Site Restoration Standards of Exhibit 7, work areas will be restore and planted with appropriate seed mixes to establish vegetation so that bare, unstable soils are not present.

Map of Property - attach and show: Please refer to Exhibit 1		
□ map and lot numbers		
X existing and proposed buildings		
□ measurements of lot lines including road frontage		
🛛 utility lines and drainage ways		
□ location of sanitary waste facilities NA		
X location of vehicle access roads, parking and loading areas		
A distances from proposed buildings to lot lines		
□ names of abutting land owners		
⊠ existing soil conditions		
⊠ total acres		
X rights of way		
🛛 steep areas, low areas, general lay of the land		
I proposed and existing landscaping including fencing, shrub lines, etc.		

<ul> <li>Drawing of Proposed Building-attach w/following</li> <li>□ ground floor dimensions</li> <li>□ elevation</li> <li>□ basic sketch of finished building</li> </ul>	Additional Information Describe any proposed signs and/or outdoor lighting Not Appicable	
Not Applicable	What materials will be stored on site?         Not Applicable         What chemicals will be stored & used on site?         Not Applicable         What types of machinery will you be operating?         Not Applicable         What hours do you expect to be operating?         Not Applicable	

Are you asking for a waiver of any requirement?	$\Box$ Yes	IX No	If yes, please explain.

I affirm that the information provided on this form or attached to it is true and reflects what I propose to do.

Signed:

Gerry / Miable Dated: May 12, 2021

## What To Do Next

- X Call PB Chair to schedule a pre-application meeting the month before you want to submit this application. Call the Town Office (549-5175) for the contact information.
- Submit your completed application to the Planning Board at least <u>one week before the meeting</u>. You can do one of these ways:

**X**□ email it to the PB Chair

□ make 5 copies and deliver them to the Town Office

Planning Board Use	
Date Received:	
Date Reviewed by Planning Board:	
Date Application Accepted as Complete:	

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Page No.

1.0	INTRO	DUCTION	ł
2.0	<b>PROJE</b> 2.1 2.2 2.3	CCT OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION	• 7 7 7
3.0	DEVEI	LOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION 12	2
4.0	SHOR	ELAND ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION24	ł
5.0	FLOO	OPLAIN MANAGEMENT PERMIT APPLICATION	•
EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE EXHIE	BIT 1 BIT 2 BIT 2 BIT 3 BIT 4 BIT 5 BIT 5 BIT 6 BIT 7 M BIT 8 BIT 9 BIT 10	PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MAPS FLOODPLAIN AND SOIL SERIES MAPS TRANSMISSION LINE CONFIGURATION CROSS SECTIONS PROOF OF TITLE, RIGHT, OR INTEREST LIST OF ABUTTERS VEGETATION CLEARING PLAN VEGETATION MAINTENANCE PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND AINTENANCE ACTIVITIES CMP ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS JUNE 8, 2020 LETTER FROM COLIN CLARK, MDEP FINANCIAL CAPABILITY	

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Central Maine Power Company ("CMP") proposes to construct Section 3027, a 345 kV transmission line, in Whitefield (the "Project"). Section 3027 will be entirely co-located in an existing CMP-owned transmission line corridor.

The Development Ordinance of the Town of Whitefield (amended Nov. 4, 2014) ("Development Ordinance") applies to "new and/or expanded commercial, industrial, institutional, or residential developments" in Whitefield. The Development Ordinance includes "electrical transmission lines" in the definition of "industrial development." CMP accordingly submits the attached application to the Planning Board for approval.

The Project will cross areas identified as Limited Residential (LR) and Stream Protection (SP) on the Town of Whitefield Shoreland Zoning Map. Accordingly, CMP submits the attached application for review and approval by the Planning Board under the State of Maine Guidelines for Municipal Shoreland Zoning Ordinances (Aug. 7, 1994) (the "SZO"), which applies in Whitefield pursuant to Maine Department of Environmental Protection ("MDEP") rules chapter 1244.

The Project crosses areas along several streams designated as a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone. CMP therefore submits the attached application for approval from the Planning Board under the Floodplain Management Ordinance for the Town of Whitefield, Maine (Jan. 23, 2015) ("FMO").

The Project is related to, but separate from, the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC"). The Project is required for interconnection of the NECEC to the existing New England Transmission System in accordance with requirements of the Tariff of ISO-New England Inc. ("ISO-NE") but also includes transmission line rebuilds and upgrades that are separate from the NECEC. CMP has applied for and obtained all necessary approvals from federal and state authorities to construct the NECEC. These permit approvals include the Section 3027 Project to be constructed in Whitefield as a transmission interconnection facility for the NECEC. The United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") issued its permit on November 6, 2020. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection ("MDEP") issued its permits on May 11, 2020. The Maine Public Utilities Commission ("MPUC") issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") on May 3, 2019.

### 2.0 **PROJECT OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 2.1 **Project Overview**

CMP proposes to construct the following transmission facilities, portions of which will be located in Whitefield:

#### New 345kV Transmission Line and Associated Rebuilds

- New 26.5-mile 345kV AC transmission line (Section 3027) from the existing Coopers Mills Substation in Windsor to the existing Maine Yankee Substation in Wiscasset;
- Partial rebuild of 0.3 mile of existing 345kV Section 3025 transmission line between Larrabee Road Substation in Lewiston and Coopers Mills Substation in Windsor;
- Partial rebuild of 0.3 miles of 345 kV Section 392 AC transmission line between the Coopers Mills substation and the Maine Yankee substation and approximately 3.5 miles of reconductor work on existing double circuit lattice steel towers outside of the Maine Yankee substation.

