



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New England District

**Maine Project Office
675 Western Avenue #3
Manchester, Maine 04351**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: March 18, 2008
Comment Period Ends: April 18, 2008
File Number: NAE-2005-03179
In Reply Refer To: Jay L. Clement
Or by e-mail: jay.l.clement@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to **conduct work in waters of the United States** as described below. The Corps is soliciting comments on both the project itself and the range of issues to be addressed in the environmental documentation.

APPLICANT: TRANSCANADA MAINE WIND DEVELOPMENT, INC., ONE PORTLAND SQUARE, PORTLAND, MAINE 04101

ACTIVITY: Place permanent and temporary fill in inland waterways and adjacent freshwater wetlands between Kibby Township and Carrabassett Valley, Maine in order to develop a mountain top windfarm with an associated aerial electrical transmission line as shown on the attached plans and described as follows:

The windfarm, consisting of 44 turbine towers, will be located along two ridgelines within the Kibby Mountain Range at Kibby Township, Maine. Minor upgrades of the existing logging road network in the area and some new access roads will result in 25,965 s.f. (0.597 acres) of stream bed and adjacent wetland impact. The total generating capacity for the windfarm will be 132 MW.

The two ridgeline developments will be linked to a new common electrical substation by 34.5 kV aerial transmission collector lines. Installation of the collector lines will result in approximately 16,602 s.f. (0.381 acres) of temporary fill using timber mats to access pole locations. No clearing impacts will occur in wetlands. All areas of temporary access fill (timber mats) will be removed and fully restored upon completion of the project.

A new 115 kV transmission line will extend 27.6 miles from the common substation to an existing substation adjacent to Route 27 at Carrabassett Valley, Maine. Approximately 1,300 s.f. (0.03 acres) of wetland will be permanently filled during pole placement and approximately 7.59 acres of wetland will be temporarily filled using timber mats to access pole locations. All areas of temporary access fill (timber mats) will be removed and fully restored upon completion of the project. In addition, vegetation clearing within the 27.6-mile right of way will affect approximately 35.55 acres of forested wetland, converting it to emergent or scrub-shrub cover types. Clearing overstory vegetation in wetlands will not require filling, stump removal, or more than diminimus soil disturbance.

The windfarm will generate electrical power for distribution to the ISO New England Electrical grid, which distributes power to energy customers throughout New England. As part of its commitment to the State review process, the applicant proposes to forgo using its exclusive rights to develop wind facilities on approximately 1,324 acres of land proximate to the project area; and will facilitate the permanent conservation of

approximately 750 acres of high elevation habitat within Maine's Mahoosuc Mountain range as shown on the attached plans.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH): The transmission line construction may impact Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for Atlantic salmon. This habitat consists of stream and river bottom composed of silt, sand, and gravel mixed with stones. Impact to this species is expected to be minimal with appropriate erosion control measures, in stream work windows, and other best management practices such as maintenance of existing vegetative stream buffers. Therefore, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will be minimal. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision. Similarly, consultation will be initiated regarding the presence of salmon as they are a Federally listed endangered species.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: This work is proposed in numerous wetlands and waterways between Kibby Township and Carrabassett Valley, Maine. The windfarm project site (common substation) is located on the USGS JIM POND, ME quadrangle sheet at latitude 45.3559835°N; and longitude 70.5423743°W.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

SECTION 106 COORDINATION

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

Pursuant to the **Endangered Species Act**, the District Engineer is hereby requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency provide comments regarding the presence of and potential impacts to listed species or its critical habitat.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, License or Assent from State.
- Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

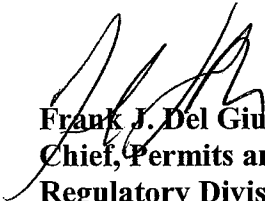
In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Jay Clement at 207-623-8367 at our Manchester, Maine Project Office.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

For more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.


Frank J. Del Giudice
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

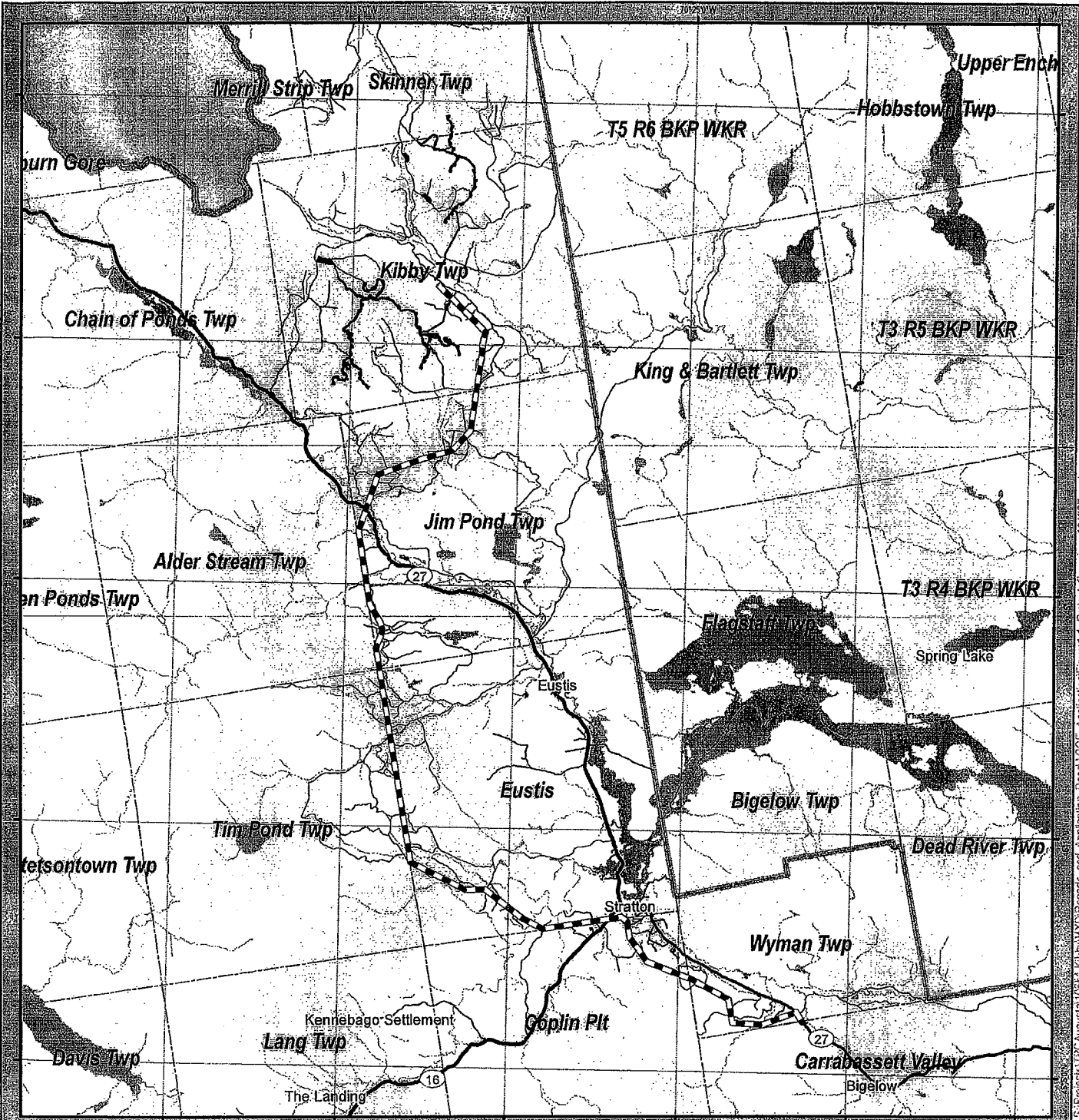
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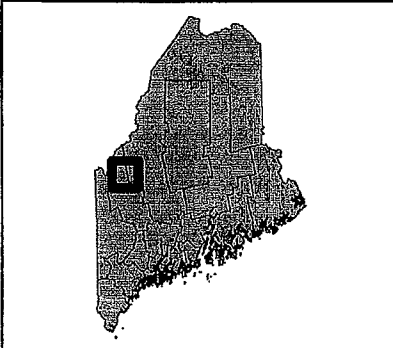
PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE

The work includes the discharge of temporary and permanent fill in numerous inland waterways and adjacent freshwater wetlands between Kibby Township and Carrabassett Valley, Maine in order to develop a mountain top windfarm with an associated 115 kV aerial electrical transmission line. The windfarm will generate electrical power for distribution to the ISO New England Electrical grid, which distributes power to energy customers throughout New England.

