

Albion Transmission Line Committee Agenda

August 31, 2023

Committee Attendees:

- Tom Bolen (chair)
- Paul Flynn
- Jon Shaw
- Tracy Tuttle
- Charlie Hall
- Eric Rolfson

Support Group/Guest Attendees:

- Holly Noyes
- Tanya Blanchard
- Tom Blanchard
- Mark Guzzi
- Joshua Kercksmar
- others

I. Goals and Objectives for the Committee

The chair reviewed the Committee's goals and objectives for the benefit of guests, including:

- Working as a team to stop the implementation of a new transmission corridor within the town of Albion;
- Collaborating with other towns impacted by the proposed line;
- Seeking an Albion ordinance to mitigate the impact of any transmission/utility corridors within the town; and
- Increasing public awareness concerning the line's potential impacts and alternatives to the proposed line

II. Subgroup Discussion

- Community Engagement
- Environmental Impact
- Alternatives to transmission line
- Town Selectmen updates

III. Old Business

- Progress to Date
 - i. Moratorium
This is now in place
 - ii. Ordinance approved by Selectmen.

Andrew Ballantyne, Protection and Control Engineer for TRC Companies, Inc. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrew-g-ballantyne-pe-a73abb82/> wrote the Windsor ordinance upon which Albion's draft will be based. One element of the ordinance is that all future transmission lines passing through Albion would have to be underground. The draft ordinance is still in draft form. *Brief discussion ensued*

iii. "Take the Farm" Statute.

This is in discussion amongst legislators. *Discussion continues.*

IV. **New Business**

- Potential Augusta Rally in September:
 - i. Discussion focused on the need for clear objectives and outcomes for this and any future rallies. *A discussion ensued.*
- PUC Late Intervenor discussion

Tom spoke with a former PUC member who suggested that becoming a Late Intervenor was a way to access information not otherwise available to the public. Since the PUC's actions are governed by law, LS Power needs to fail in some of its permitting or there needs to be enough outcries that the PUC says the Legislature needs to do something different. *Discussions continue*
- August 29 meetings in Albion and Plymouth
 - i. Senator LaFountain meeting update (John and others)
 - ii. Plymouth meeting update (Tom and Paul)
- Media calls:
 - i. News Center Maine – Tom and Lincoln
 - ii. Maine NPR – Tom
 - iii. VOM – Ric Tyler – Tom (Friday 06:07am) specifics around the moratorium

V. **Action Items**

- Committee members should continue to think about the potential rally, as that will be a major topic for our next meeting.
- John will pursue the permitting issue for the potential rally.
- Members should develop talking points for the Albion and Plymouth meeting.
- Paul will follow with attorney Bill Lee on outstanding matters.
- A vote was taken to bring Eric Rolfson aboard as a member, and Tom will speak with the town office about having Eric and Tracy sworn in.
- Eric will pursue options for developing a communications list for all whose land will be affected.
- Tanya and Eric will communicate with towns along the route to see which have formed committees and who their contact person is.

