



Western Maine Energy Storage

July 22, 2025

Via E-Filing

Debbie-Anne Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Application for Preliminary Permit: Western Maine Energy Storage Project

Dear Secretary Reese:

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.32 and 4.81 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations, please find enclosed Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC's (Applicant) "Application for Preliminary Permit" for the proposed Western Maine Energy Storage Project (Project). The proposed facility is a 500 megawatt (MW) pumped storage hydroelectric facility to be established in an off-river configuration, located near Dixfield, Maine in Oxford, on privately owned properties. The Regional Engineer, John Spain is also copied on this submittal pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.32(b)(1).

As detailed in the application, the Applicant proposes to evaluate the potential development of this pumped storage power project in consultation with federal and state agencies, tribes, and other interested stakeholders. The Applicant is seeking priority of application for the Project under Part I of the Federal Power Act while obtaining the data and performing the acts required to determine the feasibility of the Project and to support an application for a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license. The Applicant believes the addition of a pumped storage hydropower (PSH) facility will increase grid efficiency by providing system inertia in a renewable rich region, and black start capabilities, essential for maintaining a stable grid.

If you require additional information, please contact me at (207) 679-2347 at llohn@cianbro.com.

Sincerely,

Lauren Walsh

Environmental Permitting Manager
Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC

Cc: John Spain, Regional Engineer, New York Regional Office

Western Maine Energy Storage P.O. Box 1000, Pittsfield ME 04922
info@westernmaineenergystorage.com or visit westernmaineenergystorage.com

**BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

APPLICATION FOR PRELIMINARY PERMIT

WESTERN MAINE ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT

A. Initial Statement – Information Required by 18 C.F.R § 4.81

1. Statement of Application

Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC (Applicant) applies to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a preliminary permit for the proposed Western Maine Energy Storage Project (Project), as described in the attached Exhibits. This application is made in order that the Applicant may secure and maintain priority of application for the Project under Part I of the Federal Power Act while obtaining the data and performing the acts required to determine the feasibility of the Project and to support an application for a license.

Clean energy, such as wind and solar, is intermittent by nature and fluctuate based on weather conditions and time of day. The addition of a pumped storage hydropower (PSH) facility will increase grid efficiency, thus lowering the demand for new transmission infrastructure and allowing more clean energy generation onto the grid. PSH will also increase grid reliability by providing system inertia in a renewable rich region, and black start capabilities, essential for maintaining a stable grid.

The Project is aligned with the State's power generation and energy storage strategy to meet the recently revised State of Maine's renewable portfolio standards (RPS) which require 90 percent of retail sales to be from renewable sources by 2040 with 10% also sourced from clean resources by 2040.

The proposed Project is located primarily in Dixfield, Maine, on privately owned properties. Rights to these properties were acquired through option agreement, lease, easement, or purchase by the Applicant. A preliminary permit with a term of 48 months will allow the Applicant to complete studies of the site and file a License Application.

2. Project Location

The location of the proposed Project is:

State or territory: Maine
County: Oxford
Nearby Towns: Dixfield and Canton
Body of Water: Project water source under review:
1. Initial fill Only – Androscoggin River
2. Reservoir Level Maintenance – Groundwater Wells

3. Applicant's Contact Information

The exact name, business address, and telephone number of the Applicant are:

Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC
P.O. Box 1000
Pittsfield, Maine 04967
Tel: (207) 487-3311

The exact name and business address of each person authorized to act as agent for the Applicant in this application are:

Andrew Qua
Kleinschmidt Associates
141 Main Street
PO Box 650
Pittsfield, ME 04967
Tel: (207) 487-3328

Craig Weaver
Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC
PO Box 1000
Pittsfield, ME 04967
Tel: (207) 679-2569

Lauren Walsh
Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC
P.O. Box 1000
Pittsfield, Maine 04967
Tel: (207) 679-2347

4. Statement of Authority

Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC is a domestic limited liability company and is not claiming preference under section 7(a) of the Federal Power Act (FPA).

5. Term of Permit

The proposed term of the requested preliminary permit is 48 months. Should the preliminary permit be approved, the Applicant intends to move forward with the full permit application before the end of that 48-month period with a goal to bring the needed energy infrastructure online as efficiently and expeditiously as possible.

6. Existing Dams or Other Project /Facilities

The proposed Project location is "off river", currently undeveloped with no existing reservoirs or generation infrastructure. The Project is anticipated to connect to the local utility existing 115 kV Electric Bulk Power Transmission System, owned and operated by Central Maine Power Company, part of the ISONE

Meg Sullivan
Manager | Transmission Planning | Integrated Services Planning
Central Maine Power Company
83 Edison Drive
Augusta, ME 04336

Additional Information Required by 18 CFR § 4.32¹

- 1. Identify every person, citizen, association of citizens, domestic corporation, municipality, or state that has or intends to obtain and will maintain any proprietary right necessary to construct, operate, or maintain the project:**

Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC, a domestic limited liability company, intends to obtain and will maintain any proprietary right to construct, operate, or maintain the Project.

- 2. For a preliminary permit or a license, identify (providing names and mailing addresses):**

- (i) Every county in which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located:**

Lisa Keim
County Commissioner – District 2
Oxford County
26 Western Avenue
P.O. Box 179
South Paris, ME 04281

- (ii) Every city, town, or local political subdivision:**

- (A) In which regards any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located:**

Dixfield, ME

Alicia Conn
Town Manager – Dixfield, Maine
46 Main St.
PO Box 808
Dixfield, ME 04224

- (B) That has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the project dam:**

¹ Code of Federal Regulations. Title 18. Chapter I, Subchapter B, Part 4. Acceptance for filing or rejection; information to be made available to the public; requests for additional studies.

