

Kennebec Valley Pipeline

Spread 2

Main Pipeline

Pipe Offshoots

10" Steel Bridge Crossing Randolph to Gardiner

M&NE Tap



Left: Overview of proposed pipeline in the Kennebec Valley
Above: Proud Laborers already hard at work on this monumental project

THE GOAL:

To build an 88 mile steel transmission pipeline that will connect to two taps generating from each side of the Kennebec River off the Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline. Ultimately, 1600 miles of polyethylene pipeline distribution will complete the system that is designed to service 50,000 customers.

4th from left: Devin J. Mayo, Regional Organizer; Chris Tucker, New England Laborers' Labor-Management Cooperation Trust's Marketing Representative; South Spread Labor Steward Peter Breingan; Dave McKeon, Business Manager of Local 327 with Laborers on the job in Augusta, ME

Summit Natural Gas Partners with LIUNA

Summit Natural Gas of Maine (SNG), has won approval from the state Public Utilities Commission to construct a natural gas pipeline through 17 communities in central Maine, which include Augusta, Fairfield, Gardiner, Madison, Richmond, Skowhegan, Waterville, and Winslow. Originating in Pittston, the pipeline will travel up through the Kennebec Valley to Madison and Skowhegan.

The work began this May on the 88 mile steel transmission pipeline that will connect to two taps generating from each side of the Kennebec River off the Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline, south of Gardiner. Ultimately, 1600 miles of polyethylene pipeline distribution will complete the system that is designed to service 50,000 customers in the Kennebec Valley within seven years.

While this project will expand Maine's capacity to offer its citizens clean and less expensive fuel options, it will also create hundreds of jobs for union Laborers and possibly thousands of auxiliary jobs in a relatively short time. This is welcoming news for area residents who have been hit hard by the recession.

"We have been able to offer good jobs and training to local workers here. In just the first four weeks we put 180 union Laborers to work," said Dave McKeon, Business Manager of Local 327 in Augusta, "It is very gratifying to show them the value of working for a

union contractor who is willing to pay family-supporting wages and benefits."

Summit will be investing \$350 million in pipeline infrastructure and has signed a Project Labor Agreement, despite the best efforts of both The ABC and the anti-union lobby to hinder competition.

Scott Gustafson, the Director of the Laborers' New England Region Organizing Fund stated, "We are proud to have Summit Natural Gas as a partner in this pipeline project, not only because they have chosen to work with the most highly skilled, well trained workers from LIUNA, but also because of SNG's investment in Maine's energy future. This is a company that is committed to quality construction, on time, on budget and with skilled labor from the community, just as we are in the Laborers' Union."

SNG has had vast experience managing drilling operations at various elevations and in a variety of rock and soil mixes, which makes them already proficient in directing the work we need to accomplish in Maine, including managing the myriad of sub-contractors who take on the tough work of horizontal drilling and installation along highways, under rivers, and even under multiple railroad structures.

With reference to Summit's commitment to hire Mainers, Chris Tucker, New England Laborers' Labor-Management Cooperation Trust's Marketing

Representative in the area noted that, "The Project Labor Agreement SNG signed has a clause guaranteeing that at least 50% of the pipeline workers must come from Maine. This is very important because the exacting skills needed might draw experienced people from across the country. The quality of the work and the health and safety of the workers is paramount on a project like this which will intimately affect homes and businesses in the entire Kennebec Valley."

At the New England Laborers' Training Academies we have expert instructors in the skills needed to work on a complicated pipeline job. They have been training Maine members in operator qualification (OQ) and pipeline safety for the last six months. This project will be a very important catalyst in getting Maine members back to work. To date 90% of the Laborers hired on this project come from Maine.

Just recently the city officials in the capitol, Augusta, gave Maine workers another boost by voting unanimously to choose Summit for their plan to convert the capitol city's municipal and school buildings to natural gas. The company expects to be able to serve 90% of the businesses and residential customers with the 161 miles of distribution pipeline they will now build in Augusta.