#### 2.2 **Project Description in Whitefield**

The Project is a 26-5-mile 345 kV transmission line that extends from Coopers Mills Substation in Windsor to the Maine Yankee Substation in Wiscasset (Figure 2-1). Withing Whitefield 10.9 miles of the proposed line will be located west of the Sheepscot River in an existing corridor that extends southward from the town boundary with Windsor, through Whitefield, and into Alna (Figure 2-2). Section 3027 will be co-located between the existing Section 392 345kV transmission line on the west and the Section 68 115 kV transmission line on the east. No additional vegetation removal is necessary for the Project in Whitefield. The Project will be built entirely on land that CMP owns in fee. See Exhibit 3 for proof of title, right, or interest and Exhibit 4 for a list of abutters.

The existing transmission line corridor in Whitefield traverses primarily undeveloped land and forested area. As explained in Table 1 below, a total of 95 poles will be installed in Whitefield. 91 pole locations involve installation of a combination of wooden H-frame poles that will be "direct embedded" into the ground (*i.e.*, with no foundations), two locations involve installation of self-supporting steel monopoles on drilled pier foundations, and two locations involve installation of three steel poles that will be placed on drilled pier foundations. The average height of the new poles is 86 feet. Each pole installation involves approximately 120 square feet of permanent disturbance. Natural resource maps are provided in Exhibit 1, and transmission line configuration cross sections (existing and proposed) are provided in Exhibit 2.

#### 2.3 Environmental Considerations

Temporary in-corridor access roads will be used for pole installation. Timber mats will be used to cross wetlands and to fully span streams in order to protect natural resources. No in-stream work is proposed. Access roads and temporary pole preparation areas will be restored to pre-construction conditions and revegetated during project restoration.



Figure 2-1: Project Overview Map





## Figure 2-2: Town of Whitefield Zoning Map Proposed project location identified by orange dashed line

Transmission Line	Distance over which Changes Occur (miles)	Existing Poles (#)	Poles to be Removed (#)	New Poles (#)	New Pole Type & Height (Exhibit 2)	New Poles in Shoreland Zone (Exhibit 1)	New Poles in Floodplain
Proposed New Section 3027	10.9	.9 N/A N/A 95 Foundation Two 3-Po Foundation 110' Ave Heigh Two 3-Po Foundation Average H		91 – Wooden 2-Pole H-frames – 86' Average Height Two Steel Monopoles on Foundations - 110' Average Height Two 3-Poles on Foundations – 93' Average Height	12 3027-43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 (See Pages 6, 7 of 29) 3027-86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91 (See Pages 18, 19, 20 of 29)	NONE	
Existing Section 392	NO CHANGES						
Existing Section 68	NO CHANGES						
Totals				95		12	NONE

Table 1:	Town	of Whitefield-	Existing and	d Proposed	Transmission	<b>Line Sections</b>

CMP has developed procedures to avoid and minimize adverse environmental impacts during construction, operation, and maintenance of transmission lines. These procedures, which CMP uses as part of all transmission line and substation projects, were developed in consultation with the MDEP. These procedures are referenced throughout this application and demonstrate that the Project meets the applicable Town of Whitefield approval standards. A brief description of these plans and procedures follows:

- NECEC Plan for Protection of Sensitive Natural Resources During Initial Vegetation Clearing ("Vegetation Clearing Plan" or "VCP") (Exhibit 5)
- NECEC Post Construction Vegetation Maintenance Plan ("Vegetation Maintenance Plan" or "VMP") (Exhibit 6)

These two plans (collectively CMP's "Vegetation Management Plans") include strict performance standards applicable to the use of mechanized equipment and initial vegetation control practices to prepare the corridor for construction activities and for long-term maintenance of the transmission corridor in an early successional (scrub/shrub) habitat condition.

• Environmental Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance Activities on Transmission Line and Substation Projects ("Environmental Guidelines" Exhibit 7).

These Environmental Guidelines were developed in consultation with the MDEP and are based on MDEP's Maine Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practices ("BMPs") and MDEP's Chapter 500 rules and contain specific BMPs appropriate for electric transmission line and substation construction.

 CMP's Environmental Control Requirements for CMP Contractors and Subcontractors -Oil and Hazardous Material and Waste ("Environmental Control Requirements") (Exhibit 8).

These Environmental Control Requirements establish a set of minimum requirements for spill prevention and response. The procedures have proven effective for preventing spills and providing rapid spill response if spills occur.

CMP is committed to outreach and communications regarding fire and medical support during the construction and operation of the new transmission line. CMP's efforts in this regard will include discussions with local fire and emergency response personnel regarding records of any past fire and safety events in the corridor, an assessment of locally-available resources, and any additional fire safety provisions that have been included in construction contractors' scopes of work, which will be provided to local emergency response officials.

## 3.0 DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

The following application describes the Project's compliance with the Development Ordinance, including the application requirements in Section 7 and the standards in Section 8.

## Section 7 – Procedures for Development Review

## A. Pre-Application Meeting:

CMP appeared remotely before the Planning Board using ZOOM at its meeting on May 20, 2020, for the pre-application meeting required by Section 7 of the Development Ordinance. During this meeting, preliminary, "sketch plan-level" information was provided to the Planning Board, including Project maps and cross sections similar to Exhibits 1 and 2.

#### **B.** Development Application:

Identified by the Development Ordinance are items and information to be included with a development application that address map [7.B.1 (a-k)] and written content [7.B.2 (a-j]. Project maps appear as Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 1A and fundamentally present required information relevant to the project including north arrow, graphic scale, property boundaries, drainage ways, public and private rights of way, structures, and existing soils conditions. Certain specification such as- scale of not less than 1 inch to 100 feet and a perimeter survey by a registered land surveyor are requested to be waived by the Planning Board based on provided mapping satisfactorily depicts the physical characteristics of the proposed development.