[eCFR :: 18 CFR Part 4 -- Licenses, Permits, Exemptions, and Determination of Project Costs](#)

Rumford, ME

Stacy Carter
Town Manager – Rumford Maine
145 Congress Street
Rumford, ME 04276

Local municipalities of less than 5,000 people but are anticipated to have interest in the project;**Canton, ME**

Kathy Walker
Town Clerk – Canton, Maine
94 Turner St.
Canton, ME 04221

Dixfield, ME

Alicia Conn
Town Manager – Dixfield, Maine
46 Main St.
PO Box 808
Dixfield, ME 04224

Jay, ME

Shiloh LaFreniere
Town Manager
340 Main Street
Jay, Maine 04239

Livermore Falls, ME

Carrie Castonguay
Town Manager
2 Main Street
Livermore Falls ME 04254

Livermore, ME

Amanda Tyler
Town Clerk
10 Crash Road
Livermore Maine, 04253

Peru, ME

Debra Coudrain
Town Clerk
P.O. Box 429
26 Main Street
Peru, Maine 04290

Mexico, ME

Raquel Welch-Day
Town Manager
134 Main Street
Mexico, ME 04257

(iii) Every irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision:

(A) In which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located; or

Dixfield Water Department
46 Main St,
PO Box 808
Dixfield, ME 04224

Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District
USDA Service Center
17 Olson Rd. Suite 3
South Paris, Maine 04281

Lea Fergus
Chair
Androscoggin River Watershed Council
PO Box 1541
Bethel, Maine 04217

(B) That owns, operates, maintains, or uses any project facilities or any Federal facilities that would be used by the project:

There are no existing project facilities or Federal facilities at present in the Project vicinity, so none are associated with the potential Project or are currently used by any irrigation district, drainage district, or similar purpose political subdivision

(iv) Every other political subdivision in the general area of the Project or proposed Project that there is reason to believe would be likely to be interested in, or affected by, the notification:

See 2.(ii)(B), above.

(v) All Indian tribes that may be affected by the project.

*No land has been identified to be under ownership or interest of a Tribe, however consult with the Tribes will be coordinated should they have an interest currently unknown to the Project.

Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
88 Bell Road
Littleton, Maine 04730

Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians
Pleasant Point Reservation
P.O. Box 343
Perry, Maine 04667

Aroostook Band of Micmacs
7 Northern Road
Presque Isle, Maine 04769
Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians
Indian Township Reservation
P.O. Box 301
Princeton, Maine 04668

Penobscot Indian Nation
Indian Island Reservation
12 Wabanaki Way
Indian Island, Maine 04468

THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITS ARE FILED HERewith AND ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF
THIS APPLICATION:

- Exhibit 1: Description of the Proposed Project
- Exhibit 2: Description of the Studies to be Conducted and Statement of Costs and
Financing
- Exhibit 3: Project Location and Features

EXHIBIT 1

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed Project and associated facilities are located in Oxford County, Maine.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION UNDER 18 C.F.R. § 4.81(b)

Project Features:

- 1. The number, physical composition, dimensions, general configuration and, where applicable, age and condition, of any dams, spillways, penstocks, powerhouses, tailraces, or other structures, whether existing or proposed, that would be part of the project.

The proposed Western Maine Energy Storage Project (Project) is a proposed pumped storage hydropower facility with a total installed generating capacity of approximately 500 MW. It will be located on privately owned land in Dixfield and Canton, Oxford County, Maine. The Project consists of a new upper reservoir and new lower reservoir for water storage, water conveyance conduits (penstocks), and generation facilities at off-river locations where no such facilities exist currently. The powerhouse will be mostly above ground between the upper and lower reservoirs. Upon completion of the initial water fill, the facility will operate as a closed-loop system.

No dams or hydroelectric power generation features currently exist within the proposed Project boundary. Because the Preliminary Permit is intended to enable the Applicant to conduct studies that would inform preliminary designs including configuration, composition, height, and length for all proposed Project structures, such details are currently unknown and would be determined through feasibility and optimization studies under a preliminary permit.

Table 1 Structures and Equipment.

Proposed Project Features	Physical Composition	Dimensions/Additional Information
Penstocks between reservoirs	Round steel pipe with full penetration welds at splices	2 each; 16-foot diameter; 7,820 feet long
Powerhouse	Above ground; concrete with ledge rock anchors; multi-level structure	125 long by 100 wide
Intake structure & pipe	Temporary intake structure and pipe for initial fill	2.3 miles running primarily within existing CMP

Proposed Project Features	Physical Composition	Dimensions/Additional Information
	originating from the Androscoggin River	transmission line corridor. Project environmental studies will inform the final route.
Roads & Access	A combination of public and private existing gravel roads will be improved and utilized for construction. (see Project area map)	Permanent roads left for Project operation and maintenance will consist of non-erodible materials suitable for Project area maintenance and limited public access.
Groundwater wells	Permanent ground water wells for water level maintenance	Project studies will include a detailed analysis of ground water availability and suitability of use for maintenance fill.
Generator Tie	1. A 115kV generator tie from powerhouse to existing transmission corridor. No new transmission corridors are proposed outside of the Project Area.	Approximately 2 miles of 115 kV generator tie from the GSU at powerhouse to existing transmission corridor at point of interconnect (POI)
Interconnect Switchyard	A Double Ring Bus interconnect will be constructed as part of the Project at the existing 115kV transmission lines.	Ownership of this asset will transfer to the utility prior to energization at point of interconnect.

- 2. The estimated number, surface area, storage capacity, and normal maximum surface elevation (mean sea level) of any reservoirs, whether existing or proposed, that would be part of the project.**

Table 2 Reservoirs.