The work is described on the enclosed plans entitled "KIBBY WIND POWER PROJECT" on 13 sheets undated.



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Legend

Proposed project area	Road
Transmission Line ROW	Major/Inter-collector
Political Boundary	Minor arterial
State Boundary	Local
County Boundary	Water Body
Town Boundary	Stream
	Lake

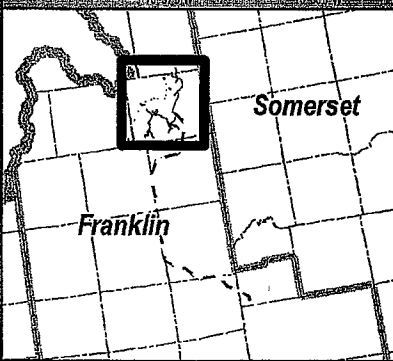
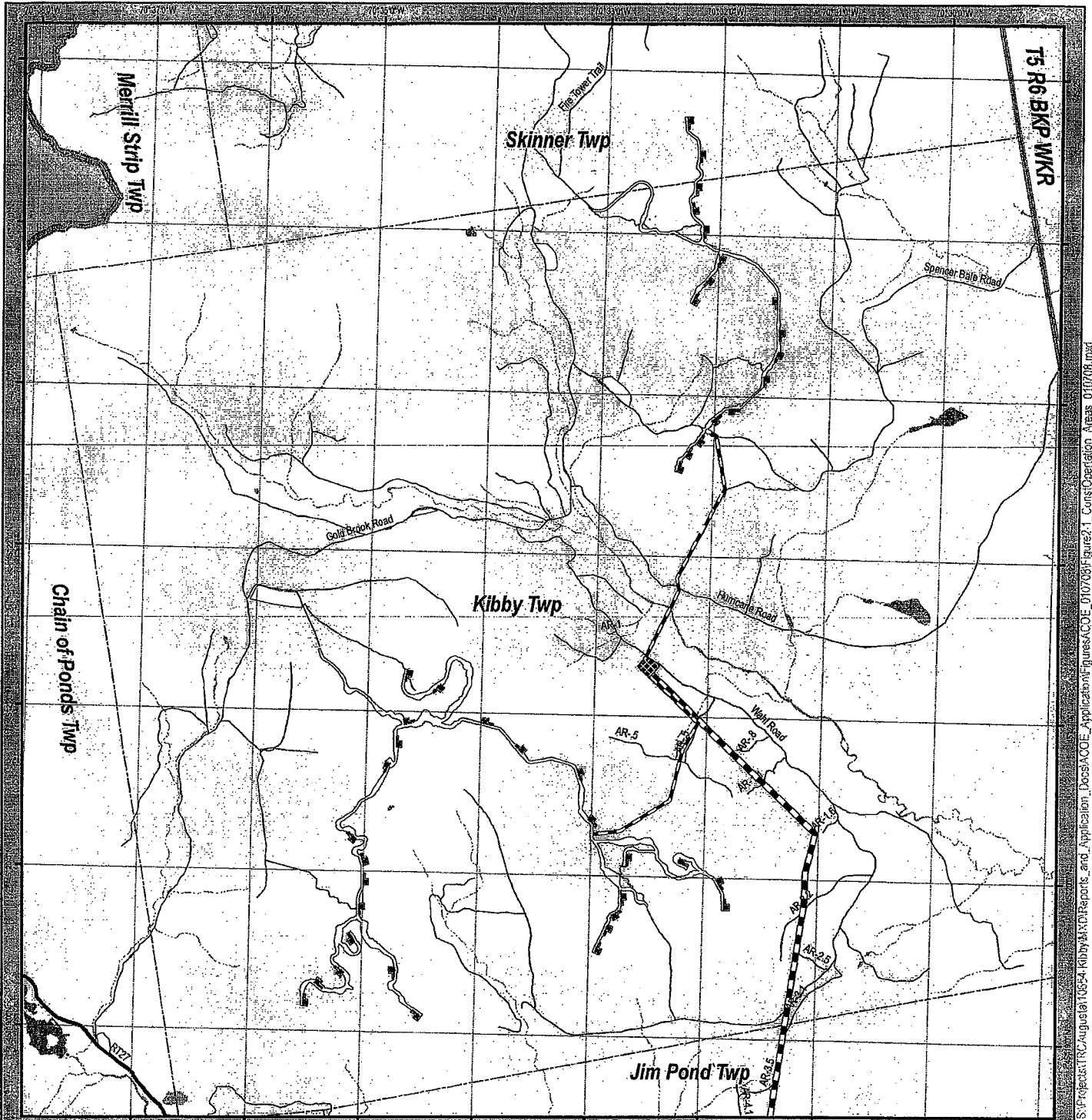
Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of ESRI and Maine GIS

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Miles

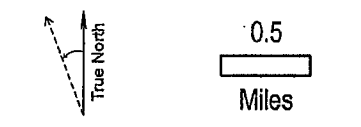
Kibby Wind Power Project

Project Overview

Figure 1-1



Legend	
	Proposed project area
	Proposed turbine pad location
	Proposed Kibby Substation
	Transmission Line ROW
	Proposed Collector Line
	Political Boundary
	State Boundary
	County Boundary
	Town Boundary
	Road
	Major/collector
	Minor/arterial
	Local
	Water Body
	Stream
	Lake