Some map content however has not been provided either due to project construction being located along the center of the existing, cleared CMP-owned corridor or is otherwise simply by not applicable such as elevations of buildings, location of sanitary waste facilities or parking areas and topographic contours which will remain unchanged. Additionally, other identified map information is provided as written content elsewhere in the application such as names of abutting landowners and tax map and lot numbers (Exhibit 3, Exhibit 4). Similarly, specified written content relevant to the project appears on the application form or also as other supporting exhibits and addresses schedule, erosion and sedimentation control plan (Exhibit 7), and financial capacity (Exhibit 10)

#### Section 8 – Standards

#### A. Preservation and Enhancement of the Landscape

The Project preserves the natural landscape.<sup>1</sup> The Project will be co-located within an existing 300-foot wide transmission line corridor established more than two decades ago. Soil disturbance over the 10.6 mile length will be limited to the area around the 95 pole locations and temporary construction access roads, which will be restored to predevelopment conditions once construction is complete. No vegetation removal will be necessary because the Project will be co-located within the existing maintained corridor. The forested buffer that currently exists along the corridor will not be disrupted, making unnecessary additional landscaping or screening for the new transmission line in the center of the existing right of way. Therefore, the Project will retain existing vegetation and will not encroach on neighboring land uses.

#### **B.** Relation of Proposed Development to the Environment

Constructing the Project within the existing corridor minimizes impacts on the surrounding uses and resources, including impacts to natural resources. Within the corridor, CMP has sited each pole to avoid or minimize impacts on surrounding uses, protected natural resources and natural features such as slope, soil types and drainage ways, and to the scenic or natural beauty of the area, historic sites, and rare and irreplaceable natural areas. Based on pre-construction fieldwork, including wetland delineations, vernal pool and plant surveys, and evaluation of wildlife habitat along the established transmission line corridor, the Project will not disturb, displace, destroy or impair rare or endangered plants, animals or animal habitat in Whitefield. Accordingly, the Project will not impair, disturb, or displace any rare or endangered form of animal or plant life in Whitefield.

#### C. Air Quality

The Section 3027 transmission line Project will not create levels of dust, dirt, fly ash, vapors or gas emissions that could lower ambient air quality beyond the existing transmission line corridor. Minimal, localized and temporary influences on air quality from construction activities, such as exhaust from diesel engines, may occur during

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While the Project will not have an undue adverse effect on the natural landscape, CMP objects for the record to this standard. The Maine Supreme Court has held that similar ordinance provisions applying a subjective visual impact approval are void for vagueness. *See, e.g., Kosalka v. Town of Georgetown*, 752 A.2d 183, 186-87 (Me. 2000) (finding an ordinance provision that requires a development to "conserve natural beauty" void for vagueness); *Cope v. Inhabitants of Brunswick*, 464 A.2d 223, 227 (Me.1983) (finding requirements to protect the "health, safety and welfare of the public and the essential character of the area" are not sufficiently specific).

construction. Due to the limited duration of work at the location and the general rural nature of the Project area, any effects on overall air quality will be insignificant and will not extend beyond the corridor.

Fugitive dust is only anticipated along unpaved, in-corridor temporary construction access roads. CMP will employ BMPs to minimize fugitive dust emissions including:

- 1. Use of water or other wetting agents on areas of exposed or dry soils.
- 2. Use of load covers for transport of soils or other dry granular material.
- 3. Controlled onsite storage of spoils with mulch, hay, tarps, erosion control mix or silt fencing; and
- 4. Final grading, landscaping, and revegetation or permanent stabilization with approved materials as soon as practical.

### D. Water Quality and Quantity

The Section 3027 transmission line Project will not require an on-site water supply well or septic system that could affect the quality or quantity of groundwater on abutting properties. During construction, potential sources of groundwater contamination will be limited to fuel and hydraulic and lubrication oils used in the operation and maintenance of vehicles and construction equipment. Spill reporting and cleanup procedures will be in place to promptly contain and clean up any spills, as described in the Environmental Control Requirements (Exhibit 8), which establish a set of minimum requirements for spill prevention and response for CMP contractors and subcontractors. These requirements have proven effective for preventing spills, addressing spills if they occur, and preventing groundwater degradation during construction, operation, and maintenance of other CMP projects. During Project maintenance and operation, potential sources of groundwater contamination will include fuel and hydraulic and lubrication oils used in the operation and maintenance of vehicles.

The Project will not result in undue surface water pollution or significantly change the quantity or quality of stormwater runoff. Due to the very small amount of new impervious surface, current surface water drainage patterns across the site will be largely unaffected by the Project, and the Project will not significantly change stormwater volumes in the area. In addition, CMP will not conduct significant grading or grubbing and will maintain the corridor in a vegetated state. Surface water runoff as a result of the Project will not adversely affect neighboring properties, downstream water quality, or the public storm drainage system. In addition, CMP will apply measures to control erosion and sedimentation both during and after construction, as described below and set forth in Exhibit 7.

#### E. Noise Levels

The Project will not generate noise levels to the extent that abutting or nearby property owners will be inconvenienced or harmed in any way. For electric transmission lines, audible sound is relative to conductor (wire) size. CMP has selected a conductor size that under dry conditions is designed to be nearly sound free; under adverse weather conditions (*e.g.*, very high humidity and storm conditions) these conductors may emit a slight crackling sound. Sound is produced when protrusions on the conductor surface –

particularly water droplets on the conductors or dripping off the conductors – cause the electric field intensity at the conductor surface to exceed the breakdown strength of air, producing sound. The sound increases from transmission lines results from the partial electrical breakdown of air around the conductors. In small volumes near the surface of the conductors, energy and heat are dissipated. Part of this energy is in the form of small local pressure changes that result in sound that can be characterized as a hissing, crackling sound. Sound from transmission lines is typically a foul-weather/wet conductor phenomenon.

Based on the BPA model results for the Project, all sound levels produced by the transmission lines associated with the Project are expected to remain within MDEP's sound level limits. It was calculated that the transmission line conductor sound levels at the edges of the ROW, in fair weather conditions, will be well below the applicable noise standards, with the maximum typical levels at the edge of ROW expected to be approximately 28 dBA. This level is generally negligible, and the sound will dissipate quickly as distance from the edges of the ROW increases.

Construction of the Project will take place during normal working hours and will not raise noise levels to inconvenience or harm abutting or nearby property owners. The construction contractor selected will implement, where appropriate, construction methods that maintain construction noise below the MDEP's sound level limits.

