

**CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY
RESPONSE TO ORAL DATA REQUEST NO. 3
DOCKET No. 2008-255**

December 8, 2008

ODR-03-35 – Supplemental

- Q.** Please provide the source “threshold load levels” figures for each area listed in the Attachment 1 to the response to EX-07-07.
- A.** The OPA has asked that CMP clarify its initial response to ODR-03-35, specifically requesting the “threshold load level” source.

The source of this data is Volume VIII, Exhibit I-2 of the MPRP CPCN filing. Specifically, refer to section 5, page 37 of 373 to page 54 of 373. Note that the discussion of the Northern Maine area in section 5.1 of Exhibit I-2 includes loads for CMP and BHE, whereas Attachment 1 to the response to EX-07-07 includes only the CMP loads.

The threshold load levels were determined by examining loads in each area at or below which the existing transmission system (i.e., without the MPRP) met reliability criteria. This methodology is described in the first paragraph of page 38 of 373 of Volume VIII, Exhibit I-2. To establish these levels, loads in each area were reduced from forecasted values until the load flow simulations showed no violations.

This can be illustrated by the following example, using data from pages 44 to 45 of 373 in Volume VIII, Exhibit I-2. Forecasted loads for the Southern/Portland Area for 2012 and 2017 are 907 MW and 1,029 MW, respectively. Load flow simulations at both these load levels without the MPRP showed reliability criteria violations. In order for the system without the MPRP to avoid these reliability criteria violations, the 2012 load in this area must be reduced by 420 MW as shown in the table on page 45 of 373. Thus, the threshold load is 907 MW less 420 MW, or 487 MW. The amount of load that can be reliably served by the existing system in this area is 487 MW.

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