Upper Reservoir	Surface Area	Storage Capacity
Excavated reservoir following natural topography of the site with built earthen embankments on all sides. One side will have a concrete cut-off wall inside the embankment.	Crest elevation – 1,520' Reservoir bottom elevation – 1,450' Surface area – 100 acres	3,500 acre-feet (150 million cubic feet)
Lower Reservoir	Surface Area	Storage Capacity
Excavated reservoir following natural topography of the site with built earthen embankments on all sides. One side will have a concrete cut-off wall inside the embankment.	Crest elevation – 700' Reservoir bottom elevation – 630' Surface area – 100 acres	4,500 acre-feet (200 million cubic feet)

3. The estimated number, length, voltage, interconnections, and, where applicable, age and condition, of any primary transmission lines whether existing or proposed, that would be part of the project.

The Project will utilize existing transmission lines where possible, with a new generator tie and interconnect switchyard at the Point of Interconnection (POI) adjacent to the existing transmission corridor.

New Interconnections:

Number: 2

Voltage: 115 kV

Substation(s): One new generation substation at the powerhouse and one new interconnect substation (switchyard) at the POI adjacent to the existing 115 kV transmission lines

The Project will require two (2) each ring bus interconnects on the two (2) each existing 115 kV transmission lines (Sections 280 and 243) located on the adjacent property owner by Central Maine Power (CMP). The existing lines were upgraded by CMP in 2015 and are considered to be in good to excellent condition. The condition of existing transmission and distribution lines impacted by the Project will be further assessed as part of the feasibility studies.

- 4. The total estimated average annual energy production and installed capacity, the hydraulic head for estimating capacity and energy output, and the estimated number, rated capacity, and, where applicable, the age and condition, of any turbines and generators, whether existing or proposed, that would be part of the project works.**

Pump/Turbine Specifications

Number:	Two (New)
Hydraulic Capacity (each):	3000-3700 CFS at 800 feet head
Rating (each):	200 - 250 MW

Generator Specifications

Number:	Two (New)
Rating (each):	200 - 250 MW
Total plant Capacity:	400 - 500 MW
Estimated Average Annual energy output:	1,000,000 MWh

- 5. All lands of the United States that are enclosed within the Project Boundary.**

Parcel Ownership	Acres
County	0
Federal	0
Municipal	0
Private	625
Tribal	0
Total	625

Project Features	Acres
Upper Reservoir	100
Lower Reservoir	105
Switchyards and Transmission Corridor	35
Planned Temporary Intake (outside existing CMP corridor)	2
Powerhouse	5
Ancillary support buildings/parking/roads	10
Total	257

- 6. Any other information demonstrating in what manner the proposed project would develop, conserve, and utilize in the public interest the water resources of the region.**

Maine's power grid is under increasing strain as electricity use rises for heating, cooling and transportation. This is complicated by the intermittent nature of wind and solar energy. At peak production, excess generation energy will be wasted due to transmission limits, while low generation can drive up costs due to reliance on more costly generators, an issue already impacting Maine and the U.S. The proposed Project will increase grid efficiency by balancing the supply and demand of electricity throughout the day. This new efficiency will provide an opportunity for more renewable energy injection onto the grid with minimal upgrades to existing transmission corridors. This project will also increase critical grid stability and reliability by the introduction of synchronous machinery and related inertia in the system. System instability in a renewable rich grid was the precise cause of the recent blackouts in Spain. The development of this Project, and any additional nearby generation made possible by this Project, would create new local tax revenue and other community benefits in an area that has recently lost significant manufacturing base.

The proposed Project also provides an opportunity to establish a lasting environmental/renewable energy education, recreation, and resource restoration/preservation area utilizing the water resources associated with the Project. Many pumped storage hydropower projects around the country have incorporated ancillary areas for hiking, fishing and environmental education while also preserving habitat and biodiversity of the area. Maine has a long history of utilizing natural resources in a sustainable manner while preserving the culture for which the state is known. Water resources have supported Maine for centuries and this Project will provide new opportunities to continue to utilize water in a, off river manner. The region will benefit from increased grid efficiency and reliability while limiting the expansion of existing transmission infrastructure.

Should new groundwater wells and associated infrastructure be required to supply make up water lost due to evaporation, the Project will evaluate the opportunity to share the new local water supply infrastructure. Watershed studies which will be pertinent to the final design of the reservoir systems will also benefit the area by providing updated information regarding local stream and river peak flows and impacts from storm events. The area has been impacted significantly by severe storm events in the last few years which devastated many road systems. Data from Project field studies and resource impact mitigation planning could assist in planning infrastructure upgrades which could be coordinated with the local municipalities and the state.

EXHIBIT 2**DESCRIPTION OF STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED
AND A STATEMENT OF COSTS AND FINANCING****DESCRIPTION OF STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED, PURSUANT TO 18 C.F.R. § 4.81 (c)****1. General requirement. For any proposed project, a study plan containing a description of:**

- (i) Any studies, investigations, tests, or surveys that are proposed to be carried out, and any that have already taken place, for the purposes of determining the technical, economic, and financial feasibility of the proposed project, taking into consideration its environmental impacts, and of preparing an application for a license for the project.**

Section 4.81(c)(2) of 18 CFR requires a work plan for development of a project that would require new dam construction but does not stipulate a schedule for the actual dam construction. Section 4.81(c)(2)(ii) specifically requires a proposed schedule for studies where disturbance of lands and waters may occur “which does not exceed the proposed term of the permit”. The Applicant includes a schedule of studies in Table 1 of this exhibit which would be conducted in areas that would include the upper and lower reservoir locations, powerhouse location, penstock routes, transmission line, interconnect and substation, and access roads as required. The following is a summary of the planned regulatory actions, studies, investigations, tests or surveys. The study area is depicted in Map B.