#### F. Vehicular Access

Prior to construction activities, CMP will establish temporary, in-corridor access points from public or private roadways. An adequate number of access points will be established in locations that provide safe access with respect to sight distances and intersections, schools or other applicable traffic generators. All access points will be used exclusively for construction and maintenance activities and will be restored immediately after completion of construction. CMP's Environmental Guidelines (Exhibit 7) establish measures that will be used to prevent erosion and sedimentation from entering the public ROW and encourage proper drainage or runoff, and CMP will use safety signage at all such access points. Construction equipment will be temporarily parked in the corridor, outside of protected natural resources and their buffers. Some material and equipment deliveries may require vehicles to stop or back into a street. During these infrequent occasions, spotters or flaggers will be used to assist vehicles moving into or out of the corridor or around a stopped vehicle.

During operation of the transmission line, access points similar to those used for maintenance and repair of the existing transmission lines will continue to be used for routine and emergency transmission line maintenance and repair. Occasional use of these in-corridor access points will not cause unreasonable highway or public road congestion.

#### G. Surface Water Drainage

The Project will minimize stormwater runoff by deploying stormwater control methods described in the Environmental Guidelines (Exhibit 7). Existing natural runoff control features such as upland vegetated buffers, and diversion and dissipation techniques such as water bars, check dams or settling basins will be utilized for temporary access roads and construction activities. After construction is complete, all disturbed areas will be

returned to preconstruction contours, reseeded as needed, and allowed to revegetate to scrub-shrub conditions. The Project will meet the requirements of the Stormwater Management Law (38 M.R.S. § 420-D) for utility corridors.

#### H. (Subsection intentionally left blank by Ordinance)

Not applicable.

#### I. Utilities

Not applicable. The Project involves installation of a new transmission line and will not alter or burden existing public utilities.

#### J. Advertising Features

Not applicable. The Project does not involve any exterior signs or advertising.

#### K. Special Features

Not Applicable. The proposed transmission line is sited within an existing CMP transmission line corridor, minimizing the impacts on the surrounding land uses and properties. The Project will not adversely impact other land uses within the development area, which consists of electrical transmission ROW, open land and forested land; therefore, no additional setbacks or screening are necessary or proposed.

#### L. Exterior Lighting

Not applicable. The Project does not involve exterior lighting.

#### M. Emergency Vehicle Access

Prior to construction activities, CMP will establish temporary access points from public roadways if no access currently exists. Temporary access ways will also be established within the corridor to access the work areas. These temporary access points will be suitable for use by emergency response vehicles.

During operation of the transmission line, access points similar to those used to service the existing transmission line will be used for routine and emergency transmission line maintenance. Fire and police will be able to access the corridor using these same access points in the event of an emergency.

Based on an initial meeting with the first chief, CMP understands that Whitefield is a part of a Mutual Aid Group that also includes Windsor, Somerville Jefferson, and other towns as needed, and that EMT services are provided by Delta Ambulance.

## N. Mineral Extraction/Gravel Mining

Not applicable.

#### **O. Rock Crushing, Asphalt Batch Plants and Quarrying** Not applicable.

### 4.0 SHORELAND ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION

The following application describes the Project's compliance with the SZO.

#### Shoreland Zoning Districts in the Project Area

According to the Town of Whitefield Shoreland Zoning Map (Figure 2-2), Section 3027 will cross two Limited Residential (LR) districts and one Stream Protection (SP) district and require installation of the 12 poles listed in Table 1. These districts are identified and described as follows:

- 1. LR District associated with a wetland located north of Cooper Road and south and east of Devine Road is crossed by the existing transmission line corridor (Exhibit 1: pages 6, 7).
- 2. LR District associated with a wetland located north of Philbrook Road on the west side of the existing transmission line corridor (Exhibit 1: pages 18, 19, 20).
- 3. SP District located north of Pittston Road (Route 194) along Chamberlain Brook is crossed by the existing transmission line corridor (Exhibit 1: page 20).

#### Permitted Land Uses

According to Table 1 in Section 14 of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, Essential Services, such as Section 3027, are a permitted land use in the LR and SP Districts with approval of the Planning Board. However, further restrictions apply in these districts as detailed in Section 15 - Land Use Standards, specifically Section 15(L), which provides:

- 1. Where feasible, the installation of essential services shall be limited to existing public ways and existing service corridors.
- 2. The installation of essential services is not permitted in a Resource Protection or Stream Protection District except to provide services to a permitted use within said district, or where the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable alternative exists. Where permitted, such structures and facilities shall be located so as to minimize any adverse impacts on surrounding uses and resources including visual impacts.

Due to the linear nature of the Project and the need to minimize impacts by co-locating the new transmission line adjacent to existing transmission lines within an existing right of way, the LR and SP Districts could not be completely avoided. Further discussion is provided below.

#### Section 15 - Land Use Standards

The following section addresses the Land Use Standards found in Section 15 of the SZO.

#### A. Minimum Lot Standards

Not applicable. The project does not meet the use types requiring minimum lot standards as per Section 15(A)(1) and will not have principal structures (as defined) located on the lot, as discussed below.

#### **B.** Principal and Accessory Structures

Not applicable. "Principle structure" is defined in Section 17 of the SZO as "a building other than one which is used for purposes wholly incidental or accessory to the use of another building or use on the same premises." "Accessory structure" is defined as a "structure which is incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure." The transmission line poles are not a "building" because the poles do not include walls and a roof. The transmission line poles accordingly do not meet the definition of a *Principal Structure*, nor do they meet the definition of an *Accessory Structure*, as those terms are defined in Section 17 of the SZO.