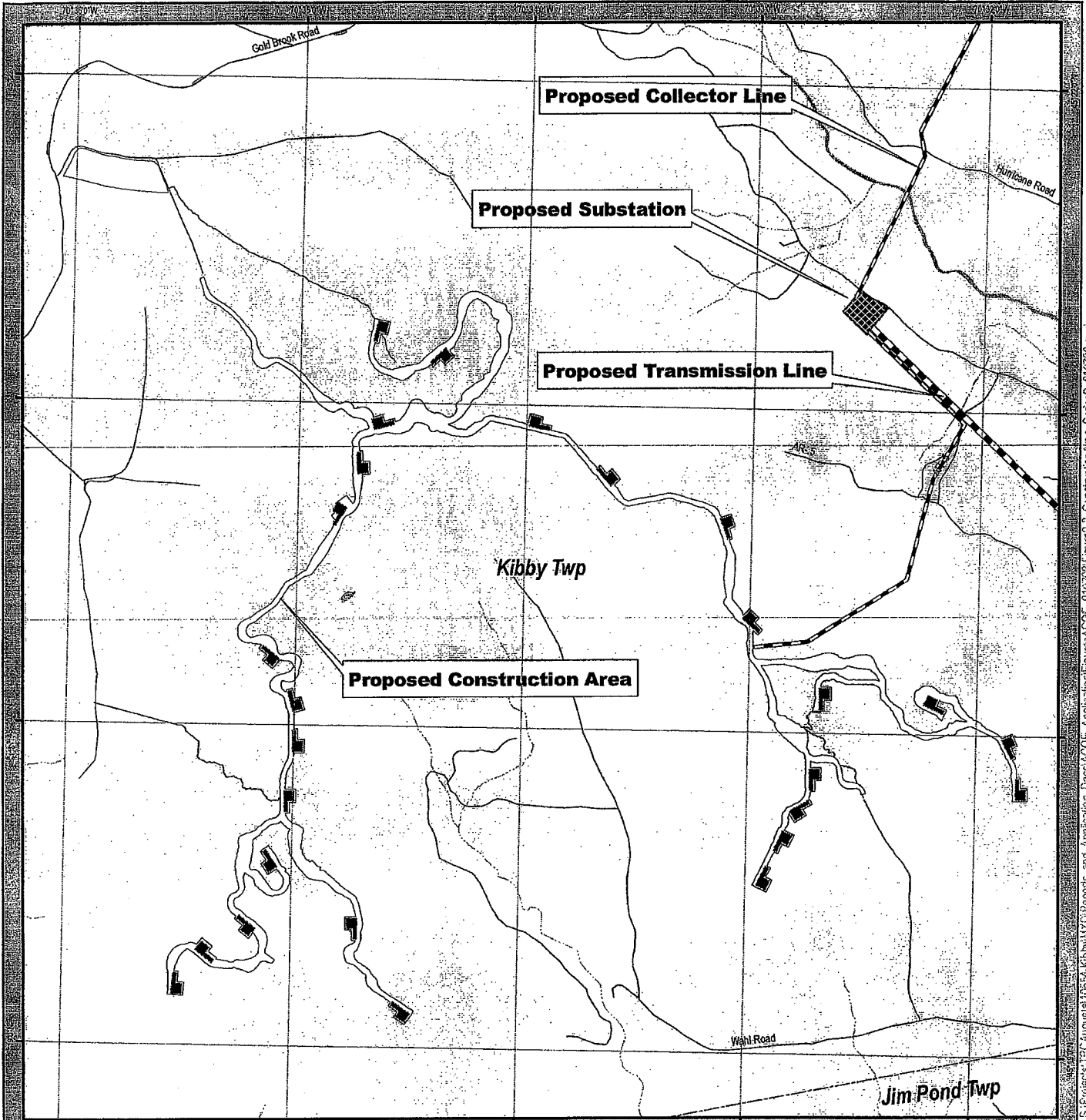


Kibby Wind Power Project
*Project Construction
 and Operation Areas*

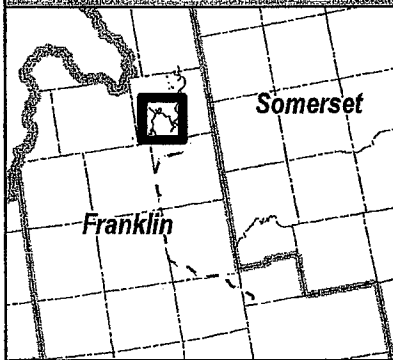
Figure 2-1

Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of ESRI and Maine GIS.
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 THE STATE OF MAINE. AIRPHOTOS COURTESY OF ESRI AND THE STATE OF MAINE.

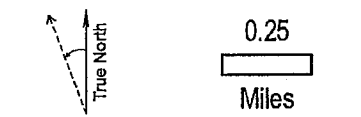
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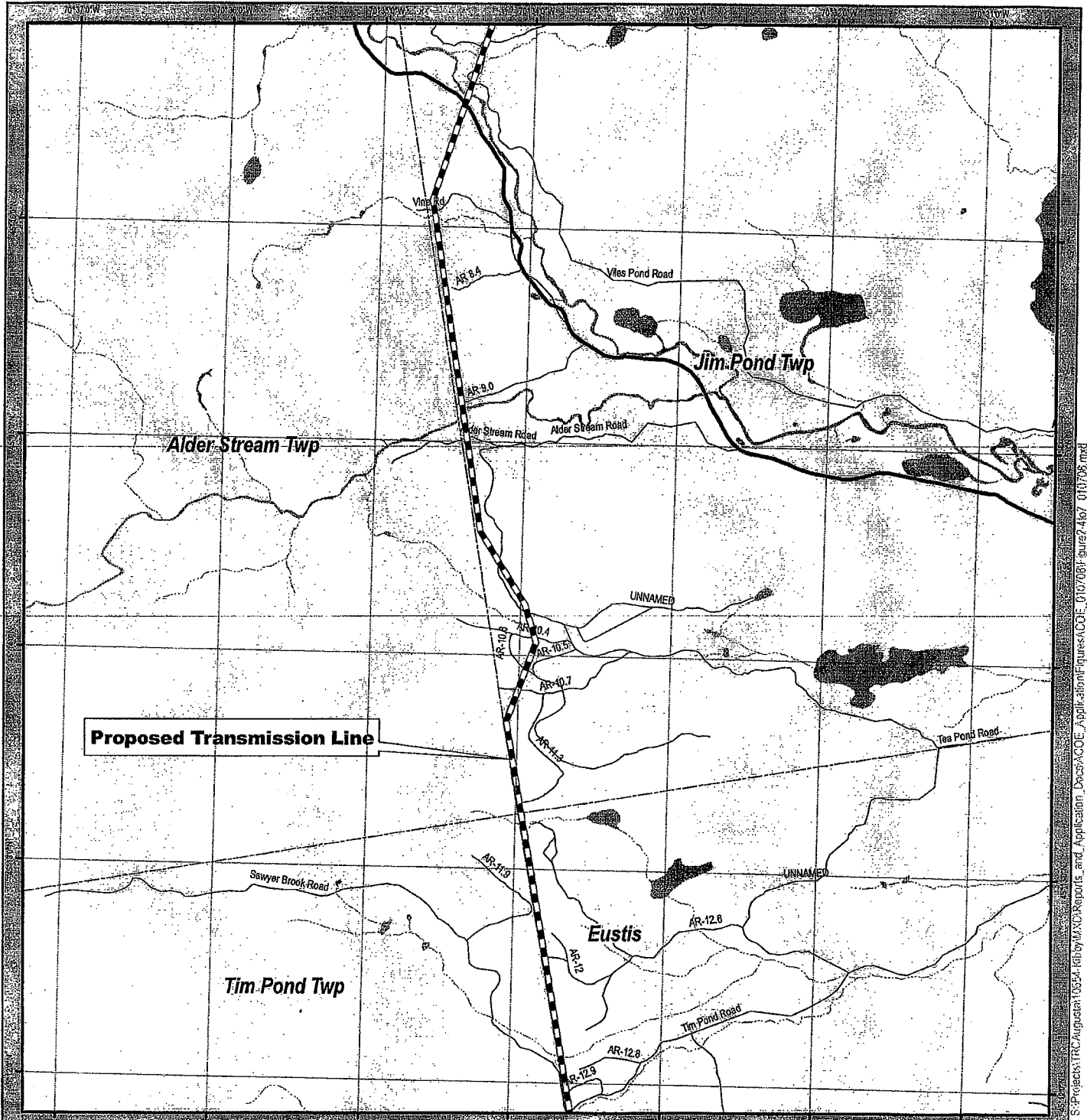
Legend	
	Proposed Project Area
	Proposed Turbine Pad Location
	Proposed Kibby Substation
	Transmission Line ROW
	Proposed Collector Lines
	Political Boundary
	State Boundary
	County Boundary
	Town Boundary
	Road
	Major Arterial Collector
	Village Arterial
	Local
	Water Body
	Stream
	Lake