Studies, investigations, tests or surveys that have been completed:**1. Preliminary Site Location Feasibility – completed in 2023**

Preliminary site feasibility evaluations were conducted for several potential site locations. These evaluations included desktop evaluations of:

- Existing environmental resources (e.g., wetlands and significant wildlife habitats) including:
 - Wetlands, waterways, identified wildlife habitats and protected natural areas.
 - Cultural resources records
 - Historical resource records

- Land ownership and site access
- Identification of potential electrical transmission interconnection, water sources and conveyance, and access roads
- Preliminary site layout, configuration, and equipment specifications
- Preliminary evaluations of the demand and markets for peaking power, pumping energy, and on-peak generation

Based upon the results of this preliminary feasibility evaluation, the Dixfield location was determined to be the most viable location for the Project. For the purposes of advancing the Project beyond this initial feasibility phase, a preliminary permit application is being filed which will, if approved, enable the Applicant to conduct more detailed feasibility, engineering and environmental studies

2. Initial Engineering Feasibility

Engineering feasibility studies have been initiated to substantiate technical feasibility and validate cost estimates for the Project. This evaluation and involvement in relevant resource planning procedures will continue throughout the license application process and may result in adjustments to the Project configuration, including the total energy storage capacity, quantity and capacities of the pump turbine units, operating modes, or any other Project characteristics.

3. Initial Protected Resource Field Evaluations

Field evaluations were completed in 2023, 2024 and 2025 for the presence and identification of wetlands, waterways, vernal pools and associated protected species or habitats over a significant portion of the proposed Project site. These evaluations were completed to complement the desktop review completed during initial Project siting and in preparation for coordination with environmental agencies and groups. Field environmental investigations will be ongoing in anticipation of early coordination meetings with the relevant stakeholders.

Planned regulatory actions and studies, investigations, tests or surveys:

Geology and Soils

In order to inform feasibility-level designs of the major Project features, geologic mapping will be composed, and a subsurface investigation program will be created and implemented; the information garnered from these studies will be provided as part of the License Application including the Supporting Design Report. Seismic analysis will include calculations of peak ground acceleration (PGA) and will be prepared with consideration

of applicable attenuation relationships. During license application development, site seismicity will also be evaluated. Before conducting any ground disturbing activities, an erosion control plan will be prepared. The Applicant will participate in a cooperative effort with the appropriate resource Agencies, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to assess any adverse effects on historic or cultural resources or to geology or other effects on resources noted below and appropriate measures to minimize and/or mitigate such effects.

Water Quantity and Supply

The primary water supply source that has been identified for the Project is the Androscoggin River. Initial fill of the reservoirs is expected to be done from the Androscoggin River, over the course of approximately 10-12 months. The Project has consulted with a hydrogeologist regarding potential impacts to the Androscoggin River and its watershed from this initial fill. A rough watershed study has been completed taking into account an intent to ensure streams impacted by the project retain a flow consistent to maintain state water quality standards. The watershed analysis identified the withdrawal rate needed from the Androscoggin River to provide a fill over the course of 10-12 months, would represent only 0.7% of the 7Q10 low flow value in the river. This value is based on a nearby upstream dam in Rumford, ME.

The preliminary study reviewed precipitation data and the potential for leakage to assess the water level maintenance needs of the operating Project. The data indicates that short-term, seasonal deficits could be possible due to drought conditions, but on average the facility could see a surplus of water. It is expected that the drought-induced or short-term deficits could be offset by a groundwater well source, allowing the infrastructure needed for the initial fill from the Androscoggin River to be temporary.

Additional studies will be conducted during the preliminary permit phase to develop a thorough understanding of hydrogeology and important groundwater/surface water relationships, including recharge routes, discharge, groundwater mobility and variability of Androscoggin River baseflows.

Water Quality

Impacts of the Project on water quality post construction are not anticipated but will be assessed to confirm. The facility will operate as an off river closed loop system, recycling water between reservoirs once the initial fill from the Androscoggin River is completed. Risk of discharges that would impact water quality post construction will be minimal.

Impacts to waterways are expected during construction of the facility but will be minimized to the extent practicable with a compensation and mitigation plan established during Project development for resource impacts that are unavoidable.

Wildlife and Botanical Resources

The Project team intends to engage both Federal and State agencies early to ensure wildlife and natural areas concerns are addressed. Early site scoping included a cursory review of the Project location for identified protected habitat and natural areas. Initial field studies are in progress. Coordination will be initiated with the appropriate resource Agencies during the following surveys:

- Identification of aquatic habitats that might be influenced by the Project, both natural and artificial, including wetlands, seeps and springs, and other water sources. For each aquatic habitat identified, the Applicant will assess the condition, size, existing use by vegetation and wildlife, potential effect of the Project, and options for reduction of potential effects.
- Habitat analysis for the area within the Project as well as habitat corridors that could extend beyond Project boundaries or be influenced by the Project scope.
- Identification of any issues with species of concern, indicator species, and threatened or endangered species within Project area.
- Identification of construction and operational particularities including, but not limited to permitting, scheduling, labor resources, construction duration, and other Project details which may impact natural resources.
- Early coordination with State and Federal wildlife biologists to review completed study findings and initiate follow-up investigations as necessary.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

The Project team will work with the appropriate resource Agencies during an examination of the area within the Project boundary and immediately surrounding areas to ascertain the presence of special-status species or habitat and potential effects of the Project on any special-status species determined to utilize these areas. The following steps will be taken during this process:

- Reconnaissance surveys to understand the existence and extent of habitat for relevant species.
- Protocol-level surveys for species with existing survey protocols.

