



March 2, 2021

Kurt Adams  
Summit Natural Gas of Maine  
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Dear Community Leader,

At Summit, we are committed to our communities, our customers, and a cleaner environment.

As an energy provider, we know that we play an important role in reducing emissions by converting industry, businesses, and homes from oil to cleaner fuels such as natural gas. We can play an even more important role in helping the state meet its emissions reduction goals by decarbonizing the gas we transport through the utilization of renewable fuels.

It takes a lot of energy to power our economy and stay warm here in Maine, and through research, investment, and new technologies, we can work collaboratively and diligently toward a cleaner and more efficient energy future.

As a company, we are constantly evaluating opportunities to partner with communities, families, and businesses where we can have a positive impact on reducing an area's emissions profile, a company's competitiveness, or a family's monthly budget. In Maine and other states across the nation, we seek to work with communities that recognize that natural gas is a progressive step forward and can assist in economic development and reaching environmental goals.

We prioritized our expansion to the Midcoast of Maine based on conversations we had with businesses and community members who recognize that adding a natural gas choice is the fastest and most cost-effective way to reduce emissions in the region. In addition, they recognize that a more modern energy infrastructure lays the groundwork for even cleaner and more efficient technologies on the horizon, such as green hydrogen – which could spur additional investment, jobs, and opportunities.

Overall, our planned expansion would:

- Create more than 100 jobs and put local people to work;
- reduce energy costs for homes, businesses, and industry;
- reduce emissions by an estimated 263,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> through the first five years of the project, which is equivalent to taking more than 56,000 cars off the road;
- transition industry and homes from oil and dirtier fuel sources to a cleaner burning fuel, consistent with the *Maine Won't Wait* climate plan; and
- increase energy access and options.



While there is strong interest in our service among residential and commercial customers and among many community leaders, it has also become clear that a consensus about the region's energy future does not currently exist among leaders across all area communities.

Being a good friend and neighbor is not just a talking point for us. It is a critical part of Summit's culture.

The success of an expansion project like this requires partnership and trust among all stakeholders. While we recognize that individual communities have their own characteristics and governance, in our industry, we seek – and need – regional cooperation to be successful and bring the most benefit to the most people.

For those reasons, we have chosen to no longer pursue our Midcoast expansion project.

We believe that we can still deliver a cleaner energy future for the region while helping families and businesses reduce their carbon footprints and save money. If greater alignment develops among Midcoast communities on these issues in the future, we would be willing to reconsider our decision.

Summit will continue to focus on serving our thousands of existing customers throughout Maine, the development of our project to convert farm waste to energy, and further our work on green hydrogen technology for Maine.

We are deeply appreciative of the support we have received from the community, potential customers, and families throughout the region. We will continue to work on bringing ever-cleaner energy to Maine and hope that you will join us in this pursuit as well.

Sincerely,  
Kurt Adams  
President & CEO  
Summit Utilities, Inc.