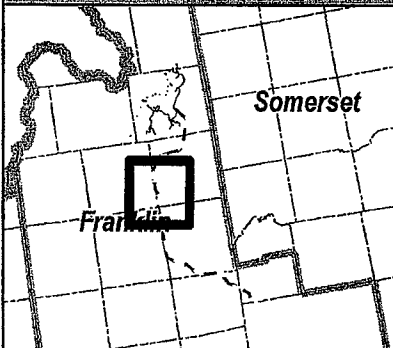
Kibby Wind Power Project
 Project Construction Area:
 B Series

Figure 2-3

Data: Nbrs Base map data courtesy of ESRI and Maine GIS
 INFORMATION ON THE PROVISION OF REFERENCE MAPS AND DATA IS TO BE OBTAINED FROM BEST AVAILABLE SOURCE
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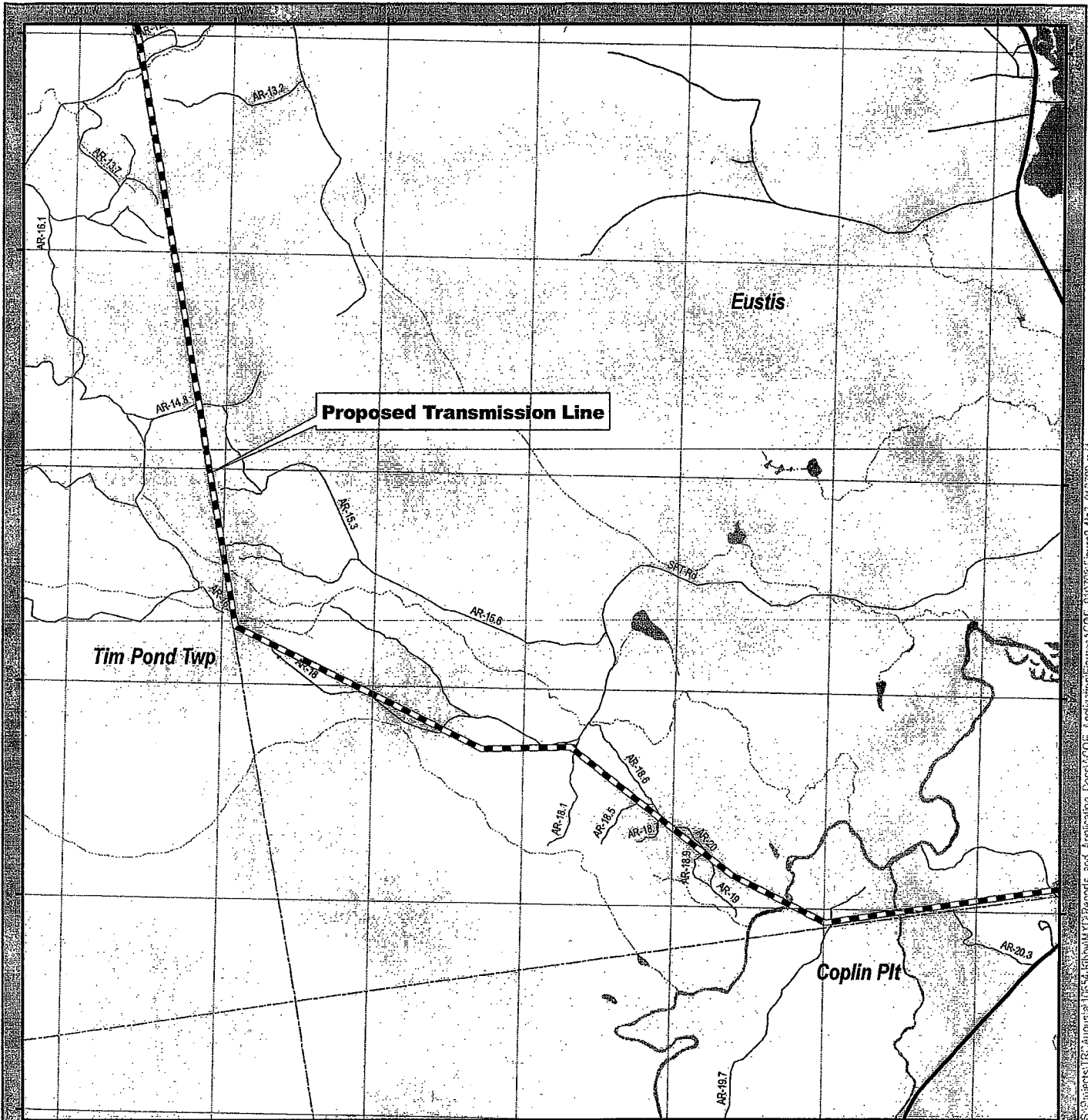
Legend	
Proposed Project Area	Road
Proposed Transmission Pad Location	Major/collector
Proposed Kibby Substation	Minor/arterial
Transmission Line ROW	Local
Proposed collection line	Water Body
Political Boundary	stream
State Boundary	lake
County Boundary	
Town Boundary	

Kibby Wind Power Project

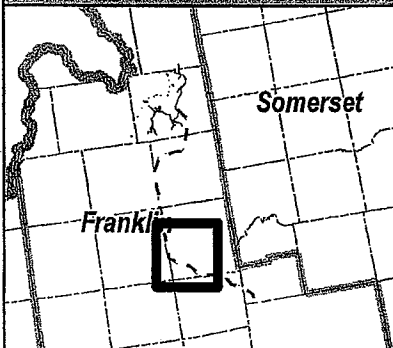
Proposed Transmission Line and Access Roads: Sheet 2

Figure 2-5

Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of ESRI and Maine GIS. All other data is the result of field research by the project team. All other data is the result of field research by the project team. All other data is the result of field research by the project team.



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Legend

	Proposed Project Area		Road
	Proposed Turbine Pad Location		Water Intake Collector
	Proposed Kibby Substation		Minor Arterial
	Transmission Line ROW		Local
	Proposed Collector Line		Water Body
	Political Boundary		Stream
	State Boundary		Lake
	County Boundary		
	Town Boundary		

Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of ESRI and MaineGIS

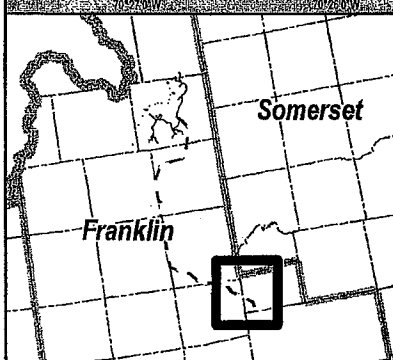
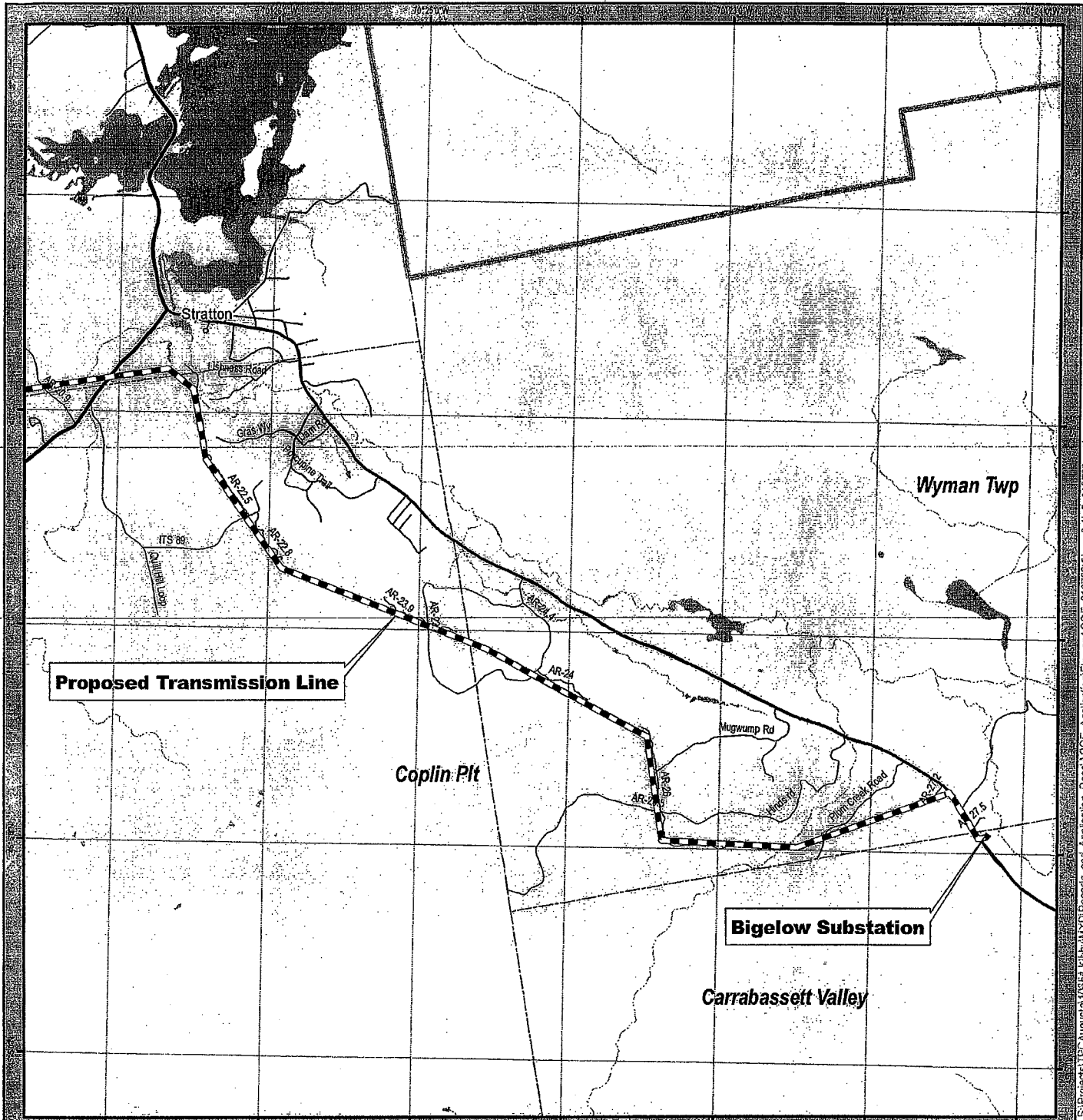
True North

0.25 Miles

Kibby Wind Power Project

Proposed Transmission Line and Access Roads: Sheet 3

Figure 2-6



Legend

Proposed Project Area	Road
Proposed Turbine Pad Location	Major/Ordn collector
Proposed Kibby Substation	Minor arterial
Proposed Transmission Line ROW	Local
Proposed Collector Line	Water Body
Political Boundary	Stream
State boundary	Lake
County boundary	
Town boundary	

Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of NSRI and Maine GIS

True North

0.25 Miles

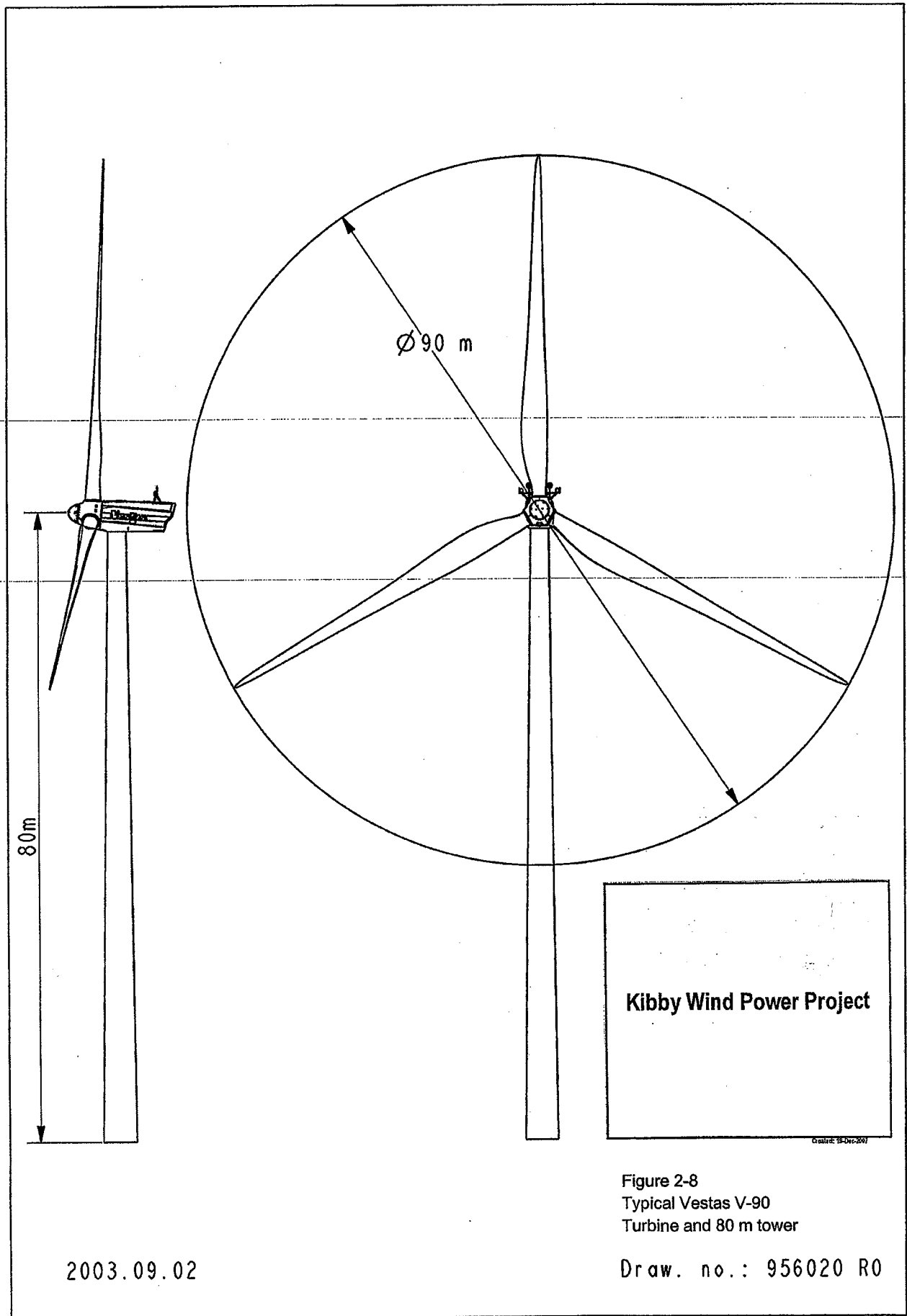
Kibby Wind Power Project

Proposed Transmission Line and Access Roads: Sheet 4

Figure 2-7

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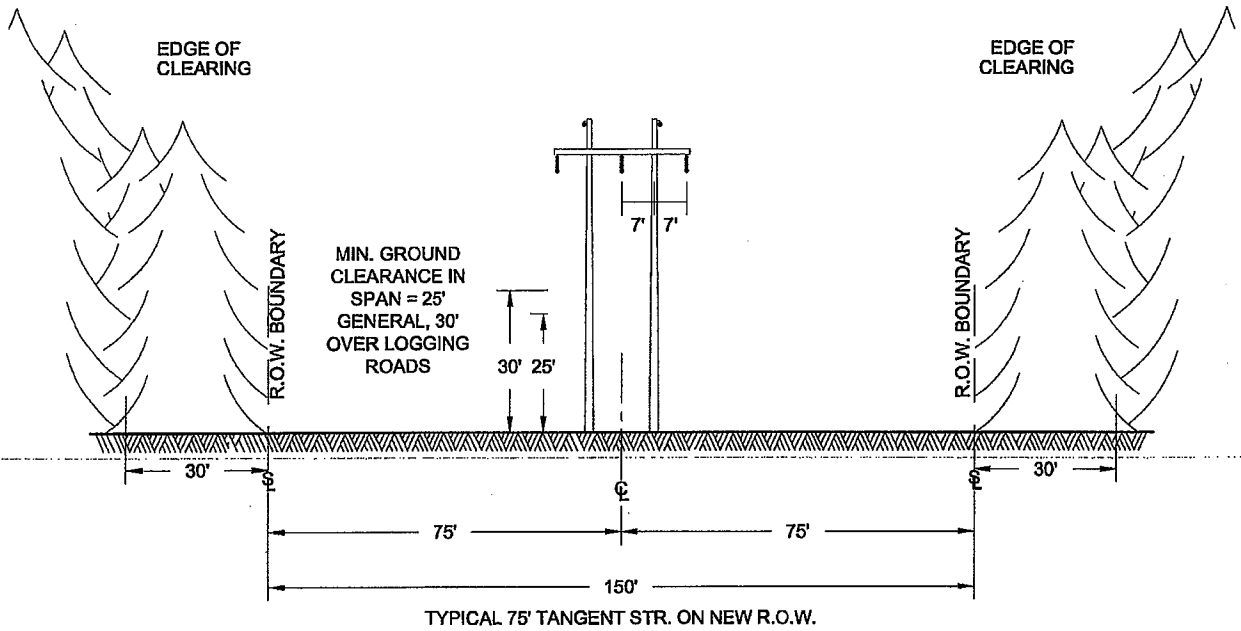
Kibby Wind Power Project

Figure 2-8
Typical Vestas V-90
Turbine and 80 m tower

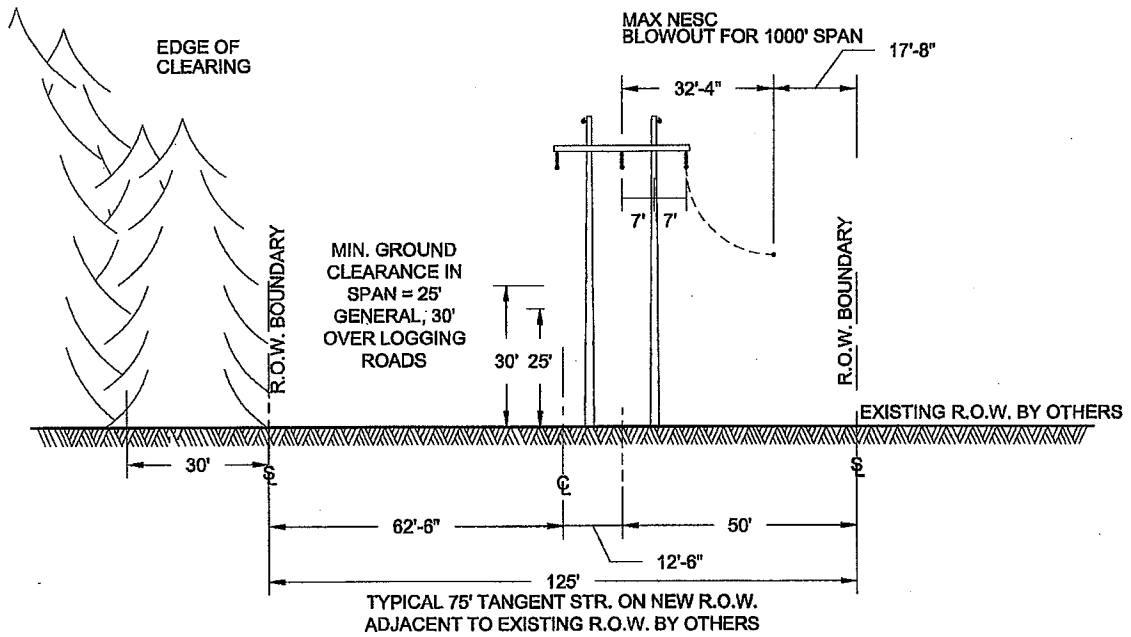
2003.09.02

Draw. no.: 956020 R0

PROPOSED R.O.W. CROSS SECTION VIEW #1



CROSS SECTION VIEW #2



THIS DRAWING SHALL BE REVISED ON THE CADD SYSTEM ONLY

SCALE: NTS

FIGURE 2-10
KIBBY WIND POWER PROJECT
PROPOSED R.O.W.
CROSS SECTIONS

NO.	REV.	DATE	BY

DESIGNED ---
DRAWN RDW

CHCK. ---
APPR. ---

DATE ---
REVIEWED

CLIENT APPROVAL
APPROVED BY
COMPANY
DATE ---



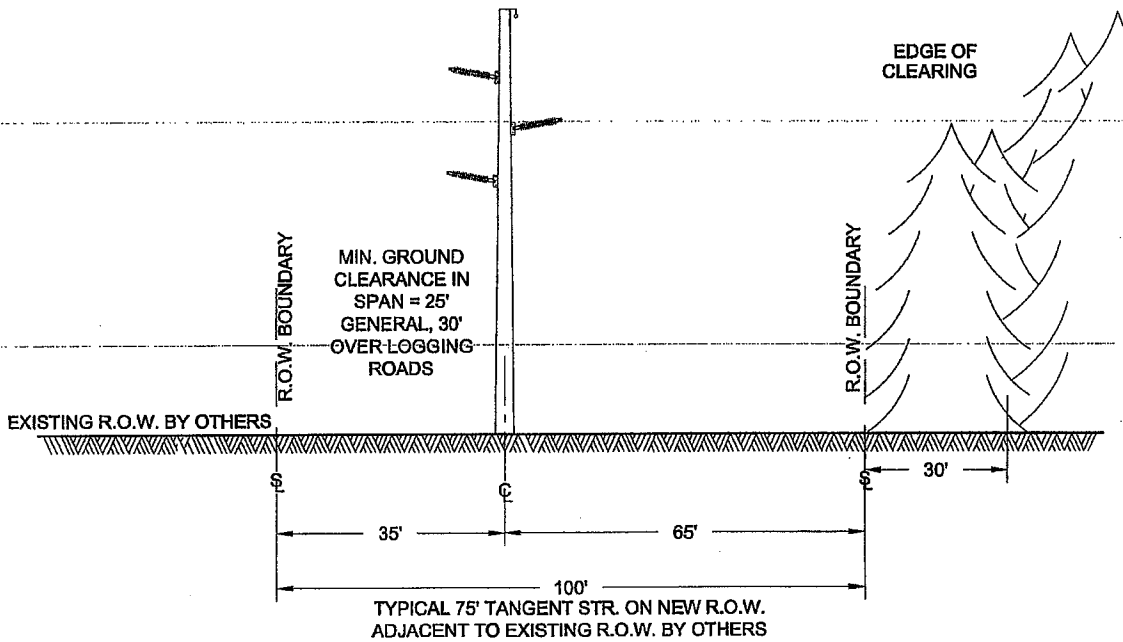
TRC
249 Western Avenue
Augusta, Maine 04330

