APPALACHES-MAINE INTERCONNECTION LINE

Reparation or Confrontation, Say Pessamit, Wemotaci and Pikogan First Nations

THETFORD MINES, AUGUST 18, 2020 : During a meeting of the

BAPE Quebec environmental review board) held in Thetford Mines (QC-CAN) on Tuesday, August 18, the Innu of Pessamit, the Atikamekw of Wemotaci and the Anishnabek of Pikogan reiterated, through their spokespersons, their intention to oppose the proposed power line running through the state of Maine to Massachusetts and to do everything possible to derail this project it if their rights are not respected.

"As long as we have not obtained compensation for the electricity usurped using production facilities, reservoirs and transmission lines built on our ancestral territories without notice, without impact studies, and without our consent, we will do everything to prevent the Appalaches-Maine Interconnection Line (in Quebec) and its American counterpart (in the state of Maine), the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) project, from happenin said representatives of these three First Nations.

They explained to the BAPE commissioners that currently, 36% of the total hydroelectric power installed by Hydro-

the Quebec government turns a deaf ear, Pessamit, Wemotaci and Pikogan will do their utmost to disrupt the NECEC project next!

Remedial Measures

Given that the electricity intended for Massachusetts was acquired unconstitutionally by Hydro-Québec with the complicity of the Quebec and Canada governments, and that the operation of the production works goes against the case law emanating from the Supreme Court of Canada in particular; given that the directive from the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (Quebec Ministry of the Environment) concerning the Appalaches-Maine project, as well as the Hydro-Québec impact study, do not even address the issue of legitimacy of 36% of the electricity that Hydro-Québec intends to sell in the United States without our consent; given that no account has been taken of the development of case law on Indigenous rights; considering that the systematic and uninterrupted invasion of our ancestral territories is based on a series of unilateral decisions allowing Hydro-Québec to occupy our territories indefinitely and without compensation, where the merits of our claims are nevertheless recognized by the Crown:

WE, the Pessamiulnut, the Wemotaci Iriniwok and the Abitibiwinnik, demand that remedial measures be put in place before any new export project is carried out into the United States. We confirm our firm opposition to the Appalaches-Maine InterconneccaETBT3(r)-(£1 0 0 1 60785 Tm[I)-(£1))(£))(£))(£))