- Coordination with State and Federal RTE management field staff on the results of initial surveys and planning for future surveys.
- Focused surveys for other special-status species with potential habitat within the Project boundary.
- Focused surveys for other special-status species with potential habitat in the area immediately surrounding the Project boundary that could be affected by Project-related activities.
- Identification of existing and potential threats to special-status species.
- Identification of construction and operational particularities including, but not limited to, scheduling, labor resources, construction duration, and other Project details which may impact biological resources.
- Investigation of relevant papers and reports and review of new information not currently available.

Recreation

The Applicant will consider potential impacts of Project development and operation on present recreational resources (if any) or facilities. The Applicant will work with any identified recreation groups or facilities to develop opportunities for new or ongoing recreational use of the area and will ensure continuity of the recreational use of the area through construction. Potential recreational use of the reservoir resources at the Project will be considered while ensuring safety of the public and functionality of the reservoir system.

Aesthetic Resources

The Applicant will participate in a cooperative effort with the appropriate resource agencies to administer a visual resource survey. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection will be a stakeholder in licensing the Project. State standards require an assessment of the project for visual and scenic quality. Initial review of the chosen location considered the impact of the facility to both scenic and visual quality of the surrounding area and uses.

Historic and Cultural Resources

The Applicant will participate in a cooperative effort with the SHPO, and THPOs to conform with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and tribal members to assess any potential traditional and cultural resources. To understand historic and pre-historic cultural resources within the Project area and

transmission corridors, a cultural resource inventory will be conducted, especially within sections of the Project area and transmission corridors which are currently un-surveyed. In the un-surveyed sections, cultural resource inventories will be performed by a qualified cultural resource consultant.

Socio-economic Resources

The economic advantages of the Project to local and regional economies, both due to temporary construction and long-term operation, will be examined. The Applicant will also identify and address any potential disproportionate and adverse human health or environmental effects of the Project on minority and low-income populations (*i.e.*, environmental justice communities) in the Project vicinity.

Tribal Resources

The Applicant will work with the THPOs and SHPO and to conform with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Applicant will define an Area of Potential Effects in coordination with tribal members, THPOs, and the SHPO as details of the Project, especially the final transmission plan and site design, become better defined. Areas requiring additional surveys will be identified by qualified cultural resource consultants, and the results of these surveys will be documented and provided for review to appropriate stakeholders.

Wetlands

The Applicant has conducted an initial desktop survey of wetland resources and will conduct a field wetland survey and inventory within the planned Project boundary and Project area. Should wetlands be discovered at these locations during field explorations, the utmost care will be taken to mitigate impacts due to drilling, test pit excavations, and other activities. Any potential long-term wetland impacts will be addressed with procedures approved by resource agencies. The full scope of the field exploration activities has not yet been determined.

Traffic and Access Roads

The Project area includes a network of existing logging roads as well as a gravel public road. Final design of the facility features, and reservoir will determine construction use needs of those existing roads and final operational permanent access. The Project will not require a significant amount of new roads. Existing roads to be utilized by the Project, either through construction or permanent operation, will be improved for proper stability, drainage and ecological benefit. (Site Map Attachment B)

(ii) The approximate locations and nature of any new roads that would be built for the purpose of conducting the studies.

The Applicant does not anticipate the need to construct any new roads for the purposes of conducting the studies noted above.

2. Work plan for new dam construction. For any development within the project that would entail new dam construction, a work plan and schedule containing:

(i) A description, including the approximate location, of any field study, test, or other activity that may alter or disturb lands or waters in the vicinity of the proposed project, including floodplains and wetlands; measures that would be taken to minimize any such disturbance; and measures that would be taken to restore the altered or disturbed areas.

The locations of major Project features, including the upper and lower reservoir locations, powerhouse location, penstock route, transmission line, and access roads will be investigated by borehole drilling, test pits, sampling, and field and laboratory testing. While above identified studies for the overall Project are anticipated to include new dam construction areas, studies specific to new dam construction are anticipated to potentially include:

- Topographic Surveying to physically traverse the Project area on foot, by light vehicle, and/or drone to collect ground level topographic information. This effort is not anticipated to disturb or alter lands or waters in the survey area.
- Environmental mapping and surveying may include inventories, sample collection, and/or observations to inform in-depth environmental studies.
- Geologic surface and subsurface investigations may include surface mapping and geotechnical drilling to further the current understanding of geological and geotechnical characteristics of the area, particularly with respect to new reservoir/dam design and construction considerations.

A work plan for investigations specific to new dam construction will incorporate an evaluation of design planning against FERC Division of Dam Safety and Inspection regulations including but not limited to:

- Design and construction plans and specifications
- Hazard classification
- Hydrology and stability
- Instrumentation

- Public safety; and
- Estimated construction, operations, and maintenance costs
- Restoration and Resource Impact Mitigation activities as identified during coordination with State, Federal and Local environmental agencies during development of the Compensation and Mitigation program.

(ii) A proposed schedule (a chart or graph may be used), the total duration of which does not exceed the proposed term of the permit, showing the intervals at which the studies, investigations, tests, and surveys identified under this paragraph are proposed to be completed.

Upon Commission issuance of a Preliminary Permit, the Applicant will formally begin stakeholder consultation, conduct remaining preliminary studies, and implement the tasks and schedule listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Western Maine Energy Storage Project Tasks and Schedule

Tasks	Schedule
Coordinate with landowners, tribal interests, and resource agencies for proposed site location	Month 0- 12
Initial scoping and consultation	Month 1 - 8
Field and desktop studies/surveys for biological, geotechnical, surface/supply waters, cultural, social, and economic resources to inform alternative analyses and protection, enhancement, and mitigation measures	Month 1 - 20
Transmission/interconnection planning and agreements	Month 6 - 20
Preliminary engineering design for physical configuration and operational optimization	Month 1 - 24
Costing and economic feasibility assessment	Month 1 - 24
Advance Design Based on Stakeholder input and field survey information	Month 12 - 24
Draft License Application	Month 24 - 48
Final License Application (close to final design goes in with construction submittal post final FERC license)	Month 36 - 48

Tasks and schedule may deviate from this plan depending on actual progression of work, process and consultation factors and factors outside the control of the Applicant.