The transmission line poles are also not "structures," as that term is defined in the SZO. The definition of "structure" in Section 17 of the SZO excludes "poles, wiring and other aerial equipment normally associated with service drops as well as guying and guy anchors." MDEP has stated that transmission lines and associated poles fall within this exclusion from the definition of "structures" because "poles and wiring" includes "electric power lines, whether the wires are for distribution or transmission of electricity, and the poles that support these wires, along with telephone poles and lines and similar cable and internet infrastructure." MDEP stated that, together with the language "other aerial equipment normally associated with service drops," these exemptions facilitate the delivery of essential services to end users, in the case of electric power, by capturing transmission and distribution lines, as well as service drops." *See* June 8, 2020 Letter from Colin Clark, MDEP, to Tom Marcotte, Code Enforcement Officer, Town of Industry (Exhibit 9).

#### C. Pier, Docks, Wharves, Bridges, etc.

Not applicable. The Project will not require access from the shore and will not interfere with beach areas. No new or existing structures will be built on, over or abutting a pier, dock, wharf, or other structure extending beyond the normal high water line of a water body or within a wetland. There will be no in-stream work and CMP will comply with the applicable riparian buffers described in its Vegetation Management Plans (VCP and VMP), and implement its environmental protection requirements described in its Environmental Guidelines and Environmental Control Requirements, such that impacts will be minimized and there will be no adverse impacts to fisheries.

#### **D.** Campgrounds

Not applicable.

**E. Individual Private Campsites** Not applicable.

#### F. Commercial and Industrial Uses

Not applicable. The Project is a classified as an Essential Service under the SZO.

#### G. Parking Areas

Not applicable. There will be no permanent parking areas associated with the Project within the shoreland zone.

#### H. Roads and Driveways

There will be no permanent roads or driveways associated with the Project in Whitefield.

Temporary access ways will be established for equipment access within the corridor for construction and maintenance purposes. These temporary access ways will be in place for less than 18 months.

CMP's Environmental Guidelines contain requirements and best practices regarding temporary access road installation. Consistent with these guidelines, measures will be taken to avoid and minimize impacts to streams and wetlands using timber mats, temporary bridges, geo-textile fabrics, and culverts, when necessary.

If necessary, timber mats will be placed parallel to the upland edge of streams as abutments to further protect bank stability. No grubbing (removal of root systems) within the shoreland zones will be done prior to mat placement. However, some minor grading may be required to ensure mat stability and construction access safety. Any such grading will be limited and only with prior approval by CMP's environmental representatives.

Appropriate erosion controls will be installed as per the Environmental Guidelines. After construction has been completed, disturbed areas associated with temporary access ways will be returned to preconstruction contours, reseeded as needed, and stabilized. The transmission corridor will be permanently maintained in a scrub-shrub condition.

#### I. Signs

Not applicable. There are no signs proposed as part of the Project in Whitefield.

#### J. Storm Water Runoff

The Project will minimize stormwater runoff by deploying stormwater control methods described in the Environmental Guidelines. Temporary access roads and construction activities will be carefully planned and designed to utilize existing natural runoff control features, such as upland vegetated buffers, and diversion and dissipation techniques such as water bars, check dams, or settling basins. Shrubby vegetation will be retained to the extent practicable and the extent and duration of soil exposure during construction will be minimized. After construction is complete, all areas will be returned to preconstruction contours, reseeded as needed, and allowed to revegetate to a scrub-shrub condition. The Project will not alter stormwater runoff from predevelopment conditions.

#### K. Septic Waste Disposal

Not applicable. There is no septic waste disposal associated with the Project.

#### L. Essential Services

(1) Where feasible, the installation of essential services shall be limited to existing public ways and existing service corridors.

In Whitefield construction of Section 3027 will occur entirely within CMP's existing 300-foot wide transmission line corridor between existing transmission line Section 392 on the west and existing transmission line Section 68 on the east. The Project will be built entirely on land that CMP owns.

(2) The installation of essential services other than road-side distribution lines, is not allowed in a Resource Protection or Stream Protection District, except to provide services to a permitted use within said district, or except where the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable alternative exists. Where allowed, such structures and facilities shall be located so as to minimize any adverse impacts on surrounding uses and resources, including visual impacts.

Section 3027 in Whitefield does not cross an RP District. The existing transmission line corridor crosses the SP district at one location at Chamberlain Brook, but no poles will be located in the SP district. Therefore, the Project does not involve "installation" of any essential services in the SP District because Section 3027 will pass overhead.

Nevertheless, the Project satisfies this standard. No reasonable alternative to crossing this SP district exists, and CMP has minimized the impact of the new transmission line by colocating it within an existing transmission line corridor. Doing so minimizes impacts on the surrounding uses and resources, including natural resources and visual impacts. The alternative to CMP's proposal would be to acquire additional land rights and site the transmission line in an entirely new corridor, which would not be a reasonable alternative because it would have greater impacts, and CMP would likely be unable to avoid the district that runs with the resource in any case. Within the corridor, CMP has sited each pole to avoid impacts on surrounding uses and protected natural resources to the greatest extent practicable, and to minimize and compensate for impacts that cannot be avoided.

Given the Maine state requirement to avoid and minimize environmental and visual impacts, avoidance of the SP district was not possible, and there are therefore no reasonable alternatives to an aerial crossing of the SP district associated with Chamberlain Brook. Avoiding this district would require complete relocation of the transmission line corridor. The overall environmental and visual impacts of this alternative would exceed the impacts associated with the Project as planned.

M. Mineral Exploration and Extraction

Not applicable.

- **N. Agriculture** Not applicable.
- **O. Timber Harvesting** Not applicable.
- **P.** Clearing or Removal of Vegetation for Activities Other Than Timber Harvesting Some vegetation removal will be required within the existing transmission line corridor to accommodate pole installation and ensure that the Project meets federal reliability and safety standards. The vegetation removal standards of Section 15(P) do not apply to

vegetation removal that is necessary for uses expressly authorized in the district (such as essential services).