13340-T0001-SH1

CONTRACT DWG NO.
13340-T0001-SH1

PROJECT NO.
13340

PROPOSED R.O.W.
CROSS SECTION VIEW
SINGLE POLE TANGENT



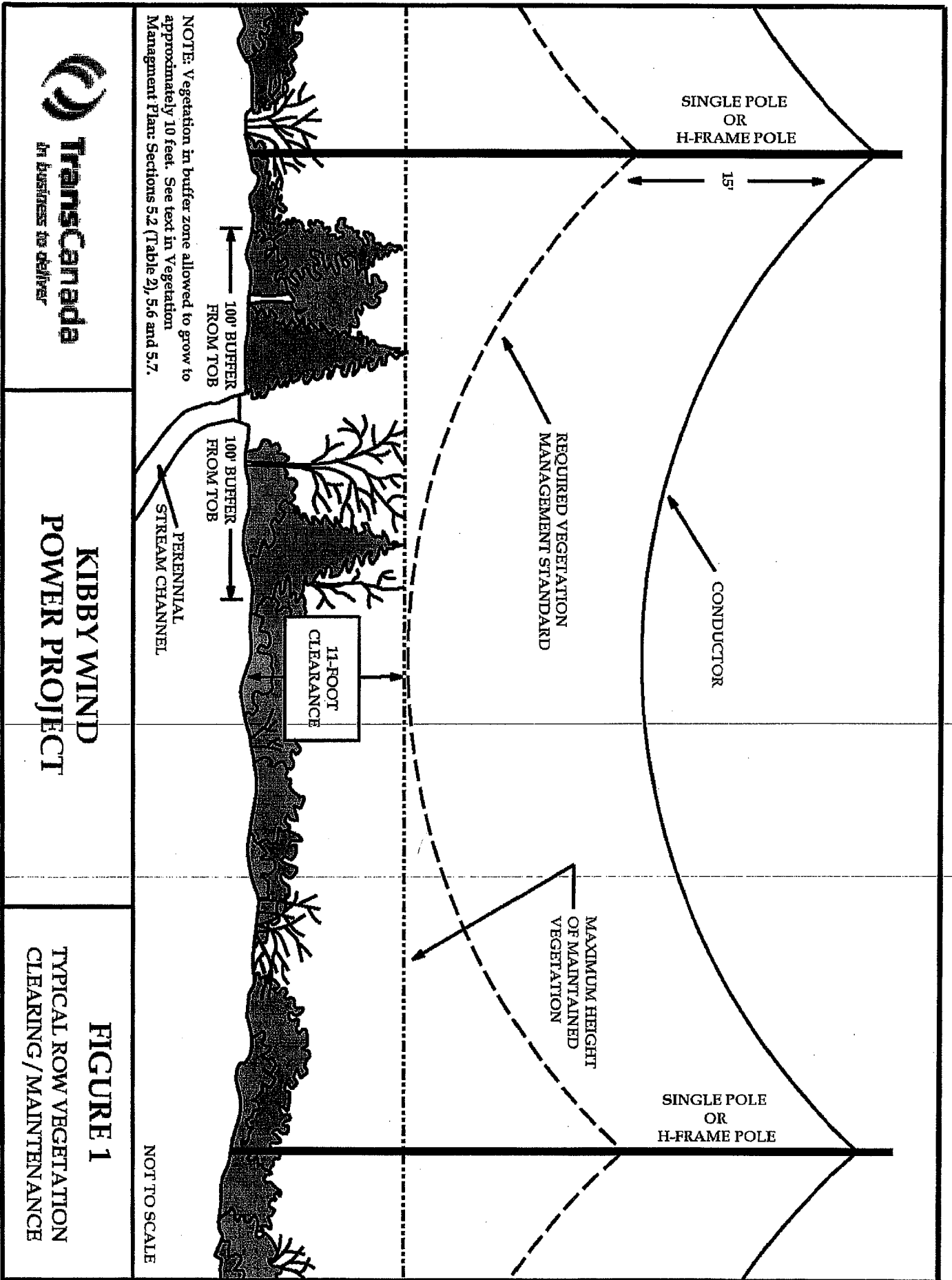
THIS DRAWING SHALL
 BE REVISED ON THE
 CADD SYSTEM ONLY

SCALE: NTS

FIGURE 2-11
KIBBY WIND POWER PROJECT
PROPOSED R.O.W.
CROSS SECTIONS

NO.	REV.	DATE	BY

DESIGNED DRAWN	--- RDW	CHCK. APPR.	--- ---	DATE REVIEWED	
CLIENT APPROVAL APPROVED BY COMPANY DATE		TRC 249 Western Avenue Augusta, Maine 04330		13340-T0001-SH2	
CONTRACT DWG NO. 13340-T0001-SH2		PROJECT NO. 13340		13340-T0001-SH2	