3. Waiver. The Commission may waive the requirements of paragraph (c)(2) pursuant to §385.207 of this chapter, upon a showing by the applicant that the field studies, tests, and other activities to be conducted under the permit would not adversely affect cultural resources or endangered species and would cause only minor alterations or disturbances of lands and waters, and that any land altered or disturbed would be adequately restored.

The Applicant does not plan to apply for a waiver for the requirements of 18 CFR §4.81(c)(2) pursuant to 18 CFR §385.207.

4. Exhibit 2 must contain a statement of costs and financing, specifying and including, to the extent possible:

- (i) The estimated costs of carrying out or preparing the studies, investigations, tests, surveys, maps, plans or specifications identified under paragraph (c) of this section.**

The Applicant expects that the cost of performing the studies will be approximately \$6,000,000. This cost includes the studies listed in this preliminary permit application, consultations, the Pre-application document, and preparing the draft and final license applications.

- (ii) The expected sources and extent of financing available to the applicant to carry out or prepare the studies, investigations, tests, surveys, maps, plans, or specifications identified under paragraph (c) of this section.**

The studies will be financed by the Applicant.

EXHIBIT 3

PROJECT LOCATION AND FEATURES

As required by 18 C.F.R. § 4.81 (d), this Exhibit 3 includes maps that show the following:

- 1. The location of the Project as a whole with reference to the affected stream or other body of water and, if possible, to a nearby town or any permanent monuments or objects that can be noted on the maps and recognized in the field;**

A regional "location map" is provided as Attachment A. Streams or other bodies of water under review include:

- Androscoggin River
- Wetlands and Streams
- Local Aquifer(s)

- 2. The relative locations and physical interrelationships of the principal project features identified under paragraph (b) of this section;**

A map identifying the referenced features is attached as Attachment B inclusive of Project Study Area, Proposed Facility Area and Natural Resources.

- 3. A proposed boundary for the project, enclosing:**

- (i) All principal project features identified under paragraph (b) of this section, including but not limited to any dam, reservoir, water conveyance facilities, powerplant, transmission lines, and other appurtenances; if the project is located at an existing Federal dam, the Federal dam and impoundment must be shown, but may not be included within the project boundary.
- (ii) Any non-Federal lands and any public lands or reservations of the United States necessary for the purposes of the project. To the extent that those public lands or reservations are covered by a public land survey, the project boundary must enclose each of and only the smallest legal subdivisions (quarter-quarter section, lots, or other subdivisions, identified on the map by subdivision) that may be occupied in whole or in part by the project.

A map identifying the referenced features is attached as Attachment C inclusive of proposed reservoirs, penstock, Gen-Tie, temporary fill pipe, pump house and access roads.

4. Areas within or in the vicinity of the proposed project boundary which are included in or have been designated for study for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; and

None.

5. Areas within the project boundary that, under the provisions of the Wilderness Act, have been:

- (i) Designated as wilderness area;
- (ii) Recommended for designation as wilderness area; or
- (iii) Designated as wilderness study area.

None.

Subscription

This application for a preliminary permit for the proposed Western Maine Energy Storage Project is executed in the State of Maine, Somerset County, by

By:

Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC
PO Box 1000
Pittsfield, ME 04967
Tel: (207) 679-2569

Being duly sworn, deposes, and says that the contents of this application for a preliminary permit are true to the best of their knowledge or belief. The undersigned applicant has signed the application on this 21 day of July, 2025.



Thomas E. Stone
Corporate Secretary and Clerk
Western Maine Energy Storage, LLC

Verification

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public of the State of Maine, this 21 day of July 2025.


(Notary Public)