The amount of vegetation removal in the LR and SP Districts will be limited such as for removal of a safety hazard and will be conducted in accordance with the Vegetation Management Plans. Where the SP District overlaps with the 100-foot protected riparian buffers, CMP has established additional protections as part of the Vegetation Management Plans, which are summarized as follows:

Tree clearing in the riparian buffers will be performed during frozen ground conditions whenever practicable and, if not practicable, the recommendations of the environmental inspector will be followed regarding the appropriate techniques to minimize disturbance, such as the use of selectively placed travel lanes within the stream buffer. Within that portion of the stream buffer that is within the wire zone (i.e., within 15 feet, horizontally, of any conductor) all woody vegetation over 10 feet in height, whether capable or noncapable, will be cut to ground level. No other vegetation, other than dead or hazard trees, will be removed. Removal of capable species, dead, or hazard trees within the stream buffer will typically be accomplished by hand-cutting. Use of mechanized harvesting equipment is allowed if supported by construction matting or during frozen conditions in a manner (i.e., use of travel lanes and reach-in techniques) that preserves non-capable vegetation. Root systems are left intact unless a structure is to be placed where one or more trees are currently located; as a result, grubbing is limited. All slash (such as branches, tops and uprooted stumps) from the cutting operation will be managed in accordance with the Maine Slash Law. The vegetation that remains is typically a scattered growth of small shrubs and herbaceous plants. Initially, the condition of these newly cleared areas resembles that of a high quality forestry operation. Over a relatively short period of time (generally within one year) the newly cleared portions of the corridor will exhibit the early-successional scrub shrub habitat type that is typical of existing transmission line corridors in Maine.

After construction is completed, follow-up maintenance activities during operation of the line require the removal of "capable species," dead trees and "hazard trees." Capable trees are those woody plant species and individual specimens that are capable of growing tall enough to violate the required clearance between conductors and vegetation established by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC"). More frequent vegetation management may be required within the first 3 to 4 years following construction to bring the vegetation under control, but after this initial management period, maintenance practices are typically carried out on a 4-year cycle depending on growth, weather, geographic location, and corridor width. Non-capable species are allowed to grow to ensure that the corridor is vegetated to the greatest extent allowable. which helps prevent erosion and provides wildlife habitat. Maintenance procedures will include cutting all capable species and any dead or hazard trees at ground level, primarily using hand tools, with the occasional use of chain saws and limited use of motorized equipment in areas directly accessible from public or private access roads. Large vegetation cut during routine maintenance will be managed in accordance with the Maine Slash Law. Selective herbicide application will be used in conjunction with mechanical

methods of vegetation control; however, herbicides will not be used within the riparian buffers associated with the SP and RP districts.

Please refer to the Vegetation Management Plans (Exhibit 6) for additional procedures and restrictions related to the Shoreland Zone.

#### Q. Erosion and Sedimentation Control

CMP's Environmental Guidelines (Exhibit 7), which are used as a routine part of all transmission and substation projects, contain erosion and sedimentation control requirements, standards, and methods that will be used to protect soil and water resources during construction of the various Project components. The manual was developed in consultation with the MDEP and is based on MDEP's Maine Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practices ("BMPs") and MDEP's Chapter 500 rules and contains specific BMPs appropriate for electric transmission line construction. These guidelines will be followed in the construction of the transmission line in Whitefield and are consistent with the requirements of this ordinance.

The Project will not result in undue soil erosion or sedimentation or adversely affect neighboring properties, downstream conditions, or public storm drainage. The Project has been designed to fit the existing topography and soils of the site and will utilize natural contours as closely as possible to minimize soil exposure and the potential for erosion. Project activities will be sequenced to minimize exposed soils and will provide temporary stabilization during construction and permanent stabilization after construction is completed, consistent with the requirements of the SZO.

There will be no permanent conversion of vegetated areas to impervious surface other than the limited area around and including the transmission line poles themselves. Tree clearing will be conducted as per the VCP, which includes strict performance standards to minimize soil disturbance, erosion, and sedimentation. After construction is complete, all disturbed areas will be temporarily stabilized until permanent vegetative cover is achieved. The corridor will be maintained as early successional scrub-shrub habitat. Vegetation will be maintained on a four-year cycle to ensure vegetation does not reach heights that threaten safety or the reliability of the transmission lines. Vegetation maintenance procedures are described in the VMP. Generally, heavy equipment will not be necessary for vegetation control after the initial clearing of the corridor; vegetation will be maintained by hand-cutting and/or limited herbicide use, thereby minimizing the potential for soil disturbance.

#### R. Soils

Based on the Soil Survey Geographic Database compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Project will be located on soils in or upon which the proposed uses and structures can be established and maintained without causing adverse environmental impacts, including severe erosion, mass soil movement, improper drainage, and water pollution, during and after construction. Soil constraints within the transmission line corridor will be managed and mitigated through implementation of erosion and sedimentation control measures, proper siting and project design, and proper construction sequencing. A soils report for the transmission line components located in Whitefield is not required since the Project does not require subsurface waste disposal and is not considered a commercial or industrial development, as those terms are defined in the SZO, or other similar intensive land uses.

#### S. Water Quality

The Project will not deposit on or into the ground or discharge to the waters of the State any pollutant that, by itself or in combination with other activities or substances, will impair designated uses or the water classification of the water body, tributary stream or wetland. To protect water quality and minimize spill potential during construction, no fueling or maintenance of vehicles will be performed within 100 feet of wetlands, streams, or other sensitive natural resources, unless done on a paved road. As described in the VMP (Exhibit 6), CMP uses a selective herbicide program to treat areas once every four years to maintain early successional scrub shrub growth. Herbicide is selectively applied (using a low-pressure backpack-mounted applicator) to individual capable specimens to prevent growth of individual plants (or re-growth of a cut plant). Herbicides will not be used within the 100-foot riparian buffers associated with the SP districts.

The multiple methods, plans, and procedures to prevent water quality degradation during construction, operation, and maintenance of the NECEC are incorporated into CMP's Environmental Control Requirements, Vegetation Management Plans, and Environmental Guidelines.

#### T. Archaeological Sites

CMP has conducted extensive pre-historic archaeological, historic archaeological, and historic architectural investigations and surveys along the Project route, for State purposes under Chapter 375.11 of the MDEP rules and for federal action under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C § 470-f). CMP has consulted with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission throughout the state and federal permit application development and approval process. No archaeological sites or historical properties listed on, or eligible to be listed on, the National Register of Historic Places were documented within the Shoreland Zone in Whitefield.