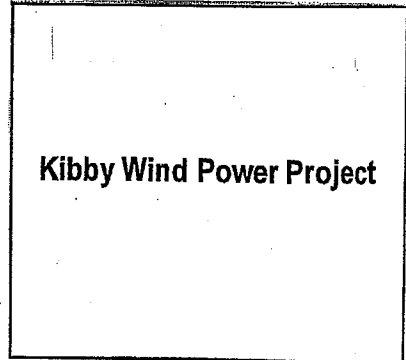


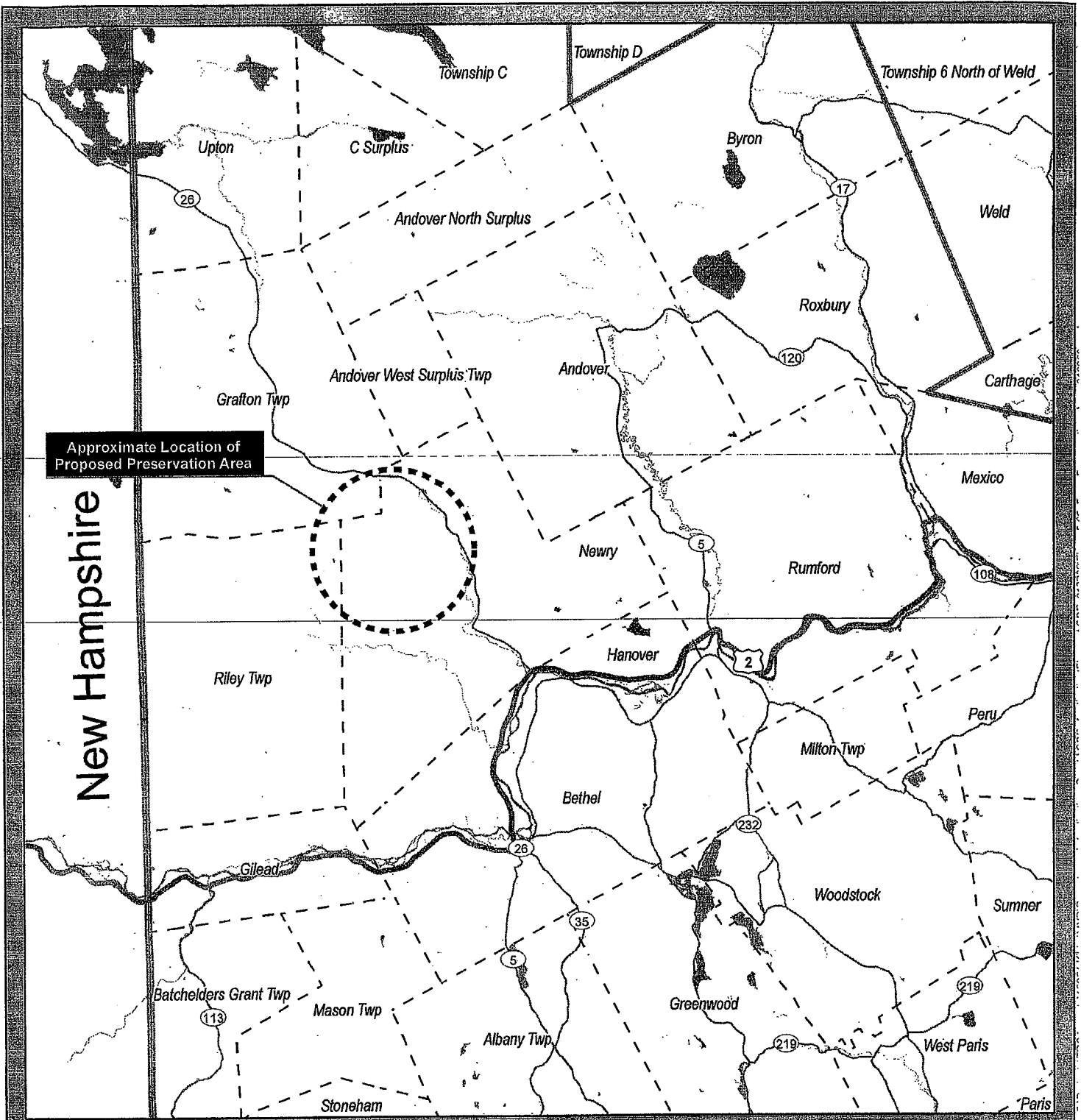
**KIBBY WIND
POWER PROJECT**

**FIGURE 1
TYPICAL ROW VEGETATION
CLEARING / MAINTENANCE**

Table 5-9 - Summary of Wetland and Waterbody Impacts Associated with the Kibby Wind Power Project

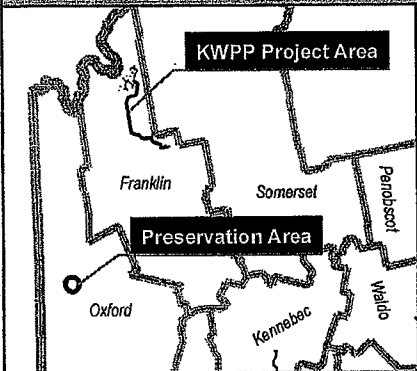
Wetland Type	Total Permanent Impact		Total Temporary Impact		Total Conversion Impact	
	Square Feet	Acres	Square Feet	Acres	Square Feet	Acres
PSS	13,844	0.319	116,038	2.664	--	--
PFO	8,312	0.191	182,299	4.185	1,548,558	35.55
PEM	3,809	0.087	32,278	0.741	--	--
Total	25,965	0.597	330,615	7.59	1,548,558	35.55
Number of Streams Traversed						
Perennial Stream			38			
Intermittent Stream			47			
Total			85			





Approximate Location of Proposed Preservation Area

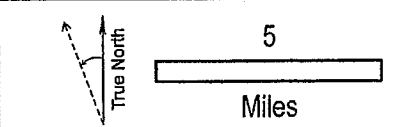
New Hampshire



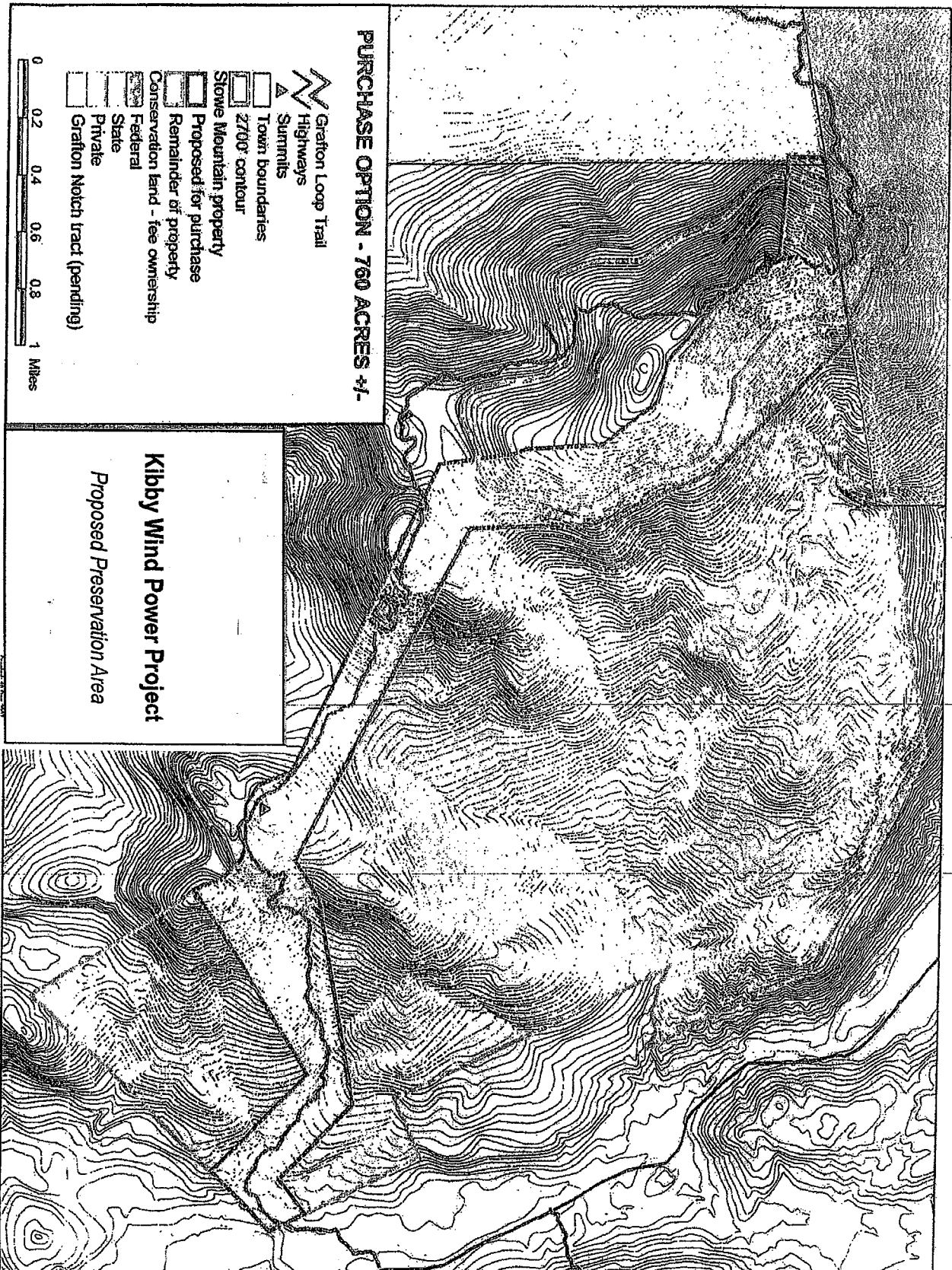
Legend

	Highway
	Major Road
	Local Road
	Minor Road













Data Notes: Base map data courtesy of Maine @GIS



Kibby Wind Power Project
 Proposed Preservation Area
 Figure 5-35



PURCHASE OPTION - 760 ACRES +/-

-  Grafton Loop Trail
-  Highways
-  Town boundaries
-  2700' contour
-  Stowe Mountain property
-  Proposed for purchase
-  Remainder of property
-  Conservation land - fee ownership
-  Federal
-  State
-  Private
-  Grafton Notch tract (pending)



Kibby Wind Power Project
Proposed Preservation Area