(My Commission Expires _____)/seal

Donna A. Jacques
Notary Public, State of Maine
My Commission Expires May 3, 2032



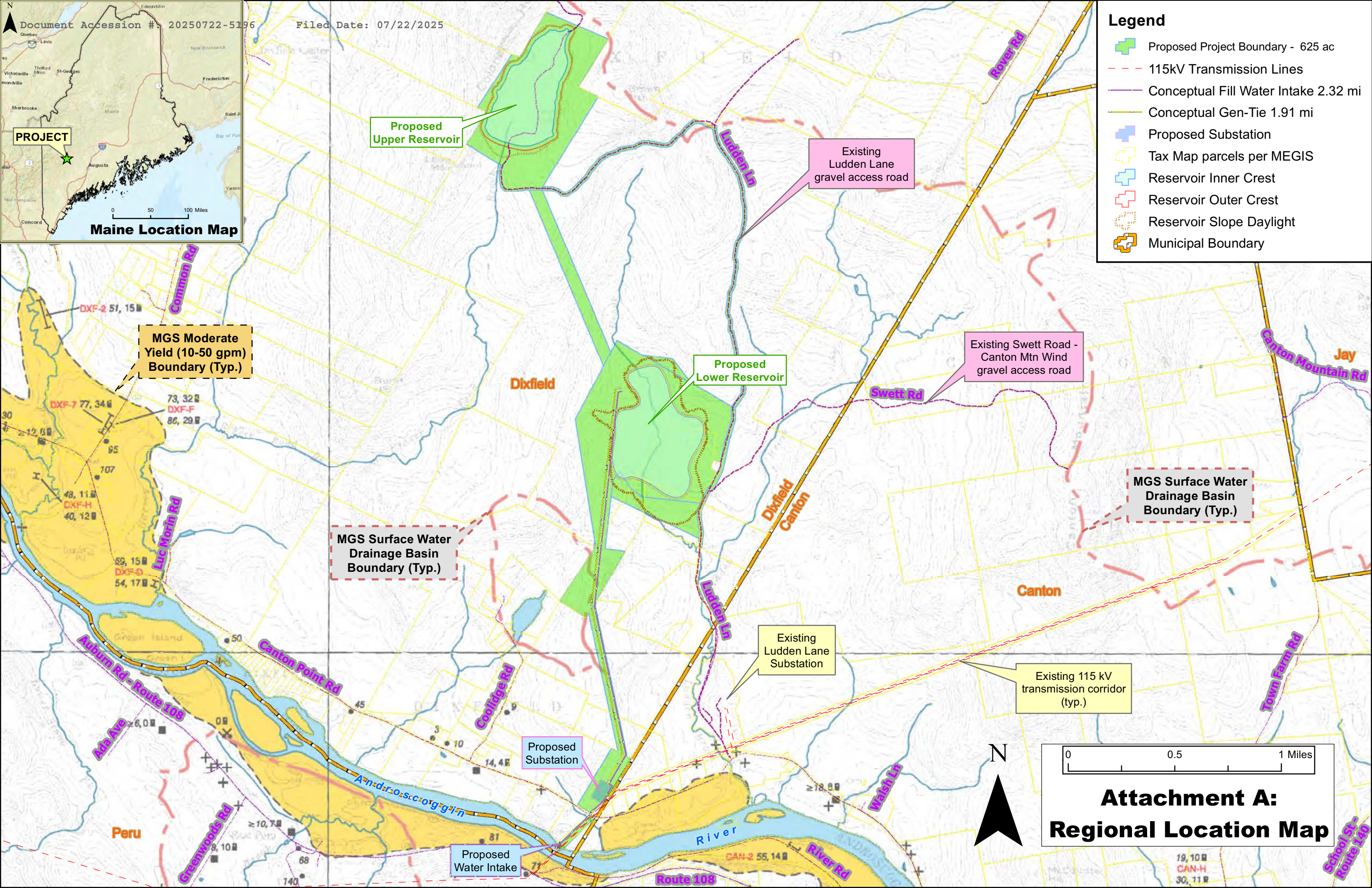
July 2025

FORM 587

[Not applicable to the Project, which will be entirely located on private lands.]