#### Approval Standards

The following section addresses the Approval Standards found in Section 16(D) of the SZO.

#### 1. Maintain safe and healthful conditions.

Meets the criteria. The Project will maintain the same safe and healthful conditions that currently exist in the transmission line corridor. The infrastructure and equipment in the transmission line corridor is regularly maintained to established industry standards to ensure the safety of utility workers and the general public.

Maintaining sufficient clearances around the conductors is paramount to the safe and reliable operation of the transmission lines. These clearances are achieved through appropriate siting of the poles themselves and through the vegetation maintenance practices described above. All construction will be in accordance with CMP's transmission standards and general industry standards, including all necessary live-line working clearances, strength factors, and reliability factors as governed by the National

Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). In all instances, the line will be designed to meet or exceed the NESC and other applicable standards. The transmission line and all facilities will be operated in full compliance with CMP safety standards, which fully comply with Federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration requirements.

- 2. Not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters Meets the criteria. As described above with respect to SZO Sections 15(J), (P), (Q) and (S), the Project will not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters.
- 3. Adequately provide for the disposal of all wastewater

Meets the criteria. There will be no wastewater disposal required for this Project.

4. Not have an adverse impact on spawning grounds, fish, aquatic life, bird or other wildlife habitat

Meets the criteria. In order to identify existing resources, field biologists documented wildlife while conducting extensive field surveys for the Project.

In addition, CMP conducted fish and wildlife database searches and contacted state and federal natural resource agencies to obtain and evaluate existing data on wildlife and fisheries resources in the vicinity of the Project. There are no deer wintering areas, vernal pools, rare, threatened or endangered species, moderate or high value inland waterfowl and wading bird habitats, or significant wildlife habitat identified within the mapped shoreland zones crossed by the Project corridor in Whitefield. There will be no in-stream work, and CMP will require the applicable riparian buffers, described in its Vegetation Management Plans (VCP and VMP), and implement its environmental protection requirements described in its Environmental Guidelines and Environmental Control Requirements, such that impacts will be minimized and there will be no adverse impacts to fisheries and aquatic life.

- **5.** Conserve shore cover and visual, as well as actual, points of access to inland waters Meets the criteria. The Project will take place entirely within the existing corridor and does not include alterations to points of access to inland waters.
- 6. Protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the Comprehensive Plan

Meets the criteria. As discussed above with respect to SZO Section 15(T), the Project will not impact any archaeological and historic resources.

#### 7. Avoid problems associated with flood plain development and use

Meets the criteria. As discussed further in the Floodplain Management application, no portion of the Project occurs within a FEMA designated floodplain. Because of the nature of a transmission line and essentially no increase in impervious surface by the Project, construction and maintenance of the proposed transmission line will not cause or increase flooding or cause a flood hazard to any neighboring structures. Furthermore, the Project will not affect runoff/infiltration relationships.

#### 8. Be in conformance with the provisions of Section 15, Land Use Standards

Meets the criteria. With respect to SZO Section 15 described above, the Project complies with all applicable provisions of the Ordinance.

#### 5.0 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

The following application section complies with the FMO. It identifies the regulated Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") delineated floodplains within the Project area and addresses the requirements of Articles III, VI, and VIII.

#### FEMA Flood Hazards Zone

The Project will cross seven FEMA-mapped 100-year Flood Zones in Whitefield. The flood zone area is shown on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for the town of Whitefield (Community Panel Nos. 23015C 0110D, 0120D and 0130D effective date: July 16, 2015). The flood zones are identified as Zone A. The proposed Project activities within the 100-year flood zone are described as follows:

- <u>Finn Brook</u> The existing CMP corridor crosses the flood hazard area associated with Finn Brook south of Devine Road. The proposed transmission line will span the flood zone, and no poles will be located within the flood zone.
- <u>East Branch Eastern River</u> The existing CMP corridor crosses the flood hazard area associated with the East Branch Eastern River in four locations south of Gardiner Road and to the west of Townsend Road. The proposed transmission line will span the river, and no poles will be located within the flood zone.
- <u>Chamberlain Brook</u> The existing CMP corridor crosses the flood hazard area associated with Chamberlain Brook north of the Pittston Road (Route 194). The proposed transmission line will span the flood zone, and no poles will be located within the flood zone.
- <u>Sheepscot River Tributary 11.1.1</u> The existing CMP corridor crosses the flood hazard area associated with Tributary 11.1.1 of the Sheepscot River south of the Pittston Road (Route 194). The proposed transmission line will span the flood zone, and no poles will be located within the flood zone.

In summary, CMP will install no poles within any of the seven FEMA-mapped flood hazard areas in Whitefield. Therefore, there will be no flood zone impacts from construction of Section 3027 in Whitefield.

#### Article III – Application for Permit

The following section includes the information requested in Article III of the FMO.

#### The name, address phone number of the applicant

Applicant and Owner: Central Maine Power Company 83 Edison Drive Augusta, Maine 04336 Attention: Gerry J. Mirabile 207-242-1682

#### A. Map indicating the location of the construction site

The map provided in Figure 2-2 show shows the extent of the 10.9-mile long Project in the Town of Whitefield.

#### B. A site plan showing location of existing and/or proposed development

Exhibit 1 includes aerial photo-based maps showing detailed Project information in Whitefield, including the location of the CMP corridor, existing and proposed pole locations, proposed access ways, flood zones, wetlands and waterbodies, and other natural resource data. There will be no sewage disposal facilities or water supply facilities associated with the Project. Additionally, there will be no cut and fill that would cause a permanent change in topography. The transmission line has been sited and designed to conform with existing topography, and any areas requiring grading or cut and fill for construction purposes will be returned to original contours and permanently stabilized with vegetation.

#### C. Statement of the intended use

The proposed development over the floodplain consists of the construction of a new Section 3027 345kV transmission line within an existing transmission line corridor.