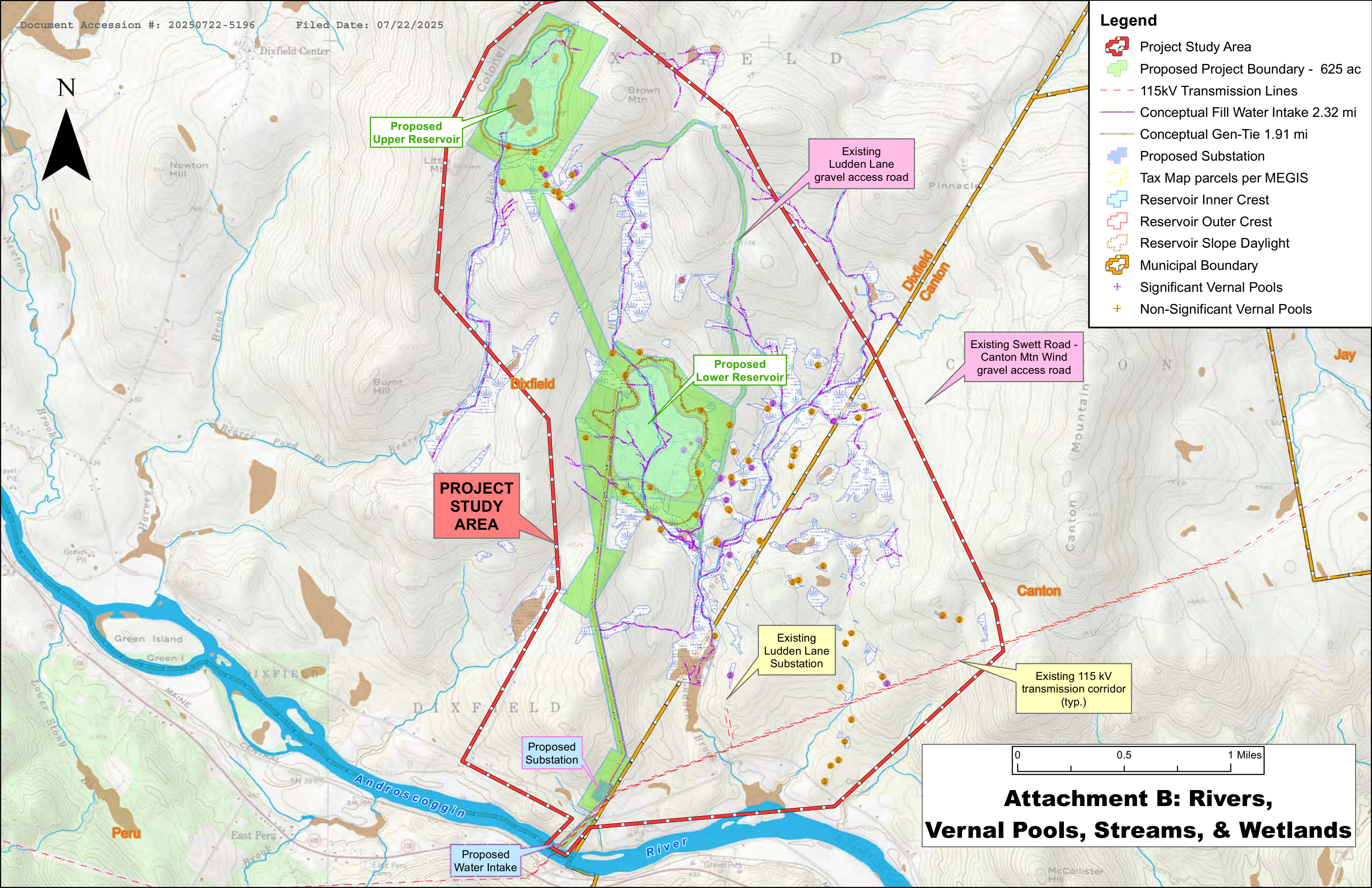
ATTACHMENT A

REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT B

PROJECT FEATURES AND BOUNDARY



Legend

- Project Study Area
- Proposed Project Boundary - 625 ac
- 115kV Transmission Lines
- Conceptual Fill Water Intake 2.32 mi
- Conceptual Gen-Tie 1.91 mi
- Proposed Substation
- Tax Map parcels per MEGIS
- Reservoir Inner Crest
- Reservoir Outer Crest
- Reservoir Slope Daylight
- Municipal Boundary
- Significant Vernal Pools
- Non-Significant Vernal Pools

**PROJECT
STUDY
AREA**

**Proposed
Upper Reservoir**

**Proposed
Lower Reservoir**

Existing
Ludden Lane
gravel access road

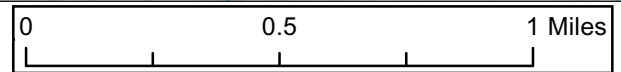
Existing Swett Road -
Canton Mtn Wind
gravel access road

Existing
Ludden Lane
Substation

Existing 115 kV
transmission corridor
(typ.)

Proposed
Substation

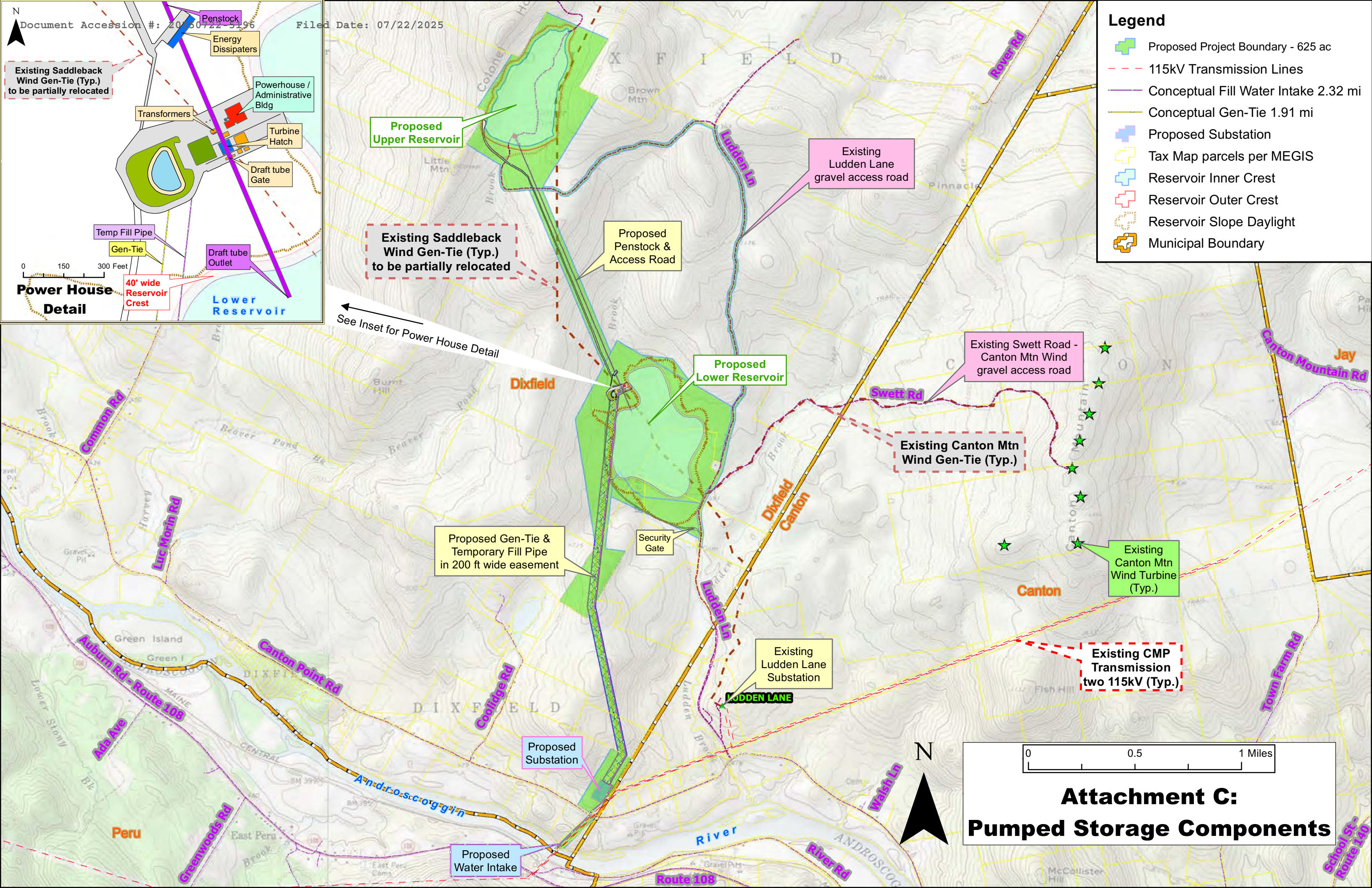
Proposed
Water Intake



**Attachment B: Rivers,
Vernal Pools, Streams, & Wetlands**

ATTACHMENT C

PUMPED STORAGE COMPONENTS



Attachment C: Pumped Storage Components

Document Content(s)

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