**D.** Statement of the cost of the development, including all materials and labor The portion of the project that is within the flood zone in the Town of Whitefield is anticipated to cost \$1,400,000, including all materials and labor.

#### E. Statement as to the type of sewage system proposed

Not applicable. No sewage system is proposed as part of the Project in the Town of Whitefield.

#### F. Specification of dimensions of the proposed structure

In Whitefield, Section 3027 will consist of 91 2-pole wooden H-frames with an average height of 86', two steel monopoles on foundations with an average height of 110', and two steel 3-poles on foundations with an average height of 93'.

#### G. Base Flood Elevation

Not applicable. The standards at Items H through K.2 apply only to the new construction or substantial improvement of "structures.". According to the FMO, "*Structure* means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled or roofed building." Transmission line poles do not meet this definition, and no poles will be installed in the 100-year floodplain in any case. As such, the elevation reference points in Section H do not apply to the Project.

## H. Elevation Reference Point

Not applicable.

I. Base Flood Elevation Certification Not applicable.

#### J. Floodproofing Methods Certification

As per the Ordinance, K.1 and K.2 do not apply to the transmission line poles since they do not meet the definition of a structure. The Project also does not include any bridges or containment walls; therefore, K.3 and K.4 do not apply.

#### L. Water Course Alterations

The Project does not include any poles within the floodplains of Finn Brook, the East Branch of the Eastern River, Chamberlain Brook or Sheepscot River Tributary 11.1.1. These waterways will be spanned aerially. Section 3027 will therefore not alter or relocate the course of any waterway or associated floodplain.

#### M. Compliance with Section VI

The Project's compliance with the Section VI Development Standards is presented in the following section.

#### Article VI – Development Standards

#### A. All Development

The Project will consist of 85-foot tall wooden H-frame structures that will be either direct embedded into the ground or installed on concrete foundations, depending on soil or substrate conditions. The poles are designed to meet or exceed the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC 2017), Section 250 and 251. In addition to those strength and loading requirements, the effects of buoyancy and any lateral loadings resulting from hydraulic loadings are considered, where applicable, and addressed in Project design to prevent flotation, collapse or unacceptable lateral movement.

#### **B.** Water Supply

Not applicable. There will be no water supply systems.

#### C. Sanitary Sewage Systems

Not applicable. There are no proposed sanitary sewage systems.

#### D. On Site Waste Disposal Systems

Not applicable. There are no on-site waste disposal systems proposed.

#### E. Watercourse Carrying Capacity

Not applicable. There will be no alterations or relocations of watercourses.

#### F. Residential Structures

Not applicable. The Project is not a residential structure.

#### G. Non-Residential Structures

Not applicable. The Project is not a non-residential structure.

#### H. Manufactured Homes

Not applicable. The Project is not a manufactured home.

#### I. Recreational Vehicles

Not applicable. The Project is not a recreational vehicle.

#### J. Accessory Structures

Not applicable. The Project is not an accessory structure.

#### K. Floodways

Not applicable. No part of Section 3027 in Whitefield will be located in a FEMA designated floodway.

- L. Enclosed Areas Below the Base Floor Not applicable.
- M. Bridges Not applicable.
- N. Containment Walls Not applicable
- **O. Wharves, Piers and Docks** Not applicable

#### Article VIII – Review of Subdivision and Development Proposals

The following section includes the information required for review by the Planning Board in Article VIII of the FMO for development requiring review under other federal law, state law or local ordinances or regulations and projects on five acres or more.

#### A. All such proposals are consistent with the need to minimize flood damage.

CMP has minimized the impact of the new transmission line by co-locating it within an existing transmission line corridor. Co-locating the new transmission line within an existing transmission line corridor minimizes impacts on the surrounding uses and resources, including natural resources. Within the corridor, CMP has sited each pole to avoid impacts on surrounding uses and protected natural resources to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize these impacts, and to compensate for impacts that cannot be avoided. No poles will be within the 100-year floodway.

# B. All public utilities and facilities, such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damages.

No sewer, gas, or water systems are proposed by this Project. The Project involves the construction of a new 345kV electric transmission line and is appropriately located to minimize flood damages.

#### C. Adequate drainage is provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.

Except for the immediate area occupied by poles, there will be no increase in impervious surface area associated with the transmission line; therefore, there will be no significant storm water run-off generated from the Project. The Project will not cause or increase flooding or cause a flood hazard to any neighboring structures. Furthermore, the Project will not affect runoff/infiltration relationships.

The Project will minimize stormwater runoff by deploying stormwater control methods described in the Environmental Guidelines (Exhibit 8). Temporary access points and any construction activities will be carefully planned and designed to utilize existing natural runoff control features, such as upland vegetated buffers, and diversion and dissipation techniques such as water bars, check dams, or settling basins. Shrubby vegetation will be retained to the extent practicable and the extent and duration of soil exposure during construction will be minimized. After construction is complete, all areas will be returned to preconstruction contours, reseeded as needed, and allowed to revegetate to a scrub-shrub condition. The Project will not alter stormwater runoff volume or direction from predevelopment conditions.

# D. All proposals include base flood elevations, flood boundaries, and, in a riverine floodplain, floodway data.

The Project Scope and Natural Resource Maps (Exhibit 1) depict the FEMA flood boundaries in Whitefield. The requirement for base flood elevations apply only to the new construction or substantial improvement of "*structures*" as defined in the FMO. The transmission line poles do not meet this definition and it is therefore not required.

#### E. Any proposed development plan must include a condition of plan approval requiring that structures on any lot in the development having any portion of its land within a Special Flood Hazard Area, are to be constructed in accordance with Article VI of this ordinance.

Not applicable. The proposed Project does not include "structures" as defined in the FMO. Nevertheless, the Project's compliance with the Article VI Development Standards is presented in the preceding section of this application.

## EXHIBIT 2 TRANSMISSION LINE CONFIGURATION CROSS SECTIONS

